SCHUMANN-HEINK SINGS IN BENEFIT AT OPERA HOUSE

Great Audience Hears Contralto Assisted by Godowsky and Cornfeld.

The Metropolitan Opera House was filled almost to its capacity last night by an audience which gathered to hear Mme. Schumann-Heink, Leopold Godowsky and Albert Cornfeld in their joint recital held under the auspices of the Committee on Home Relief, German-Austrian Booth, French Booth, of the "Made-in-America" Bazaar, which is to be held later this month. The benevolent purpose of the recital, which is the relief of destitute women and children, drew part of the crowd; the rest were attracted by the great combination of talent and genius in the three artists.

Mayor and Mrs. Rudolph Blankenburg occupied the box next to the stage, opposite the one taken by Mme. Schumann-Heink after her part of the program was over. In another part of the house sat the Austrian Ambassador to the United States. A distinguished list of patronesses sponsored the evening, many of the boxes were retained by their occupants on opera nights, and the balcony and family circle were practically sold out. Although it has not yet been announced what the proceeds of the concert would amount to, the management was willing to say after the evening was over that it was a thoroughgoing success.

The music was what could have been expected for such an event. Each of the artists appeared at least twice. Mr. Godowsky, who began and ended the program, was rather unfortunate in his first piece, the "Symphonic Studies" of Schumann. The audience kept coming in, and after quiet had settled down, the length and the essentially studious character of the piece caused visible discomfort. Mr. Godowsky played with care and a rather subdued feeling; not until the last of the studies did he bring fire into his work.

There are so many artists who are too showy that it may appear ungracious to criticise. Mr. Godowsky for not being showy enough. Yet for such a large place, and under the peculiar circumstances which brought the audience there, a more facile choice of numbers should have been made. In the Chopin, which came later, Mr. Godowsky was happier, yet there, too, his sober technique, his all-too-restrained utterance made his work unachieved. Artistically Mr. Godowsky gained little by the evening's work.

Albert Cornfeld, who began his career as a violinist here a year ago, exhibited his characteristic virtues and the faults, which he is rapidly correcting, in the pieces he played. They were all more or less of a show-piece nature—Paganini and Martini, Lalo and Sarasate. In his first number he displayed an astonishing technical repertoire, marred by weak bowing at times, and insufficient tone. In the Martini "Minuett" Mr. Cornfeld played with a lightness of touch and a lightness of spirit which made the gracefully artificial sentiment he expressed exactly right—considering the nature of the piece. He has an easy command of his bow, but it tends to become careless at moments; growing power of tone and power of feeling should make an excellent violinist of him.

Mme. Schumann-Heink filled the evening with her good, great spirit. Her voice is lovely, if not powerful, in the upper reaches, and in the lower it is resonant and powerful and dramatic. Yet one thinks not of the voice, and its qualities, when one hears her sing. She sang, last night, "My Heart Ever Faithful," the Buch hymn, which is always sung by contraltos, is well known and well liked. Yet she made it, somehow, a thing of her own, gave it a personal meaning and affirmation. She did the same with Raff's "Sei still" again with the "Stille Nacht" which she sang as an encore. This song, which is played by every street band, and sung by thousands, is none the less her song, hers alone, by that power she has of transmuting whatever she sings into a new mode. And it is endlessly to her credit that she attempted nothing of the sort with the "Paternoster" of Krebs and Bizet's "Agnus Dei" which were intoned rather than sung until the fine dramatic closes of each. It is a matter of 20 years since this voice and this singing have been so; the audience last night appreciated its good fortune.

The Orchestra Tour

Reports from but two of the concerts played by the Philadelphia Orchestra on its Western tour have come to hand. They are from Indianapolis and Cleveland, and both are heartily enthusiastic over the work of the local organization. In Indiapapolis Mr. Rich, a native of that place, was the soloist. The critic of the News refers to the understanding and delicacy of his playing, the warmth of his tone and the fine, wholesome work which brought him a great ovation. "Mr. Stokowski," says the critic, "is a wonderful conductor, a master of instruments and their possibilities. The orchestra has acquired a delightful perfection of playing."

