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Wellesley College

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PROF. GOW’S LECTURE ON MODERN OPERA.

The overwhelming of an old form of music and the introduction of a new can never fail to arouse displeasure and scorn from the majority, and it is with such a reception that most of the modern composers have been met. On Monday evening, January 24, Professor George Coleman Gow, of the Vassar Department of Music, explained exactly what was meant by “modern opera” and the problems involved in its success. The great question, upon whose solution the success of a perfect music drama depends, is, Professor Gow said, “How much should the dramatic enter into music? What is the limit to music in sound?” For the time has long since passed when the function of music has been regarded as being merely to soothe the feelings; the perfect opera, as the perfect drama, should set forth some phase of life, expounding both action and meaning—should, in other words, be “life and its connotative.” In order to demonstrate the extent of the power of music to do this, Professor Gow divided all music into two classes: the aesthetic and the expressive. The aesthetic, he explained, was that whose beauty depended entirely on its construction, its musical form, balance and volume. The expressive, on the other hand, was divided into two classes: that which, by means of its quality and succession of tones, had the power of arousing moods, and that whose effectiveness was augmented by the association of ideas. As an example of this last class, Miss Sinclair played the “Pilgrim’s Chorus” from “Tannhäuser.” As a piece of music, this is, of course, impressive, but when we imagine the band of pilgrims piously chanting it on their way to Rome to seek forgiveness, its impressiveness is doubled. It is upon this last class that “program” or “descriptive” music relies for its success, for the mimic in music, as in literature, has its place. Miss Sinclair, to illustrate this mimicking power of music, played the “Conjuror’s Song” in Purcell’s “Indian Queen.” In this, the conjurer is calling upon the god of sleep in the name of every repulsive animal, the picture of each of which has its own musical embodiment. On the other hand, Professor Gow showed the power of music to contradict, by quoting as an example the fact that in Gluck’s “Iphigenia and Taurus,” Creastes says that he is at peace with the world while the music, meanwhile, restless and sinister, denies his words, reminding us of his murder of his mother.

Therefore it is plain that music has the power to produce debatable ground—a dramatic clash, and it is the preparing and resolving of this clash which constitutes the successful opera. The perfect music drama, Professor Gow said, is yet to be composed, unless perhaps, as many critics think, it is De Bussy’s “Pelléas and Mélisande.” Wagner never succeeded in creating a perfect opera, although this was his one ambition, because “he fell too much in the pit of his own loveliness.” His actors did not promote the action of the drama; they were merely illustrative pictures. The orchestra explained and advanced the plot, described the characters and brought the actors to a dramatic situation, which Wagner, overcome with his musical ideals, would prolong to a length wholly out of proportion to its function in the drama. As an example of this weakness of Wagner’s, Miss Sinclair played the music of the scene between Hans Sachs and Eva in Wagner’s “Meistersinger,” and Professor Gow, by first reading their conversation, showed how unproportional to its importance in the drama the scene was.

In the modern operas, however—by “modern operas” are meant those composed only in the twentieth century—composers are attempting to keep the music in its proper place, as merely the servant to the drama. In “Pelléas and Mélisande,” the same musical wealth as in Wagner is experienced, and yet the action of the drama is never sacrificed to the music. To demonstrate this, Miss Sinclair played the beginning of the fountain scene in “Pelléas and Mélisande.” Throughout the opera, the music is subtle, elusive and imaginative—a thin, transparent gauze enveloping the drama itself.

The only question is: Are all modern operas as successful as “Pelléas and Mélisande”? Professor Gow answered that there have been innumerable failures, with only once in a while one verging on success. The trouble is that composers are only too ready to follow the old Wagnerian form and only too often to look to the future for new forms. There is always room for “the good old opera” but that good old opera has been perfected and a new kind must be sought. M. W.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT MEETING.

