"SAMSON ET DALILA" EFFECTIVE AS EVER

Caruso and Matzenauer Sing Leading Roles in Saint-Saens's Masterpiece

HEARD BY BIG AUDIENCE

SAMSON ET DALILA—Opera in three acts. Music by Camille Saint-Saens. Book by Ferdinand Lemaire. Produced by Metropolitan Opera Company, Metropolitan Opera House.

Dalila ..... Margarete Matzenauer
Samson ..... Enrico Caruso
Abimelech ..... Clarence Whitehill
The High Priest ..... Carl Schlegel
A Messenger ..... Leon Rothier
An Old Hebrew ..... Max Bloch
A Philistine Messenger ..... Pietro Audisio
Second Philistine ..... Vincenzo Reschiglian
Conductor, Pierre Monteux

The scene is laid in Gaza, in Palestine.
Period, 1156 B. C.
Act I—In front of the Temple of Dagon.
Act II—The house with garden of Dalila, at Philistine.
Act III—Scene 1, A mill in Gaza; scene 2, Interior of the Temple of Dagon.

The spiritual dignity, the masterly score and the scenic splendor of "Samson et Dalila" made the usual deep impression on one of the season's largest audiences last evening. The effectiveness of Saint-Saens's work as a spectacular music drama is now so generally recognized that its former oratorio status in this country is cause for genuine wonderment. And yet, until Oscar Hammerstein some ten years ago restored to our stage this extremely vital contribution to modern opera "Samson" was permanently accounted undramatic and best fitted for a stilted "concertized" form.

Thanks to his pioneering endeavors, however, the public is now aware that the very simplicity of the tragic action is one of this masterpiece's prime virtues. Few operas indeed—and theses few chiefly by the tabooed Richard Wagner—were more impregnated with the rare atmosphere of epic grandeur.

The chief factor of novelty in last night's often eloquent performance was the Delila of Margarete Matzenauer, and in view of this admired contralto's attainments it was naturally expected that the role would prove one of the gems of her varied repertory. In general appeal there was rich fulfillment of these hopes. Her portrayal of the Philistine siren was of majestic artistic line, strange to say, her vocalism, statuesque equally to the most exacting demands, lacked a certain depth and opulence in the passionate second act and notably in the stock aria of all contraltos, "Mon Coeur s' ouvre ta Voix," in which her tones were not only rather thin, but disconcertingly flattened. Much better presentation of her noble vocal gifts was happily made in the final scene, in which her upper register had ringing clarity and power.

The Caruso Samson has undergone significant betterment since it was first rendered here more than a year ago. His acting had at least the quality of restraint, while his singing was generally of glorious sense-quickening beauty. There is no other French role in which he is so much at ease.

Clarence Whitehill's High Priest was equal to Hector Dufranne's at his best—which is high praise—and Leon Rothier's sonorous bass lent distinction to the measures of the Old Hebrew. The choral features, as invariably with the Metropolitan, were superb. Pierre Monteux read the score with authoritative vigor. All the massive scenic appointments combined sumptuousness with taste. The final cataclysm in the temple of Dagon carried its familiar thrilling conviction.

H. T. C.

CHARLESTON WOMEN HEAR MRS. C. A. LEA

Pennsylvania Chairman Explains Method of Activity

Charleston, S. C., April 10.

A small but interested group of women met Mrs. Charlotte A. Lea, Pennsylvania chairman of the woman's division of the council of defense, at the Y. W. C. A. Mrs. Lea explained the working of the woman's council of defense in Pennsylvania. She is chairman and there are ten directors under her and the work is divided into ten divisions:

First. Woman's registration committee (not represented in this city).

Second. Food production (represented) in Charleston by Miss Pearl Poplar).

Third. Food conservation (represented in Charleston by Mrs. Julius H. Visanska).

Fourth. Child welfare work.

Fifth. Women and children in industry (represented here by Miss Gertrude Storer).

Sixth. Social morality, welfare work and housing.

Seventh. Liberty Loan and War Savings Stamps (represented here by Mrs. P. Goodwyn Rhett).