In Detroit Mme. Samaroff was the soloist. Of her the Free Press says: "We can think of no pianist with more inherent capacity for imparting pure artistic pleasure." The same critic speaks enthusiastically of the broad sweep of Mr. Stokowski's imagination: "he painted on a large canvas * * * there were times when he drove his players almost to the limit, so insistent was he on obtaining just the effects he desired."

It is good for Philadelphians to know how their Orchestra is received elsewhere. Because they play here nearly every week one tends to become familiar to the extent of falling off in appreciation. The orchestra and its audiences should both flourish under this foreign impulse of praise.

Musical Art Club

The second annual concert of the Musical Art Club will be held in Witherspoon Hall on Wednesday evening. The program has been carefully arranged and the players and singers carefully chosen from the best musicians the city affords. Anthony D. McNichol, Harry Saylor, Henry Gurney and Henry Hotz will sing three songs at the opening of the program; John F. Braun will sing two songs of Strauss, two of Quilter and one of Schumann, and Edwin Evans will sing four songs, completing the vocal program. The instrumental music includes a cello solo by Hans Kindler, a violin solo by Howard F. Rattay, a trio for piano, violin and viola, two duets for two pianos and a string octette in which members of the Philadelphia Orchestra will play. The trio comes in for particular notice because it is by Mr. Zeckwer, who will be one of its interpreters, and also because it has just been awarded the Mendelssohn Club prize. It is a setting of R. W. Gilder's "The New Day."

SALE AT MISS HILL'S SCHOOL

A Christmas sale is being given by the alumnae and graduates of Miss Hill's School, 1908 Spruce street, in the school building today. The sale is designed to aid the Christmas Red Cross fund. Mrs. A. J. Lyman, the principal of the school, and Miss Marguerite Lautenbach, president of the alumnae, are in charge. Miss Elizabeth Cupples is chairman of the committee.

Musical Futures

More extensive notices of the following performances will appear before each event. The unofficial calendar following is intended merely as a guide to the musically perplexed:

MONDAY, December 7.—Seat sale opens for Kreisler's recital. At Heppe's.

TUESDAY, December 8.—Lohengrin, with Mmes. Gadski and Matzenauer, and Messrs. Ruysdael, Urlus and Goritz. At the Opera House.

The Flonzaley Quartet playing Tschaikowsky, Haydn and Milhaud. At Witherspoon.

WEDNESDAY, December 9.—The Musical Art Club in its annual concert. A varied program of vocal and instrumental music. At Witherspoon Hall.

Service by the American Guild of Organists in the Church of the Advocate, 18th and Diamond streets.

FRIDAY, December 11.—The Philadelphia Orchestra. The overtures to "The Magic Flute" and to "Oberon"; the fourth symphony of Brahms. Leonard Borwick, pianist, will play Beethoven's third concerto, in C minor. At the Academy, 3 P. M.

SATURDAY, December 12.—Second of the Concerts for Young People. Topic: Expression and Contrast in Woodwind. At the Little Theatre, 11 A. M.

The Philadelphia Orchestra repeating Friday's program. At the Academy, 8:15 P. M.

DANCERS HAPPY IN HAVING NO NEW STEPS TO LEARN

Season Seems Untroubled With Needs of Study. Still, There's That "Knockabout Trot" They Talk Of.

The winter dancing season is now well under way and as the general trend the fad will take during the coming few months becomes apparent that vast body termed "merely average dancers," is breathing a sigh of relief.

And the reason? For the first time since the dancing craze started three years ago the unceasing flood-tide of new steps has been stemmed. No longer is it necessary for the devotees to hasten through meals and shorten their quota of night's sleep in order that time may be had for the relentless pursuit of some puzzling new pedal agility.

Popular approval has, for the present at least, sanctioned a very humble repertoire. Does one one-step, fox trot and "lame duck," one can dance from dusk to dawn among the best without the faintest blush that tinges the cheek with the realization of terpsichorean inferiority.

