

SUMMER OPERA OPENS WITH "LA GIOCONDA"

Excellent Performance Given at the Academy of Music by the Puccini Opera Co.

"LA GIOCONDA" Opera in four acts by Puccini

La Gioconda... Francesca Perata... Fernando Doria... Maria Padova... Pietro De Biasi... Laura... Manuel Salazar... Maria... Vincenzo Ballerster... Stella De Metz... Dorothea... Natalie Corvi... Giovanni... Luiti D'Angelo... A. Pilot... Conductor... Carlo Peroni



LADY SYKES Formerly Miss Isabel Law, daughter of A. Bonar Law, who was married in London yesterday to Major General Sir Frederick Sykes.

The Puccini Opera Co. last evening opened a short stay in Philadelphia at the Academy of Music by a well-balanced and enthusiastically rendered performance of Puccini's "La Gioconda."

The performance, it must be said, opened without any very great promise, but became better and better as it progressed until in the third and fourth acts there were many places in which an exceedingly high standard both of singing and acting was shown.

The honors of the principal parts went to Miss Perata in the title role and Mr. Ballerster as the villain, Barnaba. In the early part of the opera Miss Perata's voice had a most favorable but appeared to lack color.

"La Gioconda" is an opera in which the ensemble are numerous and important, fully equal in number and importance to the soloists.

The chorus was splendid. Puccini had a fondness for choral effects, rare in a modern operatic composer, and this opera is full of fine choral effects, which the chorus last evening gave with an enthusiasm equally rare in a professional chorus and a fine tonal quality.

The famous ballet, "The Dance of the Hours," was superbly conceived and lighted. It was danced with the enthusiasm which permeated the whole performance, although a little more rehearsal in the technical requirements of the elaborate conception would have made the dancing perfect.

MISS ISABEL LAW A BRIDE Daughter of Commoner Married to Major General Sykes

London, June 4.—Miss Isabel Law, daughter of Andrew Bonar Law, government spokesman in the House of Commons, was married to Major General Sir Frederick Sykes, controller

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DREAMLAND ADVENTURES

THE MAGIC RUG BY DADDY

Peggy, Billy, Blinky Sam, Johnny Bull and Lonesome Bear are carried away to Persia by a magic rug. They reach there as the robber El Murfa claims the air Astara as his bride. Blinky Sam dresses as a bride and foils El Murfa.

CHAPTER V The Hugging Bride

EL MURFA, the robber, picked himself out of the bramble bushes, where he had been kicked by Blinky Sam, and shook his fist at the castle.

"I want no bride whose love lay is like the kick of a mule," he shouted angrily. "Then seek a bride elsewhere," answered Raban the Greedy, and there was great rejoicing in the castle.

"Yes, but who will be the bride?" asked Billy, looking around upon those present. "His eyes rested upon Lonesome Bear."

"Eugh! I'd like to get after that robber," growled Lonesome Bear, licking his chops. "I'd soon cure him of bride hunting."

"Good!" cried Billy. "You shall be the bride of El Murfa and save the fair Astara from his clutches."

So Lonesome Bear was dressed in the blue robe and long veil, and he made just as fine a looking bride as had Blinky Sam. Raban the Greedy adopted him as a daughter and sent him forth in exchange for the flock of fat sheep.

El Murfa looked with favor on this new bride. "You are fat," he said. "But fat ladies are nice. Come to my arms, my sweet one."

Now that is just what Lonesome Bear wanted, for if there is anything a bear likes it is to hug some one—whether that one be friend or foe.

Lonesome Bear opened wide his paws and clasped El Murfa in a mighty hug—a hug that made the robber yell, a hug that made him gasp, a hug that made him bang his head against the wall.

But the robber's followers saw what was happening. They ran up with guns and pikes and prodded Lonesome Bear until he was forced to let go. El Murfa fell limply to the ground and Lonesome Bear was driven back to the castle gates.

"Eugh! That was a candy hug!" growled Lonesome Bear. "I told you I'd cure that robber of his bride-hunting."

But El Murfa wasn't cured yet, as they were soon to learn.

(Tomorrow will be told how El Murfa gets a biting bride.)

Haddon Heights Class Gines Haddon Heights, N. J., June 4.—At the annual dinner of Mayor William Dallas's Bible class last night in the Methodist church Mayor Dallas was the principal speaker.

Dr. Cromwell Ironsides, president of the class, and the Rev. W. R. Haver, pastor of the church, made addresses.

Court Lets Woman Keep \$2000 Gift Greenburg, Pa., June 4.—Judge McConnell has granted a nonsuit in the action brought against Miss Ruth F. Stuchel, a school teacher, by Benjamin F. Stuchel, of East Pittsburgh, to recover nearly \$2000 which he alleged to have given Miss Marks while he was courting her.

7 PRIESTS TO CELEBRATE

They Will Observe Their Silver Jubilee Next Tuesday

Seven priests of the Catholic diocese of Philadelphia will complete the twenty-fifth year of their priesthood next Tuesday.

Among the priests who will observe their silver jubilee either next week or later in the month, are: The Rev. Thomas P. Buckley, of the Church of Our Mother of Sorrows; the Rev. L. A. Fahy, of Minersville; the Rev. John J. Greenhill, of St. Edmund's Church; the Rev. William J. McCaffrey, of the Holy Child Church; the Rev. Henry A. Naylon, of the Church of Corpus Christi, and the Rev. Maurice A. Walsh, of St. Anthony's Church.

Christi, and the Rev. Maurice A. Walsh, of St. Anthony's Church. The Rev. Joseph E. Murphy, of St. Mark's Church, Bristol, is also numbered among the jubilarians, but his anniversary was anticipated and celebrated in conjunction with the diamond jubilee of the parish, which was observed in April.

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