WASHINGTON ABSORBED IN PATRIOTIC WORK ALL THE WEEK

Italy's Anniversary Inspires Outburst of Enthusiasm—Brides Brought Back to Washington Homes by War—President Wilson Stands the War Strain Well

WASHINGTON, May 25.

CONSERVATION conversation has been increasingly popular for the last ten or fifteen years. It was a fine highbrow word, intellectual, academic and all that sort of thing.

Came a time when it was taken off the lecture platform and put into political platforms. Conservation was no longer limited to forests and mineral deposits and things remote. It came right down into everyday life. On the farm it extended its interest to pigs and things. In the home it began looking out for the babies, in factory and shop for their mothers, actual or prospective.

And since the war it has become the familiar slogan for victory: "Save this, that or the other, and win the war!"

The only group that seems to be without the pale of conservation propaganda is our big men. Nobody seems to think that it is necessary to save them in order to win the war.

The first notable break was when Frank Scott of Cleveland, who had been working eighteen or twenty hours a day—on the dollar a year and find yourself basis—threw up the sponge and got out of the game.

After a few months here Mr. Vanderlip went off to California for a rest. He has not returned to Washington. Only the other day it was announced that Gen. Bridges had taken his house, the old Bellamy Storer house that has had in its time many notable occupants.

About the same time there was set forth in an inconspicuous item the fact that two high army officials, Generals both, had broken down from overwork and were at Walter Reed Hospital. Within a day or two the first public mention was made of the pathetic story of Col. William Reno of the Medical Corps in a notice of a memorial service for him.

The War Department records simply carry him as "lost at sea." He was the head of the army hospital service "over there." Pershing's chief medical officer, when our boys first went over. He overdid it and went to pieces. He was being brought home in the care of nurses and doctors—it seems to me it was on the same vessel that brought Gen. March home—for a good rest, when he disappeared during the night—just disappeared!—in Halifax harbor.

Mr. Polk Has to Rest.

At two recent dinners in Washington there has been an important chair empty. When the Polks gave their dinner in honor of the Vice-President and Mrs. Marshall Mr. Polk was absent. About a week before he had been forced to drop everything and go to Atlantic City for a rest. Mrs. Polk left him there, his father and mother having come down to be with him, while she returned to Washington to play hostess.

The night before the Thomas Chadbournes had given a dinner in honor of the Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. McAdoo, but Mr. McAdoo was unable to attend. He was quite worn out from the last Liberty Loan campaign. And that sort of thing is continually happening—rather embarrassing socially, perhaps, but not serious until one considers it as a symptom of what the war strain is doing here at home.

There has been a long succession of Congressional leaders—men in important places on the big war committees—who have "passed on" during this session of Congress. There has been an unusual mortality among the diplomats, beginning with Sir Cecil Spring Rice, whose friends declare he was as much a victim of the war as any soldier in the trenches.

The President seems to be coming through it smiling. But the President, under the watchful eye of his wife and his physician, takes very good care of himself. He is abstemious, so far as eating goes. He almost never goes to dinners. Such engagements as he has made during the last year have been speaking engagements, not eating engagements. He gets a good night's rest at least six nights a week and is rarely up after midnight.

He gets a certain amount of outdoor exercise every day. Undoubtedly he likes his golf games, but equally undoubtedly he would play whether he liked it or not. Doctor's orders.

Baker a Hard Worker.

One occasionally hears a scoffer doubting the hard work of the high Government officials: "They all lock up their desks at 4:30 or earlier and go home. They spend their time gallivanting around the country being lionized and making speeches, all but Baker. He makes a lot of speeches, but he works too. He's at his desk far into the night; keeps his secretary's nose to the grindstone too. And Polk's on the job pretty late."

Such remarks might be impressive if one had not, for instance, heard Mrs. Lansing complain of the amount of work that Mr. Lansing brought home with him and sat over far into the night. She used to say that it was almost impossible to get him to accept an invitation, and when she did drag him out he was always watching the clock and telling her it was time they went. He wanted to get back to his study and his work.

Lately Mrs. Lansing has been in mourning and has not been going out, and Mr. Lansing has had to give bachelor parties for such arriving diplomats as he really had to entertain. But one remembers that there was a time when Mr. Lansing was one of the most enthusiastic diners out in Washington, frankly liked the social side of his job and made no bluff at being bored to extinction by it.

