

ELAINE DE SELLEM

Famous Contralto With Boston English Opera Company Gives Warning to Vocal Students

There are few people in the country today more qualified from a standpoint of experience to advise ambitious vocal students, particularly with operatic aspirations, than Elaine De Sellem, the leading contralto of The Boston English Opera Company which comes to White's Theatre Wednesday evening February 17th, in a magnificent production of Verdi's famous opera "Il Trovatore." Miss De Sellem says: "The pity of it. I have been requested to explain why with so many engaged in vocal study—so few attain anything like success. Studios are filled with aspirants, who spend time and money to say nothing of nervous energy, in striving for the artistic goal and the question arises why so few succeed. I'll tell you in one sentence—not ten percent of students have any just reason for aspiring to vocal eminence and ten percent is a liberal estimate—and here is another reason. It may seem brutal but it is a deplorable fact—not 25 percent of those who give vocal instruction are qualified to teach the art correctly. There is more chicanery and humbug in voice teaching than in all the other departments of the profession combined; it is for this reason that there ought to be laws prohibiting the incompetent from ruining voices and blasting hopes. Not a week passes, but what I hear a number of girls sing, who are studying for the operatic stage, most of them could not become artists if they studied a life time.

You can make a singer believe almost anything if you flatter and encourage. Students of flatter their vanity are given songs and operatic excerpts when they cannot sing five tones of the scale with even production and uniform vocal color. They are put upon recital to interpret music that they can neither vocalize nor interpret. An instrumentalist recognizes his technical limitations; what he can't execute he realizes he cannot play, but a vocalist—there is no limitation to his or her assurance. They will tackle anything—the higher it goes the better, and whose fault is it that these poor deluded aspirants are led through impassable paths and interminable windings to find ultimately that their labor has been in vain and their hopes blasted, to say

nothing of the money uselessly spent. The fault lies with the incompetent and unscrupulous teacher.

I presume what I have said will cause excitement in the vocal habitat, but it is the truth nevertheless. If you don't believe it, listen at some of the vocal studio doors and hear some of the wailing that is supposed to eventuate in vocal supremacy, but which is certain to eventuate in financial and vocal disaster. I can only add in the words of the poet—"pity 'tis—'tis true."

NEGRO KILLED BY TRAIN

Asleep Near Truck When Train Strikes His Head.

Early Sunday morning Norfolk Southern train No. 4 struck and killed a negro man, Moses Williams, whose home is thought to be in Wilson. It is not known exactly how the accident happened. From the position of the body and the wound on the negro it is believed he was lying or sitting on the end of the cross ties, probably drunk and asleep when the train came by and struck him as he raised up to get out of the way. The train was stopped as soon as the accident was discovered and held until a doctor had been summoned. The train was allowed to proceed after a short investigation and finding that the negro was dead.

Yesterday the coroner, Dr. J. C. Greene, held an inquest over the body and after a full investigation which was concluded this morning decided that the killing was accidental.

The Jason Gets Art Cargo.

London, Feb. 15—The U. S. Collier Jason is expected to reach Plymouth today, and will sail shortly for America laden with art objects from France and Belgium for the Panama-Pacific Exposition.

Judging Field Trials for Pointers

Bakersfield, Calif., Feb. 15—Robert K. Armstrong of Barber Junction, N. C., began today the judging of the pointers and setters in the field which opened here. The winning dogs will be view at the Exposition.

STRAY TAKEN UP.

One white goat, no marks. Weighed about 30 pounds when taken up about Nov. 20. Owner can get same by paying expenses. Henry McLawhorn, Grimesland, R. 2, Box 39. 2-6-10-31w.

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We will give to the first customer buying \$10.00 worth of merchandise a \$3.00 pair of W. L. Douglas Shoes. At the close of the sale we will also give a suit or coat suit valued at \$15.00 to the customer making the largest purchases during the sale.



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Farmers Saving Sale

BEGINNING

Friday, February 19th, At 9 AM

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FOR SALE

One second hand stationary Columbus gasoline Engine 10 horse power. In good condition will sell at a bargain to quick buyer. J. H. Cobb. Greenville, N. C. 2-9-3td-60d.

J. IRA MEHAFFEY IS KILLED AT CONCORD

Concord, Feb. 14—J. Ira Mehaffey, a salesman with G. W. Patterson wholesale grocer here, was instantly killed this morning about 1 o'clock when an automobile in which Mehaffey, Victor W. Widenhouse and Wright Tucker were riding struck the concrete steps leading into the street in front of the residence of J. W. Cannon on North Union street. The machine was driven by Widenhouse and was coming south toward the public square when the driver for some reason lost control of the machine and it left the street and ran into the gutter for some distance before striking the concrete steps. Widenhouse escaped injury but Tucker received a cut on the head. Mehaffey's neck was broken. The machine was demolished and turned on its side. It is said that Widenhouse was drinking and that the others were trying to get him home when the accident occurred.

Mehaffey is survived by his mother and a sister, Miss Hattie Mehaffey both of Concord.

Dr. Annie L. Joyner, Osteopathic Physician, Phone 298-J. Office Dickinson Avenue in the Brown Building. Office hours 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. and by appointment. 1-4-3td.

Whichever You Need a General Tonic... This Old Standard Grogan's Tonic... It acts on the Liver, Drives out Bile, Purifies the Blood and Builds up the Whole System. 30 cents.

SCHEDULE OF PASSENGER TRAINS

Atlantic Coast Line	
North Bound	South Bound
7:00 a. m.	7:00 p. m.
8:00 a. m.	8:00 p. m.
9:00 a. m.	9:00 p. m.
10:00 a. m.	10:00 p. m.
11:00 a. m.	11:00 p. m.

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J. F. THOMPEN
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WANT ADS

SEE E. H. EVANS FOR ELECTRIC Irons, Heaters, Lights and fixtures Proctor Hotel Building. 10-25-12

YOUNG LADY STENOGRAPHER desires position in Greenville after March 1st. Address "Stenographer," care Reflector. 12

HAVE YOU LAND FOR SALE, We subdivide land into town lots, or large farms into small tracts and sell at auction. If you want to convert your property into cash and interest bearing notes, write or wire us. Southern Realty and Auction Co., E. M. Andrews, Manager, Greensboro, N. C. 2-4-4:1

FARMERS TAKE NOTICE. AFTER February 20th we will gin cotton only on Tuesday and Friday at our ginney near Greenville. Farmville Oil & Fertilizer Co 2-12-11

CARNATION'S, NARCISSUS Miss Bettie Warren Phone 250-J. 2-10-41

WANTED TO TRADE A HIGH grade piano worth \$450.00 for a Ford Roadster automobile, if slightly used not damaged would be considered see Jefferson Furniture Co., Washington, N. C. 2-13-3td

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