A meeting of the Student Government Association was held Friday afternoon, January 28, in College Hall Chapel. After the reading of the minutes, the report of the House Presidents was read. Caroline Vose read the report from the Students’ Building Fund. The next business of the meeting was the election of the representative to the International Institute League. After Ruth Fletcher had explained the duties of the representative, nominations were made, and Mary Hewitt, 1911, was elected. The president then gave the decision of the Executive Board in regard to the South Nation Inn. The girls are to leave the Inn by 7:30 in winter and 8:00 in summer. Miss Douglas cautioned the girls about coming home in small numbers alone. Kate Parsons explained a suggested amendment to the constitution of the College News. The amendment requires that (1) the Editor-in-Chief of the News shall be from the Senior Class, and (2) there shall be two new members from the Sophomore Class, making the board number eight instead of six. Another Student Government meeting is to be held on Tuesday, February 8, to vote on this amendment and to discuss the question of an open Tree Day. The next business of the meeting was the accepting of the amendment concerning the election of House Vice-presidents. Another amendment was then read concerning the granting of permission by House Presidents for traveling on Sunday, and after discussion, this amendment was also adopted. Next followed the consideration of the amendment concerning a Freshman member on the Executive Board. Ruth Eliot then made a plea for greater quiet in the Mary Hemenway Hall. The meeting was then formally adjourned.

MRS. KELLY’S LECTURE.

The lecture given by Mrs. Florence Kelly on Monday night, was one of great interest. Mrs. Kelly, who is general secretary of the National Consumers’ League, spoke of the minimum wage for girls and of the efforts of the League for legislation in this regard. The lecture was quite informal.

Mrs. Kelly spoke of the attempt made by the league to fix the minimum weekly wage for women at $6. This, she explained, is really a "sub-minimum" wage, since even on this, no girl, who must depend on her own income, or who must contribute to the support of others, can live without very grave physical or moral detriment. Reference was made to Miss Goldmark’s researches in Fatigue, which prove the great danger of overwork to the public health. The necessity for a minimum wage was emphasized by the fact of an overwhelming number of young women workers in the field.

(Concluded on Page 4.)
College News.

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All business correspondence should be addressed to Elizabeth Noflinger, Business Manager, College News.

Business correspondence should be addressed to Miss B. M. Beekford, Wellesley.

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Associate Editor, Ruth Evans, 1911
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Assistant, Frances Gray, 1912

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EDITORIAL.

WHAT THE COLLEGE GIRL READS.

The statement that every other girl in college reads Mastermink and nosenot that seven-eighths of the college are so rushed that they have no time to read besides these—is interesting but not accurately enlightening. Does the college girl find time to read? Does she read for pleasure or improvement? Does her college course affect her outside reading? These are questions to which we have attempted to approximate answers by statistics taken from the three upper classes here at Wellesley. Four hundred and fifty girls have been interviewed; in each case all questioning applied to the reading done voluntarily, not as the instruction of the instructor. The results obtained are at least only approximate, although they sound statistically iron-bound; they have been obtained as carefully as possible, but the average girl doesn't know why she reads and frequently has such an elastic habit of reading that it is hard to determine what she reads.

The regular reading of the daily newspaper is more prevalent than might be supposed from the infrequency of the college girl to discuss current events. Of the four hundred and fifty girls, one hundred and sixty-five had read one daily, the great majority showing a preference for the Boston Herald. Do they read the editorials? No, they don't. They do more than skim the headlines and absorb the society column, but few pretend to read what doesn't interest them. Here and there is found the girl who can and does read the newspaper as a whole, but she is rare. The tendency seems to be toward the time-saving weekly which offers the current events necessary for devout enquirers.

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The Philadelphia, Biography is a pleasure. New subscriptions are most welcome. Frances, 50c; half year, $1.00; close on the year, $1.50. Mrs. Wharton's most popular but more read for short stories than for her novels. Mr. James? Only six—here and there. From four hundred and fifty-six have read a biography within the past few months. With a few exceptions, they are the biographies of Alice Freeman Palmer or Carla Mencken. Forty-five live essays for pleasure and with a fair amount of regularity. Nearly all the essays are modern, Emerson standing at the head of the list with Carlyle a close second. No one reads Bacon or Montaigne; perhaps they savor too much of the academic to afford the reader enjoyment. One hundred and twenty-six girls read poetry for pleasure. Tennyson is the favorite, followed by Wordsworth, Browning and Kipling. Four girls read Goethe and Heine. Present-day poetry is not prevalently read—Carman, Symonds, even Swinburne are usually unmentioned.

