

SOCIETY IS READY TO WELCOME OPERA

Hammerstein Elated by Bright Prospects for a Brilliant Week.

Washington society will take full advantage of Washington's first genuine "grand opera season" for more than five years by turning out at the Belasco Theater for practically every performance of the Hammerstein company this week.

This assurance was given today by managers of the company who have superintended the sale of box and orchestra seats. No more representative official and social audiences have gathered in Washington for years, they say, than those which will witness the six performances of the Manhattan company at the Belasco.

Though Mr. Hammerstein will withhold his final verdict as to the success or failure of the Washington season until it is concluded, it was unofficially given out by his representatives today that he is highly gratified at the advance sale for the operas to be given here.

Tetrazzini's First Appearance. Donizetti's "Lucia," the first opera to be given, promises to be one of the most popular. In that opera, based on the story of Walter Scott's "Bride of Lammermoor," Washington will hear for the first time on Monday evening Mme. Tetrazzini.

Mme. Tetrazzini has been described as "the world's greatest coloratura soprano," and "the Mad Scene" of this opera offers a rare opportunity for her wonderful vocalism and cadenzas.

Another notable engagement will be that of John McCormack, the Irish tenor, whom Mr. Hammerstein brought to America this season. Giovanni Polese, a young Italian baritone, and Henry Scott, a well known American basso, are in the cast on Monday night. "Lucia" will be conducted by M. Giuseppe Sturani.

The Capital, by the box office gauge, is anxious to see, and incidentally to hear, Miss Mary Garden. Miss Garden will make her Washington debut in Massenet's tuneful and dramatic opera "Thais."

Miss Garden's dramatic power has been scored by critics, but her dramatic power has not been questioned and Washington, like other cities, may be willing to dispense with perfection of voice for the sake of convincing acting in an opera.

In the dramatic story of the monk of the desert, who set out to save the soul of the most beautiful woman in Alexandria, the monk's own salvation by surrendering his heart to human love, Miss Garden finds greatest demand for her acting ability. The role of the monk will be assumed by another "singing actor," Maurice Renaud. The tenor will be Charles Dalmores and the basso, Cherrier will conduct the performance.

Mme. Tetrazzini, who is conceded considerable acting ability, will have a chance on Friday afternoon to display her power of emotional expression and her musical voice in Verdi's "Traviata." In this opera, the famous play, "Camille," Mme. Tetrazzini is said to be as happily cast as in "Lucia." Mr. McCormack will be Alfredo and Mario Sammarco will sing the role of the father. M. Sturani will conduct.

Operatic Miracle Play. Miss Mary Garden, in the title role of Massenet's operatic miracle play, "Le Jongleur de Notre Dame," will prove a revelation to many opera-goers. In this opera, not so well known as the rest of the repertoire, Miss Garden impersonates a wandering mountebank of the Middle Ages, induced to enter a monastery to be a nun by his beautiful and soul. Unable to dedicate any talent to the service of the Virgin he offers the Madonna an exhibition of his pitiful tricks and songs, to the horror of the brethren of the monastery. As he falls dying before the shrine their pride is rebuked by the life of the Virgin. The role of the monastery cook will be taken by Hector Dufranne, whose staging of the Legend of the East Bush is a feature of the opera.

"The Tales of Hoffman," a fantastic opera, the only serious work left by Offenbach, will be given on Wednesday evening. Lina Cavalieri, as noted for her beauty as Mary Garden for her dramatic ability, will appear as Giulietta, the Venetian high-love, with whom the poet Hoffman, impersonated by M. Dalmores, had one of his luckless adventures. Mlle. Trentini will be Olympia, the mechanical doll, in the first tale and Antonia, the consumptive maiden in the third tale. Renaud will have the triple role in which Hoffman's evil genius appears—first an Alsatian peddler, second, an Italian aristocrat, and lastly a witch doctor.