All of which gives point to Secretary Daniels's response to a birthday greeting last Saturday, when he was 56 years old. "I am most of all thankful for the health that makes it possible to put all my energies at my country's disposal in the present crisis."

That's not a very cheerful line of reflection, is it? A casual comment overheard in the gallery of the Senate started it. A man sitting near me whispered to his neighbor: "Geo! the Senate has grown ten years older in this first year of the war!" And looking down at them I knew it for true speech.

Seven dead—six Democrats and a Republican—and Ollie James very seriously ill, out of not quite a hundred—that's a pretty heavy percentage, and certainly it suggests the necessity for the conservation of our public men.

Cheer up, and let's go to the Caruso-Alda-De Luca concert for the benefit of the Italian war fund, or if we can't get in there let's go down to the Hut, the Billy Sunday Tabernacle of last February, which the Y. M. C. A. has taken over for its war work, and which this week has been the scene of great Red Cross mass meetings, at which all sorts of operatic stars have sung. For the week has been given over to celebrating the prowess of Italy and the third anniversary of her entry into the war, and to the great Red Cross drive.

That concert seems almost the most wonderful of all the splendid war benefits that Washington has enjoyed this winter. It was arranged by Mrs. Henry Dimock and Mrs. Lawrence Townsend. Arranging musicales is Mrs. Townsend's long suit. She is a talented musician and composer herself, and I have more than once heard persons, who spoke with unquestioned authority, regret her being born into a social and financial position which precluded her making a profession of her music.

Mrs. Dimock in War Work.

Mrs. Dimock has been knee deep in war work all winter. Again and again she has lent her house for one benefit or another. And that means a whole lot more than merely a place to have it in. For Mrs. Dimock is a social power in Washington, has been since the days when her brother, the late William C. Whitney, was the strongest man in Cleveland's Cabinet, the man who might easily have had the Presidential nomination himself, but that his loyalty to his chief made him turn it down.

The Whitneys entertained brilliantly in their time—and passed into Washington's social and political history. But Mrs. Dimock stayed on, until now she is almost the last of a group of Washington grandes dames, women of tremendous social influence who ruled Washington for the salvation of its social soul, women like Mrs. John Hay, Mrs., or as she was more often called Madame, Pinchot—and she looked the part—and Mrs. William Draper, who since her daughter's marriage to Prince Andrea Buoncompagni some eighteen months ago, has established herself in Italy, too, and has not opened her Washington house for two seasons.

The only ones who remain and who are even approximately in her class are Mrs. Richard Townsend, Mrs. Mark Hanna, Mrs. Thomas Bayard and Mrs. John B. Henderson. So when Mrs. Dimock suddenly realized that the Italians had been neglected in the distribution of benefits, and started out to make it up to them, the result was as foregone conclusion.

Her interest was the greater because her own only daughter, Mrs. Catherine Dimock Hutchinson, married some five years ago Giuseppe Catalani, counsellor of the Italian Embassy.

The stars would of course have packed the house anyhow, especially since Caruso had not been in Washington for years. As it was the town outdid itself. Caruso and de Luca were Mrs. Dimock's house guests and they were met at the station by Mr. and Mrs. Townsend and Lieut. Lawrence Townsend, Jr., and Lieut. and Mrs. Effingham Townsend, by Capt. Vanutelli, naval attache at the embassy; Count Minischalchi-Erizzio, counsellor, and Mr. Buti and Mr. Quattrone, also from the embassy. Moreover they were greeted by fully a thousand of Caruso's countrymen and several hundred Americans, waving flags and shouting "Viva-il re del canto!" 'Twas a great day for Italy.

As for the concert, it was sheer delight and a wonderful audience in a holiday mood. The President and Mrs. Wilson, just back from the week end in New York, where they launched the Red Cross drive, were there, but not in the box that had been reserved for them. They started off with one of their usual family parties, but they were met at the door by Gen. Guglielmotti, who escorted them triumphantly to the Italian Ambassador's box, leaving the White House box to their party, which included Mrs. William H. Bolling, Miss Bolling, John Randolph Bolling, Miss Helen Bones and Miss Benham.

The Italian embassy party occupied two boxes and included the Vice-President and Mrs. Marshall and the Secretary of State and Mrs. Lansing as well as the President and Mrs. Wilson. Opposite to them Mrs. Dimock entertained the British Ambassador, just back from Toronto with a new degree, and Lady Reading, and the French Ambassador and Mme. Jusserand.