The sigh of relief, of course, does not extend to the superlatively good dancers nor to the superlatively bad ones. Those two classes rather lament the absence of ultra opportunities. In the former case, because, denied the chance to demonstrate with blase (and assumed) bashfulness, their ability to dance everything, in the latter case because, denied the chance to demonstrate with confident boldness their inability (unrealized, however,) to dance anything.

So, even if the sigh of relief is confined to the "only average" dancers they constitute so vast a majority that the dancing populace as a whole is very happy indeed.

NO IMPORTED STEPS NOW.

The dearth of new varieties of dance steps can be attributed to that much-blamed bugaboo "warineurope." The number of dance steps that have been originated in the salons of the Paris teachers are too numerous to mention. The tango and the maxixe are excellent examples. With the vast majority of the one-time experts in the "cortez" and the "flying Mercury" fighting for their country in trenches, there is not much room left in their heads for thoughts of any kind—and if any not of dancing.

As a consequence, the crop of steps this winter is confined largely to the "Made in America" variety. And while the native brand is just as good as the imported, the American creative dancing mind is not, it must be admitted, nearly so versatile. So it is that there are only three dances being done this winter, and they are distinctly American.

To be sure, having bribed the musicians to play the proper music, a couple now and then wind through the steps of the "lu lu fado" or the "roule roule," or the like, but such performances are only incidents and hardly ever features, as formerly.

STILL, THERE'S THE "KNOCK-ABOUT."

Nearly everybody can fox trot, waltz and one-step. Moreover, nearly everyone who lays pretense to being any sort of dancer has mastered them. By which token, relieved from the anxiety and discomfort of the endless struggle to have something new, the dancing world is enjoying itself thoroughly.

But the period of rest may not be for long. A black, sinister cloud is appearing on the horizon. In New York recently there was introduced the "Knockabout trot." If one can chin oneself six times, stand on one's head and do a black flip-flop they say it is easy.

CARNEGIE VETERANS DINED

Annual Gathering of Old Associates at Magnate's Residence.

NEW YORK, Dec. 5.—Andrew Carnegie's veterans, the men who were closely associated with him during his rise from a humble beginning to his position as a commanding figure in the steel industry, gathered at his home, 2 East 91st street, last night for their annual dinner. It is an event that is looked forward to by men who have since become wealthy and by those who have not much more than they had when they were pounding telegraph keys with the future Laird of Skibo.

There was no information to be had at Mr. Carnegie's house last night; he has always been reticent about these little affairs. But it is certain that all present had a good time.

INDUSTRIAL LOSS IN BAD HOUSING, SAYS SAMUEL L. FELS

Prominent Manufacturer Favors Action That Will Remedy Existing Tenement Conditions.

Industries in different lines are often affected through the present tenement evil, in the opinion of Samuel S. Fels, a prominent manufacturer of this city.

Mr. Fels said the working ability of many men who live in filthy tenements was impaired, as a result of present living conditions. He declared it often happens that men become ill. Their absence from work usually affects the daily output of orders.

For years Mr. Fels has been prominent in civic work. He is a director of the Philadelphia Housing Commission and is one of the many representative men who are urging Councils' Finance Committee to grant an appropriation for the new Division of Housing and Sanitation.

The act creating a Housing and Sanitation Division was passed by the Legislature more than a year ago. Governor Tener signed the act. Councils' Finance Commitee, of which John P. Connelly is chairman, is ignoring the act. Mr. Connelly has already intimated no appropriations will be made for the new department.

Several Councilmen, among them dual officeholders, have gone on record that they would not vote in favor of appropriations. Among these is Select Councilman Eduard Buchholz, of the 19th Ward, who also is a Real Estate Assessor. Mr. Buchholz contends that it is impossible to teach foreigners the art of cleanliness with a bathtub.

"If present conditions," said Mr. Fels, "were changed I feel certain it would not only help the employe, but also the employer. It is my opinion one can often tell by a man's work the locality where he is employed. Better work is turned out by men who live in healthy and sanitary rooms.

"The man who lives in a dirty, filthy, insanitary room in the congested tenement section doesn't turn out as good work as the employe who lives in a sanitary house which has a toilet, a bathtub and a courtyard. It is common sense that the surroundings of a home have a great effect not only on the person from a physical standpoint, but also upon his work.

