

OPERA CLUB LEADERS PLAN BIRTHDAY FETE

**Dinner at Palmer House to Mark
First Anniversary of Associ-
ated Opera Clubs**

By Eleanor Fisher

The officers of the Associated Civic Opera Clubs of Metropolitan Chicago, will hold their first birthday dinner in the Red Lacquer room of the Palmer House Tuesday evening, May 20, at 6:30 o'clock. This is the first anniversary, since the movement was inaugurated at a banquet on that date last year, attended by more than seven hundred of the prominent men and women of the Chicago area.

As an evidence of the general trend of the public toward opera, it may be stated that the close of this first year finds more than 20,000 people, who have become actively interested in promoting the success of the Chicago company. A significant fact is that most of these members are recruited from men and women who are affiliated with other organizations such as Mrs. Charles Clark, president of the Presidents' club, who is program chairman of the program committee of the Southtown Civic Opera club, Judge Otto F. Reich, president of the Beverly Hills club, as well as other persons prominent in business life, who heretofore have been interested only in projects bearing no relation to opera. Up to the time of the inception of the Associated Civic Opera clubs they were not what one would call "opera conscious"; in other words, they were not actively interested in opera and all that pertains to it. An entirely different conception has been attained through the work of these organizations.

Reviews Year's Events

One cannot do better than to quote Dema E. Harshbarger, president of the Civic Concert service, who has probably done more than any other one person to promote civic interest in the Chicago Civic Opera company. Said she:

"While at no time in the past year has an actual campaign for season subscriptions been carried on through these clubs, yet it is estimated that over sixty per cent of the aggregate members have become opera subscribers through this civic movement.

"The average person does not consider opera an amusement, and at no time have the opera clubs made any attempt to change this opinion. The significant point is that through the programs furnished these metropolitan organizations, the viewpoint of the members has been changed; and it always follows that if you change a man's viewpoint, he automatically changes his opinion. For instance, how many of the public who attend the opera ever heard of Sidney Landon? No one; and yet, he is one of the most celebrated artists of his profession, which is 'makeup'; without this art opera could not function. He gives a summary of the characters, at the same time, illustrating with makeup, and this proved such an entertaining feature that all of the clubs have requested it be repeated the coming season.

Interesting Programs

"Also, J. J. Carrick of the opera personnel gave an unusual lecture on back-stage secrets and the mechanical equipment of opera. Mr. and Mrs. Marx Oberndorfer gave two interesting lectures on 'Opera and its Relation to History' and 'The Study of an Opera.'

"As a finale to the course we presented 'Behind the Footlights' the Movietone made by the opera artists and the conductors. Thus, the members of the Associated Civic Opera clubs who have heard these programs

are in a position to enjoy grand opera in its fullest sense, namely, with intelligent understanding."

The programs for the coming season have not been arranged but it is safe to say that they will be on the same high plane of interest as those of last year."

Wilmette and Winnetka have flourishing units of the Associated Civic Opera clubs.

Scout Executives Attend Camp Directors' School

Myron C. Rybolt, Scout executive and Carl F. McManus, assistant executive, returned this week-end from a Camp Directors school held at Jackson, Mich., last week by the National council of the Boy Scouts.

This school was for the camp directors of Region Seven comprising the states of Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin. One hundred and twenty-five men were in attendance, organized into Scout troops and living in tents and cabins under regular camping conditions. Mr. McManus served as Scoutmaster of one of the four troops. Mr. Rybolt handled the subject of "Camp Forms and Records" for the Thursday session.

The most up-to-date methods and technique of camping were brought to those in attendance by national Scout officials and other recognized authorities. These schools are held each year in order that camp leaders of Boy Scout camps may have the best training available.

BAHA'I LECTURE

"How to Live the Sermon on the Mount in the World Today" will be the subject of the talk by Albert R. Vail, in foundation hall of Baha'i temple Sunday at 3:30 o'clock, May 18, at Linden avenue and Sheridan road, Wilmette.

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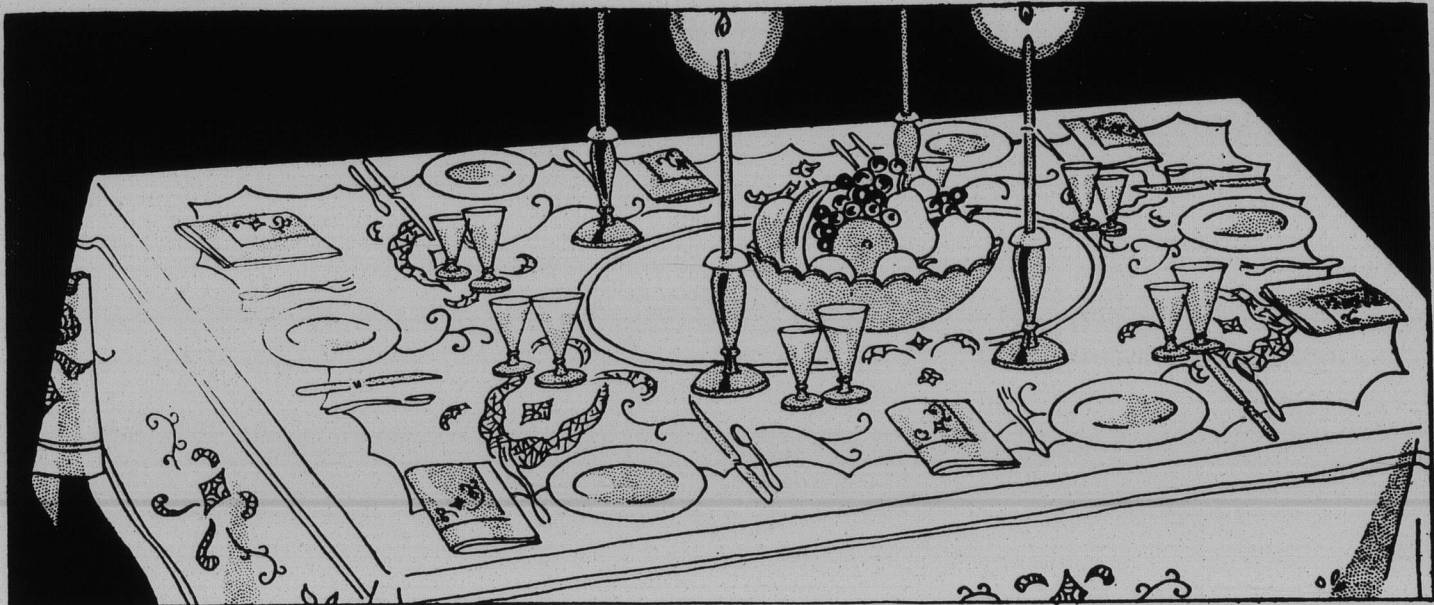
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