Capt. and Mrs. Perry Belmont and Mrs. William A. Slater were joint hosts to a box party which included Mrs. Longworth, Mme. de Blanpré, Mme. de Laboulaye, Col. Martin of the French Mission, and Major Crauford Stuart of the British Embassy staff. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Townsend and Lieut. Townsend were guests of Mrs. Thomas F. Walsh.

As there were not enough boxes for the type of audience assembled a number of loges had been improvised for the occasion and for the accommodation of such distinguished persons as the Chief Justice and Mrs. Edward Douglas White, the Spanish Ambassador and Mme. de Riano, Mrs. McAdoo, Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Houston, Mrs. Burleson, Mrs. Matthew Scott, Mrs. Breckinridge Long, Mrs. Carl Vrooman, Mrs. E. R. Stettinius, Mrs. James Hamilton Lewis, Lady Lister-Kaye, Mrs. Stephen B. Elkins, Mrs. Marshall Field, Mrs. H. C. Corbin, Mr. and Mrs. Hennen Jennings, Capt. and Mme. Lacombe, Major-Gen. and Mrs. George Barnett, William Phelps Eno, Mrs. Benedict Crowell, Lieut.-Gen. Bridges—but why go on? The people themselves are interesting in flesh and blood, but not as a list of names.

Turned Out for Italy.

Quite as interesting was the wild enthusiasm of what must have been Washington's entire Italian colony, turned out to honor at once "il re del canto" and the prowess of Italy in the war. The balconies were of course top heavy with them, and they snapped up all they could get of the orchestra chairs at $10 apiece. And when Caruso appeared they—well, they exploded. There's no other word for it.

The only criticism would be of the confusion in seating and the failure of the management to use every possible entrance and exit—the theatre is well provided with them—to avoid the terrible congestion of that huge crowd getting in and out. There were very few ushers and they did not seem familiar with the house. And the girls selling flowers and programmes added a whole lot to the confusion. Of course they were supposed to be selling only during the intermissions. But they never seemed to be quite through when the programme was resumed, and their last words and their tiptoeing through the aisles as they rustled back to their stations in the rear of the auditorium constituted a distinct disturbance. They were quite too popular.

They were girls that every one knew, the girls of this and yester year, many of them young matrons, brides of the last few seasons, whom marriage took away from Washington and whom the European conflagration has brought back. Their husbands are on duty abroad or in cantonments expecting overseas orders, and they have come back to home and mother for the period of the war. It is pleasant to have them here, and their friends are renewing acquaintance enthusiastically and in many instances making friends with their adorable blond babies.

There is pretty little Doris Moore, or rather Mrs. Richard Booth, who is as much like a little Dresden figurine as ever. Though she was married before she was well out, she and her little chocolate colored Pom, which took all sorts of prizes at the local shows, were very well known in Washington's younger set a couple of years ago. Her husband is in the service and she is being made much of, as she always was, by her parents and her girl friends, many of whom are in the same case with herself.

There is Mrs. Harrison Brand, Jr.—Helen McCumber, that was. She was a bride about the time that America entered the war. Now she is back with her parents, and Senator McCumber is telling such of his colleagues as will listen about his exceedingly clever grandson, nearly 2 months old, and already showing unmistakable signs of genius, while Major Brand is stationed at Camp Lee expecting his sailing orders.

There is Mrs. John Harrison Knapp, formerly Maitland Marshall, daughter of Gen. and Mrs. William Marshall. She was a bride just a few days before the McAdoos were married, and Mrs. McAdoo, then Miss Eleanor Wilson, was one of her bridesmaids. It was a time when the Mexican situation was filling the newspapers, and seriously interfering with wedding plans. There was some question whether the bridegroom would get home in time for this wedding—he was with his ship, in Mexican waters—and consequently whether it would be accomplished in time for Miss Wilson, who had a wedding date of her own to keep, to serve as bridesmaid. That was one of the occasions when Secretary Daniels played first aid to Cupid, and brought the bridegroom home on time. He is still with his ship, and his young wife and son are with her parents here.

There is Ruth Bliss (Mrs. Lewis Hayes Watkins), whose husband—I believe he's Major Watkins now, but it's hard to keep up with the Regular Army men, they are shooting up grade so fast—is somewhere in France. She and an entirely fascinating young son are welcome guests in the Bliss home, and her girlhood friends are swarming around, glad to have her back after two years or more in Western army posts.

Some of the Others.

