

Personal



MR. J. HERBSTEIN

—who has been appointed King's Counsel. Mr. Herbstein is a well-known personality in the legal world in the Cape. He has been prominently associated with the Zionist movement, and for some time was President of the Dorshei Zion Association in Capetown.

Brilliant Playing by Arthur Rubinstein

A large audience at the Colosseum Theatre on Sunday evening was thrilled at magnificent piano playing by a master craftsman.

Arthur Rubinstein was heard in an interesting programme of classical music. There were also compositions by Debussy and de Falla. His exposition of the "Fire Dance" by the latter composer was an outstanding performance and one could well understand the reputation which Rubinstein has to-day as the foremost piano exponent of the works of de Falla.

There can be no doubt of his ability to play the music of Bach, Schumann, Chopin and the other masters. Such brilliant playing has seldom been heard in this country.

The final recital in Johannesburg will be given at the Colosseum Theatre on Sunday evening.

The Symphony Concert

Tuesday night's symphony concert, the eighth in the Musical Festival series, offered the listener considerable opportunity for exercising the virtues of restraint and patience. The performance in one evening of two such complicated works as Rachmaninov's Concerto for Pianoforte and Orchestra, No. 3 in D Minor, and Walton's Symphony, required rigid attention from both performers and listeners. This was not always forthcoming from either. The South African Broadcasting Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Mr. J. Schulman, appreciated, without completely overcoming, the difficulties before them.

Adolph Hallis was the soloist in the Rachmaninov Concerto. While, by the clarity of his playing, his vigour and vitality and the intelligence he brought to bear on the interpretation of the work, he made a notable contribution to the musical enjoyment of the evening, he could not entirely save the performance from sometimes floundering in confusion. A better orchestral understanding and handling of the work might have improved matters. The third movement of this concerto, which contained many beautiful and exciting passages, compensated to some extent for the tedium of the first and second movements.

William Walton's symphony, the first by this English composer, should be heard again to allow a more considered judgment of it. It is full of interesting ideas and orchestration, which require a better working out than they received to secure the effects intended by Walton. The aggressiveness of the horns and drums marred parts of the second movement.

The other item presented on Tuesday night was Mendelsohn's Overture to "A Midsummer Night's Dream," which adequately served its function as a curtain-raiser to the Rachmaninov Concerto and the eagerly awaited appearance of Adolph Hallis. M.L.

Northern Districts Zionist Youth Society

The ninth semi-annual general meeting of the Northern Districts Zionist Youth Society will be held at the Berea Synagogue Hall on Sunday, 4th June, at 8.30 p.m. Various matters of importance concerning the future organization of the society will be discussed and all interested are urged to attend.

Around the Cinemas

Thriller at the Plaza

An unusual story, packed with thrills and humour, as well as some fine acting, makes "Black Limelight"—the current attraction at the Plaza Theatre—a film worth seeing. In the leading role is Raymond Massey, who gave such a stirring performance in "The Drum." The supporting programme includes William Bohn at the Wurlitzer, and champion dancer Tommy Williams in "A Cavalcade of Dance." From Monday, the feature film will be "Cafe Society," with Fred MacMurray and Madeleine Carroll.

New Comedy at the Metro

Commencing to-day, "The Lambeth Walk," a film adaptation of the London stage success "Me and My Girl," comes to the Metro Theatre. Full of fun, laughter and gaiety, this picture stars Lupino Lane, Sally Gray and Seymour Hicks, all well-known comedians. For those in quest of light entertainment here is a show that is sure to please. The supporting programme is also good.

Delightful Film at Colosseum

Sparkling young Deanna Durbin scores yet another triumph in her latest picture, "Three Smart Girls Grow Up," now showing at the Colosseum Theatre. With Nan Gray and Helen Parrish as her sisters, and Charles Winninger as their father, Deanna gives a charming performance, and sings several popular songs. The next attraction at this theatre will be "The Divorce of Lady X," featuring Merle Oberon and Laurence Olivier.

Leslie Henson Opens at Empire Theatre on June 8

The great English comedian, Leslie Henson, will be seen at the Empire Theatre on Thursday evening, June 8, when the famous English comedy, "Going Greek," will be produced.

Members of the Gaiety Company in London will also appear in the comedy which ran for a considerable period in the great world Metropolis. "Going Greek" should draw crowds to the Empire nightly.

"FAMOUS PICTURES"

Interesting Lecture by Mrs. Selina Hirsch

Under the auspices of the Hillbrow Women's Branch of the United Party, a popular lecture was given on Tuesday evening, at the Darragh Hall, by Mrs. Selina Hirsch on the subject of "Famous Pictures."

The lecture, which was illustrated with hand-coloured slides, proved of absorbing interest during the two hours which it lasted.

Sir Charles Rey, C.M.G., who presided, expressed his appreciation to Mrs. Hirsch for her deeply interesting address. There was a large audience present.

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