

# C. of C. Members Increase Symphony Concert Fund

Success of Ona B. Talbot's Second Orchestral Season at Murat Assured When Citizens Respond With Cash for Tickets.

By WALTER D. HICKMAN

HEADING a petition sent to the members of the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce, which has gone on record as favoring yearly orchestral concerts in Indianapolis, many members of the chamber are not only buying season tickets, but are becoming guarantors by buying \$100 yearly memberships in the orchestral series.

The splendid response being received by General Secretary John B. Reynolds from a request to support the concerts, assures Ona B. Talbot a successful orchestral season.

The recognition and support given by the Chamber of Commerce and its members to next season's orchestral concerts again shows that the organization is taking advantage of an opportunity to aid in giving Indianapolis symphony music.

Ona B. Talbot is the recognized source of such concerts as she risked everything last year in giving Indianapolis a splendid orchestral series.

The same organization, The Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, with Fritz Reiner conducting, will give three concerts at the Murat this fall and winter under the direction of Mrs. Talbot.

Orchestral concerts cost thousands of dollars but that did not frighten Mrs. Talbot last year or this spring when she was making her fall plans.

When the Chamber of Commerce through its membership can lend its influence to promoting and maintaining good orchestral music, it is evidence that the new and greater Indianapolis has arrived.

Letter Sent to Members Brings Splendid Response

Mrs. Talbot has been informed that the letter sent to the members of the Chamber of Commerce has not only resulted in many season tickets being sold, but that new \$100 guarantors have been received.

The letter sent to members of the Chamber of Commerce is in part as follows:

"You undoubtedly know of the great artistic success of the past season of the Symphony Society of Indianapolis announced on its three concerts presented by the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Mr. Fritz Reiner, at the Murat Theater.

"The Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra has made a most enviable reputation for itself in musical circles. This splendid aggregation of well trained musicians will appear again in 1923-24 concerts and will be accompanied, as was the case in the past series, by soloists who are artists of international fame.

"A group of interested business men guaranteed the venture against loss last year, and the same individuals are interested in the forthcoming season. It is necessary, however, to broaden the scope of the support in order that the great benefits to the community of such an organization as this may be extended.

"The advisory board of finance, and the board of directors, and Ona B. Talbot, managing director, are making this appeal to the large number of Chamber of Commerce members, representing, as this membership does, the very best elements of the city of Indianapolis, for their help, encouragement and assistance, and urge each member of the Chamber of Commerce to make his reservation for the season tickets far enough in advance to insure the success of this enterprise.

"There are enough lovers of good music in our midst to warrant an increasing activity along musical lines, and if those who are interested will take advantage of the opportunity now offered to buy season tickets at the prices indicated, there will be no question as to the furthering of this phase of life which is so important to this community."

The thing that I like best about Mrs. Talbot's orchestral plans is that the price will fit pocket books of all sizes.

Main floor tickets for the three concerts are as follows: \$9.50; \$8.25; \$6.50 and \$5.00. The balcony prices for the three concerts are \$6.00; \$5.25; \$3.50 and \$2.50. These prices include war tax and admit the holder to the entire three orchestral concerts.

The board of directors of the Symphony Orchestra Society of Indianapolis include:

Frederic M. Ayres, Arthur V. Brown, Hilton U. Brown, Fred M. Dickson, J. I. Holcomb, Robert Lieber, James W. Lilly, Albert E. Metzger, Meredith Nicholson, G. A. Schull, Booth Tarkington, Dr. T. Victor Keene, and Harold Taylor.

The board of finance is made up of: Louis C. Huesmann, chairman; J. P. Goodrich, treasurer; Henry P. Campbell, Hugh McK. Landon, Albert M. Rosenthal and Charles B. Sommers.

## FIRST NATIONAL ANNOUNCES 29 NEW FALL PHOTOPLAYS

Every Variety of Screen Entertainment Included in Schedule.

First National's list of twenty-nine productions, which constitute the first part of its program for 1923-24, will include every variety of screen entertainment.

Three costume plays, each of unusual magnitude, are included in the twenty-nine. They are Norma Talbot's "Ashes of Vengeance," a story of 18th Century France, and "The Fighting Blade," a Richard Barthelmess picture of Cromwellian days in England. Both of these are romantic dramas, while the third period picture, "The Dangerous Maid," in which Constance Talmadge will star, is a romantic comedy of 17th century England.

