

VERDI OPERA IS WEEK'S FEATURE

**"Masked Ball" Comes to
Ravinia for First Time in
Many Seasons**

ALCOCK TO SING MON.

**Carnival to Feature Chil-
dren's Program Thursday**

Another high spot will be reached at Ravinia next week with the presentation of "Ballo in Maschera," the tuneful and dramatic Verdi opera which is widely known by its English title, "The Masked Ball." This work has never been heard at Ravinia before and it has not been heard in the middle west for so many years that it will be absolutely new to the majority of opera patrons. "Lakme," one of the favorites of the French repertoire and which is a standard at Ravinia, is to be given its initial production of the season during the week. The remainder of the week's bills have been chosen in such a manner that every night will be filled with interest because of the popularity of the opera presented and of the artists appearing in it. Miss Merle Alcock, a well liked member of the mezzo-soprano contingent last season, returns to Ravinia and will make her seasonal debut at the concert Monday night. Special attention is directed to the fact that the performances begin at 8:15 sharp.

Sunday night "Rigoletto" is to be given, this highly dramatic Verdi opus which is a splendid example of the colorful Italian school of an older generation, having Mario Basiola in the title role. Mr. Basiola has won many admirers this season by reason of his splendid singing and his ability to characterize his roles dramatically. Miss Florence Macbeth will be heard as Gilda, which gives opportunities for much excellent coloratura singing, and Mario Chamlee, a lyric tenor of superb vocal quality, will be cast as the Duke, a role replete in tuneful arias. Others in the cast are Virgilio Lazzari, Paolo Ananian, Ada Paggi, Anna Correnti, Giordano Paltrinieri. Gennaro Papi will conduct. At Sunday afternoon's concert by the Chicago Symphony orchestra, Jacques Gordon will be heard as soloist. The seats for these concerts are free.

Alcock Is Soloist

Monday night the Chicago Symphony orchestra, under the direction of Eric DeLaMarter, will give the weekly symphony concert. Miss Merle Alcock, mezzo soprano, and Alfred Wallenstein, cellist, will be the soloists. The reserved seats are free for these concerts.

Massenet's "Manon" with Lucrezia Bori in the title role and Tito Schipa as Chevalier Des Grieux is scheduled for Tuesday night. Leon Rothier will be heard as the elder DesGrieux. Mme. Bori and Mr. Schipa have created a furore whenever they have appeared in this tuneful romance of devotion and selfishness. The two leading roles give both of these principals the opportunity for singing and acting of the kind for which they are specially endowed and which makes broad appeal. Others in the cast are Desire Defrere, Louis D'Angelo, Giordano Paltrinieri, Margery Maxwell, Philine Falco, Merle Alcock, Paolo Ananian and Virgilia Grassi. Louis Hasselmann will conduct.

Again Mme. Raisa is to be heard in

the title role of "Madame Butterfly," this Puccini opus, which has been a prime favorite this season, being announced for Wednesday night. There are few roles in Mme. Raisa's repertoire which this soprano finds more congenial or which she interprets more subtly than that of the little Japanese heroine of this appealing work. Mario Chamlee, who has demonstrated himself one of the finest of the Pinkertons, will again sing that part and Mario Basiola will be heard as Sharpless. Others in the cast are Ina Bourskaya, Giordano Paltrinieri, Paolo Ananian, Louis D'Angelo, Philine Falco and Virgilio Coscia. Gennaro Papi will conduct.

Carnival for Children

An excellent program has been arranged for the children's concert and entertainment on Thursday afternoon, the Chicago Symphony orchestra being conducted by Eric DeLaMarter. Miss Bertha L. Iles has arranged and will direct the entertainment which is to be a folk festival and carnival, presented by the Children's Civic Theatre of Chicago. Children under twelve years of age are admitted free to these Thursday concerts and the reserved seats are free for everyone.

"Masked Ball" Saturday

Saturday night has been reserved for

the initial Ravinia presentation of "The Masked Ball," which holds place as one of the greatest of the Verdi operas and yet which is seldom heard in this country despite its immense vogue in the opera houses of Europe. This is a work in which the dramatic element has been developed in typical Veridian style.

CALL "LOST BATTALION" GREATEST OF WAR FILMS

"The Lost Battalion," now in its second week at the Monroe theatre in Chicago, is the best story of the war that has come before the public, critics declare. It tells the story of the world famous Lost Battalion, which was the 308th Infantry of the 77th Division, A. E. F. This unit, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Charles W. Whittlesey, advanced so rapidly during the "drive" that it found itself cut off from the balance of the command and surrounded by the German forces in a "pocket" in the Argonne forest which has since become famous in song and story. For six weary days and nights these brave heroes held off the enemy, suffering untold agony

without food or water, and of the 750 men who went in but a handful came out. It was during this engagement that Lieut.-Col. Whittlesey earned the sobriquet by which he is best known, that of "Go-to-hell" Whittlesey, because of his undaunted courage in replying to the German commander's message calling on him to surrender with these historic words: "Tell him to go to hell."

Shortly after returning to this country Maj.-Gen. Alexander conceived the idea of calling the surviving members of the Lost Battalion together and having them re-enact, for the benefit of posterity and to perpetuate their undying valor for future generations of Americans, the entire episode of advance, their imprisonment in the "pocket" and final success. This was done and the picture now on exhibition at the Monroe was the result. In the picture appear such well known heroes as Maj.-Gen. Alexander, Lieut. Col. Whittlesey, Major McMurtry, Captain Cullen, Corporal Cepaglio, Privates Krotoshinsky, Munson, Baldwin and scores of other Distinguished Service men re-enacting with vivid realism their trying experiences. The receipt of the famous "surrender" message and the historic reply is shown, the original message being used in this

scene. "Cher Ami," the carrier pigeon that won undying fame and a Distinguished Service Medal from the hands of General Pershing for its remarkable flight from the "pocket" carrying the message that brought relief to the "boys," losing an eye and one leg in the attempt, also appears in the picture re-enacting its flight. A story is woven around the war episodes in which such well known actors as Gaston Glass, Helen Ferguson, Tammany Young, Marion Coakley and Blanche Davenport appear.

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United States District Court, Chicago



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