

Invasion of Main
Street To Find
'Peoples Voice'

BY GENE COHN
NEA Service Writer

NEW YORK, April 3.—At 65, Madame Ernestine Schumann-Heink is planning the most "glorious adventure" in a life that has been a continuous round of vivid experience.

The most beloved of the great singers is going out into the highways and byways of America in search of "the voice of the people."

She is going into the mill towns and the cities, where pavements and where traffic jams the sidewalks; she is going to hear the voices of factory drudges at their looms, the voices of stenographers as they hum tunes over their typewriters, the voices of debutantes and seamstresses, of shop girls and telephone operators.

Opera for Main St.
To Main street she is going to take the great songs and the great operas, but she is going to make Main street sing them. There will be no famous names; just home-folk turned songbirds.

Mme. Schumann-Heink envisions a new interest in the classics and a disappearance of the self-consciousness which inhibits potential artists in humble walks of life.

These in brief, are the outstanding features of an interview Mme. Schumann-Heink granted me exclusively for the News-Review. The famous diva is just completing her farewell tour of the song circuits, after which she will return to Europe for a year of research and study at the leading festivals.

Can Still Learn
"For I need to refresh my mind," she says, "Thank heaven I can still learn and in that attitude I shall approach this new work, giving to the girls of America the interpretation as well as the voice production so needed in our opera where one delineates the temperaments of many nations."

Mme. Schumann-Heink conceived her "glorious adventure" while on tour several seasons ago.

"A girl from a small inland city came backstage one afternoon and asked for an audition," she related. "To my amazement I found her voice one of the greatest I have ever heard in my long career. She was then only 16 years old. I sent her back to her mother to help with the household work until my farewell tour is completed. Then I shall help train her to be a great singer."

Just Find Them
Mme. Schumann-Heink feels that there are scores of great voices hidden in the hinterlands and that only an organized effort is necessary to bring them out. She feels, also, that even where the voices are not great, the general cultural and esthetic effect of operatic knowledge would be of great value.

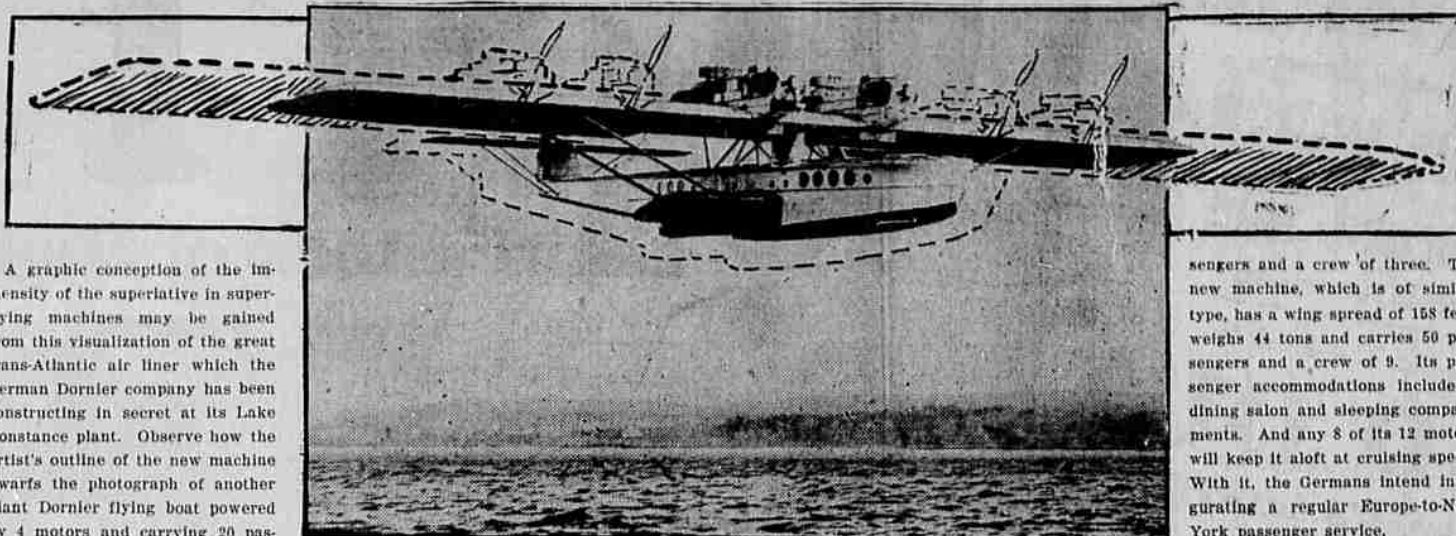
"I am ready and anxious to help discover this talent," she said. "But, of course, it will be out of the question for me to hear every one or train any percentage of those who might seek training."

