

Lastly, we spoke of the mothers whose sons lie sleeping in France under the rows and rows of little white crosses. Of those words, I shall write nothing, save that, smiling through her tears, she remembered at the door to wish me in farewell, "Merry Christmas!"

WON'T POSTPONE CONVENTION

Music Teachers' National Association to Meet in St. Louis as Planned

MUSICAL AMERICA has received word from Charles N. Boyd, president of the Music Teachers' National Association, that the fortieth annual meeting of the organization will take place as originally planned, in St. Louis on Dec. 30, 31 and Jan. 1.

Last week word went out that the quarantine caused by the recurrence of the influenza epidemic in St. Louis would necessitate a postponement of the convention. On Dec. 20 Ernest R. Kroeger telegraphed Mr. Boyd that conditions had so far improved in St. Louis that there would be no obstruction to holding the meeting according to schedule.

FREE CONCERTS AT MUSEUM

David Mannes to Direct Four Saturday Evening Events at Metropolitan

Through the generosity of a few friends of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, four orchestral concerts under the direction of David Mannes will be given in the Fifth Avenue Hall of the Museum on Saturday evenings, Jan. 4, 11, 18 and 25. The orchestra will consist of fifty-two performers selected from the best orchestral organizations in the city, and the music will be of the same high order as that which has distinguished Museum receptions given in former years.

These concerts will be free to the public, without tickets of admission, and on each of the evenings named the entire Museum will be open, although it is usually closed on Saturday evenings as a measure of economy.

Frieda Hempel, Paul Althouse and Laurenti in Sunday Event

An hour before the Sunday night concert the Metropolitan's authorities received word that Cantor Josef Rosenblatt could not appear as one of the soloists because of sudden illness. Paul Althouse was advised and he promptly "jumped in," singing the "Pagliacci" and "Bohème" arias and encores with great success.

Frieda Hempel sang "Ernani Involami" and other numbers, to the great delight of the throng. She was repeatedly recalled.

Mario Laurenti, baritone, achieved success with his offerings, which included "Largo al Factotum."

The orchestra, in the capable hands of

Richard Hageman, as usual, played Smetana's overture to "The Bartered Bride" and Ippolitoff-Ivanoff's "Caucasian Miniatures."

YSAYE'S FIFTH PROGRAM

Dambois Appears as Soloist with Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra

CINCINNATI, OHIO, Dec. 21.—The Symphony Orchestra's fifth program of the present season was inaugurated on Friday afternoon with Eugen Ysaye conducting and Maurice Dambois, 'cellist, as soloist. By far the most enjoyable number of all was Schubert's "Unfinished" Symphony, which was given a most impressive reading. In fact, the delivery of this work left practically nothing to be desired.

The symphonic poem, "Lenore," by Duparc, seemed to be a novelty here. It received a fair reception. Mendelssohn's familiar Overture to "Athalia" offered a popular opening for the program, which closed with a brilliant performance of Liszt's Second Rhapsody.

Mr. Dambois might have made a better choice in selecting his solo number. It is difficult to select a concerto for 'cello and orchestra the effect of which is unquestionably good, and the Lalo Concerto is not one of these. Although heard here on former occasions, it has never become a favorite. The Dambois performance was praiseworthy.

L. G. S.

Edith Evans Marries John F. Braun

John F. Braun of Philadelphia, tenor, member of the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Orchestra and State Director for Singing for the Council for National Defense, and Edith Evans, a daughter of Dr. Owen Hugh Evans of Marysville, Ohio, were married in New York last week by the Rev. Dr. Jefferson. The bride has made her home in this city for some time and is well known as a pianist. After a trip South Mr. and Mrs. Evans will live in Merion, near Philadelphia.

Prominent Out-of-Town Teachers Studying with Hemstreet

Taking advantage of their three weeks' vacation during the holiday season, two prominent out-of-town teachers are visiting New York and studying with Frank Hemstreet daily during this time. They are Helen Wagner, vocal instructor at the Troy Conference Academy at Poultney, Vt., and John de Heck, vocal instructor at the Skidmore School of Arts, Saratoga Springs, N. Y.

Pablo Casals with Metropolitan Musical Bureau

Pablo Casals, the celebrated 'cellist, has just concluded arrangements whereby he will tour America next season under the direction of the Metropolitan Musical Bureau.

signally honored by a cable invitation to sing *Dalila* and other leading contralto rôles in Paris next spring. There will be a "Grand Victory Celebration" in France's capital in April and May, 1919, at which all Allied and neutral countries will be represented by specially designated days and which will be attended by all the crowned and republican leaders and their staffs. Special operas will be given in honor of the various rulers. Miss Lazzari is now trying to arrange her spring concert bookings so that it will be possible for her to accept. This honor is all the more significant as Miss Lazzari has been asked to participate with the world's most distinguished singers after being on the operatic stage herself only one year.

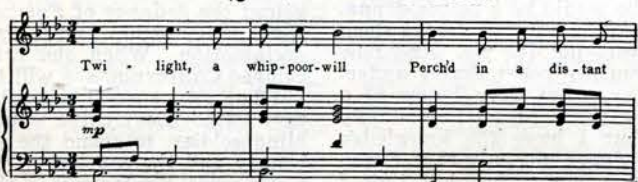
Lazzari Invited to Sing at Great Victory Celebration in Paris

WHEN on Tuesday evening, Dec. 17, Carolina Lazzari scored a true success as *Dalila* in the Chicago Opera Association's first performance this season of Saint-Saëns's famous opera, the predictions made last season by critics after her notable début were realized. One year on the operatic stage is a short time, but in that year Miss Lazzari has made her way to the top. Her remarkable voice, one of the great contralto organs of our time, has in her operatic and concert appearances won the favor of thousands; her talent for the stage was revealed in her personation of *Dalila* to greater advantage than in anything she had sung in Chicago before.

