

PROTEST SANTA FE ATTITUDE

Torrance Girl in Triumphant Debut as Diva in Italy

Wanda Stachowicz Hailed by Critics as Mme. Butterfly

Dreams Come True as Study Is Crowned by Brilliant Appearance Before Critical Audience in Italian Theater

NEWSPAPERS PRAISE NEWLY-DISCOVERED STAR Talent as Actor, Voice and Interpretation Lauded by Writers of Foreign Press After Initial Triumph in Opera

It is in Italy that opera is loved with an intensity of feeling which is known only to Latins. It is in Italy where the stamp of approval won by a young singer is tantamount to permanent success. And it is in Italy that Wanda Stachowicz, Torrance girl, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Stachowicz, 1477 Post avenue, made a triumphant debut as the star in Puccini's "Madame Butterfly"—a debut which brought forth from an Italian audience such tumult of approval as only Italians can accord a singer—a debut which won the never-easily gained plaudits of Italian critics—

ance from her parents—brought a piano. Then began days of work followed by long evenings of patient study and practice. When Miss Wanda took employment with the Bureau of Water, Power and Light at Los Angeles it was with the purpose of taking advantage of musical instruction in the metropolis. Every evening she studied and practiced. To Pietro Cimmi former conductor of the Chicago Civic Opera

Clicking of telegraph wires, which web the world, pouring their stream of messages, glad, sad, or strange, into every city, was still a thing for a brief space, men and women of the vast news organization which knew his leadership paid silent tribute to Melville E. Stone, newspaper man and for a quarter of a century general manager of the Associated Press. Mr. Stone died Friday. He was 81 years of age.

Playgoers who have thrilled to the pathos and beauty of the story of Ramona, as given in its historic setting in the mountains of San Jacinto, will learn with regret of the death of Garnet Holme, director of pageantry in national parks. He was a director of the Ramona Pageant and associated with its initial production.

Cold, of an intensely unknown during the past 200 years, has held Europe in its icy grip for days. Harbors are blocked with ice, rivers frozen solid, train service interrupted and in many places abandoned, telephone and telegraph wires down, and communities isolated. Fierce snows make travel hazardous and all but impossible. Whole towns, cut off from their sources of supply, face starvation and pestilence, unless some speedy relief from the terrible penetrating cold.

Great Britain trembles in sub-Arctic temperatures, and shivering miners tear down billboards and break furniture to obtain the warmth their families so desperately need, while the colliers with their rich supply of coal are buried deep in snow. From the middle of this continent, the heart of the Rockies, comes the story of heroic efforts to relieve the little mining town of Silverton. Here one thousand souls have been snowbound for many days. Food supplies are running low. Efforts of railroad men to clear the right-of-way into the section have been stopped by another raging snow storm which has buried the tracks in places 200 feet deep in drifts. From all over the world comes tales of suffering, Californians, shivering during the past two weeks in temperatures just removed from freezing, should contemplate the plight of others who look upon death as it rides in the icy storm, and be grateful for the pleasantness of their surroundings.

Three years from tomorrow, or Feb. 22, 1932, will be held the bi-centenary celebration of the birth of George Washington. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. has purchased on behalf of the Wakefield National Memorial Association, the 267 acres of the Wakefield estate on which Washington was born.

Come, listen, all you maids who have escaped matrimony, and look to how the island of Cuba deals (Continued on Page 6)

Woman Killed; Jail 2

Mrs. Florence Ames Dies After Crash; 2 Face Reckless Driving Charge

Mrs. Florence Ames, of 2143 255th street, Harbor City, was mortally wounded in an automobile collision at Redondo boulevard and Harbor boulevard shortly after 10 o'clock Saturday evening. A. H. Dudley, 925 W. 62nd place, passenger in the machine in which Mr. and Mrs. Ames were riding, was also injured, perhaps fatally. Mr. Dudley and Mrs. Ames were rushed to the San Pedro General hospital, where Mrs. Ames died shortly afterward. She was 58 years of age.

Mr. Ames was uninjured, as was Loui Briganti of Torrance, driver of the other machine. Charges of reckless driving have been placed against both men. Cars driven by Victor Buckler 1003 Portola avenue, and Otto Kraus, 1205 W. 91st street, crashed at 105th and Vermont avenues at 8 p. m. last Thursday evening. Buckler stated that Kraus attempted to make a turn at the intersection without signaling his intention.

