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# A NEW MUSICAL IDEAL.

## "PUBLIC TIRED OF CONCERTS."

Mr. S. W. Savery considers that the music-loving public of Adelaide is "fed up" with concerts, and is demanding color and movement in conjunction with good music.

The proposal to establish an Amateur Grand Opera Company in Adelaide, as outlined in "The Advertiser" recently, has aroused great interest in musical circles. The fear has been expressed that it would prove too costly an undertaking, but this is not seriously regarded by Mr. Charles Cawthorne, the veteran concert manager, who expressed his approval of the scheme when approached by a representative of "The Advertiser." "It would need careful organising, however," he stated, "and it should be run from the beginning in a business-like manner. This is a rock on which so many amateur organisations are shipwrecked."

Mr. Cawthorne considered that the more popular Italian operas, such as "Pagliacci," "Il Trovatore," "Rigoletto," and "Cavalleria Rusticana" would be welcomed by the public. "I have acted in a managerial capacity for stars ranging from Dame Nellie Melba and Mr. Peter Dawson, to Miss Mary Smith and Mr. Tom Jones," he said, "in addition to guiding the financial destinies of many Adelaide musical societies, and I think I know the taste of the public pretty well in musical matters. Grand opera should interest not only the general public, but the teachers of music in all its branches. I regard it as essentially a great public undertaking and there should be no suspicion of cliqueism of any kind in connection with it." Mr. Cawthorne said although the company would be essentially an amateur one, he believed professional singers should not be debarred from its ranks, as their public appearance would undoubtedly "lift" a production in most cases, and would also occasion more public interest.

Mr. S. W. Savery, manager of the South Australian Orchestra, was outspoken in his comments regarding concerts. In his opinion the new project would be accorded enthusiastic public support, as it would create a splendid objective for both singers and instrumentalists. "What can we promise our singers now in return for their years of study but an occasional concert appearance?" he asked. "In my opinion, the Australian public is heartily fed up with concerts. The imagination of the average mortal positively will not create any ideal beyond tone impression, and that is why the cinema, when combined with attractive music, makes such a big appeal. The public want motion, and convincing movement with music. At the ordinary concert we are drawing too much upon people's imagination and music is merely tolerated. I am taking the ordinary public point of view in this statement. Grand opera, however, should prove a great incentive to our singers, and it should make music more intelligible to the public. A collective effort should be made to put matters in train so that something will be accomplished by the next concert season. This should certainly be a community matter, civic even, if you will, but by all means a sympathetic public should be allowed a finger in the pie. It is one of the most constructive movements conceivable. It should, at the same time, make music in its best form not only available but comprehensible, and establish a musical ideal."

Count Filipinni, the well known operatic tenor, who is at present residing in Adelaide, said he was convinced the opportunities for such a society in this city are practically unlimited. "It should not be expensive," he said, "and a capital of £1,000 should be quite sufficient for the undertaking. Six or seven months would be ample time to allow for the preparations for the first production, and provided a popular opera is chosen and a good performance given, the monetary results from a week's season should be sufficient to enable a second production to be put into rehearsal." Count Filipinni suggested that "Il Trovatore" should be the opera selected for the first presentation. Not only was it particularly well known to the public, but it offered exceptional opportunities to utilise every type of voice in the leading roles and the chorus was particularly strong. "This last is particularly necessary in an amateur opera company, where so many desire a chance to display their talents," he remarked. "A fact which should not be overlooked is that such a company would be likely to prove the stepping stone to professional success for many of its members."

### THE DELINQUENT CHILD.

By Constance M. Davey, M.A.

"Crime is not a cause but a symptom," was the conclusion of Dr. Cyril Burt in his opening address to a joint meeting of the Educational and Psychological sections of the British Association at Leeds. This conclusion he had based on the study of 200 consecutive cases of juvenile delinquency which had been brought under his notice as London County Council Psychologist. The commonest forms of delinquency—theft, truancy, running away, personal assault, damage and destruction, sexual misbehaviour—suggest to the psychologist that criminal behaviour is at bottom closely connected with instinctive behaviour. Yet the psychological cause is not the only factor, for on examination most cases show a "plurality of converging causes." What then are the other contributing causes? They fall into four groups—the hereditary, the environmental, the physical, and the psychological factors.

#### Disposing Factors.

How far crime as such is inherited is debatable, only a small percentage of the 200 cases examined by Dr. Burt came from criminal homes. But heredity appears to operate not directly but rather more indirectly through congenital conditions, such as mental deficiency, general instability, and excessive development of some instinct, such as sex or pugnacity. It is to be remembered, though, that both Dr. Burt and Dr. Potts, of Birmingham, find not more than 8 per cent. of delinquents mentally defective. Environment is a significant factor, and especially the home of the child, for here the moral and emotional conditions have proved to be of more influence than the economic. Civilized life demands of the child the control of his primitive instincts, and if he fails in this control he becomes a delinquent. It has been said that civilization is the cause of delinquency, it may be that the so-called civilization of our large industrial cities, with their overcrowding, has robbed the delinquent of the natural outlet for some of his instinctive tendencies. Ill health or anything that tends to weaken the health of the child necessarily tends to weaken self-control, and heightened irritability brings with it the liability to anti-social outbreaks. Many boy delinquents are found to be of poor physique; among delinquent girls, on the other hand, precocious physical development is common. But it is the psychological factor which is most powerful. Not mental deficiency, but temperamental instability is the significant condition. The delinquent may be psychopathic; he may be suffering from a repressed complex due to his antagonism of parental control. It is treatment, not punishment, the delinquent needs.