And there is Dorothy Langfitt, whom it is rather hard to remember to introduce as Mrs. Francis Wilby; and there is Frances Clark, whose husband is now Major John Devereux—her father, by the way, is only Capt. Edward B. Clark, and except that they are in different branches he might be taking orders from his son-in-law—and is stationed here in Washington for the moment. So that Mrs. Devereux is back from New York, and she and her boy can be with her father and mother without being, for the present at least, separated from her husband.

And there are the two March girls, Gen. March's two elder daughters, Mildred, who is Mrs. Milliken, and Vivien, who is Mrs. Frank, one married in December, the other in March, and their husbands almost immediately sent over. Josephine March, whose engagement has just been announced and whose marriage is to be solemnized very soon, is not likely to be immediately bereft of her bridegroom, for Major Swing is on Gen. March's staff, and presumably will stay here with his chief.

But Olive Smith, who married Major Giles Cook only a couple of weeks back and is now on her wedding tour, is expected to return to the home of her father—the Rev. Ernest Smith, rector of St. Thomas's, he is—when they get back, as her husband, who is on furlough from one of the Southern cantonments, is to sail very soon.

In this class, too, are Genevieve Clark Thomson, and her little son, named for his grandfather, and Francis William Pitney. The fact that Capt. Jimmie Thomson has gone over recently and his wife is to stay with the Clarks "until October anyhow," has already been mentioned.

As for Mrs. Pitney, Washington was thrilled a few weeks ago to see John Ballentine Pitney's name on the casualty list. Fortunately he was only slightly wounded, and that is almost a relief, as it keeps him out of the immediate danger zone for a while anyhow.

When that engagement was announced John Pitney was a perfectly good civilian, a promising young lawyer, in a family whose law traditions are well established. But the preparedness fever was abroad in the land, and John Pitney caught it. He studied and took one of those civilian examinations for a commission and got it six or eight months before America entered the war.

As soon as he knew that he had won his commission they were married, and his wife, an army officer's daughter, became an army bride, and went down to the Mexican border at once. All this winter she and the baby, who arrived last fall, have been here with Col. and Mrs. Williams, and Mrs. Pitney is playing around with as many of her old playmates as remain.

One might extend the list indefinitely of really well known girls married within the last year or two and now back with their parents and among their old associates for the period of the war. Naturally they have all gone in heart and soul for war work and have been prominent this last week in the Red Cross drive, which has been occupying Washington's attention to the exclusion of almost everything else.

Various teams have been going through the city by day collecting—that headed by Mrs. Lansing led all the others the first day—and each night there has been a great mass meeting in the Hut. Monday was British night, with Lord Reading and Gen. Bridges among the speakers and David Bispham singing; Tuesday, French night; Wednesday, Canadian; Thursday, Belgian-Serbian; Friday, Italian, winding up with Saturday for the United States, with Sergeant Arthur Guy Empey as the star—and each night music that people would have flocked to hear at grand opera prices, $50,000 worth of music, Muratore, Leon Rothier, Helena Marsh, Muzio, Salazar, Pabi and a dozen more all volunteering.

Of the speakers, so far as my observation went, Gen. Bridges roused the greatest enthusiasm. He made a tremendous hit when he came here last year with Balfour and the British mission and has been about the most lionized of the lions since his return with a record of still more brilliant service "and a wooden leg." He certainly received an ovation the other night.

This is the last day of the drive and Washington at least is well over the top. It winds up with what promises to be a delightful affair at Baroness Reille's Harvard street home and the final meeting at the Hut, and one doesn't want to miss either; so I guess it will be the Reilles first and then the Hut and Sergeant Empey.

Baron and Baroness Reille are among the most popular members of the French mission, partly no doubt because they have contributed a delightful young daughter in the person of Miss Genevieve Reille to Washington society. Like most of the French mission they are settling down to stay a while apparently and get acquainted.

They have taken a house at 1343 Harvard street and are giving for the benefit of the Red Cross a kermess with all sorts of features, music, a gymkhana, vaudeville, dancing, a garden party, supper and of course a variety of booths where amusing stunts will be staged and interesting things sold. To cap the climax there will be an auction of genuine souvenirs from the French front, donated by officers of the mission.

I did want to tell you of the great official celebration of the anniversary of Italy's entrance into the war on Thursday night and of the benefit for the British War Fund with smiling Pat O'Brien as the star, and the diplomatic contingent turning out in force Thursday afternoon, and something of the Congressional Club's war work, which is a continuous performance. I ran into Mrs. Horace Towner the other day and she was telling me about it. But there's too much of it to squeeze into the end of an already too long story, so it will have to wait.