Talented Cast for Club Play

Former Professionals Rehearsing For Presentation Of "Come Seven"

The Women's Club of Torrance is fortunate in securing the interest and ability of such a talented cast as that now rehearsing for the annual play, "Come Seven." Of course we all know that the director, Willis Brooks, is a seasoned trouper, having made his debut with the old "Bostonians" in "Robin Hood."

We also know that Miss Virginia Buxton played the lead at the Little Theatre in Chicago, for two years. And Mr. Danford is a man of varied experience, having played in minstrel shows in bygone days, and to go to the other extreme, in Shakespearean drama with Constance Crawley and Arthur Maude.

But I doubt if you have discovered that Hurm Reeve, who plays the eloquent Lawyer Chew, played for a matter of 12 years in stock companies in Illinois. Not that we are surprised. Mr. Reeve is too much at home on the stage to be an amateur, but he has been keeping very quiet about his professional experience, until this reporter wormed it out of him.

And then there is Jay Allen. Mr. Allen was very reticent and pretended to be studying his lines most industriously when questioned, but somehow one thinks of those carefree, happy-go-lucky troupers who used to go barnstorming around the opera houses of sainted memory, and he fits into the picture perfectly.

When we add to the above professionals, the names of Marie Quigley, Edna Schlick, Belle Benson and others of so much amateur experience that they might almost be called professional amateurs, and remember that the play is one of Octavus Roy Cohen's funniest comedies, we may be sure that this play will be well worth while.

Lomita Resident Is Badly Burned

Latest reports from the Torrance hospital indicate that Mrs. J. Marriott of 3096 Miller street who was severely burned last Sunday morning, is greatly improved and will recover. Mrs. Marriott mistook a can of gasoline for kerosene and threw some on a fire which had been difficult to start. The explosion resulted in first and second degree burns over a large portion of Mrs. Marriott's body.

Observations

The Significance of Rotary to the World After 24 Years of Life—The International Club's Program for World Peace

THE SPIRIT of friendship and service, seeking expression in the minds of four friends gathered in Chicago on February 23, 1905, has spread to all corners of the world where more than 140,000 Rotarians in over three thousand Rotary clubs are celebrating this week the 24th anniversary of the founding of Rotary. The first club was formed in Chicago by Paul Harris and three friends, with fellowship, cooperation, high business principles and service to others as the foundation. Two of the original four, Paul Harris and Sylvester Schiele, are still active Rotarians.

Their idea grew slowly at first, but within five years there were 16 Rotary clubs in the United States and one in Winnipeg, Canada. By 1911, Rotary clubs were organized in Dublin and London and Rotary entered upon its career as a worldwide organization.

TODAY 140,000 Rotarians bring the spirit of fellowship to the common table each week in the cities and towns of 44 nations. The Rotary club has given to the business or professional man of any city in the world a place where he can meet other men on the basis of friendship, high ethical principles, and international goodwill. The idea of the service club today is universal.

Underlying the rapid extension of the Rotary movement has been the fact that there is no dead timber in Rotary membership; men must attend and participate or make room for others more active. The discussion of politics is taboo, and men of all nationalities and creeds are brought together on the simple platform of fellowship and service.

This simplicity and frankness are gradually disarming the critics of the service club. Definite programs for the social betterment of their communities throughout the world have answered for Rotary the criticism that its objects are but platitudes, itself only a luncheon club.

Wherever a Rotary club has been established, it has added something vital to the community, not to duplicate but to assist in the work of existing community organizations, or to supply a need where no such leadership exists.

IT IS A cardinal principle of Rotary that a member should join not for what he can get out of it, but for what he can give, as expressed in the motto "Service Above Self." Civic, philanthropic and humanitarian activities form a part of the program of Rotary clubs the world over.

AMONG the milestones in the growth of Rotary from one man, Paul Harris, the founder, to 140,000 Rotarians, in the comparatively brief span of 24 years, are: First club organized Feb. 23, 1905, in Chicago. National Association formed in August, 1910, in Chicago by the first 10 clubs.