She Offers Herself for Sale—\$15,000



Alice Parnahy of Pittsburgh, shown here with her 4-year-old son, is willing to marry a man for \$15,000, the money to be used in paying off a mortgage on her mother's home and to assure her son an education.

GERMANY'S LATEST IN OCEAN AIR LINERS



A graphic conception of the immensity of the superlative in super-flying machines may be gained from this visualization of the great trans-Atlantic air liner which the German Dornier company has been constructing in secret at its Lake Constance plant. Observe how the artist's outline of the new machine dwarfs the photograph of another giant Dornier flying boat powered by 4 motors and carrying 20 passengers.

Neither time nor economic circumstances permit.

"How then, is it to be done?" I asked.

"Civic clubs could sponsor a local opera company. Clubs and lodges should offer their auditoriums for rehearsals and the populace should attend. The costumes could be rented," she explained.

"Chorus masters from the church or school could take charge of the work and selections could be made from among any who show signs of talent."

"There is plenty of talent in every city where there is a Main street. I believe everyone has a voice, but few of them are developed. The big trouble with American students is that they do not realize it takes at least three years of serious study before they can sing."

Her Final Gift
"It is my desire to lend a helping hand to young girls who have voices, but who are without the money to advance themselves. They will be my final gift to America."

"With community operas in every city, young people would be kept away from crime, dissipation and foolish amusement. The right music is inspirational. Jazz will die like all unhealthy things and Americans will find themselves."

"Why cannot our cities with more talent and wealth, equal it not surpass the achievements of tiny European villages?"

20-FOOT HIGHWAY WIDTH
SET AS STATE STANDARD

SALEM, Ore., April 3.—Twenty feet is to be the standard width of highway pavement in Oregon hereafter, according to R. A. Klein, state highway engineer. It will be laid in 10 foot units or strips. Heretofore the standard width has been 16 feet. The width has been added to at some points in the state. At present no paving is in progress.

City of 23,000 Prefers to Remain
United States' Biggest Democracy

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

FRAMINGHAM, Mass., April 3. The town of Framingham is going to remain the largest pure democracy in the United States for at least another year.

Once more this community of 23,000 souls, assembled in town meeting, has rejected a proposal that it petition the state legislature for a city charter.

The body of voters who assemble in Memorial Hall to decide Framingham's policies is larger than any state legislature, larger than congress, larger than any parliament of any nation, great or small, in the world. The town meeting, the old-fashioned New England form of government, is not only "of the people, for the people and by the people"—it is the people.

For six nights this year 1,500 to 2,000 voters assembled to listen to plans for conducting the government for another year, to make suggestions themselves, to debate and finally to register their approval or disapproval by vote.

Three selectmen, one chosen each year for a three-year term, are delegated by the voters to carry out their wishes. A slate of lesser officials and a finance board also is chosen yearly.

Some citizens argue that the old democracy is antiquated, that it is too cumbersome for so large a town. They feel that there is not the coordination and cooperation

WHAT'S THAT?

FIRST FARMER: I've got a freak on my farm—a two-legged calf.

SECOND DITTO—I know. He called on my daughter last night.

—Answers.

NOT SO NICE

HOUSEMAID: My mistress sends her compliments and she says she would like to pay her bill.

STOREKEEPER: That's very nice of her.

HOUSEMAID: But she cannot.

—Passing Show.

there should be between the various town departments.

While there is ample provision for all voters to register their votes at the polls, the 7,500 voters of the town cannot all crowd into the biggest hall in town at one time. Before town meeting it was felt that sentiment was "pretty strong" for the proposal to

He Built the St. Francis Dam



This picture shows Stanley Dunham, the man who built the St. Francis dam near Los Angeles, which cost nearly 300 lives and wrecked millions of dollars of property destruction when it crumbled and flooded the San Francisco and Santa Paula districts. The picture was taken at the scene of the disaster.

FIFTY IS THE DANGEROUS AGE

Medical Science Lengthens Life Expectancy of Youth, But Has Gained Almost Nothing for Those at Half-Century Mark.