Eighth. Red Cross (represented here by Mrs. Ashley Halsey).

Ninth. Foreign relief, represented by the work among the negroes here.

Tenth. Publicity department (this department combines press work and all publicity work). The chairman keeps a card index of the working capacity of the various businesses, employing able-bodied men for work which can be done by women or old men.

The women of the food conservation department meet the wagons selling vegetables and see to it that the produce is sold at reasonable prices and after the wagons leave they see to it that the streets are properly cleaned. All vegetables left unsold will be brought up by these women and taken to the "community canner" and canned. A committee on war charities makes use of existing hospitals and nearby buildings for treating men injured in the war or for those disabled in military camps.

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YOUNGEST LIBERTY LOAN CARTOONIST

All of Shakespeare's seven ages have been enlisted in the third Liberty Loan campaign. T. Hilton Haines, better known as "Chalky," is the youngest cartoonist employed at the work. His facile pen is daily turning out Liberty Loan pictures, though he is only eleven years old. He lives at 2342 Hunting Park avenue. One of the cartoons on which he is working may be seen in the picture.

The Yellow Dove

A Romance of the Secret Service
By GEORGE GIBBS
Author of "The Flaming Sword," "Mallam," etc.

CHAPTER XXI (Continued)

THEY worked side by side, noiselessly and efficiently, Hammersley fitting the missing spark-plugs and connecting a new coil wire which had been removed. He looked over the machine carefully but could find nothing else missing, or even needing adjustment, for he had taken care yesterday morning, as was his custom, to go over the engine with his own hands. The impairment of the engine was of no serious consequence, and intended only to delay. Von Stromberg had not counted on such a chance for readjustment as this, or upon Hammersley's reserve supply of necessary material. And unless they had done something else that he could not discover—but what? While he worked Hammersley tried to think, casting between times anxious glances at the gears, the propellers and the control wires. The reserve tank of petrol was filled and the hose was steadily pouring the stuff into the one under the forward cockpit, which was full by the time the plugs and wires were all adjusted.

"That will be enough, Doris," he whispered. "We only need to get to the English lines. There's no time for more."

She saw him try the wheel, watching the connecting gear keenly and, when he ordered it, she climbed down into the rear seat. He gave her a leather coat, gloves and helmet, and buckled her into her seat. Then, in a state of nervous tension, they waited. She saw Cyril climb down, coolly wiping his hands with a piece of waste, restore the hose to its place, and then peer out from a slit in the canvas door. Then he bent over, and running quickly along the duo from side to side, one after another quickly unfastened the toggles which held it in place.

"We've got to chance it now," he whispered up to her. "If she doesn't work—God help us——"

"But the canvas——"

"The machine will——"

He stopped abruptly, for Doris's eyes were staring in pantomime at something behind him. Hammersley whisked quickly toward the slit in the canvas, his automatic in his hand. There, not four paces away, blinking into the dusk, stood the tall figure of His Excellency, General Graf von Stromberg.

CHAPTER XXII
FROM THE HEIGHTS

HAMMERSLEY had him covered, and the General made no move to defend himself. He bent his head and folded his arms, peering at Hammersley's face like a nearsighted man trying to adjust his vision to an unaccustomed task. But his frown relaxed almost immediately and his line separated, showing a gleam of teeth.

"Mr. Hammersley, Herr Hammersley," he said. "You have done well. It pleases me to meet at last——"

"Move your right hand again the fraction of an inch and I will shoot, Excellency," said Hammersley in the sharp, quick accents of a resolute man.

Von Stromberg only smiled more broadly. But he did not move. He had seen enough of Herr Hammersley to respect his sincerity.

"I have staked my professional reputation upon your presence elsewhere, Herr Hammersley. Instinct, perhaps, led me here. I do not know what else, but I came alone. I am not armed——"

Hammersley was in no mood for trifling and time was flying. Better to shoot the man and be done with it, but he couldn't, somehow. Instead he searched him quickly for weapons.

"You're too late, Excellenz. I am sorry, but I have no time for conversation."

