

Good Fellowship Animates This Semi-Circle of Celebrities

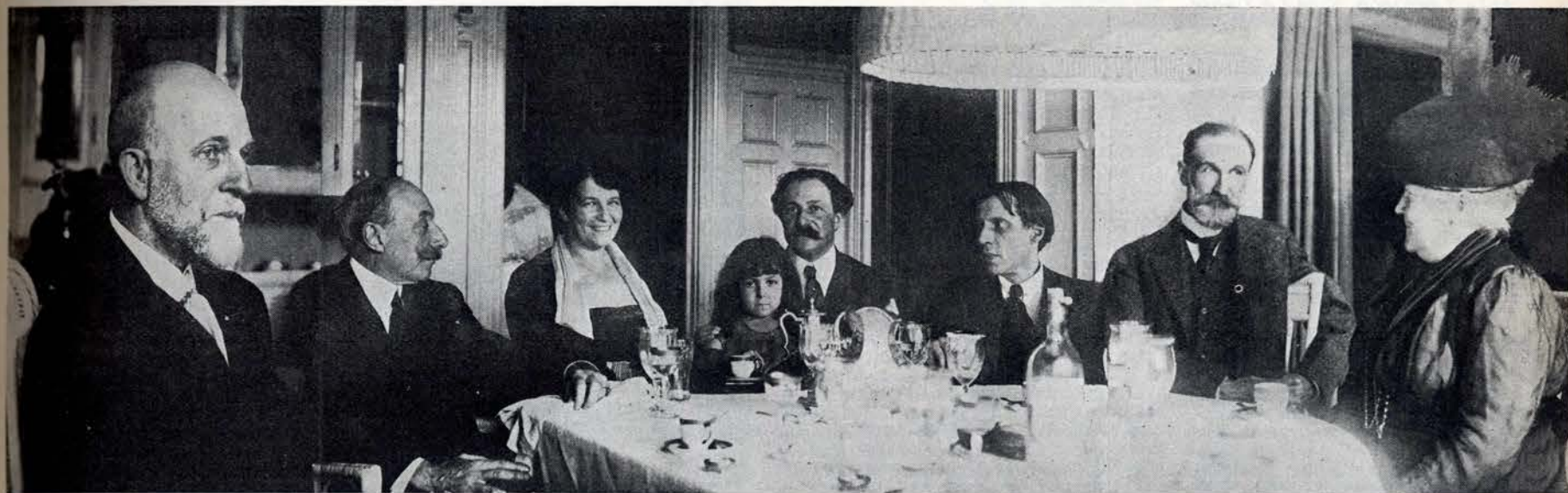


Photo by A. F. Donnell

BOSTON, Nov. 15.—Rarely does circumstance bring together in informal gathering such a company of distinguished musical persons as is seen in the accompanying photograph, taken lately in this city. The brilliant semi-circle, reading from left to right, comprises Charles Martin Loeffler, the composer; André Messager, conductor

of the Paris Conservatoire Orchestra; Mme. Monteux, Mlle. Denise Monteux, Pierre Monteux, the Metropolitan Opera conductor, who was leader *pro tem* of the Boston Symphony; Alfred Cortot, the eminent French pianist; Henri Rabaud, the noted French composer and conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, and Mrs. Loeffler.

CASALS RECOUNTS WORK SPAIN HAS DONE FOR THE ALLIED CAUSE



Photos by Bain News Service
In the Picture Numbered 1 May Be Seen Pablo Casals, the Famous Spanish 'Cellist, and His Wife, Susan Metcalfe Casals; on the Right, Mr. Casals Personally Inspecting the Unpacking of His 'Cello

PABLO CASALS returned from Spain, his native country, recently on the Mt. Serrat after a voyage of twenty days. It was feared for some time past that he would be forced to disappoint a large following of music-lovers who have looked upon his visits to America for the past four years as one of the most important musical events of each season. He was scheduled to return almost two months ago, but due to difficulties encountered over passports he was obliged to postpone all concert arrangements until the last month.