Double Bill on Friday. The season will be brought to a close on Friday evening by double bill—Donizetti's "Daughter of the Regiment" and Leoncavallo's "Pagliacci." The two will form a fine contrast between ancient and modern opera. Mme. Tetrazzini will be the central figure of the Donizetti work, which, with its story of the young vivandiere, who falls in love with the peasant, and who afterwards becomes a great lady, affords the soprano a wide range to display her talents. The peasant lover will be John McCormack, who appears in the last act to claim his sweetheart. M. Gilbert has a role of equal importance with that of Tetrazzini in Sergeant Sulplis.

In "Pagliacci," which tells the tragic story of the clown who, discovering the unfaithfulness of his wife, awaits an opportunity to slay her during the action of the play, Washington will hear for the first time the recalled new "Tosca," Nicola Zerola, an Italian tenor with a trumpet voice.

The evening performances of all operas will begin at 8 o'clock and the afternoon performance is announced for 2 o'clock.

LECTURE SERIES ON NEW OPERAS. A series of analytical lecture recitals to be given by Henry W. Hart, of New York city, as a preliminary to the presentation of three new operas practically new to Washington was announced today.

The lectures will be given in the recital room of the W. F. Frederick Music Company, 123 F street northwest, and each will last one hour, beginning at 2:30. The subjects and dates set for their delivery are: January 11—Massenet's "Thais." January 12—Massenet's "Le Jongleur de Notre Dame." January 13—Offenbach's "Tales of Hoffman."

The musical numbers will be illustrated on the Hardman autograph. Every recital was arranged in order that music lovers might become acquainted with the operas, the first of which are new to the Capital. A second has never been given here by a grand opera company.

FIGURES IN GRAND OPERA HERE DURING WEEK



LINA CAVALIERI.

Grand Opera Program for the Week

Monday evening—"LUCIA." Mme. Tetrazzini, Severina; MM. John McCormack, Polese, Domenico, Venturini, Scott.

Tuesday evening—"THAIS." Miss Mary Garden, Mlle. Trentini, Duchene; MM. Dalmores, Renaud, Gilbert, Villa, Venturini, Fossetta.

Wednesday afternoon—"TRAVIATA." Mmes. Tetrazzini, Egner, Severina; MM. McCormack, Sammarco, Domenico, Fossetta.

Wednesday evening—"TALES OF HOFFMAN," Mlle. Cavalieri, Trentini, Gentle; MM. Dalmores, Renaud, Gilbert, Villa, Venturini, Fossetta.

Thursday evening—"JONGLEUR DE NOTRE DAME." Miss Garden, MM. Dufranne, Huberdeau, Scott, Crabbe.

Friday evening (double bill)—"DAUGHTER OF THE REGIMENT." Mmes. Tetrazzini, Duchene; MM. McCormack, Gilbert, Nicolay. Followed by "PACLIACCI." Mme. Walter-Villa; MM. Zerola, Sammarco, Crabbe, Venturini.

Conductors—MM. Sturani, N. Josia, and Charlier.

THIRD SYMPHONY CONCERT PLANNED

February 18 Set as Date for Coming Musical Event in Washington.

The third concert of the Washington Symphony Orchestra will be given at the Columbia Theater on the afternoon of February 18.

Mrs. Nellie Wilson Shercliff will be the soloist of the occasion. The two concerts given by this organization this winter have been of a high class and the third is expected to surpass both of them.

The Washington Symphony Orchestra is under the leadership of Herman C. Rakemann, who has brought it to the front rapidly.

The second concert, which was given last Friday, received high praise from musical critics of the city.

CHORAL SOCIETY RECEIVES PRAISE

The Washington Choral Society, which recently successfully presented G. W. Chadwick's fascinating "Noel," is to be congratulated not only upon the success of their efforts, but the encouragement embodied in the following letter from the composer:

"New England Conservatory, Boston, Dec. 23, 1909. My dear Mr. Hammer. Will you kindly express to the Washington Choral Society my deep appreciation of the devotion and enthusiasm with which it performed my 'Noel' at its recent concert. The singing was excellent in intonation and precision and was at many points highly effective. Besides it was always distinguished by intelligence and interest. My warmest thanks to you and your Society for your painstaking interest in my work. Very truly yours, G. W. CHADWICK."

