OPERA LOVERS AWAIT RAVINIA SECOND WEEK

Brilliant Holiday Program to Follow Greatest Opening Week in Summer Opera

By Critic

It has long been predicted that the present season of Ravinia opera and concerts would be the greatest in the history of this unusual institution. This prediction was made on the strength of the fact that Ravinia, season by season, has grown by leaps and bounds, both along artistic lines, and in appreciation of the public as well. Now that the new season is at last a reality and there have been several days in which to take note of its actual achievements, there is reason to know that there will be no disappointment, and that the most optimistic prophecies made regarding it will be realized to the fullest extent.

Louis Eckstein has paraded the majority of the world-famous artists engaged for this year, and he has given a liberal sample of what the repertoire will be like. It must not be forgotten that there are still several interesting novelties and unusual works in store, for to date he has found it necessary only to draw upon the standard works for his earlier performances. Never has enthusiasm run higher, and never have the crowds which have thronged to "The Opera House in the Woods" been greater. In Ravinia the north shore possesses an asset which is so valuable that it is impossible to measure its worth in mere words. Through it the eyes of the entire music world are fixed upon this particular part of the Chicago district, and it gives this community a prestige it could not otherwise enjoy.

Repeat "Andrea Chenier"

As the first week of Ravinia opera comes to a close thousands of persons are avidly looking forward to what the second week of the season is to bring. In scheduling his repertoire for this period Mr. Eckstein has taken many things into consideration, and it goes without saying that his plans will meet with the entire approval of all Ravinia patrons. It is good to know that there is to be another opportunity of hearing "Andrea Chenier" and "Romeo and Juliet," as the demand for tickets was so great when these operas were given on the first and second nights of the season that there were hundreds unable to gain admission, but who will welcome the opportunity of hearing these works during the coming week.

The second calendar week of Ravinia opera and concerts will begin Sunday afternoon, July 3, with the regular Sunday concert by the Chicago Symphony orchestra, under the direction of Eric DeLamarter. Jacques Gordon will be the soloist, and an attractive program has been prepared.

Sunday night will bring the season's first presentation of "Carmen," which is not only one of the greatest operas of the French school, but which enjoys universal acclaim. It is upon this work that the fame of the French composer, Bizet, rests, and had he written nothing else he would be well entitled to his place in the hall of immortals. Madame Ina Bourskaya will be heard in the title role, this being a part which is eminently suited to her colorful personality, and which she endows with that splendid genius for acting which marks everything she does. Edward Johnson will appear as Don Jose, a heroic tenor role which makes unusual demands upon the histrionic ability of any artist. Mr. Johnson finds this role particularly suited to him, as he not only sings it with complete command of all its vo-

cal possibilities, but likewise makes it one of the most appealing parts in Monday night, July 4, taking the place well fitted for the splendid music Wilfrid Pelletier will conduct. which Bizet has provided for this part, and which includes the Toreador Song. That popular light opera, "Martha," Florence Macbeth is cast as Micaela, will be the special holiday offering on

an outstanding piece of acting. Mario opera. Others in the cast are Miss of the orchestra concert usually sche-Basiola will be heard as Escamillo, and Maxwell, Miss Swarthout, Mr. D'An- duled for Monday nights. It goes his rich baritone voice is eminently gelo, Mr. Ananian and Mr. Paltrinieri. without saying that "Martha" is a

"Martha" Holiday Event

work having universal appeal for all opera lovers, for it is replete in melody, it tells a charming romantic (Continued on Page 38)

What have you planned for the 3-day holiday over the Fourth of July? Here is one of those holiday-opportunities that come all too seldom. Make the most of it. Go somewhere. The highways, of course, will be jammed. So leave your car at home — travel in comfort — use the North Shore Line. If you are going to Lake Geneva, Antioch, Round Lake or the Fox Lake District of Illinois, remember that North Shore Line Motor Coaches, connecting with North Shore Line trains, offer a most convenient and pleasant mode of travel.

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Extra Service

Extra rail and motor coach service will be supplied on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, to meet the needs of those traveling over the 4th of July week-end. Baggage checked through to destination. For schedules, fares and other information, inquire at ticket office, or at Traffic Dept., 79 W. Monroe St., Chicago, phone Central 8280.

