

# THE OPERATIC ASSOCIATION.

*President: Madame Adeline Genée.*

*Committee: Madame Tamar Karsavina, Miss Phyllis Bedells, Madame Lucia Cormani, Madlle. Yvonne Daunt and Mr. Espinosa.*

*Secretary-Treasurer: Mr. P. J. S. Richardson, 25, Wellington Street, W.C.2.*

## Annual Meeting.

**T**HE Annual General Meeting of the Association was held at the Hotel Cecil on Sunday, February 4th. The President, Madame Adeline Genée, was in the chair, and the Committee members supporting her were Miss Phyllis Bedells, Madame Lucia Cormani and Mr. Espinosa.

In the course of her address the President mentioned that there were now 266 members, of which number 59 had passed the Intermediate Examination.

The accounts for the past year were passed and auditors were elected for the current year.

On the proposition of Miss Grace Cone, seconded by Mrs. Grant, and carried unanimously, the existing Committee was re-appointed.

On the proposition of Madame Judith Espinosa, seconded by Miss Susie Lee, Mr. P. J. S. Richardson was unanimously re-elected Secretary-Treasurer.

After some discussion it was agreed that it was advisable to appoint a sub-committee, each member of which should represent a group of members. This sub-committee would voice the opinions of those they represented at the General Meetings of the Association. Miss Smurthwaite was appointed to make arrangements for the election of this sub-committee.

It was decided to hold Elementary and Intermediate Examinations in the week commencing Monday, May 28th, and Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced at the end of September.

The first stage of the Advanced Syllabus was propounded by Mr. Espinosa. It is given below.

Madame Genée stated that she was prepared to take a dozen girls and to form with them a special class, and to give this class a lesson once a week for one year—excepting holiday time. She said she would select these girls, with the help of the Committee, and that as far as possible each girl would be selected from a different school. A yearly fee of five guineas would be charged each selected girl.

Madame Genée also stated that it was proposed to hold an Association Matinée at a West End theatre during the month of June, when all dancing would be by members and their pupils.

Mr. Espinosa gave notice that in three

months' time he would move an alteration in the Rules to the effect that every member who had passed the Elementary Examination should be required to attempt the Intermediate Examination within a certain period, or forfeit his or her membership.

## Subscriptions.

Members are reminded that the annual subscription is two guineas, which should be forwarded to the Treasurer-Secretary. The Association's year begins on the first of January. The guinea examination fee paid by those entering the Elementary Examination ranks as half the first year's subscription in the event of success. In the event of failure it entitles the candidate to a further trial free.

## Certificates.

All outstanding Certificates have now been despatched. If any member has not received one, the Secretary should be at once informed.

Members are asked to notify the Secretary of any change of address.

Members are reminded that they should not use the initials of the Association after their names in their advertisements or on other printed matter, but should state in full, "Member of the Operatic Association," with the addition, when applicable, of the words (Intermediate Certificate).

Members are also reminded that the Certificates are the property of the Association, and must in no way be altered or added to.

## The May Examinations—Elementary.

Two, or if necessary, three days will be devoted to the Elementary Examinations. The numbers will be strictly limited to forty each day. As preference is given to those who have already been up but have failed, it is essential that all who are going up again in May for a second or third time should notify the Secretary-Treasurer as soon as it is possible, and certainly before April 14th. After that date the vacant places will be filled by the new candidates.

Candidates who are making their second attempt in May will not be required to pay any further examination fee. Candidates who are making their third attempt will have to pay a fresh fee of one guinea.

The places in the examination vacant after April 14th will be filled in with new candidates in the order of their application. New candidates should therefore make written application at once, but they need not send

their guinea fee until they are advised that a place has been found for them.

#### Intermediate.

One or two days will be devoted to the Intermediate Examination, and so not more than 80 members can be examined. There is no fee required, but members should advise the Treasurer-Secretary at once of their intention to be present. The places will be filled strictly in the order of application.

#### ADVICE TO CANDIDATES.

In the forthcoming examination on the Advanced Syllabus (first section) it is imperative that candidates should realise the enormous importance of being "au fait" with each and every item of their elementary and intermediate work. They will be well advised to study carefully all details of theory and execution in their side practice, adage and arms, as unless they are absolutely balanced and "placé" in these, it will be impossible for them to have the freedom, grace, ease and expression which are essential to a dancer.

A beautifully placed attitude or arabesque, with the knowledge of how to realise it or how to correct its imperfections, is of far greater value to the dancer or the teacher than an extraordinary pirouette or feats of endurance on the "pointes."

**Make sure of your elementary and intermediate knowledge and execution, and the rest will be much easier than you imagine.**

ESPINOSA, Examiner.

#### SYLLABUS OF THE ADVANCED EXAMINATION (FIRST SECTION).

##### Side Practice.

1. Perfect knowledge and execution of elementary and intermediate work, amalgamated from directions given by the Examiner.
2. Rond-de-jambe à terre as in the Intermediate Syllabus, but pausing in the fourth derrière emphasising the attitude à terre, arching the back and seeking a long curved line extending from the fingers of the raised arm (along the arm, the outside of the body, thigh and leg behind) to the "pointe" à terre.
3. Repeat en dedans to the fourth croisée devant. Grand rond-de-jambe (complete with développé), ballotté exercise à la seconde (without rising on the demie-pointe), seize the working knee with the hand, conduct the leg into attitude, extend into arabesque still holding the knee, fondu and close in cinquième derrière.
4. Battements glissés (very rapid).
5. Battements frappés graduated to petits battements sur le col de pied reduced in size and increased in speed, emphasising the fact that the work of the knee joint is identical in both these exercises.
6. Fouetté rond-de-jambe en tournant sur la pointe for pas-de-deux and for solo work.

##### Centre Practice.

Amalgamated (from all previous exercises) from directions given by the Examiner.  
The knowledge of all French terms used in dancing and their meaning.

#### Adage.

1. Amalgamated from directions of the Examiner.
2. Grand fouetté in six counts, involving five relevés and five fondus.
3. Slow plié en cinquième followed by entrechat quatre and changement de pieds (very small and rapid, terre à terre).
4. Pirouettes :  
Attitude and attitude Grecque, en dehors, prepared in the small quatrième croisée.  
The same pirouettes en dedans preceded by the second port de bras and fondu in the grande quatrième croisée.  
Arabesque en dehors prepared en seconde.  
Arabesque en dedans prepared in a grande quatrième, with additional grand port de bras.  
These 6 pirouettes two turns only.  
Un tour sur la pointe en dehors from echappé.  
Un tour sur la pointe by glissade and posé.

#### Steps.

1. Glissades piquées.
2. All compound steps.
3. Assemblés portés and en tournant.
4. Ballottés (with demi-bras and epaulement).
5. All sissones en tournant.
6. Grand pas de basque en tournant.
7. Elementary fouettés relevés sur la pointe.
8. Déboullés.
9. Ronds de jambe en l'air (single).

#### Batterie.

1. Six cabrioles (*not the one from two feet*).
  2. Grands jetés battus.
  3. Entrechat cinq de volée and entrechat six.
  4. Sissones doublées battues (in one direction and alternate sides).
- Enchainements of general work set by the Judges.  
Additional theoretical examination for teachers over 30 years whose powers of *execution* may not be up to the standard required.



**Kathleen Frost,**

who appeared in the "Windmill Man" at the Victoria Palace, is a pupil of Madame Vandyck.