

## Mary Garden Enthusiastic for The Modern Opera in Chicago

CHICAGO, Jan. 22.—(By Associated Press)—The first woman to have complete business and artistic charge of one of the big American grand opera companies, in short, to be the dictator of the enterprise, Mary Garden outlined today what she thought opera should mean throughout the United States. Miss Garden, known in Chicago and in numerous other American cities as "Our Mary," was appointed to the joint role of a star, artistic director and business manager of the Chicago Opera association early this month.

Mary Garden's ambition is to make opera and herself as well loved by the people of the whole United States as she is by the people of Chicago.

Enthusiasm, fervor, hard work, constant supervision, strict economy and modern opera rather than the old, are only a few things that Miss Garden promises to show the people of America that she has in her and is capable of producing.

"Music, real music," said Miss Garden, "is being borne on the high tide of popularity, through the marvelous phonograph and radio into the homes of almost every family in this country. I hope to take advantage of this and by hard work, bring opera up to the place that it deserved in the hearts of the people. I wouldn't be wonderful if by doing this I will have made them love opera and me as well as the people of Chicago have convinced me that they love me."

**Insists on Perfection**

Constant supervision, insistence on having her every performance as perfect as it was possible to get it, through both the supporting company and the equipment, is assigned by Miss Garden as probably the chief reason that the board of directors of the Chicago Opera company have seen fit to place her in the position that she held for years by Cleofonte Campanini.

"The public makes opera possible and I think that the public deserves the very best that can be assembled," added Miss Garden. "Some artists have said that 'Garden gets everything she wants. No wonder she is a success. I have fought—argued, criticised and insisted on my performance receiving the best treatment possible because I knew the public wanted this as well as I. I believed I was right and I fought for my own ideas. As a rule, I realized them.'"

Miss Garden is strongly of the opinion that the people of today want modern opera and as she was instrumental in introducing the modern grand opera, she said that naturally she intends to carry out her ideas with the Chicago Opera company along these lines.

"I shall produce half French and half Italian opera," she said. "But at least one American opera during a season should be produced and I shall try for this. I do not believe in translations. They have proved a failure. 'You will remember that I made my premiere in Paris in the title role of 'Louise.' This was really one of the first of the modern operas to be produced. It was some few years later that I introduced Mr. Hammerstein in the production of the modern operas in New York. History tells you the result. We had several very shaky seasons and then it unfortunately failed, but the public was good and the critics were forced to the fact that the public wanted modern opera and

we have brought it on to Chicago. The people of today want the music of today and the presentation of the old should never be attempted unless you have someone whom you know is capable of singing the part. This, too, may have some effect on the board of directors in selecting me as the head of the opera."

**Knows It Means Work**

Miss Garden apparently realized the task she has undertaken for, she says: "Work. I know it means work and I am a woman, but it has simply warmed my heart to find that I have the solid support of everyone. It seems that everyone is wishing me success. I realize the position is not easy, yet small obstacles have apparently confronted others. I believe have been overcome merely by my appointment. It is silly to think that these operatic artists can not be handled owing to their speaking several different languages. They are simply children and when one knows them and treats them humanly and not as the dirt under one's feet, any trouble along the line complained of will instantly disappear. They are loyal to the very core and this phase of the position gives me no worry whatever."

That Miss Garden is a business woman with far more than the usual business acumen credited to a star in the artistic horizon, was shown by her announcement that economy must be practiced. "We must be economical," she said, "and I know that it is possible to do so for the good of all and this includes the public. For every dollar spent we must find a dollar returned in service or equipment."

"I do not at this time know how much the operatic artists of the Chicago company are being paid. Neither do I know how much properties cost. But I do know what they should cost. I have ideas of the relative pay that I think the artists should receive. I will give you an example: If Mme. Galli-Curci sings in an opera here, the house will be packed until every seat is filled, will it not? They have come to hear Mme. Galli-Curci. She is the drawing card and should be paid accordingly. Her support should be paid in proportion. Suppose you produced the same opera with the same cast, with the exception of Mme. Galli-Curci? Would it prove the same drawing card? Of course not."