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BOATS.
The interest in drama is increasing. Nearly a fourth of the four hundred and fifty had read several plays very recently. With the few exceptions of those who enjoy Shakespeare and can gain pleasure from the German plays, the drama read is all modern. There is a wide-spread affection for the poetical, the lyrical drama, such as it is, manufactured by Mr. Yeats and Mrs. Marks (Josephine Preston Peabody)—these two are widely popular. Last of all we come to the ever-discussed Ibsen. Maeterlinck and Shaw. It will perhaps quench the ardor of those who either deplore or admire the great popularity of these writers to learn that thirty-two from four hundred and fifty, one fifteenth by those interviewed, have a steady attachment to the productions of these idols.

Summing up the investigation, it may be said that outside of the vast amount of reading done for mere pleasure, there is a genuine interest in very few of the literary developments enumerated with one exception. Interest in poetry is aesthetic, a bit contemplative and antique; interest in the novel is a little more genuine; interest in biography practically centers about two books for the sake of their Wellesley connections; interest in essays is absolutely dead and harmless, but in the interest shown in the drama there is hope. Girls are reading the drama that is the talk of the day, the drama of today's stage, and showing a lively and spreading interest in it. The tendency is most encouraging; as for the promise exhibited in the remainder of our investigations—well, judge for yourselves.

Ed. Note: Sincere thanks are due those who have made the above article possible—the interviewed as well as the interviewer.

Attention is called to the program of the mid-year music published on page 6 of this issue. In addition there is a notice of the more formal weekly organ recitals which will continue through February and March. The latter will be more educative in character than the rather repetitive after-chapel music to be given during mid-years. For both of these opportunities the college, mindful of past enjoyment, is grateful to Professor MacDougall. It is to be hoped that, for the sake of individual gain, appreciation of these opportunities for good music will materialize in the form of large attendance.

Miss Muriel Barcheller, 1912, has been received as Sophomore editor on the Editorial Board of the News.

EXHIBITIONS.

COPLEY GALLERY: Mr. Kronberg's Paintings.
GARDNER'S GALLERY: Mr. Anderson's Paintings.
ST. BOTOLPH CLUB: Mr. Benson's Paintings.
DOLL & RICHARDS: Mr. Bolt's Paintings.
DOLL & RICHARDS: Drawings by Charles Keene.
DOLL & RICHARDS: Etchings by Felix Buhot.
VOCES'S GALLERY: Mr. Kendall's Paintings.
MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS: Etchings by Whistler.
FOGG ART MUSEUM: Drawings by Ruskin.
KIMBALL'S GALLERY: Scott and Fowke's Collection.
BOSTON CITY CLUB: Miss Richardson's Paintings.

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COLLEGE CALENDAR.

Thursday, February 3, at 4:20 o'clock in the Houghton Memorial Chapel, the first organ recital by Professor MacDougall.
Saturday, February 5. An exhibition of the work of the students in the Art Department, in the Art Building.
Vespers at 7 A.M. Address by Dr. Edward C. Carter at the invitation of the Missionary Committee.
Monday, February 7, at 7:30 o'clock, in College Hall Chapel, a lecture by Professor William R. Brooks of Geneva, New York, on "The Comet and Star System."

COLLEGE NOTES.

"The Spirit of Youth and the City Streets," by Miss Jane Addams, has been added to the Social Study book shelf in the newspaper room.

There was a delegation meeting of all the girls who went to summer conferences and to the Rochester Convention at Agora House, Friday evening.

Saturday, January twenty-second, the Seniors gave a reception to the students of the Department of Hygiene and Physical Education. The floor was cleared for dancing, and there were refreshments for the dancers.

The Christian Association meeting was held Thursday evening, January 27, in College Hall Chapel. Dorothy Mills led the meeting, and with Dorothy Dey and Hazel Nutter, told us of the work Wellesley has been doing in the vacation school of South Boston. Work with the children is most interesting, and the vacation school is a real help to the parents, as well as a benefit to the children.

Scribblers met Friday evening at Zeta Alpha. Miss Sapinsky and Dr. Lockwood read.

At a meeting of the Versifiers' Club this week, verse was read by Miss Manwaring, Miss Snyder, Miss Douglas and Miss Kelly.

Miss Vivian lectured last week to students of History 15 on the recent Turkish Resolution.

