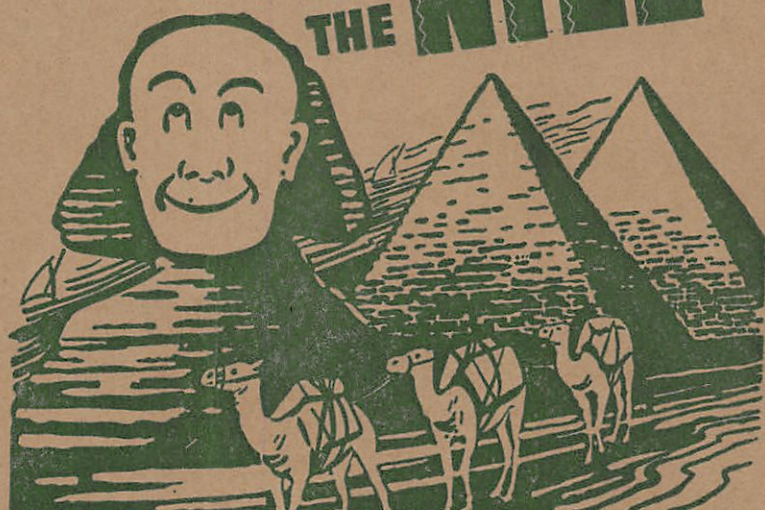


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One year ago we told our audience of our need for a permanent home, a place for our rehearsals, construction and storage. We are indeed pleased to announce that a step toward meeting our requirements has been taken in the recent acquisition of the old Craig School on Ballstown Road. But this is only the beginning.

This facility must first be renovated and outfitted for our special purposes. Plans are being drawn for the addition of a full size practice stage opening into one of the present school rooms. When our project is complete, rehearsals will no longer be held in four different public buildings; scenery will no longer be constructed and painted in borrowed garages; costumes, properties, records and scores will no longer be stored in assorted attics. Then the productions from start to dress rehearsal and our educational workshops in the many auxiliary activities necessary to a good show will flourish in our pleasant headquarters.

We have had the courage to take the initial step. Several public-spirited individuals have generously given us assistance in one way or another. It is clear, however, that the backing of many more Schenectady music lovers is needed to attain our ultimate goal. You may help by joining the new Century Club with an annual contribution of \$100 or more, or by becoming a contributing member with an annual contribution of \$20 - \$100.

Making available furniture, pianos, floor coverings, office equipment, etc., will also help.

The production of the "Wizard" has set a new record in our company in the number of participating members, staff organization and sheer grandeur of performance. With this show we are also pleased to announce the recent sponsorship of our group by the Schenectady Lions Club with whose help we shall continue to grow in size, reputation and spirit.

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The Story

Rainmaking experiments are far from new on the face of the earth, if historian Victor Herbert has his facts accurate. The whole idea started a few years ago, 2,000 to be exact, when Kibosh, buffo-hero of the mad and merry "The Wizard of the Nile," wandered into arid Egypt.

With king and people desperate for water, the wily magician, educated in trickery if nothing else, sees a wonderful chance for advancing his somewhat battered fortunes. One look at the beautiful and innocent Cleopatra convinces him that here is a prize worth all the subterfuge at his command. It matters not at all to him that Ptarmigan, Cleopatra's music teacher is in love with the fair princess. With great gusto, Kibosh charges the Nile to rise and as Egyptian royalty, military and citizens hang on his incantations, the impossible happens—thunder rolls in the distance and a deluge begins. The only trouble is that once having started, the rains refuse to stop in spite of all Kibosh's exhortations. The king, in fine fettle, describes charming ancient Egyptian tortures for the unhappy Kibosh. However, before the final curtain, the wily wizard, aided by the pages, manages to recoup his losses, and although he doesn't win Cleopatra, he becomes number one hero of the Egyptian day.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

Act. I. A Public Square in Alexandria

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Act. II. Terraced Roof of Ptolemy's Palace

Act. III. Interior of the King's Private Pyramid

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MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

OVERTURE (Orchestra)

1. Opening Chorus ----- "Father Nile, Keep Us in Thy Care"
2. Duet and Chorus (Obeliska and Cheops) ----- "Song of the Optimist"
3. Oriental March (Ensemble and Ballet) ----- "Strew the Way With Flow'rets Blooming"
4. Duet and Chorus (Simoona and Ptolemy) ----- "I Am the Ruler"
5. Solo and Chorus (Kibosh) ----- "That's One Thing a Wizard Can Do"
- 6a. Chorus and Dance (Maids of Honor and Boatman) ----- "Pure and White is the Lotus"
- 6b. Solo and Chorus (Cleopatra) ----- "I Have Been A-Maying"
7. Duet (Cleopatra and Kibosh) ----- "What is Love?"
8. Solo (Ptarmigan) ----- "When the Bugles are Calling"
9. Finale I (Ensemble)

