

ENGLISH STAGE COMMENT FOUND DROLL BY DALE

Atmosphere Changes as U. S. Producers Curb Importations

By ALLAN DALE
NEW YORK, Oct. 29.—(Universal Service).—The poor old dramatist seems to have become a source of international discomfort, and the tremendous vogue of the American-made play has become amusingly alarming. When American managers went abroad each year to buy up every English play written and unwritten, the world of dramatist smiled beautifully. Now that it is scarcely possible to buy very much—because there "ain't" very much to buy—atmospheric disturbances appear to be threatening ominous.

One play that has had immense success in London has already gone to that bourne from which there is no return. I refer to "Yellow Sands" by the Philpotts.

This was so essentially British that its chances were of course small, although the piece had distinct merit in the way of characterization just as a former Philpotts play, "The Farmer's Wife" had. But this is a busy community and the eccentricities of Devonshire folks are scarcely interesting in a country where Devonshire is merely a name. "The Letter" was more fortunate. It was the best of the few London plays that have been imported, and it was the work of Somerset Maugham who has a clientele here.

I have before me a screed in a London paper headed "The English Play Is Winning" and sub-headed "American Failure To Capture the West End Stage." This dreadful prediction is made with gusto: "A leading man of the theater world has been quoted during the past three days as saying that within 20 years the exportation of plays from America to England will have ceased."

And if you don't think that droll, then your sense of humor has been obscured. Twenty years is certainly a fine stretch of time, and there is still a chance for an inundation of American drama in London. The number of plays that could be exported during 20 full seasons is surely terrific. I saw 215 plays last season. Multiplied by 20, we have the fabulous sum of 4300. Therefore, before the American invasion of London really starts, that enormous tonnage of home-made plays may still hope for a London hearing. It is colossal.

Then follows comment on the American plays that have failed in London quite recently. "The Music Master" it is said, made the worst showing as it ran for 15 performances only. It was acclaimed as having been played in this country for 23 years, which sounds a lot, and was regarded abroad as "old fashioned and sloppily sentimental." But to produce "The Music Master" anywhere without David Warfield, who was responsible for its success is something like producing "Hamlet" minus any Hamlet at all.

The failure in London of these plays "follow closely the withdrawal of those other American pieces, "Meet The Wife" and "Able's Irish Rose," both of which had runs of insignificant length. But the really gorgeous thing is the enormous success in London of the Avery Hopwood adaptation "The Garden of Eden" which was promptly rejected in this country. That was an American adaptation that America didn't seem to fancy at all. They do say that its popularity in London is largely due to the presence in the cast of Tallulah Bankhead, who—when you come to think of it—is an American actress. I regard this particular case as extraordinarily humorous.

"The only unit indeed," continues my authority, "in the American vanguard which gives promise of a successful career in town is 'The Silver Cord' at St. Martin's. It is a thoughtful play with much intelligent and forceful dialogue, and it is splendidly acted. Then come the striking instances of English superiority and they are headed by Frederick Lonsdale's company 'On Approval' which was acted in New York before London ever heard of it, and not so particularly enjoyed. Also 'The Letter' which we have with us and can judge as we will; also 'Yellow Sands' which, as I have before said, failed here. They have in London a Barrie play called 'Barbara's Wedding' a shocker entitled 'The Terror' at the old Lyceum, and 'Dracula' which is at present running here."

It does seem as though drama were at an awfully low ebb in the English metropolis, and I thought when I was there there were so few pieces worth a visit.