RICH IS FEATURED BY CARL POHLIG

The Philadelphia Orchestra, under the direction of Carl Pohlig, will be heard in the third concert of the season at the New National Theater, on Tuesday afternoon, January 18, at 4:30 o'clock, with Thaddeus Rich, the concertmaster of the orchestra, as the assisting artist. The program announced makes a most interesting list of numbers and reads as follows:

Camille Saint-Saens—"Phaeton," symphonic poem, op. 23, in C major. Peter I. Tschalkowsky—Symphonie, "Pathetique," No. 6, op. 74. Max Bruch—Concerto for violin and orchestra, in G minor, op. 26. Thaddeus Rich, Richard Wagner—Vorspiel, "Meistersinger." Apropos of Thaddeus Rich, it can be said that whenever he appears as a soloist his success is instant and pronounced. His appearance, therefore, at the next Philadelphia Orchestra concert will greatly add to the interest of the occasion.

LOCAL MENTION.

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COMMITTEE OF 100 TO MEET DAMROSCH

Social Leaders Arranging for Anniversary Concert by Orchestra.

The place Walter Damrosch holds in the affections of the music-loving public of Washington is amply evidenced by the enthusiasm with which the committee of one hundred is going about the work of preparing a proper greeting to the conductor, who, at the head of his orchestra of 100 pieces, is to give a concert at the New National Theater Sunday evening, January 16, at 8:15.

A special program will mark the occasion, which is planned to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of Mr. Damrosch's career as a conductor. Meanwhile the importance of the social phase of the undertaking is evidenced by the names constituting this partial list of the committee of one hundred:

- Mrs. Aldrich, Mrs. Larz Anderson, Mrs. Nicholas Anderson, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Countess von Bernstorff, Mrs. George J. Becker, Mrs. H. S. B. Beall, Mrs. Buckley, Mrs. A. C. Farney, Mrs. Bryce, Mrs. Clarence Carlisle, Mrs. Gordon Cumming, Mrs. Murray Crane, Mrs. Francis C. Shield, Mrs. Elkins, Mrs. Ellis, Mrs. Clarence Edwards, Mrs. R. E. Gaff, Mrs. Glover, Mrs. Guggenheim, Mrs. John Hays Hammond, Mrs. Eugene Hale, Mrs. J. E. Henderson, Mrs. R. H. Hill, Mrs. George Howard, Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Herbert Parsons, Mrs. H. C. Perkins, Mrs. Pinchot, Mrs. George M. Robeson, Mrs. Richard Townsend, Mrs. Henry White, Mrs. Herbert Wadsworth, Mrs. George Peabody Wetmore, Mrs. M. A. Hanna, Miss Heppmann, Mrs. Rockwood Hoar, Mrs. Hobson, Mrs. Knox, M. S. Frederick Keep, Mrs. Louder, Mrs. Duncan McKim, Mrs. Montgomery Macomb, Mrs. Henry May, Mrs. George von L. Meyer, Mrs. Newlands, Mrs. Charles Norton, Mrs. Robert Shaw Oliver, Mrs. T. R. Page, Mrs. Payne Whitney, Mrs. A. J. Parsons, and Mrs. Kirk Porter.

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MISS CRYDER PLANS MUSICAL EVENTS

Miss Mary Cryder will contribute to the New Year musical calendar two of the most attractive musical events of the month.

On Friday afternoon, January 28, Miss Cryder has arranged for the appearance of Mme. Gisela Weber in a violin recital at the Columbia Theater, and on the afternoon of January 31 Miss Cryder will present Mme. Liza Lehman, the distinguished English composer, and a concert company at the Columbia. The company includes Master Albert Hoie, the English boy soprano, whose remarkable voice has won him international distinction.