THEATER NOTES.

MAJESTIC: Jefferson De Angelis in "The Beauty Spot."
COLONIAL: Marie Tempest in "Penelope."
PARK: "The Man from Home."
TREMONT: "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm."
HOLLY STREET: Mam Adams in "What Every Woman Knows."
CASTLE SQUARE: "Othello."
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WELLESLEY, MASS.

MRS. KELLY’S LECTURE—Continued.

Though this amount is below the requirement, there has been
little success in the attempt to obtain it as a minimum. Indeed,
thus far no attempts to better the condition of working girls have
gone far. Even the provision for a ten-hour day, made legal over
sixty years ago in England, is here still “unconstitutional,” as at-
tention “freedom of contract” is. The latest development in Eng-
land went into effect last January. It embodies a new, almost a
revolutionary principle. There are to be created, through the
Board of Trade, district committees, which, after investigating
living conditions and wages, are to decide on a minimum wage, for
certain trades. The members of this board are to be employers and
employees, including women. Their findings are to be made public.
A bill, adapting this idea to conditions here, is to be presented to
the next session of the Massachusetts State Legislature. Though
a long struggle will probably ensue, the beginning, at least, will
be made.

Throughout her lecture, Mrs. Kelly spoke again and again of
the increasing body of knowledge on economic subjects, of the at-
tention they now receive in universities and of the fact that the
indolent can no longer plead ignorance.

After the lecture, Mrs. Kelly spoke informally in the Faculty
Parlor, on the shirt-waist strike. She brought out the lack of a
standard of conditions of labor, or of wages, and made clear the
two-fold struggle the girls are so bravely carrying on, one against
the factories, the other against illegal arrest. She added a point not
well known, that no investigation has brought to light any effort at
arbitration on the part of the employers.

On being asked how we might help, Mrs. Kelly said that, after
financial assistance, “the realization,” by the girls and the public in
general, “that they can command intelligent sympathy,” and the
“moral support of the colleges” is the best assistance.

R. A.

TOWN HALL MEETINGS.

The following notice may be of use in case of any desire to
complain of carriage service, in Wellesley, to call attention of
officers to any points and to ask for any information.

Commencing Saturday, January 15, 1910, and until further
notice, except during the summer months of June, July and August,
a member of the Board of Selectmen will be at the Town Hall from
three until five o’clock on Saturday afternoons for the purpose of
taking up and acting upon any matters that a citizen may desire to
bring up. In case it is inconvenient to present a matter in person,
it will be attended to if called to the attention of the Board by
telephone, and in the case of citizens not having a telephone the
call may be made at the expense of the Town by having the charge
reversed. If it shall be found that there is not enough business to
warrant a continuance of this practice, it will be discontinued after
a notice to that effect.

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PARLIAMENT OF FOOLS.

A BRIEF
I am a Fool; but a good Fool
Can have a great ambish.
For even a young P. of F.
May hope for some finish.

I hear you say both Ec. and Chem.,
Our rep. demands an exposit,—
It’s always Lit. and Mid. and Math.,
Your crit. in Comp. is just delish.

Now Psy., and Zoo., Sta. G. and Vill.
I can endure to hear you say,
But how it hurts to hear the “Gym.”
In place of “Mary Hemenway!”

LECTURE ON PASTEUR.

Those who attended the lecture on “Pasteur,” given by Dr.
Thompson of the Zoology Department on January 22, heard an un-
usually keen and inspiring presentation of the life of this indefat-
igable scientist, who may be called the founder of the science of
bacteriology, and the pioneer in the use of inoculation for prevent-
ion of disease. The lecturer told simply and vividly of the patience
of Pasteur and his bravery in the use of scientific methods yet untried.
Much of his work was extremely valuable to commerce, as his inves-
tigations of the secrets of fermentation, of the silk-worm epidemic,
and the diseases of animals. The scientific world is particularly
indebted to him for his explosion of the theory of spontaneous gen-
eration, and its replacement by the germ theory, his new method
in sanitation, and his campaign against hydrophobia. The Pasteur
Institute, founded by him in Paris in 1888, stands as the practical
monument of his genius, and continues in his work of preventive
research.

M. B.

GENERAL AID BULLETIN.