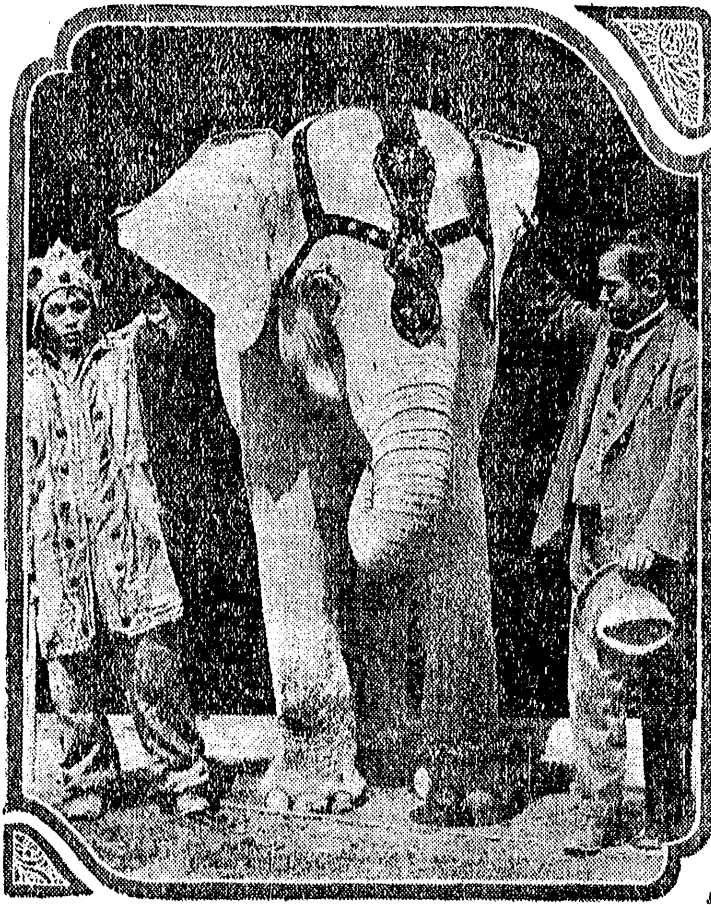
AMATO TO SING HERE IN CONCERT NOV. 20

When Pasquale Amato sings in concert at the municipal auditorium Sunday night, Nov. 20, Tampanians will be given an opportunity to hear the voice which thrilled Metropolitan opera patrons for 16 years.

Amato is being brought here by Alfredo Salmege in a joint concert with Bernardo De Muro, famed tenor, who was heard here more than a year ago with the Manhattan Opera Company. It was Amato who sang the baritone roles in many of Curuso's greatest operatic successes. The noted baritone, after completing a two-year tour of the world recently, joined the Los Angeles Opera Company, which is now closing one of the most successful years of its existence. He will come here direct from the Pacific coast. Upon leaving Tampa, he will sing 75 concerts in the large cities of this country.

De Muro gained quite a following here during the month's engagement of the Manhattan company, and his return will be welcomed by Tampa music lovers.

He's Real White Elephant



Ringling Circus Is Bringing Rare Jungle Beast to Tampa

It is seldom that the jungle gives to civilization a glimpse of its rarest specimens of the animal kingdom. Even the most daring of the big game hunters only now and then come forth with a capture that is new to the naturalist. This is not strange that there is a world-wide interest in the sacred white elephant to be exhibited here with the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey combined shows next Thursday afternoon and night.

In its native land this sacred animal is not alone regarded as a priceless curiosity but is worshipped with all the reverence and devotions as that to Buddha. Dr. Saw D. Po Min, who captured the elephant, first took it to England, where the most distinguished of authorities announced it not only genuine but a perfect type.

Alike to the discovery of all unusual and precious things, the securing of this elephant came as an accident and a staggering surprise. For days and nights Dr. Po Min and his men had been beating the Burma jungles on a hunt for the big animals. Having captured more than a hundred "bush" they drove these into a stockade, putting off in one corner the smaller of the beasts. Among these was one so covered with mud that a good bath was immediately suggested. For, like all good hunters, Dr. Po Min was making a personal inspection of his "bag" when he noticed the eyes of the mud-besmeared elephant. They were milk-like in hue with black pupils.

