

New York's Taste For Viennese Play Flavor Gratified By Current Shows

By The N. E. A. Play Jury
NEW YORK, Nov. 8.—While the bright young authors become more and more devastating critical of the native scene, the wise old producers grow rich from romance of colorful and distant lands.

America, it seems, likes its drama either Main Streetish or Parisian, but its operetta, Viennese. This musical tendency shows up conspicuously in this season's "Countess Maritza" and the more recent "Katja the Dancer." But it is no overnight movement. Last season appeared "The Vagabond King," and the year before "The Student Prince." And the preceding season there was "Rose Marie" set in the Canadian northwest but carrying the flavor of the Danube.

Each year's list of shows with music includes a passing throng of revues and comedies in the New York, London or Paris manner, but outlasting them all is at least one unfeeling operetta for which the date-line is Vienna. Not that they actually have more than nominal connection with the supposed source of operetta, but they are in that style.

"Maritza" happens to be Viennese in fact. In the lean years after the war it showed its vitality in unique fashion. Virtually every continental singer in the operetta field has been supported by "Maritza" sometimes several of them in the same city at the same time.

First street will be a business street and with the Arcade building filled and that new theater building on the opposite corner the business will flow that way. No one street in Sanford will ever be the main business street. Only city is not built that way. The business will follow the attractions and the best attractions will be lower prices and better stores and more theaters.

The Manufacturer's Record says that northern capitalists are moving their factories and other business to the south. There is no doubt about this fact for down here they can get more daylight hours, a better class of employees, better housing, plenty of land, and all the conveniences that they can obtain in the north with others they cannot get here. With the big utility plants now being built in Florida the factories can get the best of power service, cheap fuel, good transportation and everything. It is a certainty that Florida is bound to attract many new industries this year and Sanford will get her share. All we need is the facts and figures to send out to prospects. Our location and attractions will do the rest.

New York now falls in line, approvingly. "Katja, the Dancer" displays its gay and luring wares before a Monte Carlo setting. It is written by Frederick Lonsdale, the Englishman chiefly known for light and sophisticated spoken comedy. It is a good running mate for the European success.

The Main Street strain appears for its peak of the season in "Dorothy Mayme," by the same George Kelly who rang the bell with the "Show-Off" and "Craig's Wife." There is no reporter in America who sets down as accurately as he the thought and talk and posture of the people everybody knows. And out of these everyday material, without strain for plot or incident, he builds up his high interest.

"Daisy Mayme" is the story of a bachelor brother with sisters who like to manage, regulate and live upon him. When he brings in, quite properly, a cheery, loud old maid who has a notions shop in Harrisburg and is visiting his niece, the family determines that the woman must not be allowed to marry him. They drive him to it. Particularly effective as a matchmaker is the catty, proper sister who is at the bottom of the plan to prevent it.

Anybody who has a family of one's own will recognize it. It is one of the best plays in town.

New York's newest playhouse, the Waldorf, was baptized with

the name of "The Waldorf Theatre." The name promises success, just as came to the melodrama by the same name whose writing makes the plot.

It is the story of Robert Ford, advised that if he will get away from Greenwich Village and live the play he has attempted, it cannot help but be a hit.

In Clayville he encounters in actuality most of the familiar elements of drama which he believes existed only in manuscript—the postmistress of whose daughter he becomes enamored, naive villains, a mysterious robbery, impending foreclosure of a mortgage on his sweetheart's home.

Robert Armstrong, of "Is Zat So" reputation, plays the leading role opposite Nancy Sheridan, daughter of the post office.

Fiction author, J. Frank Davis, abetted by Brock Pemberton, is endeavoring to demonstrate by a play that "Heaven is not reached by a single bound, but we build the ladder by which we rise from the lowly earth to the vaulted skies; and we mount to its summit round by round."

Beyond a certain claim to novelty, a creditable sincerity and a lavish staging, "The Ladder" has little to recommend it. Antoinette Perry and Vernon Steele, principals are all that could be asked considering that each has to play four parts. The theme follows two souls through six centuries of reincarnation and thwarted love.

Eva La Gallienne has opened her Civic Repertory Theatre at the old Fourteenth Street playhouse. The

company includes "Saturday Night" and Techev's "Three Sisters." While other actors talked of a repertory theatre.

Miss I. Gallienne got things done. She has a good company, presents her plays with understanding and provides adequate settings. She will receive a longer notice soon.

Walter Hampden, likewise heading a repertory company, has chosen "Caponsacchi" for his second play. It accomplishes with surprising success a dramatization of Browning's "The Ring and the Book" and is a far more interesting performance than Hampden's previous "Immortal Thief."

Raquel Miller is singing again, at \$11 an orchestra seat, Harry Lander stopped by for a week and a company of Irish players opened

Mississippi Man, 85, Disagrees With Abuse Of Low Cotton Prices

HOT COFFEE, Miss., Nov. 8.—(AP)—E. C. Pridden, 85, does not agree with the general abuse of low cotton prices by southern growers. Mr. Pridden looks back to the time "when a dime looked as big as a log cart wheel," and when "we dressed in pine-straw hats and buckskin shoes, lived on arrangements and did well."

"I have been listening to folks abusing the low price of cotton," the aged man wrote the editor of his local newspaper. "I have lived

promisingly in "Autumn Fire" a play of June and December in unhappy marriage.

in Mississippi for 85 years and it out; something that they have always done that about takes nor make them something. Who is to blame? bread."

"Editors have recommended that Mr. Pridden believe they make foodstuffs at home, see their mistake before grow a little cotton and get a good of 1927." Something must go in debt for a car and ride say.

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THE SANFORD HERALD, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1934
THE SPIRIT OF NEIGHBORLINESS

Just a Final Word

From Your Neighbors of
SANFORD

As this is the last of our little series of heart-to-heart talks to you, our neighbors, on our conception of the essentials of true neighborliness, it is the thought today to merely mention in friendly type those of us who have considered it a pleasure and a privilege to thus chat with you across the fence of more or less distance.

Just as one, in fact, would talk with the neighbor from whom one wouldn't hesitate if necessary, to borrow a cup of friendly sugar or the use of the telephone or a little gas for the car. And we'll look forward to continuing those talks at any time you should come into our stores and shops through the years. So here we are, not your merchants, not business men, just your Neighbors.

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