**Election Was Sudden**

"This is only fairness to all and I shall work along this line."

"You know the appointment came to me in the most sudden manner. I was sitting at my piano, practicing when Harold F. McCormick entered and asked me to step downstairs as the board of directors wanted to see me. I asked what it was about and he answered: 'About the opera.' I went and question after question was fired at me. I answered them all and told my opinions. I was never selfish in keeping my ideas to myself when I saw that by giving them to others the art could be benefited. I then came back to my room and at that time I had no idea of what was to follow. Shortly afterward Mr. McCormick came in and in a most moderate tone said: 'The board of directors has unanimously elected you to fill Campanini's place. Do you accept?' I never hesitated. My answer was 'Yes,' and my ambition is to place opera foremost in the minds of America."

man, wage earners, and farmers should present to themselves for consideration the following questions:

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Has your wife any income from any source whatsoever? If so, it must be included in your return or reported in a separate return or income.

Did you receive any directors' fees or trustees' fees in the course of the year?

Do you hold any office in a benefit society from which you receive income?

Answers to all of these questions are necessary to determine whether a taxpayer has a net income sufficiently large to require that he file a return. If single, or if married and not living with wife, and his income for 1920 was \$1,000 or more he must make a return regardless of whether his income is nontaxable by reason of his exemptions for dependents, or as the head of a family. If married and living with wife, and his income was less than \$2,000, he need not make a return.



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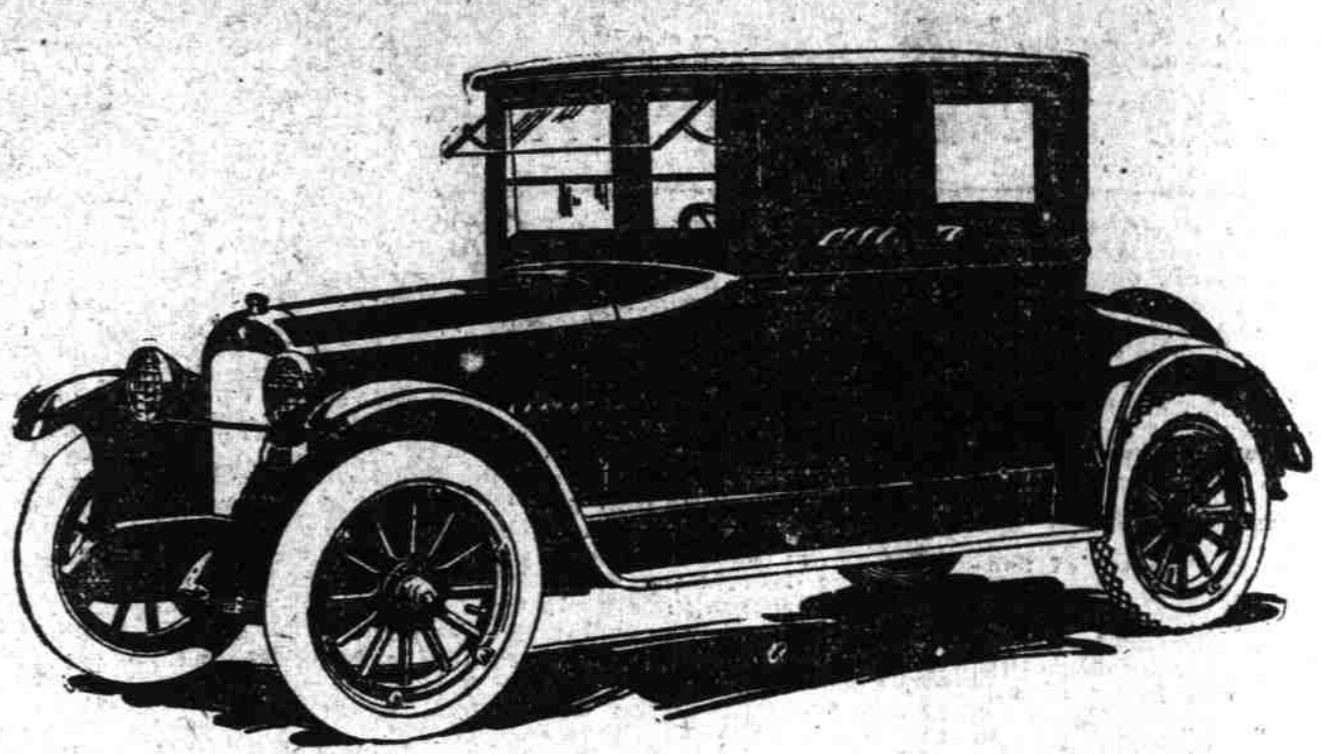
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From the Christian Observer

