

STRACCIARI SHOWS ADVANCE IN HIS ART

Baritone Reappears After Ten Years' Absence—Noted Artists at Ahnelt Fête in Deal

One of the important details of the concert and garden fête held at Ahnelt Hall, in Deal, N. J., on the evening of Aug. 11, was the appearance of Riccardo Stracciari, the noted Italian baritone, who has been engaged to sing with the Chicago Opera Company next season. Although Mr. Stracciari was a member of the Metropolitan Opera Company some ten years ago, there was little about his singing on Saturday night that recalled his previous operatic appearances in New York, for he has made tremendous strides in his art since that time.

Mr. Stracciari sang the cavatina from "The Barber of Seville" and "La Mia Bandiera," by Rotoli, winning a veritable storm of applause from an audience which at once recognized the superior qualities of his vocalism. His voice was full and rich in quality, his phrasing and style were polished and his diction was a source of constant delight.

The concert was given through the kindly offices of Mr. and Mrs. William Paul Ahnelt, who threw open their beautiful home and grounds for the Red Cross benefit. More than a thousand guests attended.

Paquita and Enrique Madriguera, pianist and violinist, respectively, both young performers of extraordinary talent, were heard to advantage in several numbers, and Mme. Gina Viafora, the well-known soprano, was accorded hearty applause for her delightful singing of Sanderson's "Until" and the *Santuzza* aria from "Cavalleria Rusticana." The pure quality of her voice, the consummate artistry with which she invests everything she attempts, were again characteristic of her delivery of these songs. Vernon Stiles sang a group of four songs with noteworthy effect, and Anna Fitziu was heard to advantage in an aria from "Tosca."

Prominent vaudeville performers came from New York to lend variety to the program.

Among the guests were Cleofonte Campanini, director of the Chicago Opera Company; Mme. Campanini, Giulio Crimi, Mme. Crimi, Rosa Raisa, Giacomo Rimini, Miguel Sigaldi, Gianni Viafora and others prominent in musical affairs.

WANT PRESENT PITCH KEPT

American Guild of Piano Tuners, in Convention, Protest Against Change

According to a Cincinnati dispatch of Aug. 10, to the *Morning Telegraph* of New York, a decided protest against any change from the present international pitch of tone, contemplated by the American Federation of Music, was voiced by the American Guild of Piano Tuners, which opened its eighth annual convention in Cincinnati last week. Leading delegates to-day said there have been different pitches in America during the last 100 years and likely always will be, but the guild would like to see a uniform tone adopted and believes the international to be the nearest approach to it. They said time was when the singer wanted a low, or the so-called French pitch, which is the vibrations to the second on the middle "A" note. The instrumentalist and orchestra player wanted the high pitch, which is 454.

A scientific and musical commission in 1896, in London, England, established the international pitch of 435 vibrations per second. Musicians are now insisting upon a change to 440, because many instruments made in Europe have a higher vibration.

Chicago, San Francisco, Buffalo and St. Joseph, Mo., are competing for the next convention.

War Relief Concert at Easthampton, L. I.

Lorraine Wyman, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Rogers, Howard Brockway and Bruno Huhn were the artists at a concert given Aug. 10 at the Maidstone Club, Easthampton, N. Y., for the benefit of the Easthampton War Relief. An excellent program was offered the large audience which applauded the artists loud and long. Among those present were Walter Damrosch, Victor Harris, John Drew, Ethel Barrymore and Augustus Thomas.

How the Musical Public Can Help In the Matter of Food Conservation

MUSICAL AMERICA has received from the Bureau of Trade and Technical Press Publicity for the Food Administration Campaign, at Washington, an appeal for co-operation in the matter of setting before the reading public reached by this periodical the necessity of intelligent and effective economy in the use of food-stuffs.

James H. Collins, editor of the bureau, the advisory committee of which includes the names of a number of distinguished editors and publishers of class papers, says:

"Every reader of a technical journal is a human being, of course, and eats food. Therefore, every one of your readers needs to be reminded regularly that this food edge is serious business—it may win or lose the war."

If every reader of MUSICAL AMERICA were to do his or her part in this vital campaign the total result would be a remarkable factor in righting the economic situation. The requirements do not imply a great personal sacrifice. A strict observance of them will, in fact, improve the individual's physical welfare.

These are the regulations made by Herbert Hoover, United States Food Administrator."

United States Food Administration

WIN THE WAR BY GIVING YOUR OWN DAILY SERVICE

SAVE THE WHEAT.—One wheatless meal a day. Use corn, oatmeal, rye or barley bread and non-wheat breakfast foods. Order bread twenty-four hours in advance so your baker will not bake beyond his needs. Cut the loaf on the table and only as required. Use stale bread for cooking, toast, etc. Eat less cake and pastry.

Our wheat harvest is far below normal. If each person weekly saves one pound of wheat flour that means 150,000,000 more bushels of wheat for the Allies to mix in their bread. This will help them to save DEMOCRACY.

SAVE THE MEAT.—Beef, mutton or pork not more than once daily. Use freely vegetables and fish. At the meat meal serve smaller portions, and stews instead of steaks. Make made-dishes of all left-overs. Do this and there will be meat enough for every one at a reasonable price.

We are today killing the dairy cows and female calves as the result of high prices. Therefore, eat less and eat no young meat. If we save an ounce of meat each day per person, we will have additional supply equal to 2,200,000 cattle.

SAVE THE MILK.—The children must have milk. Use every drop. Use buttermilk and sour milk for cooking and making cottage cheese. Use less cream.