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TICKETS ON SALE (CIRCUS DAY ONLY) AT WILLIAMS CORNER — FRANKLIN & ZACK STS. OPPOSITE MAAS BROS.

100 COWBOYS ARE TO COME TO RODEO FROM OKEECHOBEE CENTER

More than 100 cowboys from the famous Miller Brothers' 101 ranch will be in Tampa for the International rodeo to be held at Plant field Nov. 28 to Dec. 3. It is announced by Nat D. Rogers, producer of the rodeo.

The cow punchers will come from the Southern Cattle ranch in Okeechobee, which has been purchased by the Miller Brothers ranch.

While the Miller cowboys will not be permitted to enter the International rodeo events, as they have not competed in any of the preliminary rodeos held throughout the country, they will lead a colorful atmosphere to the affair.

It is expected that Zack Miller, one of the brothers, will be here in person.

Mr. Miller is bringing his cowboys to Okeechobee from the main 101 ranch in Oklahoma, and expects to stock approximately 30,000 head of cattle on the new ranch.

Mr. Rogers yesterday closed contracts with 15 of the leading fancy riders and ropers in the country. These performers will augment the more than 40 champions and near champions who will vie for the International championships here.

Entry fees already have been received from most of the winning and runner-up bulldoggers, steer riders and broncho riders in the Fort Worth, Calgary, Cheyenne, Pendleton, Chicago and Madison Square Garden, New York, rodeos, according to Mr. Rogers.

MILLION-DOLLAR ART EXHIBIT WILL CROSS NATION DURING TOUR

BROOKLYN, N. Y., Oct. 29.—(A.P.)—Danish efforts to bring about satisfaction of the creative instinct are exemplified in an exhibit which will travel across the United States under the protectorate of Crown Prince Frederik.

The exhibit was brought to this country at the invitation of Dr. William H. Fox of the Brooklyn museum. It is worth approximately \$1,000,000 and includes paintings, sculpture, examples of native architecture, porcelain art ware, ceramics, silver, metal work and even furniture and textiles.

Already museums in more than two score large American cities have asked for opportunity to display the exhibit. But since such a protracted tour might require two to four years, only about 10 cities scattered between New York and San Francisco will be visited.

Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark has always taken great interest in the development of creative art in industry among his people. He had even planned to accompany the exhibit to America, but state circumstances arose which compelled him to remain at home.

The art objects on display in Brooklyn bring out vividly many phases of life and nature in the Scandinavian country. There are sunlit impressions of Danish fjords, blue-eyed northern children at play or listening at their mothers' knee to some well loved Andersen fairy tale.

There are also odd pieces with an oriental touch, in which the Chinese and Near East influence are evident.

'ABIE AND MAGGIE' WILL BE PRESENTED BY RIALTO COMPANY

"Abie and Maggie," a comedy based on lines similar to "Able's Irish Rose," is the offering at the Rialto theater for the week beginning today.

In substance the play's plot involves the joint ownership of a pawnshop by Mrs. Murphy and Abie. The former has a son and the latter a daughter, who fall in love with each other, getting married against their parents' wishes, leaving the Irish widow and the Jewish pawnbroker alone with their troubles. There is plenty of comedy and pathos, but it all turns out well in the end.

The musical end of the production has not been overlooked. Patsy Lyons has a new specialty; Aline Walker, as Mrs. Murphy, will sing "You Can't Walk Home From An Airplane Ride"; Harold McClure, assisted by the entire company, will have a novelty of "Joy Bells"; Faye Hammond, assisted by the company, will render "My Blue Heaven"; Walter Lee, and the Dancing Girls appear in a novelty number "Just Around The Corner From The A. & B.," Amanda Froulx and Jack Wright will sing "Down In The Old Neighborhood," while the Rialto quartette will be heard in several selections.

Raymond Justice plays the part of Abie, the pawnbroker; Faye Hammond, the Irish political boss; Aline Walker, Mrs. Murphy; Patsy Lyons, Abie's daughter; and Arthur Bauman, Mrs. Murphy's son.

