

## MUSIC AND DRAMA

**T**HE Earl Grey Music and Drama Competitions, held in the Royal Alexandra Theatre, Toronto, all last week, are now over. There are several wiser and a few happier individual people and companies as a result. This is the third or fourth tourney engineered by Earl Grey for the apparent development of Canadian art talent in music and drama—though what the real results will be in making Canada more musical and more dramatic, time only will tell. At present the result is as follows:

### The Winners of Trophies.

Orchestral—1st, Ottawa Symphony Orchestra.  
Piano—1st, D. C. Fairman, Toronto; 2nd, Miss Muriel Lillie, Cobourg; 3rd, Mr. J. Davidson Ketchum, Toronto.  
Violin—1st, Miss Mae Getz, Montreal; 2nd, Miss Julia Choate, Peterboro; 3rd, Miss Jessie Flooke, Toronto.  
Male Solo Voice—1st, Mr. Howard Russell, Toronto; 2nd, Mr. Arthur Brown, Toronto; 3rd, Mr. Arthur W. Black, Ottawa.  
Ladies' Solo Voice—1st, Miss Kathleen Howard, Toronto; 2nd, Miss Mabel Doherty, Toronto; 3rd, Miss Bayton Buchanan, Toronto.  
Dramatic—1st, Dickens Fellowship, Toronto; 2nd, Associated Players of Margaret Eaton School of Literature and Expression, Toronto.  
Special prize awarded the Choir of St. Paul's Methodist Church.  
Miss Pattie Maclaren, London, won the bracelet presented by Miss Margaret Anglin, as being the best actress. Mr. Basil G. Morgan, Toronto, carried off the signet ring presented by Mr. J. E. Dodson for the best acting. The prize for the best original play was won by Mr. George W. Pacaud, Montreal.

The first of the week's schedule of programmes opened with a solo competition, both instrumental and vocal; Miss Muriel Lillie and Mr. E. F. Singer, pianists, and Mr. Arthur Brown and Miss Victoria Stairs, vocalists. Bloor Street Presbyterian Church Choir, of fifty-seven voices, filled the



London Dramatic Company who made a hit in "Jack Straw."

stage and rendered Dudley Buck's "Hymn to Music" and Gounod's "Come Unto Him." The acting of the Associated Players of the Margaret Eaton School of Expression was most creditable, but the choice of the plays, "The Land of the Heart's Desire" and "Kathleen ni Houlihan" was not happy.

The Peterboro Operatic Company opened the second evening with "The Geisha," which was well staged, well equipped and certainly well acted, and great disappointment was felt when only one act was performed.

The Dickens Fellowship Company next occupied the boards with "The Cricket on the Hearth," a production in three acts, which fairly took the house. The acting was much above the average in every way, and the general management and stage effects were above criticism. Mr. Bell-Smith is much to be congratulated.

In the individual competitions, Mr. Arthur Singer rendered Chopin's "Polonaise"; Mr. Howard Russell sang "The Lord is My Light"; Miss Rachelle Copeland contributed her rendition of the "Reverie," and Miss Dayton Buchanan sang the Saint Saens selection. Well rendered and well received were all of these.

Showers of praise fell to the lot of the Ottawa Symphony Orchestra on the third night of the competition. Under the conductorship of Mr. Donald Hains, the orchestra strongly impressed the audience. Difficult though the repertoire, most happy and perfect the execution. Miss Catherine Merritt's company in an original play, written by Miss Merritt, furnished the dramatic portion of the programme. The play itself was somewhat episodic in construction and conventional in theme. Though not brilliant it contained much of merit. The acting was well rendered throughout.

The soloists were Mr. C. D. Fairman, in the Chopin "Polonaise"; Mr. Howard Russell in "The Lord is My Light"; Mr. Louis Ruthennery in Vieuxtemps's "Reverie" and Miss Kathleen Howard in "My Hearing of this Sweet Voice."

The programme for the fourth evening was the dramatic offering of Arthur Law's "A Country Mouse," by the Toronto Associate Players. Only two acts were rendered, but in such a bright and free manner that although one could have wished for more, one felt in a good and forgiving mood. The acting was far above the average.

A full illustrated feature article on the competition winners will appear in the COURIER next week. Pictures of winners of the dramatic trophy are published on page 8 of this issue.

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