

TWO ILLUSTRIOUS EUROPEAN LEADERS INJECT NEW VIGOR INTO MUSIC HERE

Toscanini Comes with His Scala Orchestra, and Albert Coates, from London, to Lead Damrosch's Men — Italian's "Début" a Pulsestirring Occasion — Mad Jubilation Over Italian Idol's Return — Coates is Proclaimed a "Supremely Great" Conductor — Introduces Vaughan Williams's "London" S y m p h o n y — Brahms Unforgettably Projected—Other Events of the Week

TWO CONDUCTORS, Arturo L Toscanini and Albert Coates, lorded it over all other musical attractions of the past week in New York. At the head of La Scala Orchestra, come from Italy under his direction in order to promote international good-will, Toscanini made his first bow to the American public since he left here in the spring of 1915, on Tuesday evening, Dec. 30, in the Metropolitan Opera House. Albert Coates, who came to this country at the invitation of Walter Damrosch, to conduct three concerts of the New York Symphony Orchestra, was heard in Carnegie Hall on Thursday afternoon and Friday evening of last week and in Aeolian Hall on Sunday afternoon. Mr. Coates is the most prominent British conductor come to these shores since Sir Henry Wood, nearly sixteen years ago. Born in Petrograd of an English father and a Russian mother, he enjoyed great popularity in Russia until the Bolshevik régime forced him to flee. Since that time he has conducted in London and garnered plenteous honors.

The Great Toscanini's Return

THE reappearance of Toscanini under the selfsame roof which he quit in illness and in anger nearly six years ago and the American début of an Italian orchestra bearing the honorable title of La Scala was an occasion for tumult and shouting. In fiery excitement and scarlet enthusiasm it outdistanced even the memorable night in 1915 when this god of operatic idolatry sought to enlarge the

[Continued on page 4]



Photo by Pirie McDonald LAMBERT MURPHY,

American Tenor, Distinguished Exemplar of the Vocalist's Art, Who Was Admired in Recital in New York Last Week (See page 5)

CARUSO RALLIES AFTER OPERATIONS BUT MAY NOT SING AGAIN THIS YEAR

A FTER two operations for empyema, or suppurative pleurisy, Enrico Caruso continues seriously ill in his apartment at the Vanderbilt Hotel. Six physicians are in attendance upon him, the original five having been increased by the addition of Dr. John F. Erdmann, who performed the operations. Bulletins have been issued daily with respect to his condition. These, while emphasizing that there is no cause for alarm, have not attempted to disguise the fact that Mr. Caruso is a very sick man.

Although no statement bearing [Continued on page 2]

IN THIS ISSUE:

A Master of Scenic Art Discusses His Methods	3
Influence of Russia on Modern British School of Composition	5
Ambitious Plans for California Branch of National Conservatory	9
System Crushes Initiative of High School Music Teachers	29
A University for Singers	35
Deplorable Character of Artists' Programs	
A Protective Tariff for Art: An English Critic's View	39

STATE AND MUSIC IS TONIC CHORD OF GREAT CONVENTION

Forty-second Annual Meeting of Music Teachers' National Association, Held in Chicago, Develops Important Discussions—Music in Public S c h o o l s Outstanding Topic—Need for Fostering of Musical Appreciation in Rural Districts—Proposed Special Training Course for Public School Teachers

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—"The most successful c o n v e n t i o n yet held" was the concise comment of visiting music teachers on the forty-second annual meeting of the Music Teachers' National Association, which finished its three-day convention in Chicago to-day.

Music in the public schools was the outstanding theme of discussion. Many papers were read on different phases of the subject of musical education by the State. Thursday afternoon and Friday morning were devoted entirely to a symposium on this all-important subject.

Getting music into the schools, supplying musical education to the rural districts, where it is lacking at present; enlarging the scope of instruction, and improving the quality of such public teaching by raising the standards for teachers —these were the topics of discussion. —The keynote was struck by Hollis

The keynote was struck by Hollis Dann, director of music in Cornell University, in his talk on "The Duties and Responsibilities of the State Toward Music." One-half of the nation's population is without music, he told the assembled teachers. Millions never get a chance to train their latent powers of appreciating music, and therefore never acquire a fondness for music. Many of the regiments recruited from Southern rural districts in the war could not sing, and did not sing on the march, because they had never been trained to know or appreciate music. Getting music into the rural districts is a prime duty, he said.

Dr. Karl W. Gehrkens, director of the department of public school music in Oberlin College, Ohio, demanded a much stricter standard of musical ability in the public school teachers, and proposed a training course covering several years as a necessary prerequisite for any teacher. Thus, and thus only, he declared, can we really bring music into the lives of the school children by thorough, intelligently guided training. "There must be a thorough basis for a supervisor of music," he continued. "By supervisor I do not mean merely the man or woman who leads children in singing. A supervisor of music who measures up to the ideal cannot be fashioned out of a careless, eighteen-year-old high school girl in a summer term, or even in a year.

Function of School Music

"I well recognize the fact that art in general and music in particular demand inherent ability of those who are to com-

[Continued on page 2]

MUSICAL AMERICA, Published every Saturday by The Musical America Company at 501 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y. Entered as Second Class Matter January 25, 1906, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1870. Saturday, Jan, 8, 1921. Vol. XXXIII, No. 11. Subscription Price \$3.00 per year.