In the field of drama First National will offer "Black Oxen," Gertrude Atherton's famous novel, "Ponjola," Cynthia Stockley's story of South Africa, which is being directed by Donald Crisp, "Anna Christie," Eugene O'Neill's play which Thomas H. Ince will produce, "Thundergate," a story of China and America; "The Eternal City," a George Fitzmaurice production to be presented by Samuel Goldwyn and the Thomas H. Ince production, "Her Reputation," "Country Lane and City Pavements," and "The Just and the Unjust."

Many Dramas Due on First National Schedule

The company's dramatic entertainment will be increased by "Flaming Youth," in which Colleen Moore will star; "Tribby," a romantic idea produced by Richard Walton Kelly from the world renowned DuMaurier novel; "Secrets," a forthcoming Norma Talbot picture; "Against the Grain," a Frank Borzage production, and "The Swamp Angel," a Richard Connell story.

First National's feature comedy entertainment ranges from Jackie Coogan's "Circus Days" to Samuel Goldwyn's "Potash and Perlmutter," a story of New York's "women's wear" industry. A third comedy drama will be "The Bad Man," a Carey production, which has as its central character the picturesque and amusing Mexican enacted by Holbrook Blinn.

"Why Men Leave Home," a John M. Stahl production, is a satirical comedy with a New York background "Dulcy" starring Constance Talmadge, is a humorous character study of a girl who is just a "delightful dumbbell," and "The Huntress," with Colleen Moore, is a comedy drama moving against the background of the High Sierras.

"THE WANTED," a John M. Stahl production, is a dramatic entertainment with a strong society flavor.

### What's World Coming To?

Rex Ingram's Metro production of "Scaramouche" is a story of the French Revolution, yet no guillotine figures in the action! "The Eagle's Feather," an all-star special which Edward Sloan is directing, is a story of the West, but there is no one single scene in which gun-play occurs!

"Rough Lips," starring Viola Dana, is a story of the stage, still there is no villain who offers the heroine success and who is beaten by the hero!

And Bull Montana is kissed for the first time in his screen career in "High Society," which Hunt Stromberg is directing!

## BROADWAY RUSHES OLD SEASON OUT OF WAY FOR NEW ONE

Dean Tells of Plans for Fall Season in New York City and on the Road.

By JAMES W. DEAN  
NEW YORK, July 28.—The showmanship of the various Broadway producers will be put to the test in these next few weeks. Much of the success of a production depends on when and where it is opened to the public.

Sometimes a good play fails because the circumstances of time and place are against it. Sometimes a poor play succeeds because the reverse condition meets its premiere.

A certain playwright told me the other day that he had refused to sell his play to one of America's foremost producers because it would not be produced this year and that he knew if it were held over to another year for production it would not be a success.

In this connection there is an interesting race on between those two good Irishmen, George M. Cohan and William A. Brady. Cohan is rehearsing a comedy called "So This Is Broadway." Brady is planning to open his season with "So This Is New York!" The one who first has his play ready for public audience will hold a decided advantage.

Cohan Opens New Show on Broadway

Cohan is opening "Two Fellows and a Girl" this week, while William Harris Jr. is trying to get an even break with "In Love With Love," a similar play.

Other plays that have been trying out "in the sticks" are moving closer to Gotham so that they may be ready to jump into a Broadway theater as soon as the weather permits the season to open.

While the jockeying for position by the various producers goes on, L. Lawrence Weber is playing "Little Jessie James," a musical comedy, in Long Island town not more than forty-five minutes from Broadway.

Elsa Petersen came to America from Denmark three years ago. She couldn't speak a word of English. She has just been promoted from the ensemble of the Folies to the role of prima donna. She succeeds Mary Lewis, who has graduated to grand opera. All of which goes to prove, girls, that every step on Broadway isn't a pitfall.