"It is natural when a man becomes ill as a result of living in the wretched tenements he can't work. Now, suppose a large number of men employed at the same plant should become ill on one day directly through the present living conditions—it would mean that certain orders could not be shipped.

"I think if we had better living conditions all persons would benefit by it. I hope Councils' Finance Committee will grant the appropriations. The measure as passed by the Legislature is a just one and thousands of poor families will benefit by it if Councils sees fit to grant the appropriation."

As the day approaches when Councils' Finance Committee will pass their judgment on the measure, more Councilmen are falling into line by declaring that they won't vote for the appropriation. Several of the Councilmen who yesterday attended the special meeting to discuss plans for helping the unemployed refused to be interviewed.

Among the Select Councilmen who declare that they will vote against the measure are Select Councilmen Charles Seger, of the 7th Ward, in which districts there are hundreds of "cellar rooms." The other Select Councilmen are dual officeholders.

PICTURES TELL STORY.

Here are a few pictures which Councils has been asked to eliminate:

"A room in a three-roomed house where five cots take up the entire floor space and are used by a day and night shift of boarders. In many such houses 15 persons sleep—in others 22, while in one 50 people were found living in two rooms."

Another picture snapped by the camera and which deals with the tenement house evil shows:

"One-room apartment where the tenant was found to be losing her eyesight. Filth, vermin, decayed garbage were everywhere. The neighbors claim this condition existed for more than a year before it was reported."

Another scene snapped by the camera of the Philadelphia Housing Commission shows:

"A cellar used for sleeping. The ceiling is 17 inches above the sidwalk and on a level with the yard. In some cellars babies have been found sleeping in rooms that have no windows. The old law only interfered with such living when the cellar was in a tenement. The new code under the division of housing and sanitation also requires to have a window to the outer air."

RESORTS

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We will be glad to help you figure on approximate cost of a Winter trip to such resorts as Asheville in the Land of the Sky, Augusta, Aiken, Columbia, Charleston, Summerville and the Gulf resorts New Orleans, Mobile, Pass Christian, Biloxi and Gulf Port, or, if you prefer, points on the Florida Peninsula. Round trip tourist tickets honored via Asheville without additional charge.

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3000 Crepe de Chine Shirtwaists in a Special Sale

Also numbers of women's bathrobes, women's sweaters, undermuslins and silk petticoats.

All specially priced and all suitable for Christmas gifts to intimate friends.

(West Aisle, East Aisle and Third Floor, Central)

Hundreds of Dress Patterns Are Awaiting Santa Claus

Already in Christmas boxes are all the kinds of all-wool, cotton or silk-and-cotton materials that people usually want for gifts, and anything in everyday stocks will be boxed on request.

It is worth noting that such practical gifts as dress fabrics will be more popular this Christmas than ever before, if such a thing were possible.

5 yards serge, $3.75.
6 yards granite cloth, $3.
6 yards serge, $3.
6 yards all-wool printed challis, $2.28.
6 yards plain challis, $2.28.
8 yards mercerized cotton, $2.
8 yards silk-and-cotton poplin, $1.44.
10 yards cheviot, $1.50.
10 yards gingham, $1.25.
8 yards percale, $1.
6 yards percale, 75c.

(First Floor, Chestnut)

Women, Right and Left, Are Talking About This Great Christmas Fashion Sale

The two great lots to be emphasized for Monday are **suits and gowns for $30 and $50.**

Some have just arrived from the makers; some are out of our own stocks, but in every case they are from a third to a half—sometimes much less than half of earlier prices.

Think of Getting for $30

A suit of tan zibeline with near-seal trimmings.
A red velour de laine costume with civet cat collar.
A rose-colored duvetyne with fitch fur.
Amazing broadcloths trimmed with fur.
A royal purple chiffon velvet with skunk fur.
A Bernard model in fancy blue velour.
Or a black velvet suit with fur collar.

Or of Getting for $50

A black caracul suit worth three times as much.
A green broadcloth copy of a Bechoff-David.
Afternoon and evening gowns equally distinguished, equally treasurable.
Velvets and charmeuses, velvets with fur.