"You will at least let me pay you the compliment of saying that the Prussian blood in you has made you the most brilliant Englishman I have ever met."

"I have no time to match phrases with you——"

"Ach, but you match what is much more important—a genius for dissimulation. Yesterday you disappointed me, Herr Hammersley, with your talk of plans—of fortifications of Strassburg. I had been hoping that you were playing a deeper game, something that would relieve the flat monotony of my routine. You were to save me from utter boredom. It is true. I had hoped that. I was disappointed when I thought that you were like the others. Disappointed! I thought better of you——"

"And now that I have no power, what are you going to do about it?" asked Hammersley with a touch of bravado.

Von Stromberg shrugged.

"I confess that I am so rapt in admiration of your genius that I am at a loss—I must yield to the inevitable. But I am happy in the knowledge that only a person of the skill of Herr Hammersley could have succeeded in outwitting the head of the Secret Service Department of the Empire."

"Enough of this!" Hammersley broke in. "I should kill you, General Von Stromberg, but I want if you obey me promptly. Stand aside—over there—against the wall. If you move, I'll shoot. I'm going out of here."

Von Stromberg did as he was bidden, and his long strides and erect carriage had lost none of their dignity. When he reached the wall he turned with a smile. Then he said suavely——

"I fear, Herr Hammersley, that you will not go forth as rapidly as you like."

Hammersley only laughed at him.

"We'll see about that." He took a stride to the canvas curtain and had a quick look outside. And then to the girl: "Crank her, Doris! The compressed air—the button to the left beside the wheel!"

There was a long pause when Doris reached forward in her seat. A pause filled with meanings for Hammersley, in which his fate and hers was hanging in the balance. Von Stromberg seemed to read his thoughts, and the wolfish smile spread again over his face.

"It is not possible," he said blandly. "That some one may have been tinkering with the machinery."

There was another long silence—a moment of agony for Hammersley.

"Yes, I have," roared Hammersley exultantly.

For just then there was a violent explosion deafening in the confined space, like the roar of a giant cracker would have been—another—and then more rapidly another, followed by a number of concussions, like a pack of giant crackers catching intermittently and then in quick succession.

General Von Stromberg's smile faded—then vanished in a look of mefiance and dismay. He was gone. Hammersley's grin decided him. Speech was impossible, but the mazzik of the aeronautic was as eloquent as before. One more explosion or six, for that matter, would add little to the din. Von Stromberg's life hung by a hair at that moment, and he knew it. Still covering his Excellency, who was now gloating at the slit in the curtain beside him, Hammersley climbed up to the seat in front of Doris in the cockpit of the machine. And just as he was putting a leg over, his Excellency took a quick glance upward, which had in it a world of expression—and bolted.

(CONTINUED TOMORROW)

DEER DESTROY GRAIN CROPS

Recent N. J. Law Makes Farmers Almost Powerless to Protect Wheat

Whitings, N. J., April 10.—Herds of deer are seen almost daily grazing in the rye and wheat fields in this section of the county and farmers, under the new law, are all but powerless to protect their crops. They must not kill the deer until they have notified the game protector and he has seen the animals in the work of destruction.

Farmers find it hard to get the game protector to agree that at the time the deer are destroying crops. Last year Governor Edge told farmers to kill the deer and he would see that they were not punished. Since the passage of the Legislature of the new law that comment has been withdrawn.

FOUR-MINUTE WOMEN A HIT

Draw Large Crowds in Stroudsburg as Liberty Loan Speakers

Stroudsburg, Pa., April 10.—Four-minute women speakers are making a great hit at the churches, moving picture shows and other public places. Among those who spoke today were Miss Mildred LeBar, Miss Augusta Williams, Miss Margaret Henry, Mrs. C. B. Stapler, Miss Olive Foster and Mrs. Harold B. Edwards, all prominent in society.

