

GREENROOM GOSSIP

Mr. Jack Haskell, who produced "The Bing Boys Are Here" and "Hello, Everybody" for J. C. Williamson, Ltd., is now on his way to Australia under engagement to the firm, and will stage the new J. C. Williamson revue at Sydney Her Majesty's at Christmas.

Raymond Loder, who is making his first appearance in Melbourne with the J. C. Williamson Grand Opera Company in "Madame Butterfly," playing the role of Sharpless, accepted an engagement with the J. C. Williamson management six weeks after he returned to America from active service in France, where he fought with the American forces. He is a lyric baritone, who received his training in Italy, where he made his debut in "La Favorita." He was one of the Raymond Roze Company, which gave opera in English at Covent Garden in 1914.

"Absalom Jones," in the "Bulletin": The association in Fuller drama at Sydney Opera House of A. Brandon-Cremmer as producer and Roland Conway as leading man, recalls that the latter nightly prays that the drama, "Face to Face," will not be staged. During the first rehearsal of this piece at Adelaide Tivoli, Conway as hero spoke the lines: "And now to start my search for Hetty!" Whereupon Cremmer told him that he was in an English production in which the valiant youth had shouted: "And now to starchy my shirt for Hetty!" The story proved fatal to Conway. He got through all rehearsals, but introduced the laundry at the first public performance.

Mr. H. B. Irving, the well-known tragedy actor, died in London on October 18 from complications following upon a nervous breakdown. Mr. Irving, who was 49 years of age, was the eldest son of the late Sir Henry Irving, and originally studied for the law, being called to the Bar, Queen Temple, 1894. He made his first appearance on the stage at the Garrick Theatre under John Hare, in September, 1891, appearing as Lord Beaufoy in "School." He first played Hamlet at Sunderland in 1895, the town in which his father had made his first appearance on the stage. He toured Australasia in 1911-12, the tour embracing New Zealand, where he put on "Hamlet," "The Lyons Mail" and "The Bells." On that tour Mr. Irving was accompanied by his wife, Miss Dorothea Baird, the original Trilby.



THE LATE H. B. IRVING, the scholarly English actor whose death occurred in London last month.

WELLINGTON NOTES.

(By "Lorgnette.")

WELLINGTON, November 10.

Mr. Allan Wilkie and his powerful dramatic organisation opened their Wellington season at the Grand Opera House this evening with the revival of that good old favourite; "The Silver King." Mr. Wilkie gives a scholarly interpretation of Wilfred Denver, and Miss Frediswyde Hunter Watts is excellent as Nellie Denver.

The Wellington Amateur Operatic Society has to be again congratulated on adding to their laurels by scoring another big success in the presentation of "The Mikado." As always is the case with amateurs, there were a few blemishes in the first performance, but on the second staging of the opera they were all obliterated, and it has gone with great vim at each succeeding performance. The scenery is from the brush of Mr. W. Beck, whilst the dresses, which were designed and fashioned by Mrs. James Hannah, were a special feature of the production. Mr. Bernard Page controlled an excellently-balanced orchestra, who did their work thoroughly. Coming to the work done by the principals, honours easily go to Miss Helen Gardner for her performance of Yum Yum. Her singing and vivacious acting were really first class. Miss Gardner has become a great favourite with local playgoers. Next comes Mr. A. W. Newton as Ko-Ko, a part in which he fairly revelled in. He never lost a point, and scored from start to finish. Mr. Herbert Wood's conception of Nanki-Poo was a finished study, his singing being admirable. Mr. Zante Wood well upheld the humorous dignity of the Mikado. Mr. F. Twiss was not a genuine success as Pooh-Bah. Miss Annie Sullivan, who is the possessor of a very fine voice, was seen to excellent advantage as Petti Sing, singing nicely and acting archly. Miss Jessie Newton's interpretation of the part of Katisha was skilfully done. Mr. Charles Moore as



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THE EASTBROOK FOOTBALL CLUB'S REPRESENTATIVES, 1919, WINNERS OF THE CHARITY CUP, ASSOCIATION CUP AND ASSOCIATION SHIELD AT WANGANUI. Back row (from left): W. Healey (secretary and treasurer), J. E. Beckett, W. R. Denman, T. J. Hogan (president), W. M. Gordon, J. D. Campbell, W. Hill. Front row: A. H. Allen, J. H. Cooper, J. R. Healey (vice-capt.), V. A. Stapleton (capt.), H. Robson, G. M. McCracken, —, G. Beckett.

Pish-Tush and Miss Q. McInerney as Peep-Bo gave satisfactory performances. The production was in the able hands of Mr. Tom Pollard and he did his work in his usual admirable fashion. A great deal of the success of the season must be put down to the indefatigable efforts of

the hon. secretary, Mr. E. B. Vance, and the hon. treasurer, Mr. W. Fraser.

Louise Mack, V.A.D., gave four very interesting lectures in the Town Hall Concert Chamber on the evenings of the 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th. Louise Mack's recitals are not "just ordinary dry lectures." They are real live and come from the lips of the greatest woman speaker ever heard in New Zealand.

of Walter Wheatley, who was playing Faust, entered the flesh just at the edge of the baritone's right eye. A fraction of an inch and Formes would certainly have lost his sight. As it was he was out of the bill for three or four nights.

Mrs. Glover-Eaton, L.R.A.M., who spent five years in New Zealand, from 1903 to 1908, for the benefit of her son's health, has been in England since then, and is now hoping for an early return to the Dominion. Mrs. Glover-Eaton was a very successful teacher in Wellington, and was also a teacher of singing at the Girls' Wellington College and soloist at St. John's Church, Wellington.

Ten performances of grand opera each week were recently given by the Carl Rosa Company at the London Lyceum.

There is no cheerfulness in the world to equal that of an amateur singer responding to an encore.

MUSIC NOTES.

(By "G" String.)

Carl Formes, the dramatic baritone of the J. C. Williamson Grand Opera Company, which shortly visits New Zealand, will bear a scar for the rest of his life, as the result of his first appearance as Valentine in Sydney. In the duel scene in "Faust," the foil



The cabaret scene in "The Man Who Came Back," in which Miss Muriel Starr will appear at His Majesty's Theatre, Auckland.