The need of some general way of making known to students
opportunities for work and inquiries from employers has been long
known to the administration of the college. A bulletin board,
under the management of the General Aid Committee, has been
placed at the extreme west end, left hand, of the west corridor of
the second floor of College Hall. Anyone who wishes to make
known a position or other opportunity of work is at liberty to place a notice on this board. The regulations posted in
the left-hand column of the board are important.
The Sample Shoe and Hosbery Shop
Have only TWO Shops
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Bedford Street, and
74 Boylston Street, Cor,
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(Both Stores up one Flight.)
Our Prices, $2.00 and $2.50 a pair for $3.50,
$4.00 and $5.00 grades.

FREE PRESS.
I.  
I would like to make a plea for a "Lecture Bulletin Board," where each morning would be posted all the special lectures of every department that were to be given that day. Sometimes the dates of the lectures are so uncertain that they cannot be published in the News, and consequently few, outside of the members of the class, really know the exact time.

Many of us are continually regretting our lost privileges and opportunities of hearing some of the very interesting and worthwhile lectures that are given right in our midst. I would like to suggest that each morning the notices for lectures in each department for that day be handed in to the Registrar's office, where they may be posted on a special Bulletin Board.

EDITH KOON, 1911.

II.  
There are doubtless some students in college who are asking themselves near the mid-year time: "Considering financial difficulties at home, should I return for my second year or even for the second half of my first year?" You are ready to use all your energies to earn your way; your family are willing to economize to the utmost for your sake. But stop and think before you go on just now. If you are borrowing money to complete your course, it will be many years before you are able to help your family, while this is just the time that your help is needed. Because the writer has passed through a similar experience she would ask you to remember, while bravely clinging to your ambition, that service to the family at home comes before even a college education; she would urge you to foresee how great a sacrifice your parents will have to undergo, and ask yourself if you are willing to let them make it for you. Would it not be better for you to wait a few years, even at the cost of present college friendships, in order that you may earn your own way later? If the college education is never possible—what then? Something even finer will take the place of an education blindly and selfishly pursued and the motto of the college you have already learned to love will have its full significance for you.

AN ALUMNA.

III.  
As I understand them, the main objections to the societies are: That the members are unkindly, even rude to, exclusive; that no non-society girl cannot have a full natural friendship with a society member; that the basis of invitation is not a fixed or lofty standard; that the society girls take her strength from work and puts it into futile society enterprises; and that she belongs first to the society and then to the college. The objection is also made, that what all cannot have, the few should not enjoy.

The advantages are: The societies provide centers for common interest, sufficiently organized to make individual effort effective; they teach the art of living with people; they are enriching in the close contact (which is so hard to attain) with a somewhat varied, but not unvarying group.

As to the snobishness—certainly the "rushing" about invitation time hurts those of the unskilful deeply, and is both vulgar and unnecessary. Neither is it quite thoughtful for the members to be so unduly affectionate in public and so wrapt up in each other to the almost utter exclusion of those outside, as sometimes happens. But is it not right that a non-society girl should feel she compromises herself in making friendly advances to some one she likes, who is in a society? But this is not normal, and the wrong is not wholly on one side. There are natural snobs, of course,—but most of the society girls you know are not loth to talk of their societies in a friendly, hospitable way; and they seem much less keen in discerning inferior motives and in judging "how so-and-so is playing her cards," than we who are not directly concerned. It's a case of supersensitiveness on our part, which has a slight ground in the attitude of the societies.

I think, is in the basis of selection. Suppose the first consideration be made community of taste, and no one not closely drawn to the work of the society will expect to become a member; every one then must contribute her share to the end of the organization. Then let the academic standard be high and no girl once condition be admitted without recognition by the faculty of some special intellectual ability. Finally, consider her ability to live happily with the members already elected. The membership should be restricted to the upper classmen. Then make it customary (as in the Twentieth Century Club) to apply for admittance to the society with which you wish to affiliate; and if it has a definite platform which is well known, very few refusals can be given. For odd cases in which the girl will not take the initiative, let the society itself ask her to join it. Allowing time for the change in opinion possible in one generation,—what would happen to the snobishness, the hurt feelings and the adopted friendships?