(First Floor, Central)

Lambs' Wool Jackets Are On the Needful List

Quite the nicest possible thing to slip on under the coat that is a bit too thin. The lining is genuine lambs' wool and they are very warm without being at all bulky.

Black or white, either, and $3 without sleeves and $5 with sleeves.

(Third Floor, Central)

Fine Sewing Bags and Boxes

occupy a goodly section of the Notion Store these busy pre-Christmas days. They are very attractive, very welcome, when received as gifts, and beautifully equipped with all the sewing needfuls.

Bags are $4.50, $5, $6 each; boxes are $4.50 to $18.

(Main Floor, Central)

A Sterling Silver Tea Set Is a Lifetime Gift

For that reason it can't be too good or the design chosen with too much care. Most people prefer a handsome period or other standard pattern that can be followed out in the small silver and the various serving dishes and plates.

Just now there is a very large number of most beautiful sterling silver tea sets here—etched, hand engraved, hand chased and hand wrought and with polished or butler finish.

George III, five pieces $135
Colonial, five pieces $180
Plymouth, six pieces $195
Old English engraved, five pieces $270
Georgian, four pieces $360
English thread, six pieces $405
Hand wrought, six pieces $523
Very heavy etched, five pieces $600

(Jewelry Store, Chestnut and Thirteenth)

A Christmas Sale of Furs

In the Lower-Price Store

Good, selected furs, not in great quantities, but at very special prices. Fashionable pelts, made up in prevailing styles—and each fur plainly marked with its own name.

Pointed Sitka fox sets—just 15 sets in all—$35, $37.50, $42.50, $45, $47.50 and $50 set.
Baum marten fox sets—six in all—$39.75, $45 and $50.
Black lynx sets, just six, $30.
Kolinsky sets, two at $27.50 and $50.
Hudson seal muffs (sheared muskrat), $18.75, $22.50; scarfs, $9 to $18.75.
Japanese mink muffs—fourteen of these—$15 to $25; scarfs, $5 to $25.

With these pieces are other attractive furs—black wolf, raccoon, cat lynx, red fox, gray fox and coney—at many prices—starting with coney at $3.50.

And Fur Hats

After you've bought your new furs you will like to get a smart little fur toque to go with them; all the fashionable furs are included and made up into becoming little hats. $6.50 to $9.50 each.

(Subway Floor, Market)

A Special Showing of All-White Millinery

Distinctive models of silk and satin in gleaming white. Distinctive chapeaux trimmed with soft furs, flowers and fruits.

Prices are very reasonable.

(Second Floor, Chestnut)

Opera Glasses

Every girl who goes to the theater wants one of the pearl sort. We have them for $7.50 to $20.

For traveling, black morocco opera glasses; prices $4 to $20.

Good lenses give pleasure for a lifetime.

Prism field glasses, $27.50 to $75.

(Main Gallery, Chestnut)

For Gifts Ecclesiastical

The Lace Store has lace surplices and albs which would be very welcome gifts to the church. Prices, $15 to $22.50.

(Main Floor, Central)

Silk Hosiery—A Gift No Woman Can Get Enough Of

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And we were fortunate in getting all of our imported novelties.

In every instance prices are as low as—and in most cases lower than—the same grade of goods elsewhere.

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At $1.50 is a stocking generally admitted to be the best at that price.

At $2 is the finest silk stocking made in America—black, white and colors and clocked.

At $2.50—Paris clocked, open-work and embroidered silk stockings of unusual quality.

At $3—French five-cord clocked, embroidered and drop-stitched silk stockings.

Then come the finer sorts—beaded, spangled, lace-inserted and so on—up to $50.

(Main Floor, Market)

Silk Stocking Specials Save a Third to Two-Thirds

At 50c—Black, white and colored cotton-top silk; "seconds."

At 75c—Fine gauge black all-silk.

At $1—Open-work and accordion ribbed boot silk and embroidered instep silk.

At $2—Changeable, embroidered dot, accordion rib and drop-stitch silk.

(West Aisle)

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