Dr. Titsworth Sees The Passion Play

The Passion Play at Oberammergau is a graphic illustration of what real community cooperation may accomplish, President Paul E. Titsworth of Washington College writes to this paper following a visit to the quaint village in the upper valley of the Ammer River, snuggled against the Bavarian Alps. "With 1,500 souls, out of a population of about 3,000, taking part in the famous drama," the Eastern Shore of Maryland educator declares, "it seems remarkable that so much talent could be discovered and developed in one small town and amazing that with such restricted means the Oberammergauers should be able to produce a sepctacle devoid of crudeness and charged with such unforgettable beauty. The players are all residents of the town. Further, one of the marvels of a pilgrimage to the scene of the decennial summer production is how a comparatively small number of native homes can absorb such a mass of alien human beings, taking care of visitors from all parts of the world without the aid of hotels. Imagine, if you can, a small town with narrow, winding, cobblestoned streets crowded with a transitory population sufficient for a city of what Oberammergau has done along the line of organizaized hospitality."

Add to this the fact that an audience of 5,000, representing almost every civilized nation, sat for about eight hours during a frigid rain while Anton Lang, as the Prologue Alois Lang as the Christus, Hans Lang as the beloved John and Guido Mayr, the Judas Iscariot of the play, together with the rest of the cast and chorus staged a poignant reproduction of earth's greatest tragedy that held at once breathless and wet-eyed the entire company of listeners and one gets a more vivid idea of why the Passion Play at Oberammergau has become an institution. "The Play worked its spell on the audience," writes the Chestertown academic head now completing, with a party of students of European conditions, his seventh trip abroad, "because of the fullness of its appeal. It had something for the eye, something for the ear, something for the head and much for the heart. It was, in short, effective artistically, dramatically and emotionally. To see it was a real spiritual experience."

In its present form the play, presented in three parts, eighteen acts and twenty-four tableaux vivants, is the skillful version made, from the original text, by Father Dairenberger in the mid-nineteenth century. He was a local priest who, beloved by his parishioners, was a creative artist of surprising talent, The theatre, with its huge auditorium open at one end and its front rows of seats out under the vault of heaven with its forestage completely exposed to the elements and its real stage roofed over, is by no means a beautiful building. When it was erected recently, to be used for the first time for the Play of 1930, the architect had to compromise between the progressive folk of the town who demanded a modern structure and the conservative thought of the community which pointed out that the production had always been given in the open air and should therefore continue thus to be staged.

The Passion Play opens with a scene in which Christ drives the traders from the temple and closes with His ascension. Parts of the drama proper are interspersed with tableaux from the Old Testament, foreshadowing the events of Passion Week or amplifying the theme of the main drama. Each tableau is preceded by the Prologue and chorus who, in verse and song, sound the note of the succeeding action and create an appropriate atmosphere. The gospel story is made quite human, without detracting from its sacred significance. Pontius Pilate becomes an understandable politician of those days while Judas is the impulsive, grasping nature which, too late, learns the terrible import of informing Sanhedrin officers where his Master is. Mayr is perhaps the most accomplished actor in the entire cast and as the Judas reveals with consummate art the tragedy of remorse. In their power to reveal the human qualities of Biblical characters some outstanding parts of the Play are the mob scene before the palace, Pilate where the populace demands the release of Barabbas and the leavetaking between Jesus and His mother prior to His departure for Jerusalem. After this scene, writes Presidents Titsworth, there were not many dry eyes in the audience.

HEALTH REPORT FOR AUGUST

August proved an exceptionally busy month for the county health nurse, Miss Margaret White, who was practically doing double duty during the time the State health nurse was away undergoing and recovering from an operation for appendicitis.

Miss White's report includes 121 visits made throughout the county, 41 different homes visited and 144 hours in the field. The visits covered instructive nursing, social service and cooperative work with physicians and committees. Added to this schedule were 40 hours in the office.

Fifteen white patients and one colored patient were examined at the August T. B. Clinic held at the Health Center on August 4. Examination was made by Dr. O'Neal. One colored patient was admitted to Hampton for treatment.

Nine children were operated upon in the Kent County Hospital for the removal of tonsils and adenoids. All were discharged in good condition.

Under the heading of social service work was the placement of two children from the county in Children's Home, Salisbury. While these children are waiting until suitable homes are found for them the County Commissioners are paying their expenses.

Hospitalization out of town consisted of one colored boy admitted to Mercy Hospital for arthopedic work and treatment, a two weeks old infant was admitted to Harriet Lane for treatment, one woman for an operation at Easton Hospital.

During the month a case of scarlet fever and diphtheria was reported. As in the case of all communicable diseases visits were made to the home and instruction given.

A child brougnt home from the Claiborne Preventorium showed a gain of five pounds within the month. This State service for tuberculosis contacts is proving invaluable.

Four white and four colored births increased Kent's population during the month. All were delivered by physicians.