SAVE THE FATS.—We are the world's greatest fat wasters. Fat is food. Butter is essential for the growth and health of children. Use butter on the table as usual, but not in cooking. Other fats are as good. Reduce use of fried foods. Save daily one-third ounce animal fats. Soap contains fats. Do not waste it. Make your own washing soap at home out of the saved fats.

Use one-third ounce less per day of animal fat and 375,000 tons will be saved yearly.

SAVE THE SUGAR.—Sugar is scarcer. We use today three times as much per person as our Allies. So there may be enough for all at reasonable price, use less candy and sweet drinks. Do not stint sugar in putting up fruit and jams. They will save butter.

If everyone in America saves one ounce of sugar daily, it means 1,100,000 tons for the year.

SAVE THE FUEL.—Coal comes from a distance, and our railways are overburdened hauling war material. Help relieve them by burning fewer fires. Use wood when you can get it.

USE THE PERISHABLE FOODS.—Fruits and vegetables we have in abundance. As a nation we eat too little green stuffs. Double their use and improve your health. Store potatoes and other roots properly and they will keep. Begin now to can or dry all surplus garden products.

USE LOCAL SUPPLIES.—Patronize your local producer. Distance means money. Buy perishable food from the neighborhood nearest you and thus save transportation.

GENERAL RULES

Buy less, serve smaller portions.
Preach the "Gospel of the Clean Plate."
Don't eat a fourth meal.
Don't limit the plain food of growing children.
Watch out for the wastes in the Community.
Full garbage pails in America mean empty dinner pails in America and Europe.
If the more fortunate of our people will avoid waste and eat no more than they need, the high cost of living problem of the less fortunate will be solved.

OPERA STARS DAZZLE ASBURY AUDIENCES

Hempel and Homer Unite in a Concert—Alda Appears at Jersey Resort

ASBURY PARK, N. J., Aug. 13.—On the evening of Aug. 10, an audience which nearly filled the large Auditorium greeted Louise Homer, contralto, and Frieda Hempel, soprano, both of the Metropolitan Opera Company, in a benefit concert for the First Methodist Church of Asbury Park. The assisting artists were Arthur Pryor, trombone soloist, and Clarence Reynolds, organist. Miss Hempel displayed real charm, art and technique. She had the able assistance at the piano of Paul Eisler.

Mme. Louise Homer opened her part of the program by singing "The Star Spangled Banner." Never has one heard our national anthem sung with more real enthusiasm. Then followed the aria from "Samson and Delilah," in which the prima donna scored another ovation. Florence McMillan played splendid accompaniments for Mme. Homer.

In the singing of two duets, "Barcarolle" from Offenbach's "Tales of Hoffman," and "O That We Two Were Maying," by Nevin, Miss Hempel and Mme. Homer gave more joy to the huge audience, which again demanded extra numbers.

Arthur Pryor, trombone soloist, delighted the assembly. A solo by Clarence Reynolds, the Auditorium organist, opened the recital.

Much credit is due Mrs. Bruce S. Keater as chairman, and the following committee: Mrs. Julian Edwards, of New York; Alexander Lambert, of New York; Mrs. Samuel Metzgar and Arthur Pryor, of Asbury Park. Mrs. Keater is the organist of the First M. E. Church.

Two thousand persons gathered at the Auditorium Aug. 11 to hear Mme. Frances Alda. Mme. Alda's recital was noteworthy from every standpoint. This soprano, with a voice that was full and flexible, was at ease in the most dramatic music and in the most lyric phases. Her pianissimo quality was superb. Mme. Alda had the splendid assistance of the renowned accompanist, Frank La Forge. Mr. La Forge also appeared as soloist, contributing the MacDowell's "Etude de Concert" and two worthy compositions of his own. Both effective compositions.

On Aug. 9 the Kaltenborn String Quartet gave a concert in the Ocean Grove Auditorium. This quartet is composed of Franz Kaltenborn, first violin; Seraphin Albisser, second violin; Max Barr, viola, and Max Gegna, violoncello.

The Oriental Musical Pageant "Ahasuerus" had its second performance in the Auditorium on Aug. 7, with the same splendid chorus and soloists and under William Dodd Chenery's able direction, as at the first presentation.

A pleasing Sunday evening concert was given at the Ocean Hotel, Asbury Park, Aug. 12, by Mme. Beth Tregaskis, a mezzo-contralto, of Newark, N. J.; Albert Sidwell, tenor, and Flora Rubin, violinist.

Dan Beddoe, tenor, delighted the congregation at Trinity Church with a solo during the evening service, and Edward Bromberg, baritone, sang for the offertory at the morning service.

Approximately 1,400 persons attended the Arcade Concert given by Pryor's Band Aug. 5, the greatest attendance yet this season. This passes the record set last year at this time. The following soloists who appeared with the band this week were Leo L. Handzlek, cornetist; Cora Remington, soprano.

Leo L. Handzlek, leading cornetist with Arthur Pryor's Band, and Jean Farley of Pittsburg, Pa., were married at the parsonage of the First Baptist Church on Aug. 10, the Rev. Mr. W. A. Atchley officiating. Mrs. Handzlek is an organist in Pittsburg, Pa., where they will reside. L. S.

Albany Post for Alfred Hallam

ALBANY, N. Y., Aug. 11.—Alfred Hallam, former director of the Skidmore School of Fine Arts of Saratoga Springs and now directing the community singing at Chautauqua, will come to Albany to assume the leadership of the chorus choir of the First Reformed Church. He will have charge of the special music for the 275th anniversary of the church in October. Mr. Hallam will continue as leader of the Schenectady Festival Chorus, organized by the late J. Bert Curley. H.