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## MUSIC AND DRAMA

MISS MARGARET ANGLIN is not to act on this continent during the present year. She ended her tour of Australia at Sydney just before Christmas and is spending a holiday in Egypt before going on to London, where, it is rumoured, she may have a theatrical engagement in April. This best-known of Canadian actresses has had a successful tour in the Pacific Commonwealth and her many friends in her native land hope that she may achieve a triumph in the capital of the Empire.

\* \* \*

MISS HATTIE WILLIAMS, who made such a favourable impression on New Yorkers last year in that airy play, "Fluffy Ruffles," comes to the Princess Theatre, Toronto, on the 21st of this month. The theatrical creation in which she appears is called a musical melange, which is as good a phrase as may be coined for the modern production which pleases amusement-seekers. Mr. Charles Frohman has spared no expense in making "Fluffy Ruffles" the dainty and delicate affair which the name would imply. Certainly Miss Williams succeeded last autumn in creating a veritable sensation in her part and has associated with her an unusually bright and attractive group of comedienues.

\* \* \*

THE most important musical events of next week will be the concerts, given by the National Chorus under Dr. Ham in Massey Music Hall, Toronto, on January 18th and 19th. The chorus will be assisted, as in former years, by the New York Symphony Orchestra under Mr. Walter Damrosch. Miss Margaret Keyes is the chief soloist engaged and her reception at the Caruso concert last May was so enthusiastic that there is little doubt of her attractive quality for the present engagement. Miss Keyes' rise to popular favour has been sudden but her place seems already assured as an artist whom the continent will delight to honour. The announcement of the British composers' night and the following programme has already been made in this department and there remains but to express best wishes for the success of the chorus and their enterprising conductor.

\* \* \*

THERE has been some criticism regarding the prices charged at Massey Hall, Toronto, for the Harry Lauder concerts. Certainly this Scotch comedian seems to have come high, but the management of Massey Hall may not be to blame for the absurd prices nor for the weird performances of the "speculators." It seems that Mr. Lauder has a wonderfully "thawing" effect upon the pockets of his fellow-countrymen. Anyone who would pay the sum of one-dollar-and-a-half to hear this Caledonian humorist must be very foolish—or very Scotch. To those of us who are not from the Land o' Cakes the saddest feature of the Lauder visit is the inheritance of "heathery" songs he has left. Every newsboy and boot-black is echoing strains in praise of "A bonnie Hiellan' lassie." In fact, the very air is filled with laddies and lassies and "lilies in the dell." However, this epidemic of "Hoot mon" lyrics and jokes will probably vanish with the frost.

\* \* \*

THE Royal Alexandra Theatre, Toronto, is to be congratulated on the class of attractions it has secured since the opening of the year. "The Warrens of Virginia," the play

of this week, is a production of romantic and picturesque order, entirely interesting to all lovers of such drama whether in Virginia or Ontario.

Last week, the Princess Theatre, Toronto, saw the production of "Paid in Full," the drama by Mr. Eugene Walter which has made such a comfortable fortune for that lucky playwright. It may be of interest to Toronto theatre-goers to learn that Miss Charlotte Walker, who plays the part of *Agatha Warren* at the Royal Alexandra this week, is the wife of Mr. Walter. Their marriage took place two months ago and, among theatrical alliances, divided interest with that of Mlle. Fritzi Scheff to Mr. John Fox, the novelist.

\* \* \*

THE Schubert Choir concerts, to be given in Massey Hall, Toronto, on February twenty-second and twenty-third, are likely to prove as popular as last year's events, for that cheerful and indefatigable conductor, Mr. H. M. Fletcher, has been expending much energy on the new features of his programme, notably Mozart's "King Thamos." The Pittsburgh Orchestra, under that artistic and enthusiastic master, Mr. Emil Paur, will be associated with the Toronto organisation, much to the satisfaction of all patrons of Toronto's musical undertakings.

Reports from Cleveland and Buffalo show that the concerts in those cities by the Pittsburgh Orchestra have been eminently acceptable to the public and that their enthusiastic reception is having an inspiring effect upon the musicians themselves. As the first Toronto concert of this season will be given on Washington's Birthday, it would be a graceful compliment to the orchestra if there were a display of the United States flag with the Union Jack. The extravagant and unmeaning use of the Stars and Stripes in Canadian theatres is to be discouraged but the visit of the popular Pittsburgh organisation on such an occasion would make an international courtesy of this nature appropriate. When the Mendelssohn Choir goes to Buffalo the citizens of that flourishing town invariably display the Union Jack in convention Hall, and a recognition of this kind is sure to promote good fellowship.

\* \* \*

THE Shaftesbury Theatre, a West End playhouse in London, England, is about to be pulled down, after a checkered career of twenty years. In spite of its many misfortunes, the Shaftesbury has had some notable triumphs. A year after it was built the production of Henry Arthur Jones's play, "The Middleman," resulted in a triumph for E. S. Willard, as well as for its author. Two years later the first performance in England of Mascagni's "Cavalleria Rusticana" was given, while the triumph of "The Belle of New York" packed the theatre for over eighteen months.

\* \* \*

MISS Edith Miller, the well-known Canadian contralto singer, sang the music of *Delilah* in the London (England) Choral Society's production of Saint-Saens' "Samson and Delilah" last month at the Queen's Hall. Miss Miller's rendering of the part, says *Canada*, was excellent, her beautiful voice suiting the part to perfection. Another Canadian lady who has made a hit in London musical circles is Miss Katherine Ruth Heyman who gave a pianoforte recital at Steinway Hall recently. Miss Heyman, who is much appreciated in Canada and the States, deserves to be better known in England.