

ACADEMY STAGE MAY BE ALTERED

Doing Away With "Apron"
Would Give More Room—Can
Be Replaced at Will

TO RENOVATE THEATRE

Commenting on rumors that the stage "apron" of the Academy of Music was to be cut off by the new management to allow for more seats, Edward Bok said today: "There was talk about cutting off the apron from the stage of the Academy—that is, the part of the stage which extends into the auditorium. This method of building is no longer followed in modern theatres, the footlights being brought up to the curtain line.

"People think that this apron" extending into the auditorium has a direct relation with the remarkable acoustics of the Academy; as a matter of fact, it has absolutely no relation to it. The acoustics of a theatre are naturally in the auditorium itself, not on the stage.

"What the new Academy management proposes to do really is to change the present semicircle footlights of the Academy stage and straighten them. That is all. The present semicircle footlight scheme is not only wasteful in room, but removes the actors too far from the footlights. Where the orchestra pit now exists there will be movable seats for lectures, etc. The floor of this pit will be portable so that it can be lowered and raised with strong jacks underneath.

"When the Philadelphia Orchestra and other orchestras play this floor is raised, and Mr. Stokowski and his players will stand and sit in precisely the same places on the extension stage as they now do.

"The opera does not permit its singers to come beyond the curtain line in any theatre so as not to bring the characters out of the picture. So when the opera is given the floor is lowered and the large opera orchestra sits in the pit where at orchestra concerts the conductor and the orchestra sit on the stage. That is all there is to it. It changes neither the stage nor the auditorium in the slightest degree.

"The parquet will be rescaled by straightening the footlights and by the elimination of some useless space which exists at present in the parquet itself.

"These two plans of economy of space will mean about 250 extra seats, bringing the capacity of the Academy up to more than 3100 for the opera and lectures, and more than 3000 for orchestral concerts when the extension stage is used.

"The house is also to be scrubbed, the paint washed, the dressing rooms all repainted and refurbished, the stage modernized, the ticket office is to be enlarged and the outer lobby next to Broad street is to be heated so that people will feel comfortable the moment they enter the Academy on cold nights.

"A force of workmen will begin on July 1 and the building will be ready for its opening under the new management on September 1."

MAN WOUNDED BY THUGS
Victim in Shot Resisting Highwaymen—Robbed of \$62
Refusing to "hand over" his money to two thugs who held him up at Thirty-third street and Montgomery avenue last night, Benjamin W. Weiss, 615 North Third street, fought with the men until he was shot and wounded in the left shoulder. The thugs fled after taking \$62 from their victim.

Weiss, who is twenty-three years old, was waiting at the corner for a trolley car when he was held up by a tall, heavy-set man and the other a man of slight build, walked up to him, drew pistols and ordered him to "hand over" his money. Weiss grappled with one of the men and was getting the best of the fight until the thug's companion fired and Weiss fell.

KNIFE ROUTS THREE

Negroes Get Wounds Dressed and Are Arrested on Robbery Charge

Three negroes, who are charged with attempting to rob a laundry at the northwest corner of Nineteenth and Moore streets yesterday, were attacked by Lee Lung, the proprietor. He yielded a carving knife so well that the visitors abandoned their plans and fled.

Incidentally the negroes received many souvenirs of the battle. They went to St. Agnes' Hospital for treatment and were later arrested. The prisoners gave their names as James Ryan and James Farrell, of Nineteenth and Morris streets, and Samuel Simpson, of Twentieth street and Snyder avenue. All were identified by Lung. Each of the prisoners was held in \$600 bail for court by Magistrate Dougherty.

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WARNS OF BOGUS NOTE

\$20 Certificate is Drawn on Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta

According to a warning just issued by W. H. Moran, chief of the secret service division of the Treasury Department in Washington, a counterfeit \$20 Federal Reserve note is being distributed. The bogus bill is described as being drawn on the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Ga.; check letter A; plate No. 1, indistinct; W. G. McAdoo, secretary of the treasury; John Burke, treasurer of the United States; portrait of Cleveland.

The counterfeit is a photographic reproduction on two pieces of paper, between which silk threads have been distributed. The paper is thick and stiff. The treasury seal and number have been retouched. Much of the small lettering on the face of the note is indistinct. The back of the note has had green ink applied, apparently with a brush.

"Birds of a Feather Flock Together"

Years ago the New York Sun spoke of a certain play as "the kind of a play that will be enjoyed by the kind of people who enjoy this kind of a play."

It is possible to judge hundreds of thousands of people in a rough, approximate way by studying the publications they elect to buy and read.

This is more often true in the choice of national periodicals, because in many cities a newspaper must be taken without a range of selection.

For the purpose of commercial generalization, a study of a magazine itself is the best way of picturing the composite reader.

The familiar exception of the college professor who finds mental relaxation in the shilling shocker or the anaemic bookkeeper who feeds on virile tales of men inevitably described as "red-blooded" upsets a nicety of application as an invariable rule.

However, no questionnaire or other method of investigation of a circulation leads to as safe a generalization as may be made after a study of the magazine itself.

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