## Confronting Civilization's Crisis—

A New Year Appeal by Laymen for Prayer.

These are troubled times. Every thoughtful person faces the New Year with deep concern. The world outlook is deemed gravest by those who best know international conditions. Our own favored America fronts many-sided problems that will tax our every resource. We are surely in the midst of days of destiny.

In the realm of individual life the times are acting our soul-stuff. Business men are carrying burdens that fairly break hearts. Many working men and their families are already experiencing the bitter pinch of real want. The weight of the world's woes is pressing heavily upon us all. Human spirits everywhere are hungry for comfort and guidance.

What shall we do about it all? For do something we must; the hour is too critical for drifting.

The laymen who sign and issue this paper so do because of a deep conviction that only by spiritual forces may our civilization be saved from the unprecedented perils that beset it. The only way out is the way up.

Holding no ecclesiastical positions, and representing, quite unofficially, various branches of the Christian Church, we take this unusual step of appealing directly, through the public press, to men and women of all faiths, who believe in an Omnipotent God and in the power of prayer, to join us in a common and concerted and continuous exercise of intercession, to the end that humanity everywhere, torn as it is by dissension, and suffering many kinds of ill effects of the world-war, may turn to the patient Father in Heaven for new motives and guidance and succor.

Our world will never get right with itself until it gets right with God. Only spiritual remedies can cure the present ills of mankind.

Therefore we call upon all who believe that the living God hears and answers prayer to offer daily petitions in behalf of our troubled world—with all its international strife and jealousies and self-seeking; with its industrial unrest, its social unrest, and its political unrest—that the Lord Almighty may suffuse the hearts of all people everywhere with a consuming desire to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. Then all other things needful may be added unto us, as promised by our Lord Jesus Christ.

We crave for ourselves and for our time a revival of the sense of the reality of God and of our dependence upon Him, and of a spirit of loyalty to Him.

Because of the extraordinary part he must take in the affairs of our nation and of the world at this most difficult time, we also ask that daily prayer be made for the President-elect of the United States, that he may be illumined and sustained for his trying tasks by the very power of

the Highest. As says the Apostle: "I exhort, therefore, first of all, that supplications, prayers, intercessions, thanksgivings, be made for all men; for kings and all that are in high place; that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and gravity."

Nor can we forget our stricken President, for whom we would also tenderly pray.

By way of the throne of a prayer-answering God, even the least of us man wield a power for patriotism and for universal good will beyond all human calculation.

"Pray for my soul. More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of. Wherefore, let thy voice rise like a fountain for me night and day. For what are men better than sheep or goats that nourish a blind life within the brain. If, knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer both for themselves and those who call them friends?"

For so the whole round earth is every way bound by gold chains about the feet of God."

So we entreat all spiritually-minded persons, in whatever ways and at whatever times individual judgment may suggest, to engage, privately or publicly, in daily prayer that the very gravity of present world conditions may drive us all to the Eternal God who is our refuge, and who is the only Light in our darkness. In Him we shall find peace and good will, and power for the task of making the world.

"All things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer believing, ye shall receive."

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