MRS HENRY DIMOCK. WASHINGTON SOCIETY LEADER. Photo © Harris & Ewing

MRS. HORACE M. TOWNER. PRESIDENT OF THE CONGRESSIONAL CLUB

Photo © Harris & Ewing

MISS JOSEPHINE MARCH, DAUGHTER OF GEN. PEYTON C. MARCH, CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMY, WHO IS TO MARRY MAJOR JOSEPH M. SWING.

BROOKLYN SOCIETY

AT the concert to be given to-morrow evening for the joint benefit of the Brooklyn Music School Settlement and the Army Relief Society at the Academy of Music, Mme. Margarete Matzenauer of the Metropolitan Opera company and Percy Grainger are to be the artists heard. The services of both were volunteered.

The programme will include several new numbers, one of which is Percy Grainger's "Country Gardens," in which the composer will play, and the Tschaikowsky concerto in B minor, scored for band by Rocco Resta, conductor of the Fifteenth Coast Artillery band. Monday evening will mark the first appearance of the Fort Hamilton band in Brooklyn.

Miss Alice C. Main, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William A. Main, will be married to Bernardus Eversten, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernardus Eversten of 154 Lefferts place, on Thursday evening, June 6. The Bay Ridge Presbyterian Church will be the scene of the ceremony, and the reception will be held at the home of the bride's parents, 215 Eighty-fourth street.

Miss Amy K. Main will be her sister's maid of honor and only attendant. William Wallace Totten will act as best man for his brother-in-law, and named as ushers are Capt. Eugene A. Main, Edward L. McLean, Ainslie W. Walker and John C. Loud.

The bride is a Packer graduate.

The Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Abram S. Kavanagh are spending their honeymoon in the West, and will go to the Pacific coast before returning to Brooklyn. The bride before her wedding last week was Miss Cornelia Courtney Martin, niece of Dr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Perrin of 352 Clinton street, at whose home the ceremony was performed by Bishop Luther B. Wilson of New York.

Dr. Kavanagh for more than twenty years has been one of the best known Methodist ministers in Brooklyn. He was superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Hospital, formerly the Seney, for fifteen years. Previous to that time he held the pastorate of the New York Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church, one of the largest in the borough. During the past two years, since he has been superintendent of the Brooklyn south district, he has attained a new kind of prominence through his zeal in arranging and speaking at patriotic rallies.

Mrs. W. Bradford Maskiell, Dr. Kavanagh's daughter, acted as matron of honor at the wedding, and Mr. Maskiell was the best man. Miss Ella W. Howe, a student at Wellesley, was her aunt's maid of honor, and John B. Slee and Raymond S. Barlow were the ushers.

The attendance at the ceremony was limited to relatives and a few close personal friends.

Announcement is made of the engagement of Miss Gertrude Bishop Schell to John Calvin Hoyle, son of Mr. and Mrs. Addison Hoyle of 334 Decatur street. Miss Schell is a niece of Dr. Gertrude Bishop of 475 Madison street, and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Spencer Schell of East Schodack, N. Y. Mr. Hoyle is a graduate of Stevens Institute.

Miss Helen Gordon Miller, daughter of Mrs. Thomas Barnett Miller of 59 Cambridge place, will be married to Burnham Kennard Taylor on Tuesday evening, June 4, at the Pouch Gallery. Mr. Taylor is the son of Mrs. George W. K. Taylor of 890 Park place. He was graduated from Princeton in 1914 and later studied law at Columbia.

The bridal party at the wedding of Miss Florence E. Layman to Leroy Vogel Edwards on Saturday, June 1, will include a maid of honor, Miss Florence Elizabeth Simpson of Newark, N. J., four bridesmaids, Miss Jean Black, Miss Marie McGarvey, Miss Dorothy Bonawitz of Brooklyn and Miss Myrtle Fish of Roselle Park, N. J.; the best man, Harry A. Moeller of Circleville, Ohio, and four ushers, Edward C. Marsden of Yonkers, Harold W. Taft of Erie, Pa., Thomas I. Stephenson of Hoboken and Christopher Jaeger of Brooklyn.

Miss Layman is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Cortlandt Layman of 244 New York avenue and a member of Packer '17. Mr. Edwards is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry M. Edwards of 827 Prospect place. He was graduated from Stevens Institute in 1917.