Rotary International became name by adoption of revised constitution June 6, 1922, at Los Angeles. Since the revision of the basic laws of Rotary in 1922 a branch Secretariat has been established at Zurich, Switzerland, to be of particular service to the Rotary clubs of Europe.

In the past decade Rotary has been extended into 40 nations, and in the past year the preliminary negotiations have been started for creation of clubs in Greece, Turkey, Egypt, Java, Manchuria, Jugoslavia, and other lands whose habits of thought and customs differ widely from America where the service club idea had its origin.

GROUPS of the leading business and professional men keenly interested in the idea of such a world fellowship have been brought together in Athens, Greece, Constantinople, Turkey, and Dairen, Manchuria, to discuss the principles and purposes of Rotary and its introduction into their community life.

This extension carries out one of the principal objects of Rotary, the organization of a world fellowship of business and professional men to advance the cause of international understanding and goodwill.

Nearly 300 new Rotary clubs have been granted charters since the last birthday anniversary of Rotary and more than 7,000 Rotarians have swelled the ranks of membership to over 140,000. "Rotarians are spreading now rather at the annual Rotary conventions, which have grown into the largest international gatherings in the world. The customs and methods of doing things in the 44 countries represented by these great cosmopolitan gatherings are not the same, but they hold in common the ideals they are striving to attain.

STATED briefly, these are service as the basis of all worthy enterprise; high ethical standards in business; the application of the ideal of service in personal, business and community life; development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service; recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations and advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional men.

MORE real progress toward the goal of international goodwill and universal peace has been made in the past decade than in all the 1,318 years preceding. I. B. Sutton of Tampico, Mexico, president of Rotary International, said in commenting on the 24th anniversary of the founding of Rotary. "It is part of the program of each of the more than three thousand Rotary clubs over the world to emphasize during this month the Object of Rotary, which is the advancement of international goodwill," said Mr. Sutton. "More than ever before this thought is shared by the peoples of the world today. "As an organization of business and professional men in 44 countries, Rotarians are striving to do their share in promoting this spirit of brotherhood. The evidences of this growing amity are multiplying.

Delay In Action on Factory Tract Arouses Chamber

Authorized Letter Charges Lack of Co-operation by Company in Effort to Locate Industries in Torrance

OWNERSHIP CALLED HANDICAP RATHER THAN HELP Directors Demand Definite Statement of Santa Fe Policy in Torrance and Cite Instances of "Half-Hearted" Help

Impatient at the delay of the Santa Fe in developing its industrial acreage in Torrance, directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce Monday night instructed Secretary Carl L. Hyde to direct the attention of Chicago officials of the company to the following: 1—That ownership of industrial acreage in Torrance by the Santa Fe has been a handicap rather than a help in inducing industries to locate here.

2—That the industrial department of the Santa Fe in Los Angeles has co-operated only "half-heartedly" with the industrial program of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce. 3—That there is a growing conviction in Torrance that the city might be wise, in view of the housing shortage, to zone some portions of the Santa Fe acreage for residential purposes.

The letter written by Mr. Hyde follows: "I have been instructed by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce to direct to you a communication concerning a matter of vital importance to Torrance and directly concerning your company. "The subject is the lack of development of your potential industrial tract in this city.

"In this connection the sense of the Board of Directors of this bureau as expressed at their meeting on Monday night, Feb. 18 is as follows: 1. The City of Torrance, though sorely in need of land for residential purposes is holding your large tract as potential industrial land and vacated streets thereon to suit your needs for industry, yet to date your ownership of this potential industrial acreage has been a handicap rather than a help in our efforts to locate industries in Torrance.

2. Co-operation by your industrial department in Los Angeles in the matter of locating industries here has been at best half-hearted. At times, in fact, your industrial department has actually injured rather than assisted this bureau in its negotiations with industrial executives seeking locations for factories in Southern California.