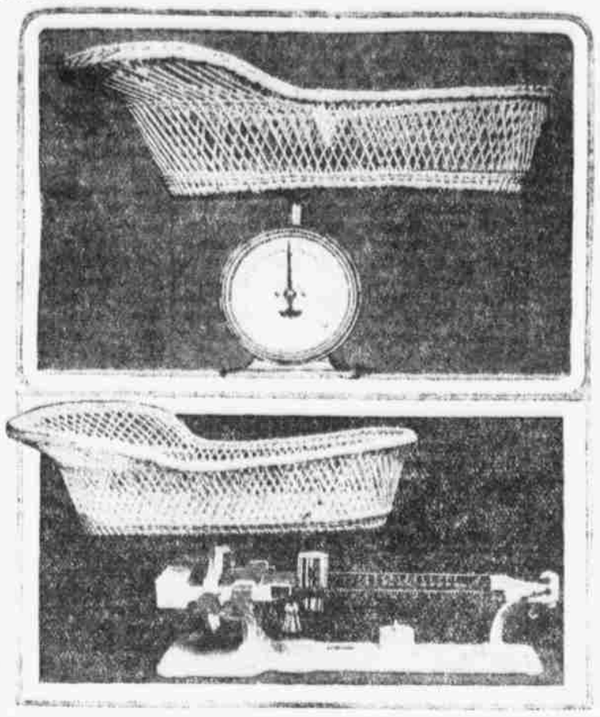
One hundred and ten women, under the leadership of Mrs. Stapler, are making a house-to-house canvass this week and are meeting with success.

MOTHERS' PROBLEMS

For the Children's Year

By MARY L. READ, B. S.
Director of the School of Mothercraft War Service

Questions on the conservation of children—their care, feeding, development, play, home training and the better understanding of child nature—will be answered through these columns. Inquiries are invited from any one interested in the welfare of children. For answer to questions requiring personal reply, a stamped, self-addressed envelope must be inclosed.



Fluctuations in the weight of a child, especially an infant, are the surest indications of its physical condition. The early recognition of gradual loss in weight, or too hasty increase, may mean saving the child's life. A spring scale, such as shown at the top, is not true to a smaller division than an ounce, and easily gets out of order. The balance, or beam scale, below is graduated to the quarter ounce, is absolutely accurate and can be corrected readily to an even balance.

A Child's Weight

A CHILD'S weight is one of the surest evidences of his well or ill being. There is no fixed weight that is normal for all boys and girls at any given age, as, for instance, ten years. The normal weight at any age varies with the height and the sex. There is at one age, a range of height and weight that is normal for boys and girls. That is, to know the normal weight for a child of twelve years, one must also know the height, and whether the child is a boy or a girl.

To exceed the normal weight for the height and age is foolish and may become dangerous. To fall below this weight is a danger signal, indicating lowered vitality and less endurance.

Normal weight is made by bones, muscles and a moderate amount of fat. Pudgy, butter-ball babies and children are neither beautiful, healthy nor normal. The ambition to have a baby that is overweight for its age is found only among people who, ignorant of the abnormalities and the dangers of this excessive fatty accumulation. Overfat babies have much more difficulty with croup or cough. The overweight either hinders them walking or puts too great a strain upon the soft bones of the legs, which easily become bent and bowed under the strain of this excess burden.

An underweight child is also likely to be pale, with dark circles under the eyes at times to be easily tired, and to have a poor appetite.

In a case of either overweight or underweight the child needs extra drought of Nature's tonics—outdoor life and exercise, fresh air all night, a daily bath, simple food with vegetables, fruits and the whole-ground cereals every day; milk, eggs and such other prescription in diet or home as the physician may decide. Patent medicine tonics are to be strictly avoided.

During the first year of a child's life the weight should be taken every week; during the second year every month, and after that every quarter until he is grown. Even then it is a wise precaution to continue.

A balance scale, such as grocers use, is more reliable, in taking the weight of children, than a spring scale. The weight should be taken without the clothing, or the clothing should be weighed separately and subtracted from the total, to get the actual weight of the child. Any intelligent person can easily learn how to keep a weight chart, showing the increase or decrease in weight.

(Standard tables of normal heights and weights for boys and for girls will be printed in this department at an early date.)