(By NEA Service)

NEW YORK, April 2.—If you're 50, you're a problem.

Grave men of science are getting gray and wrinkled as they ponder on the man of 50 and wonder what in the world is to be done about him.

For the man of 50 spoils all the nice graphs and statistics over which the men of science get together now and then to prove that man's three score and ten years have been lengthened.

Dr. Eugene Lyman Fisk, medical director of the Life Extension Institutes, says it with figures. "Thirty-seven years have been added to the average lifetime in the past 400 years; 13 of these years have been gained in the past 30 years; 7 of them since 1910.

Little Aid to Oldsters

"But in the past 100 years nothing has been added to the life expectancy of men of 52 and beyond. To be exact, science has given the man of 50 just about one month more of life since 1789.

"Since that time nearly 5 years

have been added to the average lifetime at the age of 35, the present expectancy at the age being about 33 years. One and a quarter of those years have been added since 1910.

"But nothing has been done for the man of 50, though there is every reason to believe that research can prolong average expectancy to 80.

"The expectancy of life at birth was 21 years in the 16th century; 26 years in the 17th; 34 in the 18th; 35 years in 1789; 43 in 1890; 45 in 1897; 49 in the United States in 1900; 51 in 1910, and 58 in 1924. We have lengthened it at the rate of about 14 years a century, but these figures hardly affect the average human being after he is 45.

Infant Mortality Down

Science has practically done away with infant mortality, but has done little for the older man and woman."

"For the last 25 years," says Dr. Guy L. Klefer, state health commissioner of Michigan, "the greatest gains have been made in

petition for a city charter.

Then, on the last night, a prominent citizen arose and stoutly defended the ancient democratic system and warned against choosing another. And his fellow citizens voted down the proposal for a change of government by an overwhelming majority.

AND HOW

"Oh, Philip, what can equal the warmth of a true woman's love?" "The heat of her temper, my dear."—Answers.

RADIO
PROGRAMS

Portland Stations

KGW, 491.5—6:30 p. m., dinner music; 6:30-7, popular music; 7:30, concert trio and staff vocalists; 7:30-8, program from KFOA, Seattle; 8:30-9, "Ever-ready Hour," 8:30-9, "Don Amalzo program"; 9-10, orchestra, with Dorothy Lewis and Stephen Gaylord, soloists; 10-11, dance program from the Pacific coast network.

KOIN, 310—9:15-6, topsy-turvy time; 6-7, dinner concert; 7-7:15, amusement guide; 7:15-8, orchestra music; 8-8:15, studio program; 8:15-8:30, talk; 8:30-8:40, talk; 8:40-8:55, garden talk; 8:55-9:25, Halowatt question hour; 9:25-10, male quartet.

KEX, 277.9—6:30, utility; 6:30-7, children's program; 7-8, dance music; 8-8:30, studio feature; 8:30-9, musical frolic; 9-10, studio program; 10-12, dance music.

Other Coast Stations

KOAC, Corvallis, Ore., 270—7-7:20 p. m., campus reporter and music; 7:20-7:30, lessons in marketing; 7:30-8, farm utility program; 8-8:15, gems of literature.

KMO, Tacoma, Wash., 254.1—8-9 p. m., courtesy concert; 9-11, studio concert; 11-11:30, courtesy program; 11:30-12:30, theatrical frolic.

KHQ, Spokane, Wash., 370.3—5-6 p. m., service period; 6-6:15, concert orchestra; 6:15-6:30, travelogue; 6:30-7, network concert; 7-8, old-time music; 8-8:30, Everready hour; 8:30-9, Don Amalzo program; 9-10, Pacific coast network music; 10-12, Davonport hotel dance orchestra, with intermission solos.

KFOA, Seattle, Wash., 447.5—6:30 p. m., sightseeing program; 6:30-7, network program; 7-8, specialty music; 8-9:30, Ever-ready hour; 8:30-9, Don Amalzo program; 9-10, Maxwell coffee concert, from KGW; 10-11, dance music.

KOMO, Seattle, Wash., 309—6-7:30 p. m., Totem concert orchestra and male quartet; 7:30-8, concert orchestra and instrumental and vocal solos; 8-8:30, Ever-ready hour; 8:30-9, Don Amalzo program; 9-10, musical program

Split Season Will Speed
Play, Says P. C. L. Head

By HARRY A. WILLIAMS

(President Pacific Coast Baseball League)

The Pacific Coast League, starting its championship race Tuesday, is offering an innovation with what is technically known as a "split season" with a bonus of \$20,000.