#### Helpful Treatment.

But how are we to treat him? First and foremost, as is done in many places in America, he must be medically and psychologically examined in the school clinic, as soon as any tendency to delinquency is noted. The delinquent should be recognised before he gets into the hands of the police, and before the Children's Court, and be transferred, if so advised, to the special school or institution. But should he escape recognition until then, the same twofold examination is necessary before he is brought before the Magistrate, who, informed of the verdict of doctor and psychologist, and of their advice as to future treatment, will help in its being carried out, and thus prevent at least some delinquents from developing into criminals.

Sydney Savery is a commercialist, and a keen one, but he is a musician by choice. Talk music and hours are as minutes in his company. There is no affectation, no veneer. He loves music, and his enthusiasm is infectious.

He received his early education at Katoomba College. Belamire Young, B.A., one of his instructors, is a man for whom he has a deep regard.

Although Mr. Savery does not confess to his immediate antecedents holding a place in the musical world, the work of his father, who built St. Mary's Cathedral and other notable buildings in Sydney, is indicative of the aesthetic temperament of the family.

Prior to coming to this State three years ago Mr. Savery controlled the sales organisation of Beale & Co., Limited, in the eastern States. He did much for music in New South Wales and Queensland, and his work here won early appreciation. He is business manager of the Elder Conservatorium. He occupies a similar position in the South Australian Orchestra, and is chairman of the John Bishop Fund.

Mr. Savery has no hobbies. He avoids the limelight, and deprecates monetary considerations for his work in musical circles. The giving of pleasure to others is compensation to him for time and work. An intimate friend said of him:—"There is not a concert unattended by Savery. Savery loves music, and lovers of music love Savery."

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### THE EINSTEIN THEORY.

#### SOUTH AUSTRALIAN PHOTOGRAPHS BEING TESTED.

The Astronomer Royal (Sir Frank Dyson), writing to the Government Astronomer (Mr. G. F. Dodwell) states that the plates taken of the eclipse of the sun at Cordillo Downs last March by the South Australian party, including comparison plates, have reached Greenwich Observatory safely, and measurements of the stars photographed to test the Einstein theory of displacement of the rays of light during the eclipse are proceeding. The results will probably be cabled to Adelaide when available.

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### GRADUATES' ASSOCIATION.

#### UNIVERSITY AND BROADCASTING.

A meeting of the Graduates' Association of the University of Adelaide will be held on Tuesday evening, November 13 in the Prince of Wales Theatre, University, when there will be a discussion on the advisableness of the participation of the University and broadcasting by wireless.

The discussion will be introduced by the President (Professor T. Brailsford Robertson) and the Vice-President (Professor E. Harold Davies). Examples of musical items by wireless will be arranged by Professor Kerr Grant. The public will be welcome.

A meeting of the association will be held on December 4, when Mr. E. R. Stanley will speak on Papua.

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Our Sydney correspondent states that Mr. H. E. Barff, warden and registrar of the Sydney University, has resigned, after filling that position for 42 years.

### Measures of Coercion and War

Can measures of coercion be taken without constituting acts of war? This question does not say whether the coercive measures are those taken by a disputant member or by the League as a whole, or by non-disputant members against a recalcitrant member conformably to the provisions of the covenant. But probably the answer would be the same in any case.

Now it has long been recognised under the principles of International Law that there are certain remedial measures available, which are short of war. Such are retorsion, which is retaliating by the same kinds of acts as those complained of; reprisals, involving different acts for the purpose of securing justice, e.g., embargo (detaining the offending State's ships in port); pacific blockade (in which third Powers may not pleasure enter and leave the blockaded ports). Further, the Covenant itself provides for the use of such coercive measures as cessation of financial, commercial, or personal intercourse with the subjects of the covenant-breaking State.

### Responsibility for Crimes

The fifth question is this: Is a State responsible, and how far, for a crime committed in its territory? This question is much larger than the others, and more difficult; I can deal with it here only in the most summary manner. A State may be exempt from internal responsibility, since it may legislate any matter as between it and its citizens; but it has an external responsibility, relative to the fulfilment of its international obligations. Now it is under an obligation to respect the sovereignty and inviolability of other States. But there is no real violation of such sovereignty if the act complained of was done without malice or without culpable negligence.

Therefore (in my opinion) it is not responsible for crimes committed in its territory against other States or their official representatives, unless it negligently failed to prevent the commission of those acts, or to punish the offenders in accordance with its national law or any international understanding.

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### Lover of Music

Forty of the 47 years of the life of Mr. Sydney W. Savery (managing director of Savery's Pianos, Limited) have been spent in Australia. He is essentially Australian. Born at Bexley, Kent, in 1876, Mr. Savery migrated with his parents in 1883. He is not of an egotistical nature. If he were he might parade the fact that the family tree of Savery dates back to the year 1500.



Mr. S. W. Savery