\$10,000 UNDER HOVEL

KNIGHTON, Eng.—Relatives have found \$10,000 hidden under the floor of the hovel where Samuel Price died two years ago.

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Music and Musicians

By MADAME COBINA WRIGHT

NEW YORK, Oct. 29.—(Copyright, 1927, by Universal Service).—It used to be the fashion to sneer at jazz. The genius of George Gershwin uplifted it undoubtedly. Now I am amused to hear from Frederick Miller, the British basso, an opinion on jazz in which he calls Bach "the father of jazz." It is an interesting theory and I quote Mr. Miller in part:

"Back of jazz is a long line of ancestors, beginning with the folk songs of primitive people," says Mr. Miller, "Sebastian Bach is the most outstanding of the old masters who in their lighter moods turned to jazz expressions. He consistently used the syncopated methods of the modern writer. Students readily recognize these movements in a great deal of his work, and even to the novice it should be apparent in such pieces as the prelude to his St. Anne's Fugue, certain passages of which are carried away with syncopation.

"Old Father Bach must have been in a hilarious mood much of his time, for so often the essential jazz spirit creeps out, with its lulling, swaying, devil-may-care abandon.

"Nor was Bach alone in his employment of syncopation. The duet between Adam and Eve in Haydn's creation is an excellent example. Give it into the hands of one of our modern composers with instructions to dress it up for the saxophone, traps and trombone, and a perfect piece of flamboyant jazz will result.

"Beethoven's sonata in A-flat with variations contains another convincing specimen of the earlier writing of essential jazz. The third variation on the first part has the very swing and beat which has been attributed exclusively to this modern version of music.

"There are thousands of examples of works in which the old composers turned to syncopation when in facetious humor. Adapt any of them to the modern jazz orchestra and few could differentiate its form from the latest syncopated hit on Broadway.

"All this came about through a deliberate transition. From the primitive to the classic was a tedious development, and there were many

MEIGHAN FILM SHOWS AT SEMINOLE MONDAY

"We're All Gamblers," Thomas Meighan's Paramount picture, is to be shown at the Seminole theater Monday to a succession of laughs, applause and awed silences. Life's ups and downs in a big city and the thread of a love which weaves it together and makes it worth while are vividly portrayed in this new Meighan offering.

A strong comedy vein is furnished by red-headed, freckle-faced Spec O'Donnell while Gumbart Smith deserves full credit for all the laughs he injects. Marietta Miller, leading woman, is the brunette beauty brought from Vienna several months ago by Paramount.

Smothers Baby in Keg
MUNICH—Ten-year-old Elga Georlich smothered her little brother by putting him into a bear keg.

Tampa Municipal Auditorium SUNDAY EVENING NOVEMBER 20TH

Grand Gala Concert With Two Celebrities of International Fame

BERNARDO DE MIRO, Tenor of La Scala—Milan

PASQUALE AMATO, Baritone, Metropolitan Opera Co.

Emily Grand, Soprano, and Barcellos De Braga, Pianist

In Grand Opera Program—American and Italian Songs

Tickets, \$2.00 and \$2.50, now on sale at Price Music Store and Hershberg's

CUPID GETS A JOLT
LONDON.—Arthur B. Todd, aged 70, was arrested for stealing jewelry from Miss Florence Trinby, aged 20, who had accepted his offer of marriage.

HORNET CAUSES DEATH
LEXINGTON, Ky.—A saddle horse ridden by Miss Elsa Fraser bolted when stung by a hornet, throwing the young woman and breaking her neck.

TODAY and MONDAY

STRAND

What price will a woman pay for love? See Pola Negri's new drama! It's as good as a "Hotel Imperial" and "Barbed Wire!"

See whether love! Mother love! Then tragedy and finally a surprise climax! That's Pola Negri's newest—

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Comedy "Keeping His Word"—and—Metro News
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