ACT II

10. Duet and Chorus (Abydos and Cheops, Maids, Pages and Ballet) ----- "List to Our Matin Serenade"
11. Duet (Cleopatra and Ptarmigan) ----- "If I Were a King"
12. Quintette (Cleopatra, Abydos, Simoona, Cheops, Ptolemy) ----- "On Cleopatra's Wedding Day"
13. Solo and Chorus (Kibosh) ----- "My Angeline"
14. Finale II (Ensemble)

ACT III

INTRODUCTION (Orchestra)

15. Solo and Chorus (Ptarmigan and Stonecutters) ----- "Work Away with a Song, My Boys"
16. Solo (Cleopatra) ----- "In Dreamland"
17. Quintette (Abydos, Simoona, Kibosh, Cheops, Ptolemy) ----- "Star Light, Star Bright"
18. Solo and Chorus (Abydos and Pages) ----- "To the Pyramid"
19. Duet and Chorus (Kibosh, Ptolemy and Pages) ----- "The Echo Song"
20. Finale III (Ensemble)

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KIBOSH, a Persian Magician		Emerson Smith
McIBIS, the Royal Executioner		David Smart
O'SIRIS, the Royal Torturer		Albert Grisel
CLEOPATRA, a Princess who Knows Naught of Love		Sylvia Horowitz
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★ Opera Notes ★

CYNTHIA BROOKS (*Obeliska*)—Appeared as Tessa in "The Gondoliers" last May, also in "Chanticleer Hall" and "Chimes of Normandy." Northeastern finalist in Hour of Charm contest. Comes from Pittsfield, Mass. Spends hours away from light opera as secretary at WGY, housewife and mother.

ELIZABETH COE (*Abydos*)—Veteran of WGY and WRGB productions. Majored in drama, minored in music at Vassar — with Mohawk Drama Festival in 1940 — has appeared in many Schenectady Light Opera Company productions, most recently as Serpolette in "Chimes of Normandy."

EDWARD M. CURRIE (*Ptarmigan*)—In two brief years in Schenectady, Ed has been church soloist, appeared on television and in four light opera productions — is heard around town as member of the Clef Dwellers quartet — graduate of the University of Iowa, native of Schaller in the corn state.

HAROLD T. EIDELBUS (*Cheops*)—Played Guiseppe to Cynthia Brooks' Tessa in "The Gondoliers" — born and raised in Schenectady — church soloist — appeared on WRGB and heard on WGY.

BARBARA GERVAIS (*Netocris*)—Amateur theatrical work in Worcester, Mass. — leading role in Civic Players' "A Trip to Scarborough" last winter — also active with the Mountebanks.

SYLVIA HORWITZ (*Cleopatra*)—Appeared in "Chanticleer Hall," "The Gondoliers" — from Bangor, Maine — attended Juilliard and the University of Maine — likes to dabble in ceramics and painting.

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OPERA NOTES (*Continued*)

FLORENCE JONES (*Memphis*)—Has appeared in "Chanticleer Hall," "The Gondoliers," as Suzanne in "The Firefly" and Kate in "Pirates of Penzance" — with Civic Players in "Love Rides the Rails" and "Trip to Scarborough." Puz spends her days as accounting clerk at WGY.

DAVID SMART (*McIbis*)—Still preserves that Scottish burr. Has appeared in 25 plays with the Civic Players and is a fixture of light opera company productions.

JULIA SHIRK (*Simoona*)—Appeared in "Brigadoon" on Broadway — "Varieties" of 1945, 1946 and 1947 in Philadelphia — originally from Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan—graduate of Ogontz Junior College — majored in voice and minored in dramatics and piano at Juilliard.

EMERSON SMITH (*Kibosh*)—Went convincingly mad in "Chimes of Normandy" last fall and has appeared in several other light opera productions — comes from Lake Placid — soloist in Bellevue Reformed Church — past vice-president of Schenectady Choral Society — spare time devoted to golf and decorating.

ROBERT B. STONE (*Ptolemy*)—Hard to know where to begin — born in Lewiston, Maine, graduate of Eastman School of Music — worked at NBC in New York and is at present senior producer at WRGB — composed "Chanticleer Hall" while at Eastman, sang Mephistopheles in Faust, Marcel and Benoit in "La Boheme" — veteran actor and director of many Civic Players' productions.