Casals has been an intimate friend of the royal family since his early youth and Queen Maria Christina was instrumental in fostering his genius. Because of this connection he is apt to have a more intimate knowledge of the political and economic situation of Spain than the majority of his countrymen.

From the beginning of the war his sympathies have been pro-Ally. "From the first," he said, "I felt that Spain should plunge in as America did, altru-

istically, although the sinking of her ships was quite sufficient to have made her participation a defensive measure. My recent visit to Spain has given me a new angle on the situation, for I saw a Spain that was altogether astonishing. She had been converted into a vast camp for the Allies. She sent a steady stream of food, clothing and raw materials, especially iron, copper and steel, to the Allies and chiefly to America, which is of far greater use to them than her military assistance could ever have been, for she lacks the native energy and ability to make great and hasty military preparations as did America.

"Many are wondering how this wave of democracy which is sweeping the world will affect the temper of the Spanish people. She is one of the few peoples still untouched by violent radicalism. And because of this political tranquillity, engendered by her liberal government and just king, she will be unhampered in her industrial and commercial development as few other nations after the great readjustment. It is to be expected that her undeveloped resources will make

a rich mine of treasures for Spain and the rest of the world."

OPEN CHICAGO OPERA SEASON

Triumphs Won by Ciccolini and Polacco in Débuts—"Traviata" the Offering

By Telegraph to MUSICAL AMERICA

CHICAGO, ILL., Nov. 18.—The Chicago Opera Association's season opened tonight in brilliant fashion with a performance of "Traviata," with Mme. Galli-Curci, Riccardo Stracciari, and a new tenor, Guido Ciccolini. Each made an enormous hit, and the same is true of Giorgio Polacco, who made his debut with the company as conductor. The house was crowded and patrons turned away literally by the hundred.

The audience was stirred to a riot of enthusiasm after the second act by the interpolation of the national airs of Belgium, Italy, France, Japan, Great Britain and the United States. E. C. M.

OPERA STARS ARRIVE REJOICING AT PEACE

Vauban Reaches New York No Longer "Atlantic Port" — Notable Dinner

Emerging from its temporary incognito as an "Atlantic port," New York last week took its old place in the newspaper shipping lists with the arrival of the Vauban from Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro with 300 passengers. The official news of the armistice had been received by wireless in time for an unforgettable "captain's dinner," followed by a concert to which the many opera artists among the passengers were contributory.

Marcel Journet sang the "Marseillaise." The other national hymns were sung by other grand opera stars, including Yvonne Gall, Rosa Raisa, Giacomo Rimini, baritone of the Chicago Opera Association; Luigi Montesanto and Gaudio Mansueto. The songbirds came ashore with their throats bundled up and Montesanto, who was scheduled to appear for the first time this season at the Metropolitan, had his voice insured for \$50,000, fearing influenza, which had been taking appalling toll, he said, in South America.

Rosa Raisa, the Chicago Opera Association's soprano, had finished a successful season at the Colon, Buenos Aires, and afterwards toured four weeks in Brazil.

FOR MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM

Baltimore Plan Will Be Carried Through as Result of War's End

BALTIMORE, MD., Nov. 20.—With the lifting of the ban on the construction of new buildings, with the exception of those for war purposes only, will mean that the city will be able to go on with the plans for the erection of a mammoth music and convention hall which will be built on the new civic center and will be a handsome structure.

It is also being hoped here that, in addition to the other musical activities which are backed by the municipality, the plan advanced by Mayor James H. Preston for popular priced opera will be carried out. M. A.

Baltimore Symphony Plays Standardized Version of "Star-Spangled Banner"

BALTIMORE, MD., Nov. 20.—The version of the "Star-Spangled Banner" which was prepared at the request of the United States Bureau of Education by a committee headed by Will Earhart, was played for the first time by the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra at its concert here on Sunday afternoon. This version was played by the New York Symphony, Walter Damrosch, conductor, last year and also by the Paris Conservatory Orchestra when it was here last week, and by some other organizations. R. E. S.