Questions and Answers

Will not a child outgrow adenoids?
MRS. R. R. 1865.

Sometimes adenoids tend to shrink in size about the early teens, but not always. In the meantime, the child who is afflicted with the adenoids has suffered from nervousness, discomfort, cold, lowered vitality, and possibly some contagious disease. The only fair thing to the child is to prevent them, so far as possible, or to have them removed as soon as they are detected.

What can be done with a child who will not pay attention when spoken to?
DISTRACTED MOTHER.

If this happens frequently it may be due to a partial deafness. A specialist in the treatment of ears should make an examination. It may be a procrastinating habit or a carelessness about obedience and in such cases a habit of promptness or obedience must be cultivated. It may be that a parent has not learned to concentrate attention when speaking to the child, and the importance of requiring attention of the child to what is being said.

Just what is meant by a defective child?
E. F.

Any child who is not entirely normal or who has some physical or mental defect. This may be a defect of the teeth, the eyes, the feet, poor nutrition, wrong posture, some wrong curvature in the spine, to mention only some of the most common. A mentally defective child is usually backward or dull-minded; he may be erratic or unduly precocious in some respects.

(Continued Friday)

POUCHER HEADS DYE MAKERS

Morris R. Poucher, of E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., has been elected president of the new American Dyestuff Manufacturers Association at a meeting in New York.

Other officers are L. A. Ault, vice president; Frank Hemingway, secretary; C. Cyril Bennett, treasurer, and Charles Jenkinson.

WOMAN WOULD LIKE TO MAKE U. S. LAWS

Cora Bixler, Socialist, of Lancaster County, Files Petition for Congress

Harrisburg, April 10.—The first nominating petition filed by a woman for the May primary was for the Socialist nomination for Congressman-at-Large, entered by Cora Bixler, of Lancaster County. Charles Sohl, of Philadelphia, filed papers for the Socialist nomination for Governor.

Congressman Thomas S. Crago, of Waynesburg, filed a petition for the Republican renomination and General Charles M. Clement, Sunbury, for the Republican nomination for Congressman-at-Large.

Congressional nominating petitions filed were:

Fletcher W. Sites, Republican, Eighth; Henry W. Temple, Republican, Twenty-fourth; J. Wilmer Fisher, Republican, Thirteenth; Francis A. March, Jr., Republican, Twenty-sixth; John V. Lesher, Democrat, Sixteenth; J. C. Lowry, Republican, Twenty-third; Henry Peter, Socialist, Twenty-ninth; W. A. Presser, Socialist, Thirty-first; John W. Slayton, Socialist, Thirty-second.

A petition for W. Harry Baker, secretary of the State Senate, to be a candidate for member of the Republican State Committee, of which he is secretary, was filed from Dauphin County.

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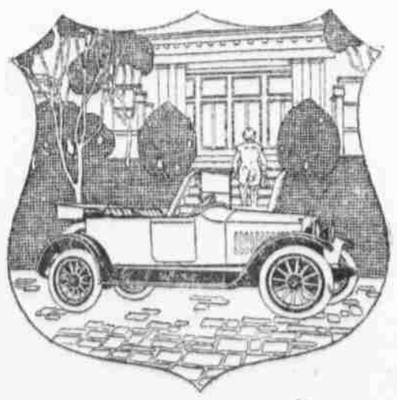

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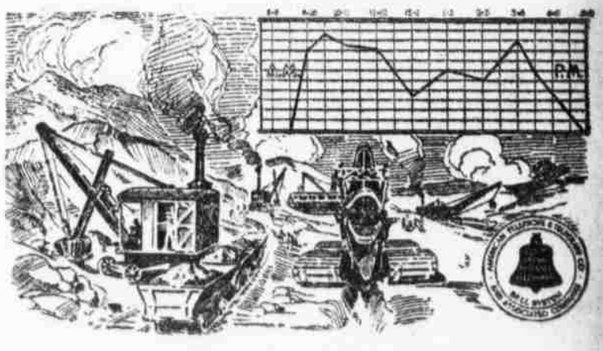

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