And wouldn't the work be good, too? Suppose it does take time from the formally academic. The study and leisurely reading we do independently often helps us more than the other work. Besides this, quite without the "fraternity spirit," the opportunity for contact with a varied group of girls of like tastes, is a treasure, a thing we all long for. And even though we can't all have it, why should our incapacity (for on this basis it would be incapacity) debar those who are able?

The Student Building is quite possible even so; all the upper classmen would join in it (perhaps in the small groups Franklin Miller suggested) and the societies would simply give the personal outlet for our interests which the less individual organization could not secure and for which not all are fit.

I hereby apologize to the alumni who suggested this notion, for it is not all my own and I think it worth expressing.

MARY E. COLETT, 1910.

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CHAPLAIN MID-YEAR MUSIC.

WEDNESDAY, February 9.
Ballet music, "Rosenmunde". Schubert
Overture, "Rosamunde". Schubert
THURSDAY, February 10.
Berceuse
St. Cecilia's Offertoire
Battié
FRIDAY, February 11.
Overture and Soldiers' Chorus, "Faust" Gounod
SATURDAY, February 12.
March, "Die Meistersinger"
Pilgrims' Chorus, "Tannhäuser"
Wagner
Evening Star, "Tannhäuser"

TUESDAY, February 15.
Mediation, "Thais" Massenet
Barcarolle, "Conte d'Hoffmann" Offenbach

WEDNESDAY, February 16.
Duet, "Micaela and Don Jose", First Act Bizet
Overture from "Carmen"

THURSDAY, February 17.
March, "Pomp and Circumstance" Edward Elgar
Humorous Variations in the style of the masters, Bach, Haydn,
Mozart, Gounod, Verdi and Wagner S. Ochs

FRIDAY, February 18.
Request programmes. Requests may be sent to Mr. Macdougall
through the resident mail

SATURDAY, February 19.
"Marche militaire" Schubert
Impromptus on Class and College melodies.
The music will be given directly after chapel and will last not
longer than fifteen minutes

Mr. Macdougall will begin his Mid-year Organ Recitals on
Thursday, February 3, in the Memorial Chapel, at 4:40 P.M. These
recitals occur weekly up to the Easter vacation. Every member of
the College is cordially invited to attend.

THE SYMPHONY LECTURE.

At the lecture on the Symphony on Wednesday afternoon,
January 26, Professor Macdougall spent most of the time on a discussion
of the Prelude and Death Song of Wagner's "Tristan and
Ishbel"—the last number on the program—for Saturday night. He
read Wagner's own impassioned description of the story of Tristan,
how Tristan comes to woo Isolde: for his lord and how she, unable
to resist him. Fellow lovers to be another bridal scene, how the Goddess of Love,
outraged by this breach of her laws, contrives to get them to drink
a mighty love potion, in stead of the poison by which they hope to
die together: how this passion works in them, creating a longing, ever-
increasing and insatiable, until the might of it grows beyond human
endurance and they both are dead from it. Professor Macdougall
pointed out that it was this passionate longing that was the spirit
of the whole opera, and he played a passage peculiarly powerful in its
portrayal—ahomatic passage—struggling, twisting, turning, finally
bursting into a great chord and then into lyric melody. Dr. Macdougall
also played the theme of the voice of Tristan and then, feeling that
it could now be tolerably appreciated, he played a bit of the prelude
and the last part of the Death Song. The final cadence, with a beatufiul
tonic chord, seemed in curious contradiction to the restlessness
of the opera and the tragic end of it. Mr. Macdougall suggested that
this might be merely a concession to the conservatives of
Wagner's time, or else the incarnation of the spirit of the old tradition
that out of the graves of the lovers an ivy and a vine grew up
interwoven—symbol of their final union.

BOSTON OPERA HOUSE

A monograph by F. H. Jackson, illustrated with portraits and dia-
grams of the seats, and blank leaves for making notes of the various
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The comet conspicuous in the western sky the last week was an unexpected apparition. In some way it escaped the comet-seekers till it was near the sun, and under its powerful influence had a well-developed head and phenomenal tail. It seems a kind of astronomical joke that this comet made its dash for perihelion passage and “got there” first, while the much-heralded Halley’s is yet beyond the earth’s orbit, an incompumisculous telescopic object. Professor W. R. Brooks, who lectures on “Comets and the Solar System” the evening of February 7th, will tell what is known of these strange objects. He discovered his first comet in 1881 with a telescope of his own construction, and among the score of comets he has discovered since are two, which, like Halley’s comet, performed their circuit through the solar system in some seventy years. It has not yet been determined whether the unexpected “comet of 1910” is periodic or not.