While the split season is a novelty to the fans of this league, it has been used in some of the smaller minors, and was adopted in this league in its early days. However, it is the first time it has been adopted by a league of the present class of the Coast circuit, and the first time I can recall in which a "split season" has been embellished with such a sizable pot of gold at the far end of the baseball rainbow.

League directors were not all in favor of the "split season," but when a majority finally adopted it they unanimously voted \$20,000 out of the league treasury with which to compensate the successful club or clubs.

Papa Up Interest

Proponents of the divided season advanced the argument that the Pacific Coast League plays the longest season in organized baseball, and that in such a span of play the clubs are liable to become widely separated, with loss of sustained interest. Also that a club which through injuries or other misadventures of the diamond, starts the season with a losing month or six weeks is very likely to remain in last place, with consequent loss of prestige.

The split season is really two in one. There is as much at stake for the players in the first half as the second half, for if a club wins both halves it receives the bulk of the \$20,000. Three thousand dollars in that event would go to the second club and \$2,000 to the club finishing third, their standing to be determined on their percentage for the two halves. In the event different clubs win the first and second halves they will engage in a seven-game playoff for the \$15,000, this to be divided 60 per cent to the

through the Pacific coast network; 10-11, dance music; 11-12:30, Herb Wiedoeft's dance orchestra.

KGO, Oakland, Calif., 384.4—6:30 p. m., news, weather, stock and market reports; 6:30-7, network concert; 7-7:30, dinner concert; 8-8:30, Everready hour; 8:30-9, Don Amalzo program; 9-10, the Pilgrims.

KFI, Los Angeles, Calif., 468.5—6:30 p. m., dinner concert; 7-7:30, detective stories; 7:30-8, popular songs; 8, Everready hour; 8:30-9, Don Amalzo program; 9-10, Kofater hour; 10-11, KFI symphonette.

KFRC, San Francisco, Calif., 454.3—8-7 p. m., features and utility; 7-7:30, Charles Hamp; 8-9, studio concert; 9-10, courtesy entertainment; 10-11, dance orchestra; 11-12, Roof Garden orchestra.

KNX, Hollywood, Calif., 337—6 p. m., Hotel Biltmore orchestra; 6:30, courtesy concert; 7, studio music; 7:30, feature program; 8, feature program; 9, Coconut Grove dance orchestra; 11-12, Biltmore hotel orchestra.

KFON, Long Beach, Calif., 241.8—6-6:15 p. m., harmony act; 6:15, concert orchestra; 7-8, jazz orchestra; 8, band concert; 9, studio concert; 10-11, Majestic ballroom dance orchestra; 11-12, organ recital; 12-1, dance frolic.

winner and 40 per cent to the loser. In that case the team finishing third will receive \$3,000, and the fourth place team \$2,000. It becomes readily apparent that any club has every reason to do its utmost to win both first and second halves, for this double achievement will win for it the bulk of the prize money.

Faster Prospects
Apparently the "split season" has created considerable additional interest, and the indications are that it will result in a close and aggressive race.

The league as a whole is much faster than last season, a record number of experienced players having been purchased and an unusual number of young athletes having forged suddenly to the front. During my recent swing around the Coast League training camps I found interest in the game greater than at any time since immediately following the close of the war. This interest was particularly noticeable among the boys and young men, a wholesome reaction, and which indicates to me that the lounge lizard and dance-hall sheik type are slipping into the discard.

TOO MUCH STATIC

"Why doesn't your wife sing to the baby when it cries?"

"She used to, but the neighbors said they would prefer to hear the baby cry."—Answers.

Missing



NEA Omaha Bureau
Search is being made for Gwendolyn Phares, 5, kidnapped the other day in Leigh, Neb., while on her way to school. A man led her away from a number of other children, dragged her into a motor car and escaped. Authorities believe the abductor may have been Gwendolyn's father, who did not have custody of the child.

Miss Germany



NEA Berlin Bureau
Chosen as Germany's most beautiful girl after a contest held by a Berlin newspaper, Miss Hella Hoff, man, 20, a blond, will represent her country in the international Pageant of Puhrchitude at Galveston, Texas, June 2 to 5. A dozen other European beauties will compete for world beauty honors, the title of "Miss Universe" and \$50,000 in prize money.