Early in the summer a study of Queen Anne's and Kent counties, as one health unti, was made by Dr Paul E. Titsworth, Dr. R. G. Beachley and Mrs. Nell C. Westcott for the General Federation of Women's Clubs. Outstanding studies submitted to the Federation are reprinted for distribution by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. Recently an addendum to the local study was requested consisting of a summary, a plan for distribution of pamphlets during the coming year and a plan for use of the data during the year. This addendum has been forwarded and it is expected that this study will be one of those selected for reprint.

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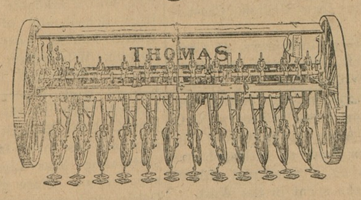
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John D. Urie, Attorney.
ORDER NISI

John D. Urie, Attorney
versus
Joseph T. Minster et al

In the Circuit Court for Kent County.
In Equity, No. 2627.

Ordered, this 29th day of August, 1930 by the Circuit Court for Kent county in Equity, that the sale of the mortgaged Real Estate mentioned in these proceedings, made and reported by John D. Urie, Attorney, under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in mortgages from Joseph T. Minster and wife to Thomas B. Gardner, one dated January 28, 1926, and the other June 13, 1928, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 31st day of October next; provided, a copy of this Order be inserted in some newspaper printed and published in Kent County, once in each of four successive weeks before the 29th day of September next.

The Report states the amount of sales to be $1510.00.

ROBERT A. SHALLCROSS, Clerk.
True Copy—Test:
ROBERT A. SHALLCROSS, Clerk.
a30-4t

KENT NEWS $1.50 PER YEAR

S. Scott Beck, Attorney.
ORDER NISI

S. Scott Beck, Assignee
versus
Samuel W. Unruh, Mary C. Unruh
In the Circuit Court for Kent County
In Equity, No. 2621.

Ordered, this 21st day of August, 1930, by the Circuit Court for Kent County in Equity, that the sale of the mortgaged Real Estate mentioned in these proceedings, made and reported by S. Scott Beck, Assignee, under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in mortgage from Samuel W. Unruh and wife to The Kent County Savings Bank, dated December 22, 1921, and duly assigned to S. Scott Beck, be ratified and confirmed unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 24th day of October next, provided, a copy of this Order be inserted in some newspaper printed and published in Kent County, once in each of four successive weeks before the 22nd day of September next.

The Report states the amount of Sales to be $6500.00.

ROBERT A. SHALLCROSS, Clerk.
True Copy—Test:
ROBERT A. SHALLCROSS, Clerk.

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Attorney-at-Law
Maryland Trust Building
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S. Scott Beck, Attorney.
ORDER NISI

T. Arthur Skirven et al
versus
Percy G. Skirven et al
In the Circuit Court for Kent County
In Equity, No. 2612

Ordered, this 21st day of August, 1930 by the Circuit Court for Kent County that the sale of the Real Estate mentioned in these proceedings, made and reported by S. Scott Beck, Trustee, under and by virtue of the authority contained in Decree of the Circuit Court for Kent County, in Equity, dated July 21st, 1930, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 24th day of October next; provided, a copy of this Order be inserted in some newspaper printed and published in Kent County, once in each of four successive weeks before the 22nd day of September next.

The Report states the amount of Sales to be $5100.00.

ROBERT A. SHALLCROSS, Clerk.
True Copy—Test:
ROBERT A. SHALLCROSS, Clerk.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has obtained from the Orphans' Court for Kent county letters of Administration on the personal estate of

ALEXANDER HICKMAN,

late of said county, deceased.

All persons having claims against said deceased's estate are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the proper vouchers thereof, to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of March, 1931, otherwise they may by law be excluded from all benefit of said deceased's persona estate.

All persons indebted to this estate must settle at once.

Given under my hand this 2nd day of September, 1930.

LEMUEL A. HICKMAN,
Administrator.
s6-4t

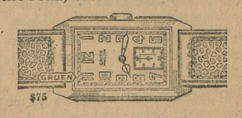


FAIR VERDICT

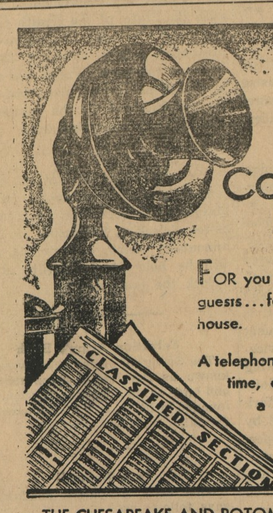
Judge: And explain, if you can, how you happened to crash into a telephone pole!

Motorist: Well, your honor, I was trying to see what time it was . . .

Judge: That's no excuse! If you'd had a Gruen strap watch on your wrist, you could have kept your eyes on the time and the road, too.



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