

# MUSIC

By HENRIETTA M. REES.

There have been many expressions of satisfaction about the opening concert of the Omaha Woman's Club Music department professional series. A fine audience was present at the first one, an audience that listened attentively, and seemed to enjoy thoroughly the various numbers of the program. It was not an audience which had the attitude that it was doing a duty by being present. There was none of that pious aloofness nor that martyr air easily recognizable under certain circumstances. Nor was there any attitude of indifference or satiety with but a small amount of music. There was more the certainty that each member of the audience had been let in on a good thing, that here was an opportunity to hear some really interesting episodes from the literature of music, and to become familiar with them. There were numbers which many of those present had never heard before, and to hear them had all the charm of reading a new story. A great many of the audience had heard the players before; they knew how they played and they were sure of them, and they were not only interested in the personality of the players but in the selections for themselves, and it seemed that the more of them they heard the more they liked. The audience which attends this course will have listened not only to the numerous local artists who will make up the personnel of the series, but they will also have taken a course in hearing many of the works of many of the greatest composers which they would not otherwise have known. A wide range of selections will be covered, in voice, violin and piano, and at the close an inventory will disclose that there are a great many more interesting songs, violin compositions and piano solos than the average listener ever thought there were and that the selection will not need to duplicate the programs of visiting artists to be so, either.

In his always variegated and illuminative Evening Post column, Henry T. Finck tells of some momentous recent musical occasions connected with happenings during the recent war, and recalls especially the patriotic tonal outbursts in the cathedral of liberated Tournai, at St. Paul's (London) when the United States entered the conflict, and in Petrograd when the whole nation poured out its gratitude by singing the country's anthem on the evening of the first fall of Erensky. The snow was falling fast, while from all the churches and from the streets resounded the sublime strains of the national hymn sung with unprecedented fervor.

Mr. Finck proceeds as follows: "When music thus becomes vital, an integral part of life itself, it is a very different thing from the artificialities of our opera houses and concert halls, where audiences, as a rule, go for mere entertainment, while the artists too often seek to astonish the natives by displays of skill rather than by appeals to the heart. Heart music is heard altogether too seldom at recitals and concerts. The academic, frigid critics frown on it as 'popular' and encourage the musicians in their stupid professional notion that a composition, to be high class, must be very long and very difficult. Thus it happens that sonatas and symphonies and show pieces are flung at the public, while the shorter things that speak directly to the heart are neglected. It is not the idea of Mr. Finck or of the other sponsors of heart music, that it should supplant the art forms and the classical repertoire. A judicious admixture of all the styles is the surest way for a concert given to interest the largest number of auditors. It never will hurt the classics to program them with lesser music. It is amazing, though, to find how frequently some of the latter holds its own with the classics. 'Lest we forget, Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven and Bach were not only patriotic song writers. Also Schubert, Schumann, Brahms, Debussy and the Russians wrote many a song which is not any better than scores of modern lyrics from the pens of our younger American composers.'—From the Musical Courier.

At the Metropolitan opera, the opera, 'Samson and Delilah,' by Saint Saens, with Caruso and Homer, was sung the night of November 18, according to James K. Hunker. Between Acts 1 and 11 a patriotic demonstration was given with many flags of the allies, and the national anthem, 'The Marseillaise,' and anthems of the other allies were sung. During the rehearsal in the afternoon before the performance, some technical genius in the stage department dug up the dummy Siegfried formerly used in the Wagner music drama after the vocal Siegfried had been slain. This was transformed into a mock Kaiser Wilhelm, and with a helmet on its head it was hung on a gibbet, and carried by the supers on a short parade, the figure being stabbed by Gatti Casazza caught the symbolism of it and he, with Mme. Alda, with Monteux conducting the full opera house orchestra (minus the contrabasso) the procession moved up to Forty-second street and back to the opera house, where the effigy was disposed of permanently.

Olga Samaroff, pianist, who will appear in a recital Thursday evening, December 12, under the auspices of the Tuesday Musical club, made her first professional appearance in New York city, where she appeared as soloist with the New York Symphony orchestra, Walter Damrosch conducting, on January 18, 1905. This was followed by her London debut the following year. Since then Mme. Samaroff has made extensive tours, giving concerts in London, on the continent, and especially in the United States, where she has appeared with all the leading orchestras as well as jointly

with the most prominent soloists. In 1911, she was married to Leopold Stokowski, now conductor of the Philadelphia orchestra. Mme. Samaroff makes her present home in Philadelphia. Mme. Samaroff played in Omaha about ten years ago and many lovers of piano music still remember the excellence of her playing.

Mme. Galli-Curci, who will appear here at the Auditorium as the first number of the All-Star Concert course Friday evening, January 10, responded to 23 recalls after the mad scene in 'Lucia,' which was sung at the Chicago auditorium the past week.

**Musical Notes.** Mrs. E. R. Zabriskie will not give her organ recital announced for this afternoon at the First Presbyterian church as she is ill at Clarkson hospital with the 'flu.' Her husband and little daughter are also at the hospital with the same disease.

