

## LENSKA RECITAL WILL AID NURSERY PROJECT

**Winnetka Woman's Club Sponsors Program by Opera Star; Open Nursery School in 1927**

The Winnetka Woman's club announces that Madame Augusta Lenska, known during the past two years to Chicago Civic Opera patrons, will give a program at Jane Kuppenheimer hall, Skokie school, Monday evening, October 25. Madame Lenska writes from Switzerland, where she has been spending the summer, that she is working on some new and interesting songs which she hopes to put on her program.

The Winnetka Woman's club is sponsoring this concert as an initial step in raising funds sufficient to operate a nursery school to be opened in the autumn of 1927 in one of the Winnetka public school buildings. Permission has been granted by the Winnetka School board to conduct such an experiment, and Superintendent C. W. Washburne is eager to have a demonstration nursery school within the Winnetka public school system. Nursery schools are already an accepted part of public education in England. The first nursery school in the United States was opened in New York only eight years ago. Meantime pediatricians, educators, psychologists, and psychiatrists as well as many lay people are recognizing the value in such schools, and they are developing with almost too great rapidity all over the country. Columbia university has two nursery school units, the University of Minnesota has its own nursery school, and Iowa university has three pre-school units below kindergarten age under Bird T. Baldwin's guidance. The National Kindergarten college houses a delightful nursery school in their new building in Evanston. This is but to mention a few of the existent groups.

### Have Three Objectives

Nursery schools have in general three objectives: The nursery school recognizing the undoubted importance of the first years in every child's life is trying to provide suitable environment for young children, from two years of age to school age. This most important seed-sowing period in children's lives has never before been thoughtfully or scientifically planned from an educational standpoint. The nursery school considers the small child with all its needs, mental, physical, and spiritual, as its own problem. Children are examined physically, weights and heights are noted, and menus are scientifically planned. Play materials of various kinds are provided, some to foster social spirit and group play, some to develop the children esthetically and others to effect better co-ordinations. Simple experiences are given the children with the knowledge that increased appreciations mean increased capacity for living. Food idiosyncrasies disappear in the nursery school where all children lunch together. The child who won't eat this and doesn't like that finds his personal tastes and distastes of no consequence in a group where everybody eats everything. Dewey has often been quoted as saying: "Education is not preparation for life but it is life itself." Here in the nursery school children live, playing, eating, and sleeping under ideal conditions from 9 o'clock in the morning until 3:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

### School Needs \$5,000

The other two objectives of the nursery school will be discussed in a later issue. Meantime, the Winnetka Woman's club bespeaks the interest of the entire north shore community in making a success of Mme Lenska's con-

cert. The club is undertaking to raise \$5,000, which is the cost of equipping and operating a unit for one year. One thousand dollars of this sum has already been pledged, and it is hoped that several thousand more will be raised through this concert. Inasmuch as the nursery school is to be a public school, and will be in time a real addition to public education, it should be of interest to every citizen of the north shore, it is thought. It is hoped that everyone who can, will wish to buy tickets and attend the concert.

### OCCUPY NEW HOME

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Chatwin, of Chicago, moved into their recently completed home at 972 Spruce street this week. Mr. Chatwin, a contractor and builder, has been elected one of the directors of the Hubbard Woods Trust and Savings bank.

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