Helen Westley Takes Much Needed Vacation

Helen Westley has gone to Europe for a few weeks. She has been playing on Broadway without a break. She has played twenty-six roles in four years, nineteen of them in Theater Guild productions, and when she returns she will start rehearsals in "Windows," a John Galsworthy play which will open the Guild season in October. The second play on the Guild calendar will be "The Fallures," with Jacob Ben-Ami in the lead. It is a translation from H. R. Lenormand's "Les Rates."

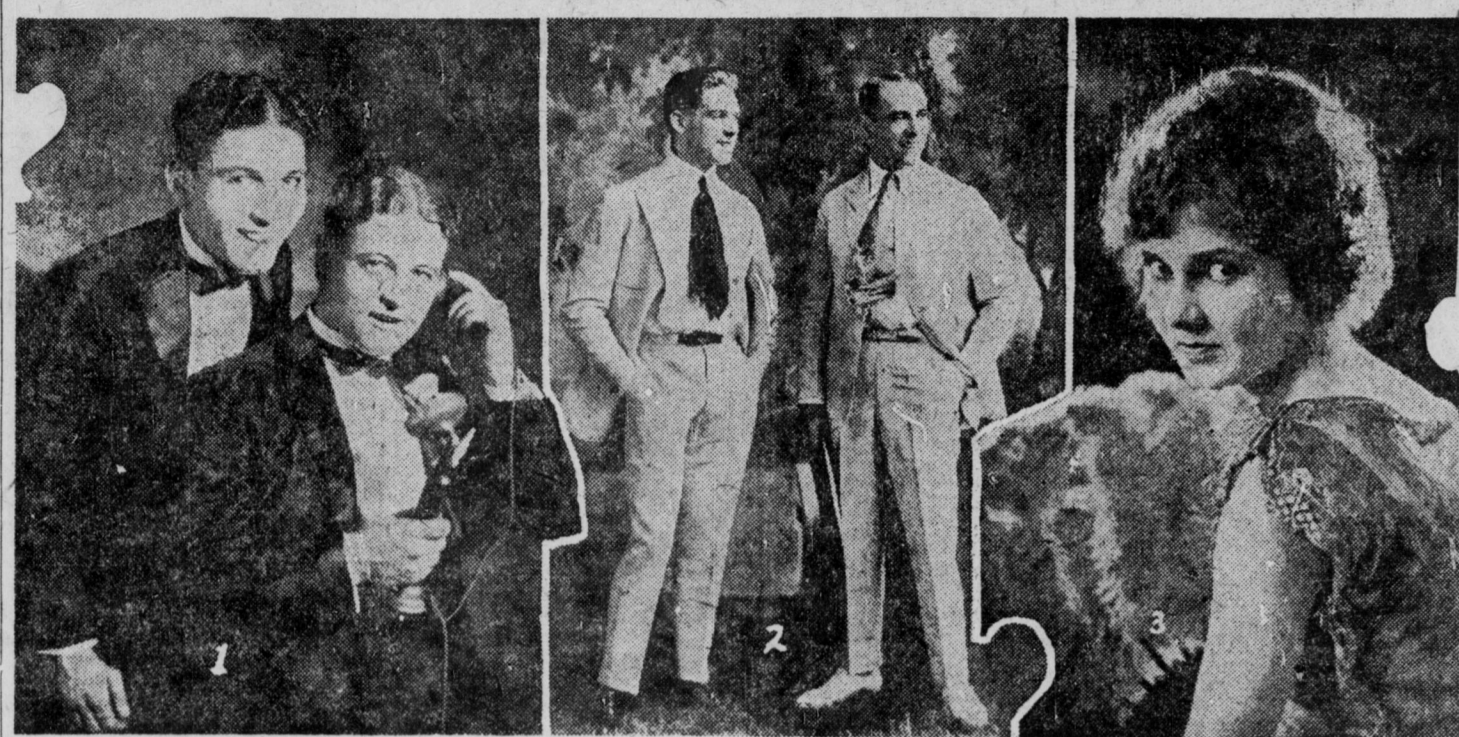
David Belasco has accepted a play by Mrs. Ethelwyn Brewer, De Poe, widow of the late Louis De Poe, dramatic critic of the New York World.