Mrs. Louise Jansen Wylie will give her first musical tea of the season at her residence, 3821 Farnam street, on Sunday afternoon, December 1, at 4 o'clock. The following pupils will sing: Mrs. Grace Mauer, Miss Grady, Mrs. Podolak, Miss Adler, Miss Behrens, Miss Krittenbrink, Miss Parsons, Miss Scheibel, Miss Freeman.

Miss Adelyn Wood and Miss Dorothy Morton will give two groups of two piano numbers in Lincoln on Thursday afternoon, December 5, at the governor's mansion, for the benefit of the Overseas War Relief fund.

The Tuesday Musical club will present Marie Mikova, pianist, and Warren Proctor, tenor of the Chicago Opera company, in a joint re-

## Wedded Yet Happy and Working Together for Many Long Years

The fact that Henry Bergman and Gladys Clark, who are touring the Orpheum circuit in their new act, 'A Ray of Sunshine,' make no attempt to disguise the fact that they are man and wife, reveals a curious condition that exists in the theater of our time. In the old days it was no unusual thing for married folk to be heralded as such. For instance, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean, Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams, Mr. and Mrs. William J. Florence and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Churney.

Nowadays, not only is it that a man and his wife do not appear together as 'stars,' but it seems to be the managerial dictum that they shall not be seen in the same company. This condition of affairs seems to exist likewise in motion pictures. Several of our more famous 'queens of the cinema' have husbands who are also in the pictures, only the directors manage it somehow that the husband never happens to be the lover-hero in the stories which they enact. It is in vaudeville only that the old matrimonial tradition exists as 'in the golden days of the drama.' Some of the most popular acts in vaudeville are married couples.

at the Brandeis theater on the evening of January 16.

Pupils of Miss Helen Mackin will present a piano recital Sunday afternoon at the Boys' Industrial home, assisted by Miss Drury, soprano, pupil of Florence Basler Palmer.

Cecil Berryman presents Gertrude Anne Miller in a piano recital assisted by Miss Mabel Allen, soprano, pupil of Mrs. Mabelle Crawford Welpton, Tuesday evening, December 3rd, at the First Christian church, Twenty-sixth and Harney streets. Miss Grace Slabaugh will accompany. Miss Mary Chapman, also a pupil of Mrs. Welpton, was to have assisted, but as she is ill with influenza, Miss Allen kindly consented to take her part. An interesting program has been arranged, and the public is cordially invited to attend.

Miss Luella Anderson has arranged a musical program for the political social science department of the Omaha Woman's club at the Prettiest Mile club on the afternoon of Thursday, December 5. Miss Marguerite Sharpless and Miss Florence Senior, and Mrs. Fred Hill will furnish the violin, piano and vocal selections, respectively. Miss Marguerite Morehouse and Miss Grace Slabaugh the accompanists.

In commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Immanuel Lutheran church, Nineteenth and Cass streets, the choir, assisted by Prof. Leroy Carlson, Effie Johnson of Luther college and Prof. Adolph Hult of Augustana college will give a Festive Song Service Tuesday evening, December 3. The program will be made up of organ solos, vocal solos and anthems and Professor Hult's address will be upon the subject 'Oh, Sing Unto the Lord a New Song.'

## Galli-Curci to Sing Here in All Star Concert Course

The following which is from the pen of Edward C. Moore, one of Chicago's best known musical writers, will give some idea of the enthusiasm which prevails every time Galli-Curci, the gifted coloratura soprano, who will be heard here at the Auditorium as the first number of an all-star concert course Friday evening, January 10, appears in a performance with the Chicago Opera company:

"Beginning at three minutes past 10 o'clock, and continuing for 16 minutes thereafter—these figures are exact—there was the most beautiful singing by her that had been heard since last she sang the role, or will be until she appears again in the same part. For its equal the elder contingent of operators will have to become reminiscent over a generation or so back.

"This was the scene wherein Lucy goes mad to the gentle pleadings of the flute. Mme. Galli-Curci's voice is not an enormous one. There are at least a dozen members of the Chicago Opera association who can shout more lustily than she. None of them, or the combined group, could perfect purity that floats clearly over a tumult and makes any other voice or any instrument sound coarse by comparison. The only thing that silenced her was the effort of some vociferous cheerleaders in the audience, inducing their fellow lunatics to begin applauding before the last note was completed.

"It was such singing that will remain in the minds of her audience today. There were other members of the cast, but there is small probability that they will be recalled in the minds of her audience, and probably are, very estimable artists and citizens, but they simply did not exist when Mme. Galli-Curci was on the stage."

## DOUG'S WIFE IS GIVEN DIVORCE

New Rochelle, N. Y., Nov. 30.—Mrs. Beth S. Fairbanks today won an interlocutory decree of divorce from Douglas Fairbanks, moving picture actor, in the supreme court here. She was awarded the custody of their son, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., 8 years old. The record of the testimony in the case refers to the co-respondent as "an unknown woman." The Fairbanks were married in 1907 at Watch Hill, R. I.