A few weeks ago Miss Lazzari was

The best song of its kind since "The Rosary"
Words beautiful as Tennyson's "Crossing the Bar". Music very fine.

THE QUESTION MARK



Twilight, a whippoorwill,
Perch'd in a distant tree,
Sings out into the silent world
The day's sad dirge to me.

LAST STANZA

Dim ev'ning star, sweet star,
Swum in the sea of dark,
When Life's Sun sets, my star, I trust
There'll be no question mark.

At your music dealer's or 30c direct from the publisher.
T. McTeer Furse, Box 240 N. Diamond Station, Pittsburgh, Pa.

War Has Set Women Free, Says Mary Garden, Back From France

Interviewers Have Many Questions to Ask as Prima Donna Arrives in Chicago—France Adores America, She Declares

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—"Mary I the Conqueror," otherwise known as Mary Garden, arrived in Chicago on the Twentieth Century Limited to-day with smile a little more alert and carriage a little more jaunty than they have ever been before. In spite of her very evident good spirits she confessed to a certain degree of weariness after her trip.

"Please be as quick as you can," she said to the staff photographers of the daily papers as she posed for them after



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Mary Garden "Snapped" as She Arrived in America

alighting from the train. "I am very anxious to get to my hotel as soon as possible."

For some time she was kept busy answering a crossfire of questions.

"No, I am entirely unchaperoned this time," she said in answer to one. "I expect both my mother and my sister to be with me later, but neither will arrive until later in the season."

"There has been no chance for me to consult with Mr. Campanini about my first appearance in Chicago with the opera company," was her reply to another. "Of course I am planning for 'Ghismonda,' but both M. Fevrier and I were counting on having Muratore in the leading rôle. He is a great singer and a splendid artist, and I am truly sorry to hear of his bad health. If there is any way that I can persuade him to stay over and sing the part I am going to do it."

Another question: "Glad to be back in Chicago?" she repeated.

"Am I not always? I left France three days before the President and Mrs. Wilson had arrived. It is wonderful that the war is ended. As is the way with many others I should have felt it only justice for Germany to have suffered the way that other invaded countries have done, but the achievement would have called for the killing and mutilation of hundreds of thousands of more men. And too many men have died, too many women's hearts have been broken already. It was time to quit. The armistice was a blessing."

"The United States has won her place

in the hearts of the world. We turned the trick, if I may be pardoned that colloquialism. It was the psychological moment, and we grasped it as we should have done. What does France now think of the United States? Does she love us? No, that is too weak a word. France gives to the United States—adoration!"

Another question, this time from an advocate of advanced womanhood. "What has the war done for women?"

"Well, it has set women free; actual liberty is theirs from now on. They are going to be what the French call 'puissant'. If you want that put into campus English you might remark that after this, women, generally speaking, are going to have a great deal to say about whatever is done in the world. It is hard now to face reconstruction problems, but these will all work out. Women will not be the losers, and the United States is on the threshold of its greatest era."

Whereupon Miss Garden, with a final brilliant smile, was whirled away to her apartment at the Blackstone Hotel, denying herself to callers for the rest of the day.

EDWARD C. MOORE.

GIVE BRANSCOMBE PROGRAM

Three Gifted Artists Aided by Composer at Dudley Buck's Studio

Exhibiting the rare versatility of Gena Branscombe and the delightful art of three singers, a recital was given on Dec. 17 at the studio of Dudley Buck. The entire program was devoted to the works of Miss Branscombe, who, at the piano, added meaning to her delightful songs. Katherine Galloway, Jean McCormick and W. H. Gleim were the interpreters.

Miss Galloway, with excellent stage presence and in splendid voice, gave the "Sun Dial Cycle," consisting of "The Morning Wind," "In Arcady by Moonlight," "Noon," "The Open Road" and another group consisting of "A Lovely Maiden Roaming," "In Granada," "Bluebells Drowsily Ringing" and "Happiness." Miss McCormick, substituting for Mr. Buck, sang with Miss Galloway the duets "Laughter Wears a Lillied Gown" and "God of the Nations." Mr. Gleim gave impressive interpretations to "Krishna," "I Bring You Heartsease" and "At the Postern Gate" (in manuscript). The last song proved captivating in its rollicking lilt and had to be repeated.

GUILBERT'S CHRISTMAS MUSIC

Diseuse Presents "Légendes Dorées" on Sunday Night Program

Mme. Yvette Guilbert delighted the audience at her concert on Sunday evening, Dec. 22, at Maxine Elliott's Theater, by presenting a group of the old Christmas legends of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. These numbers opened her program, which also contained songs of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and ended with a charming group, "Chansons des Pierrots." In her Rondes of the eighteenth century Mme. Guilbert was assisted by a group of students.

As in her previous recitals, the singer was assisted by Emily Gresser, whose numbers included Sam Franko's arrangement of the "Hymn to the Sun" from "Coq d'Or," the Nachez Gypsy Dances and Francoeur's "Sarabande et Rigaudon."

Maurice Eisner supplied admirable accompaniments for both soloists.

M. S.

Pasquale Amato Scores in Havana

The Metropolitan Musical Bureau on Monday received a telegram from Havana indicating that Pasquale Amato, the baritone, scored a triumph as *Tonio* in "I Pagliacci," his début with the Bracale Opera Company. Mr. Amato is making a limited number of guest appearances during the Havana season by arrangement with the Metropolitan Opera Company.