Fall Movie Program Announced

Vitaphone has announced that during the season 1923-24 it will release twenty-five special productions of the same high quality as its two current releases, "Masters of Men" and "Ninety and Nine." The first will be "The Man Next Door," by Emerson Hough, a Victor Schertzinger production; and following this will come "The Midnight Alarm," by J. W. Harkins, a David Smith production; "Pioneer Trails," by C. Graham Baker, a David Smith production; "On the Banks of the Wabash," a J. Stuart Blackton production; "Let No Man Put Asunder," by Basil King, a Harry Sherman production; "The Man From Brodway," by George Barr McClellan, a David Smith production; "The Lennox Case," by Anna Katharine Green, a Whitman Bennett production; and "Borrowed Hands," by Mildred K. Barbour, a Harry Sherman production.

The chool is also well equipped for the premiere of their first production.

## NEW OFFERINGS ON LOCAL STAGE NEXT WEEK



No. 1—Gene Austin and Roy Bergere at the Palace the last night of next week.

No. 2—Regal and Moore at the Lyric all next week.

No. 3—Lucile Nikolas in "Enter Madame," a Stuart Walker production, opening Monday night at the Murat.

## H. S. STUDENTS TO MAKE PICTURE

Los Angeles Students to Start Work on Photodrama Soon.

Its interest awakened by the recent International Congress on Motion Picture Arts to the tremendous educational and cultural possibilities of motion pictures, the Los Angeles High School Players association has decided to produce a photodrama early next term. It will be the first picture ever produced by an American High School, it is stated.

The Los Angeles High School will make a complete picture within the confines of the student body, with the exception of the printing of the film. Many technical and literary studies in the school will be combined in its production, studies in art, laboratory work, carpentry, literature, dramatics and motion picture photography contributing. The scenario will be written by one of the students and the actors, directors and technical men will also be drawn from their ranks.

Large Membership Makes Up Players Association.

The Players' Association at the school has a membership of 1,200 while there are 700 students in the general art classes making a total of 2,000 students directly interested in dramatics and motion picture production. The organization was formed in November, 1921 and during the past year 315 students have actually played parts in the twenty-eight plays produced while twenty-three have acted as directors. The students are well equipped to produce a photodrama. Motion picture film is developed in the laboratory and cameramen's classes and students are taught to take professional positions as cameramen on completion of the course.

Many Students Have Played in Minor

Many of the students have taken minor parts in pictures at studios in Hollywood during the summer vacation and others have held posts in technical departments of various studios. This experience is expected to be of valuable use when the production of a motion picture is undertaken next term. The students have also tried their hands at scenario writing. A contest was held recently in which Mrs. E. K. Adams of the scenario department of Paramount's West Coast studio was the judge. Cecil DeMille placed his entire scenario reading department at the disposal of the school for the purposes of the contest.

And yet on the other hand, the Grand Players have had their big-

## Few Serious Thoughts on Important Questions

What does the public want? That is not a new question, but it is as old as the mountains. It is a question which is answered by no fixed rule.

The public has the right to decide the question in as many ways as it desires and as often. I have maintained that Stuart Walker would strike his stride earlier in the season if he would give us heavier plays. This week "Peter Ibbetson" is breaking all attendance records for the season. There is nothing light about this play because it demands much of the actor. I realize that McKay Morris, Julia Hoyt, Elizabeth Patterson, Aldrich Bowker, George Sommes and Judith Lowry are in the cast.

It is in the heavier productions like "Monna Vanna," "The World and His Wife," "The Girl of the Golden West," "Peter Ibbetson" and other plays this type in which Walker and members of his company appear to the best advantage. I know that it is difficult to get actors like Morris, George Gaul, Miss Patterson, Bowker and the others, because they are in big demand. Miss Patterson leaves in a few days for New York to begin rehearsals in Booth Tarkington's new play, "Magnolia."

I believe that if such old-time favorites, such as Mrs. Lowry, Bowker, Sommes and Miss Patterson, were given heavy leads to play earlier in the season instead of so much light comedy, the result would be a complete attendance of Walker fans earlier in the season.

This fact remains—Walker has not had the attendance earlier in the present season which he has a right to expect, judging by former seasons. We do not remember Walker for his presentations of "It's a Boy," "Rancho" and the like, but we do remember him for his exquisite "My Lady's Dress," "The School for Scandal," "Peter Ibbetson" and the others.