3. If your company cannot see its way clear to assist more enthusiastically in the location of industries on the Santa Fe tract in Torrance, the city would be wise in considering action to zone some of that acreage for residence purposes. "Enlarging upon the above paragraphs:

"1. Your company owns the greater portion of undeveloped industrial acreage in Torrance. Therefore when industrial prospects come to this bureau it is necessary for us first, to acquaint them with the general conditions in Torrance and then endeavor to interest them in sites on your tract. Because of lack of co-operation and apparent lack of a definite policy regarding this land on the part of your company, your ownership of this industrial acreage here has handicapped rather than helped us. "This is a deplorable situation when viewed in the light of our pressing need for residential land. There are practically no vacancies in dwelling houses and apartments in Torrance. At the same time only a small amount of land is available for residential purposes. Prospective new residents seeking homes here are forced to live elsewhere because of the scarcity of houses in Torrance. This situation naturally is disquieting to us, especially in view of the fact that General Petroleum construction and expansion of other plants in Torrance will make the housing shortage more rather than less acute. "Repeatedly this bureau has referred to your industrial depart-

ment in Los Angeles, industrial executives seeking factory sites in Torrance. "On one occasion a reputable executive we referred to your industrial department returned to Torrance bearing a card from one of your executives referring him to a real estate man in Inglewood. "Later several prospects, enthusiastic over Torrance conditions were discouraged by inability to secure definite commitments regarding land prices etc. cetera from your industrial department. "Recently a representative of a nationally-known manufacturing concern studied the situation in Torrance and was referred to your industrial department. He was quoted a price on a site in your tract. The price seemed high to him. When his attitude was reported to your agents, your industrial department inferred that the price quoted was only an "asking" price and could be materially lowered. When this was reported to the industrial executive he was naturally somewhat surprised that the Santa Fe would follow such a policy and he immediately refused to consider locating on Santa Fe land. This incident discouraged this bureau to no small degree, for the company was the Willard Battery Company, which a few weeks later located a large plant in Oakland.

"3. On every side the demand for more potential residential land in Torrance arises. It is only natural in view of this demand that lack of development of your industrial acreage as such gives rise to the desire on the part of many of our citizens and officials that this land be zoned for residence. "We wish you to understand that in Torrance there is no radical opposition to the Santa Fe nor its subsidiaries. This city's action in vacating streets to your purposes and our other co-operating acts should indicate our desire to work with you to our mutual advantage and to the fullest extent. This bureau, however, feels that this city's spirit of co-operation has not been reciprocated by your organization.

"As representative of the interests of Torrance we earnestly request: 1. A definite statement from authorized executives of your company as to your policies regarding development of your land in Torrance. "2. A definite schedule of land prices on land in the tract already improved by you with streets, tracks, utilities, etc. "3. Complete and full co-operation from your industrial department in Los Angeles and elsewhere in the matter of locating industries here and a definite report from your company as to negotiations with industrial prospects sent to you by this bureau.

"We trust that this letter will be regarded by Santa Fe as coming from Torrance and that it will be referred to your industrial depart-



WANDA STACHOWICZ

company, now conductor of the Los Angeles and San Francisco Grand Opera association went Wanda for audition.

It was he with ear attuned to promises of fame, who urged Wanda to study abroad. It was he who advised that she seek instruction with Dante Lari in Milan.

And so, burning with hope and ambition—sentiments shared by her parents—Miss Wanda left Torrance in July, 1924, for Italy.

For two and one-half years she studied with Signor Lari, day by day advancing, improving.

Studies Polish Always mindful of the sacrifice and faith of her parents, knowing that they read English with difficulty, Miss Wanda studied Polish—and her letters home through the long months have been in the words of the language her mother and father best understood.

Last December came the great opportunity. Miss Wanda was selected to make her debut in the great Puccini opus. That was in December. In the Post avenue home there was excitement. How many well-meaning friends had advised! How many had whispered that Mr. and Mrs. Stachowicz were wasting good money, sending their daughter to Italy to study "singing." Were they right, these well-meaning friends, after all? Mother and Father Stachowicz would soon know.

Just before Christmas came a cablegram. With trembling fingers it was opened. Pride, born of parental love, swept through the souls of father and mother. The message from Wanda:

"Made magnificent debut leading lady, Madame Butterfly." Later came great posters in Italian with the name of Wanda Stachowicz in the largest type.

Praise Uninterrupted Still later the Italian papers—testimony of the Italian press—testified with her earnings and assist-