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BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA COMING

Mitscha Elman Will Make First Appearance at National Theater.

Mitscha Elman, in many respects the most remarkable of the violinists of our day, will make his first appearance this season in Washington at the third concert of the Boston Symphony Orchestra to be given in the National Theater Tuesday afternoon, at 4:30. This orchestra brought Elman here last year when he made his debut in Washington. For his second appearance he has chosen Lalo's "Spanish Symphony" for violin and orchestra. The work is really a concerto being symphony only in name, and is one of the most gratifying compositions in the literature of music for the violin. Lalo was one of the greatest of French composers of the last century and nothing that he has done has given him broader fame than this "Spanish Symphony."

The orchestral numbers will be Beethoven's "Eroica" symphony, and Smetana's overture "The Bartered Bride." Many connoisseurs profess to see in the "Eroica" the work most typical of Beethoven's genius; this despite the fact that the C minor No. 5 is usually spoken of in this way. In writing the "Eroica" Beethoven unquestionably had Napoleon in mind, although afterward he changed his views of the heroic qualities of the French conqueror and denied that his symphony was a musical epitome of his career. Smetana is the greatest name in Bohemian music. Several of his symphonic poems have been played here in years past by the Boston Symphony, and music-lovers of Washington are aware of the great success enjoyed by his opera, "The Bartered Bride," in New York, in the past two years. The overture, a shimmer of brightness and light, and when played by the virtuoso of the Boston Symphony it always arouses great enthusiasm in the audience.

RUSSIAN PIANISTE MOST SUCCESSFUL

Young Yolande Mero Will Make First Appearance Here at Columbia Theater.

Yolande Mero, the young Russian pianist who has been attracting the attention of the musical world since her first appearance as a child pianist with a braided down her back to watch her knee skirts, is making her first appearance in this city on the afternoon of January 21, when she will be heard in concert at the Columbia Theater. Her New York Boston and Chicago have all registered enthusiastic approval of the young pianist who has thoroughly established herself as one of the favorites of the day.

DIRECTOR XANDER PREPARES PROGRAM

The program for the fourth musical event given by the Washington Sangerbund this season has been completed. The director, Henry Xander, has been working for some time on a concert which will be heard tonight at Sangerbund Hall, 314 C street northwest.

HAMMER ORCHESTRA ANNOUNCES PROGRAM

Will Give Popular Price Concert in French at Belasco Theater.

Under the direction of Heinrich Hammer, the symphony orchestra recently organized by him, will give a popular price concert of French compositions at the Belasco Theater tonight. This will afford those who are unable to attend afternoon concerts an opportunity to enjoy the work of this organization, which was so favorably received at its two afternoon symphony concerts. Prior to his coming to this country Mr. Hammer met with success as a conductor of symphony orchestras and choral societies in Germany, Sweden, Holland, and Switzerland, and his experience will enable him to render with skill and intelligence the following program tonight:

- Overture, "Phedre".....Massenet
"Omphale's Spinning Wheel".....Saint-Saens
First suite, "L'Ariosteane".....Bizet
Overture, "Mignon".....Thomas
Violin solo, Intermezzo "Thais".....Massenet
Suite, "Sylvia".....Delibes

Beethoven's third symphony (Eroica, E flat major), and the fourth (B flat major), symphony will be the program for the third concert in the Beethoven cycle, being given by the Heinrich Hammer Symphony Orchestra, at the Belasco Theater, next Friday afternoon at 4:45. Much interest centers in the career of the organization, which is rapidly establishing itself as a factor in the musical progress of the community.

FAMOUS BEAUTIES NEVER GET FAT

Womankind wonders why famous beauties grow old, but do not grow fat. They live at silken ease, amid the porcelain flesh pots. The wife, that puffs out obscure mortals, does not liberally down their alabaster throats. Yet their lifelines, long does not thicken, their limbs nor double their chins. What is the secret of the long-lived gracefulness of the haughty?

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