It is some job to select plays which will uphold Walker's artistic standards, but I sincerely feel that Indianapolis looks to Walker to supply us with dramatic plays instead of so much comedy.

And yet on the other hand, the Grand Players have had their big-

There is an auditorium capable of seating 1,800 persons and the stage is as large and well equipped as that of a big commercial theater. Fiction and educational films are exhibited here once every two weeks, while scientific films have also been purchased by the school and are used for instruction in technical subjects.

## WALKER PRESENTS 'ENTER MADAME'

Indianapolis to See Varese Comedy for First Time.

One of the recent New York comedy successes will be the Stuart Walker Company presentation for the week beginning Monday night at the Murat Theater. "Enter Madame," a play by Gilda Varese and Dolly Byrne, and in which Miss Varese was starred some seasons ago, will be presented for the first time in Indianapolis by the Walker company.

The theme of the play is decidedly different from anything that has been done by the Walker company thus far this season. Though a familiar enough one, the characters are people who are seldom pictured on the screen or stage. The play has to do with a grand opera prima donna and her struggle to retain the love of her husband, but there is many a shrewd touch in the telling and many brilliant lines and amusing situations.

Mme. Lisa Della Robbia, the lady about to lose her husband, has brought him romance but no comfort. Her long tours of the country and her feeling of careless affection for him when she is at home causes him to become enamored of a blonde living in the same apartment house.

Upon the return of the singer a struggle ensues for the love of the husband, who contemplates divorce and marriage to the blonde. How the triangle is finally worked out and peace and happiness restored to all concerned forms one of the most unusual comedy narratives unfolded on any stage in many seasons.

"Enter Madame" will bring back to the Murat Springs Byington and Coates Gwynne in the leading roles of the play. The cast will include Kay Strozz, Beulah Bondy, Corbet Morris, L'Estrange Millman, William Everts, Teresa Dale, Lucile Nikolas and others.

Blackton to Honor Indiana

J. Stuart Blackton has announced "On the Banks of the Wabash" as his first Vitaphone special production since his return from Europe. The story is based on the famous song classic by Paul Dresser, and its locale is on the banks of the Wabash in Indiana.

## AMUSEMENTS



Where the Crowds Go

THE SATIRICAL VAUDEVILLE GEM

**"MARRIAGE VS. DIVORCE"**

FEATURING GEORGE AND MAY USHER  
WITH ANN ENGLE AND MARGUERITE FARRELL

**PRINCETON and VERNON**

"BROWN DERBY BILL"

**ELLIOTT-JOHNSON REVUE**

SNAPPY SONG AND DANCE SURPRISES

**HUGO LUTGENS**

"THE SWEDE BILLY SUNDAY"

**GIULIANI TRIO**

SOCIETY SOLOISTS

**PAUL KLEIST & CO.**

IN THE LAND OF DREAMS

HALL ROOM BOYS COMEDY, "MY MISTAKE"

*Dancing in the Lyric Ballroom*  
Afternoon and Evenings

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**STUART WALKER COMPANY**

Mats. Wed., Thurs. and Sat. Curtain at 2:30 and 8:30

**BEGINNING MONDAY NIGHT**

In Gilda Varese's London-New York-Chicago Comedy Success

**ENTER MADAME**

(First Time Here)

Mats., 500 Seats at 25c Downtown Box Office at Merchants Heat and Light Company. Evens., 500 Seats at 50c

Last Two Times Today **PETER IBBETSON**

With McKay Morris and Julia Hoyt

**Palace**

CONTINUOUS 1 to 11 P. M. VAUDEVILLE At 3, 6:30, 8:45

MONDAY, TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY ONLY

**Jim McCool & Tommy Reilly**

Assisted by Katherine Murray

In a Fun Classic **"Those Were The Days"**

Dan STANLEY 7 7 7 7 7 STANLEY, BIRNES 7 7 7 7 7 TRIPP and MOWATT "Watch the Finish"

"Two Bright Lights From Broadway"

Special Engagement **LADY TSEN MEI**

A CHINESE NIGHTINGALE

PHOTO FEATURE

THAT'S ABSOLUTELY DIFFERENT **"DOLLAR DEVILS"**

With Joseph Dowling, Eva Novak and Cullen Landis