Books for Astronomy.

Every year letters are received from Alumnae who have come to consciousness of ignorance of the universe outside our little earth, asking what books will enable them to learn the brightest stars, and find out some of the fundamental facts of astronomy. These letters are gladly answered as far as time permits, but the last correspondent suggests that the titles of useful books be published in the News, so here is a short list:

“The Constellations and How to Find Them,” by William Peck. Silver, Burdett and Co. This is an atlas with directions how to find the stars.


“The Friendly Stars,” by Martha E. Martin. Harper and Brothers. This book sums up what is known of each of the bright stars.

“The Solar System,” by Charles Lane Poor. G. P. Putnam’s Sons, outlines our knowledge of the system to which we belong.

“Astronomy for Everybody,” by Simon Newcomb (Mc- Chre, Phillips and Co.), and the “Story of the Heavens,” by Sir Robert Ball (Cassell and Co.) are two books written by great astronomers who have the rare gift of lucid style to set forth facts for non-professional readers.

For those who wish to go deeper into the subject, the “History of Astronomy in the Nineteenth Century,” by Agnes Clerke, and the “Study of Stellar Evolution,” by George Hale of Mt. Wilson Solar Observatory, will prove fascinating reading. This is a good list, but doubtless another equally good might be made.

SARAH F. WHITING.

EXHIBITION OF ART STUDENT’S WORK.

The customary Mid-year’s exhibition of the work of Art 5 and Art 16 will be open to the public during Monday, February 7, in the studios of the Art Building.

The work of Art 4 for the first semester is modelling in clay, and the exhibition is held at this time as it is impossible to keep any examples of clay for the final exhibition in June, the work then being represented by photographs. This occasion is also taken to show from Art 16 a complete series of original problems in spacing, illustrating the treatment of line, contrast and several tones. Designs are shown for posters, book notices, fans and bookplates.

The students in the two courses will entertain their friends at a reception and private view on Saturday afternoon, February 5, and it is hoped that the college at large will visit the studios on Monday to examine the exhibition, which is distinctly interesting.

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OBSERVATORY NOTES.

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Baltimore Association Fellowship.

The Baltimore Association Fellowship for the Promotion of University Education of Women offers a fellowship of $600 for the year 1910-1911 available for study at an American or European University.

As a rule this fellowship is awarded to candidates who have done one or two years of graduate work, preference being given to women from Maryland and the South.

In exceptional instances the fellowship may be held for successive years by the same person.

Blank forms of application may be obtained from the President or from any member of the Committee on Award.

All applications must be in the hands of the Chairman of the Committee on Award before March 15th, 1910.


Important Change in Glee Club Concert Ticket Notice.

The time of the Faculty Sale is changed from 4:15-6:00 to 3:15-4:30.

Also time of Senior choosing of seats should be changed from 9:00-12:00 to 16:00-12:30.

A. R. P.

LOST.

After vacation. A new tan leather suit-case which must have been delivered at the wrong house. If anyone knows of an unclaimed suit-case, please notify Edith E. Willson, 28 Freeman Cottage.

If anyone has found a note-book with Literature VI, English Language IV, Geology III, and Economics VI notes, will she please return it at once to Beulah L. Bowen, 430 College Hall.
ALUMN-E NOTES.

In addition to notes concerning graduates, the Alumnae column will contain items of interest about members of the Faculty, past and present, and former students.

Miss Bessie Sargent Smith, a graduate of the class of 1899, and niece of Mrs. Henry Powel Durant, has resigned her position in the Utica Public Library to accept an appointment in Cleveland. In accepting her resignation, the Board of Trustees of the Utica Public Library passed the following resolution:

"Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Utica Public Library accept with regret the resignation of Miss Bessie Sargent Smith as First Assistant Librarian, and express to her their appreciation of her excellent work; and to bear witness personally to her faithfulness, courtesy, and ability."