St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church will be the scene of the ceremony at 5 o'clock.

Announcement is made of the engagement of Miss Leontine Hotchkiss, daughter of Mrs. Charles B. Hotchkiss of 252 McDonough street, to Harold N. Bick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bick of 486 Macon street.

Mr. Bick was graduated from Cornell in 1917.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin J. Dowling of 52 Ashford street announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Elizabeth M. Dowling, to John M. Klein.

Another recently announced engagement is that of Miss Mildred Tillotson, daughter of Mrs. Christine Tillotson, of 327 Sterling place, and Lieut. Robert Irving Huyler, son of Mrs. Agnes Huyler of Warwick, N. Y.

Lieut. Huyler received his commission at Plattsburg last summer and is now stationed at Camp Upton.

The Friendly Committee, which for the last ten years has maintained the First Free Kindergarten, announces that in addition to this benefaction and the individual contributions of its members to the Red Cross and other war relief work it has made the following subscriptions: French Heroes Lafayette Memorial Fund, $100; Commission for Relief in Belgium, Enfants Delibes, $50; second Red Cross war fund, $50, and the adoption of a French child.

Mrs. Daniel V. B. Hegeman has succeeded Mrs. Frank Melville, Jr., as chairman of the Friendly Committee, whose membership numbers about thirty-five women on the Heights. Mrs. Melville recently entertained the members at luncheon.

Judge and Mrs. Norman S. Dike are receiving congratulations on the birth of a son on Sunday, May 19, at their home, 194 Columbia Heights.

The sixty-seventh commencement of the Brooklyn Heights Seminary will be held at the Heights Casino on Tuesday afternoon, June 4. The retiring principal, Miss Ellen Yale Stevens, will make the chief address. The exercises will be followed by a reception.

In the name of Brooklyn orphans, the Long Island Automobile Club appeals to owners of motor cars for their use for a few hours on June 4, the date of the children's annual outing. More than 1,500 orphans, regardless of denomination, are to be given this yearly treat, and the committee needs 250 cars for their transportation.

The cars leave the city at 9 A. M., and after leaving their charges at Coney Island they will not be needed until 4 o'clock. The officials of Luna Park have turned over this pleasure ground and admittance to all its attractions as their share toward the picnic.

Persons willing to lend their cars for a few hours on June 4 are asked to send their names immediately to the Long Island Automobile Club, 1217 Bedford avenue.

Miss Sanger of 10 Montague terrace and her young niece, Miss Lillian Sanger, left last week for Santa Barbara, where they will spend the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Holm and the Misses Tertia and Grace Holm closed their President street house last week and are now settled for the summer at their country place, at Sea Cliff, overlooking Hempstead harbor and the Sound.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lonsdale Leeming left town last week for their summer home, Germelwyn, at Glen Cove, L. I.

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Conrow of 53 Montgomery place will leave town June 1 for their country home, at Water Mill, L. I., where they will remain until October.

Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Allen Ward are spending the week end in Boston in order to be near their son, Lieut. Hugh Ward, who is now at Camp Devens.

NOTES IN THE WORLD OF MUSIC

PLANS are being completed for the War Thrift festival to be held at the Polo Grounds on Sunday afternoon, June 2. A monster production of "Elijah" will be given under the auspices of a special committee of musical and theatrical men headed by Capt. Charles B. Dillingham, and the entire proceeds will be used for the benefit of the New York War Savings Committee's Educational Fund.

This production of the famous Mendelssohn oratorio will in all probability be the largest musical fete ever held in the annals of modern music. There will be a chorus of 10,000 highly trained voices, voices which have sung the work many times, and as some musicians would say, "they know it backwards."

They will be accompanied by Lieut. John Philip Sousa and his own band of 200 pieces. The soloists consist of such singers as Mme. Schumann-Heink, Miss Marie Sundelius, Oscar Seagle and Charles Harrison. Mme. Frances Alda of the Metropolitan Opera Company will sing "The Star Spangled Banner" and Leon Rothier, the French basso, will render "The Marseillaise."

The chorus is being trained by the leaders of the best known oratorio and choral societies, including Louis Kommenich, Tali Esen Morgan, Carl Hein, C. Mortimer Wiske, Edward G. Marquard and others.