Maurice Olson, sentenced last Saturday to 30 days in the county jail for selling liquor to soldiers, was released by Federal Judge Woodrough after serving seven days on the plea of his wife that she needed him at home. Olson was released Saturday morning.

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## Zionists Celebrate First Anniversary of Free Palestine

Nebraska and Iowa Zionists will celebrate the first anniversary of the declaration of the Palestine Magna Charter at the Mundy auditorium Sunday night. Jews and Gentiles alike are invited to attend the celebration.

A chorus of 200 voices under the leadership of Miss Jessie Kruger will lead the singing. The Sommers orchestra accompanied by Miss Bula Kulakofsky will render musical selections. The Fort Omaha band has been engaged for the evening. Dancing will follow the program.

Restriction Removed. Washington, Nov. 30.—Removal of harbor restrictions imposed under the espionage act was announced today by the treasury customs bureau. This permits the carrying of cameras in harbors, the movement of vessels after dark, the inspection of manifests and boarding of vessels by news writers and the arrival and departure of coastwise ships without reporting to port authorities.

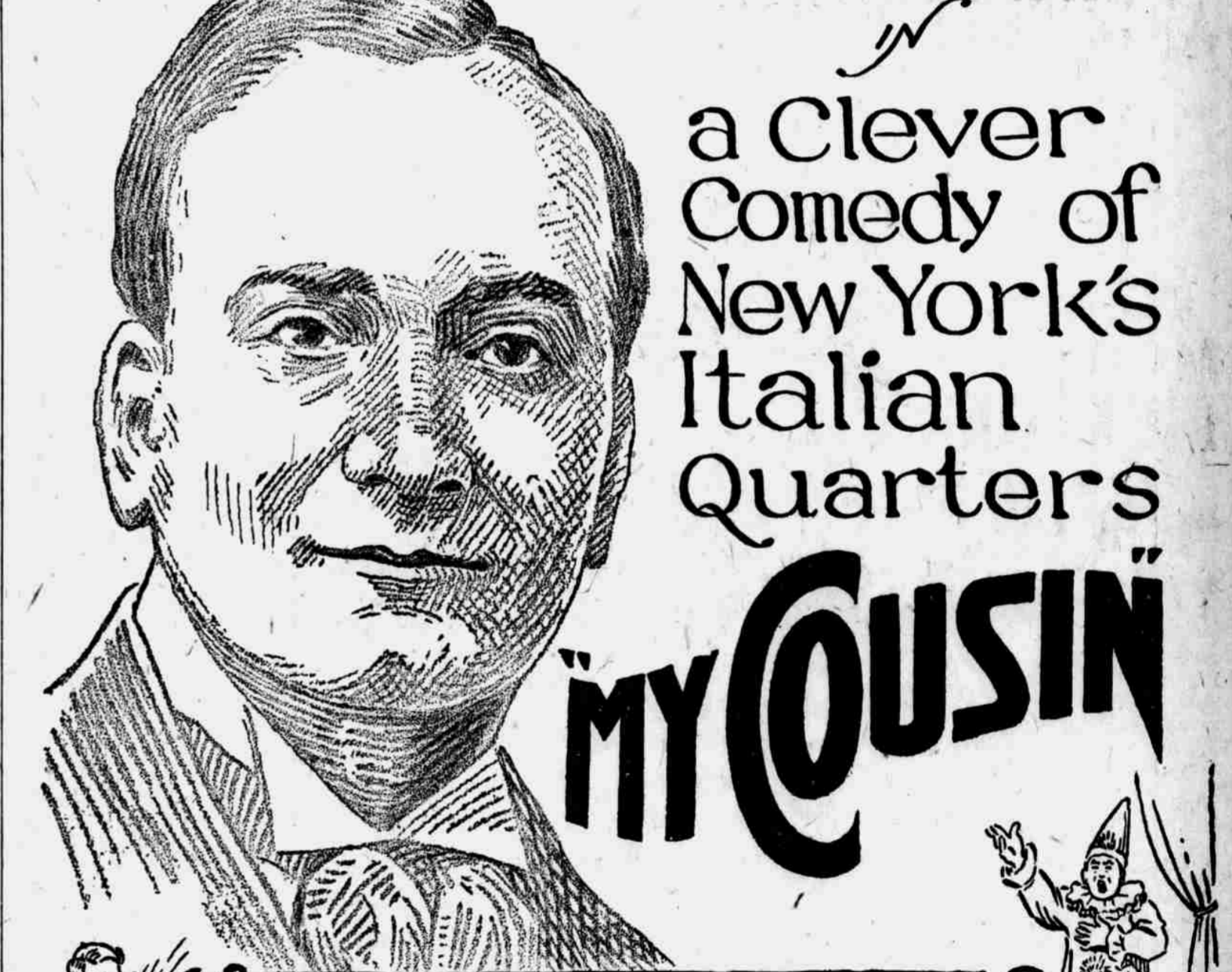
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