The following letter was sent to Miss Smith from the trustees:

"Utica, New York, November 4, 1909.

"At their meeting this noon the Board of Trustees of the Utica Public Library accepted your resignation, and did so with regret, for you may be sure we are all very sorry to have you leave. Nevertheless we recognize the fact that your Cleveland appointment is in a certain sense a promotion, and that it is for your own best interest to accept it. The Secretary will send you a copy of the resolution of the Board, but as Chairman of the Library Committee with whom your work has thrown you a bit more, perhaps, than with the other members, I desire to add a word.

"Every duty that has been imposed upon you has been performed well, willingly and thoroughly; and I do not recall a complaint of or from you, though I know at times you may have had cause to complain.

"I wish to express to you my appreciation of your ability, your faithfulness and your never-failing courtesy, and to wish you all happiness and success in your new position.

"Very sincerely yours,

"W. Doolittle."

Dr. Caroline Stedman, 1889-90, of the Unitarian Charities of Chicago, was made a director of the American Association for the Study and Prevention of Infant Mortality at the meeting held at Yale University in November.

In the February Scribner's is the following poem by Miss Jewett:

OF TRANSIENT BEAUTY.

"Rose-flower and flower of grass and flower of flame
Drift to the Beauty whose their beauty came:
Flower are they, more brief than this June wind,
Yet for the impalpable grace they leave behind
The years may fashion an immortal name."

Miss Gertrude Gordon, 1909, has begun her work in connection with the College Settlements Association, at the Philadelphia Settlement, 133 Christian Street. As the house is a center for the strike sympathizers, Miss Gordon has done picket duty for the shirt-waist girls on many occasions.

Miss Mildred Neal, 1909, is teaching in the Merrimac (Mass.) High School.

Miss Gertrude Sanborn, 1898, has given up her work at the Laboratory Kitchen, in Boston, and will spend the rest of the winter in San Antonio. Address in care of the Laboratory Kitchen, 50 Temple Place, Boston.

Miss Annie B. Philbrick, 1902, spent a week in Wellesley recently.

Dr. Eleanor Stephenson, 1895, sailed on January 29 for India, to resume her work in the hospital at Ahmadnigar.

BIRTHS.

January 11, 1910, at Nice, France, a daughter, Olive, to Mrs. Alfred Owen Graham (Louise Hunter, 1904).

January 23, 1910, at Mount Vernon, New York, a daughter to Mrs. Joseph P. Pettengill (Frances G. Sherman, 1907).

December 18, 1909, in Boise, Idaho, a son, Daniel Brown, to Mrs. Howard Ward Taggart (Agnes Brown, 1902).

DEATHS.


In Washington, D.C., the infant son of Mrs. Eugene Merritt (Caroline Walker, 1898).

January 17, 1910, in Rock Springs, Wyoming, Mr. P. T. Buckley, father of Beulah Buckley, 1903.

January 10, 1910, in Brattleboro, Vermont, Mrs. George W. Pierce, sister of Lilla Weed, 1902, of the Library.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

Mrs. Harley Cramer (Vera C. Bowen, 1903), The Genesee, Lockport, New York.

Mrs. Otto D. Donnell (M. Glenn McClelland, 1900), 931 South Main Street, Findlay, Ohio.

Miss Mary S. Miller, 1890, 369 John R. Street, Detroit, Michigan.

Mrs. William Cate (Florence Spring, 1897), 502 West Norwegian Street, Pottsville, Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Henry B. Wright (Josephine Hayward, 1898), 143 York Street, New Haven, Connecticut.

Miss Theodore Skidmore, 1894, 154 Second Avenue, Newark, New Jersey.

Mrs. William O. Allen (Eva Jackson, 1899), 136½ Benton Avenue, Springfield, Missouri.

Mrs. Carl E. Hine (Ruth Berst, 1900), 106 East Second Street, Frederick, Maryland.

Mrs. Alfred O. Graham (Louise Hunter, 1906), 13 Avenue Bagnis, Nice, South France.

Miss Mathilde von Beyersdorff, 1900, Morges, Canton Vaud, Switzerland.

Miss Julia Holder, 1901-1903, 221 East 52nd Street, New York City.

Miss Elizabeth Yeates, 1906, 54 Adams Street, Somerville, Massachusetts.