Tickets are on sale at the Metropolitan Opera House, the Hippodrome and other theatres, the leading ticket agencies and a number of department stores. The scale of prices runs from 50 cents to $1.25, each ticket bearing a United States Government Thrift Stamp.

John McCormack will give a concert at the Hippodrome this evening, the entire proceeds of which will go to the maintenance of the Catholic Orphan Asylum at Kingsbridge. Donald McBeath, violinist, now Flight Lieutenant of the Canadian aviation forces, has obtained special permission to appear as assisting artist at this concert. Edwin Schneider will be the accompanist. In addition to giving his services and those of his assisting artists Mr. McCormack has paid $500 for one of the boxes. Cardinal Farley heads the list of patrons and boxholders. Following is the programme:

Recitative, "Deeper and Deeper Still," air, "Waft Her Angels" (from "Jephtha's Daughter"), Handel, Mr. McCormack. Andantino, Martini; dance, Mozart, Mr. McBeath. "He the Bivouacs Fitful Flame," "The Scythe Song," "A Lullaby," "An Irish Love Song," Hamilton Harty, Mr. McCormack. Romance, Svendsen, Mr. McBeath. "The Lagan Love," arranged by Harty; "The Soliloquy," arranged by Somerville; "Has Sorrow Thy Young Days Shaded?" arranged by Hughes; "Una Bawn," arranged by Hardebeck, Mr. McCormack. Berceuse, Townsend; Mazurka, Wieniawski, Mr. McBeath. "Dear Old Pal of Mine," Lieut. Gitz Rice; "Flower Rain," Edwin Schneider; "Mavis," Harold Craxton; "A Mother's Prayer," G. Ferrari, Mr. McCormack.

A concert will be given on May 29 by Sacha Votichenko, exponent of the royal tympanon, in the Walter Russell studio at the Hotel des Artistes. He will be assisted by Mme. Eva Gauthier, soprano; Michio Itow, the Japanese dancer; Mme. Yorska, who will give an informal talk on the effect of the war on music, and George Beynon's Symphonic Orchestra. Among the numbers on the programme are two compositions by Vetichenko which have been orchestrated and will be heard for the first time. "The March of the Blind Warriors" is dedicated to the Permanent Blind Relief Fund and the "Russian Revolution" is an especially interesting number.

The Chicago Opera Company announces that it has again secured the Lexington Theatre at Fifty-first street and Lexington avenue, and will give a season of grand opera there beginning Monday, January 27, 1919, and continuing for a period of four weeks.

Maestro Cleofonte Campanini, the general director of the Chicago company, cables that he will return to New York within a week to complete his plans for the season.

Subscription renewals as well as applications from new subscribers are being received at the office of John Brown, Eastern representative of the Chicago Opera Company, in the Empire Theatre Building on Broadway, last year's subscribers having until June 15 to renew, after which the books will be open to new subscribers.

The securing of the Lexington Theatre by the Chicago forces insures to New York the hearing of the great artists of Maestro Campanini's company, including those who made last season here such a success.

The roster of artists already includes such names as Lucien Muratore, Galli-Curci, Mary Garden, Rosa Raisa, Anna Fitziu, Louise Berat, Marie Claessens, Carolina Lazzari, Riccardo Stracciari, Georges Baklanoff, Giacomo Rimini, Gustave Huberdeau and Vittorio Arimondi.

Toscha Seidel, the new Russian violinist, will make his first appearance with an orchestra in America on November 1 and 2 with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in Chicago. His first appearance with the orchestra in New York will be with the Damrosch forces early in December. He and his mother will shortly leave for Lake George, where he will spend the summer with his master, Leopold Auer.

Miss Anna Case, the concert soprano, will start work on her first motion picture next week. Miss Case has taken a house for the summer at Mamaroneck, N. Y.

Marie Rappold, the American prima donna soprano of the Metropolitan, is doing her bit on her large farm at Callicoon, Sullivan county, N. Y., where she is managing a truck garden. Her daughter has joined the Woman's Motor Corps.

James H. Heron will give a recital in the Biltmore Hotel on Sunday night. His renditions will include several war poems by well known writers as well as some of his own compositions. The programme will be a varied one, with Miss Harriett McConnell, contralto soloist, and Mrs. Margaret Murray-Crumpacker, war lecturer.

TINY EARS OF CORN.

ONE of the novelty hat trimmings is a diminutive ear of corn. This comes in different shades of green and yellow and shows the ear surrounded by its sheath of pointed leaves. It is arranged on hats in much the same way as wheat.