MARGE TURPEN (*Myrza*)—Appearing in her last Schenectady Light Opera Company production — come September the Turpens are heading for California — Marge studied voice and drama in Los Angeles — helped make "Firefly," "Pirates of Penzance," "Robin Hood" and many other light opera successes — also appeared in Civic Players' "She Stoops to Conquer" and "Love Rides the Rails."

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DANA KING.....*Cheops*

JACQUELYN CUSHING.....*Abydos*

JANE SPRENGER.....*Obeliska*

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GWEN OWENS.....*Cleopatra*

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OIL BURNER—Mr. John H. Peterson has most generously provided an oil burner for our new establishment (the old Craig School building). We should like to take this opportunity publicly to extend the Schenectady Light Opera Company's sincere appreciation.

SURVEY—Austin F. Van Zile and Frank M. Van Zile made the survey of the Craig School property.

STORAGE—Mr. Benjamin H. Lasdon kindly allowed us again to store scenery prior to the acquisition of our new home.

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NEW FACILITIES—We express our sincere appreciation to the personnel of Blake's Office, E. J. Ryon & Son and the Trustees of the Niskayuna School District No. 2 for their splendid cooperation in assisting our purchase of the Old Craig School property.

SPONSORSHIP—We owe thanks to Mr. George Wedekind, president, and members of the Schenectady Lions Club for the many ways in which they have helped us during the preparation of this production.

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Who's Who in the Company

CARLA BALHOUSE (*Dramatics Director*)—Carla has come a long way from Pueblo, Colorado, where she was a concert pianist at the age of nine and a professional singer at thirteen. Her talents have taken her to Hollywood, where she starred in "Dinner at Eight," had her own radio program and appeared in Columbia pictures, and across the country with the American Savoy Light Opera Company. At present, she is teaching voice, dramatics and piano and in her rare spare moments does textile painting.

BELLA HATFIELD (*Pianist*)—One of those rare beings, a native Schenectadian, Bella has appeared as soloist with the Schenectady Symphony, as well as on Stations WGY, WSNY and WRGB. Teaching piano, keeping house and a flood of extra-curricular activities keep her days busy. Did musical therapy in station hospitals during World War II. A graduate of Juilliard and formerly half of a duo-piano team with Alfred F. Patten of New York.

EDWARD J. HATFIELD, JR. (*Producer*)—A two-career man, Ed is an engineer with a degree from Johns Hopkins to balance a musical background, including piano study with Adolph Torovsky of Washington and Alexander Sklarevsky of the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore. He was also vocal soloist with the Johns Hopkins University Glee Club.

MELVA KING (*Musical Director*)—Born in Michigan, Melva received her bachelor's degree in music from Westminster Choir College, Princeton, New Jersey, where she minored in conducting. Did graduate work in conducting and voice teaching while assistant to the head of the music department at San Francisco Theological School in California. She studied organ while in college and has sung under the batons of Toscanini, Bruno Walter and Stokowski. Two of her present voice pupils are singing leads in "Wizard of the Nile," Emerson Smith and Cynthia Brooks.

CHARLES F. FISCHER (*Stage Manager*)—Charlie first caught footlight fever in high school where he worked with dramatics teachers on several class plays and went on from there to producing and directing for church and school groups. His experience in stage craft and direction was fostered in the old Van Curler Theatre, a legitimate house which once stood near the sites of the present City Hall in the days when Schenectady was a main stop on the stock company circuit. His avid interest in theatrical work has given him a fund of knowledge of most phases of theater, including projection, lighting, construction and staging.

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NEXT SEASON

The Schenectady Light Opera Company's coming season will again consist of two productions.

The fall show will be Gilbert and Sullivan's best known light opera, "The Mikado." This production will be presented at the Erie Theater on November 28th, 29th and 30th. Tickets will be \$1.80 and \$2.40. **ALL SEATS WILL BE RESERVED.**

The spring show will be announced at a later date. It will be presented at the Erie Theater on May 15th, 16th and 17th, 1951.

We suggest you place your order for next season's tickets tonight. This will assure you of choice **RESERVED SEATS.**

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Calendar of Events

(as registered at the Chamber of Commerce)

June 24—Pop Concert by Symphony-----Union College Campus

Oct. 4—Music Festival

14—Children's Ballet

18—Civic Music -----Plaza Theatre

23 - 28—Civic Players -----Playhouse

Nov. 3—Octavo Singers-----Union College Memorial Chapel

14 - 18—Mountebanks-----Union College Old Chapel

21—Choral Society -----Union College Memorial Chapel

28 - 30—Schenectady Light Opera -----Erie Theater

Dec. 4 - 9—Civic Players -----Playhouse

8—Shubert Club -----Union College Memorial Chapel

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