

La Forza del Destino

1936

Monday, November 16, 1936 8:00 PM

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*The* SAN FRANCISCO  
OPERA  
ASSOCIATION

GAETANO MEROLA  
*General Director*

*Fourteenth Annual Season*

OCTOBER 30 TO NOVEMBER 22, 1936

WAR MEMORIAL OPERA HOUSE

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In presenting the San Francisco Opera Company in its Fourteenth Annual Season, the San Francisco Opera Association makes a distinct departure from the procedure of previous seasons by giving two separate groups of performances, a Regular Subscription Series and a series of Three Popular Saturday Nights. The officers of the Opera Association, in determining upon the popular Saturday night series, were actuated by the knowledge that there is a vast number of music lovers who have not been attendants of the San Francisco Opera Company performances, and the desire to develop new audiences from that number. The gratifying response to the new series fully warrants their reasonable continuance.



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<u>Fridays, 2:30 P. M.</u>	<u>Saturdays, 8:30 P. M.</u>	<u>Soloists</u>
January 8	January 9	Opening Concerts
January 15	January 16	George Gershwin
January 22	January 23	Alex. Tansman
February 5	February 6	Toscha Seidel
February 19	February 20	Richard Crooks
March 5	March 6	Marian Anderson
March 19	March 20	Isaac Stern
April 9	April 10	Vladimir Horowitz
April 16	April 17	John Chas. Thomas
April 23	April 24	Closing Pair

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Ten Friday Afternoon Concerts.....\$25, \$20, \$15, \$10, \$7.50, \$5.00  
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# San Francisco OPERA Company

GAETANO MEROLA, General Director



FRITZ REINER

GAETANO MEROLA

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Famous stars assembled by General Director Gaetano Merola, who for fourteen years has guided its artistic destiny, presented in a repertoire of established Italian and French operas and four great Wagner works performed under the batons of pre-eminent conductors, have combined to again flash the San Francisco Opera Company into view as one of the world's great opera organizations and to still more firmly establish the City in its recognized place as a cultural center.



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# The San Francisco Opera Company

GAETANO MEROLA, *General Director*

With performances at popular prices included in its repertoire for the first time, the San Francisco Opera Company, maintained by the San Francisco Opera Association, begins its Fourteenth Annual Season on Friday evening, October 30, and brings it to an end Sunday afternoon, November 22.

## Conductors

GAETANO MEROLA

FRITZ REINER

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RICHARD LERT

KARL RIEDEL

*Assistant Conductors:* Antonio Dell'Orefice, Hugo Strelitzer,

Giacomo Spadoni, Maurice Rouyer, William Tyroler, Fredrick Vadja.

## Guest Artists

PERRY ASKAM, *baritone*; CHARLOTTE BOERNER, *soprano*; BRUNA CASTAGNA, *soprano*; HANS CLEMENS, *tenor*; NORMAN CORDON, *bass*; LOUIS D'ANGELO, *bass*; DORIS DOE, *contralto*; KIRSTEN FLAGSTAD, *soprano*; ARNOLD GABOR, *baritone*; ALFREDO GANDOLFI, *baritone*; CHARLES KULLMANN, *tenor*; LOTTE LEHMANN, *soprano*; EMANUEL LIST, *bass*; DOROTHEE MANSKI, *soprano*; GIOVANNI MARTINELLI, *tenor*; KATHRYN MEISLE, *contralto*; LAURITZ MELCHIOR, *tenor*; CARLO MORELLI, *baritone*; LUDOVICO OLIVIERO, *tenor*; EZIO PINZA, *bass*; ELISABETH RETHBERG, *soprano*; FRIEDRICH SCHORR, *baritone*; LAWRENCE TIBBETT, *baritone*; GINA VANNA, *soprano*.

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ANITA AGUERO, FLOSSITA BADGER, MILDRED BALDWIN, DOROTHY CARROLL, BEATRICE DYSON, FRANCES HATHAWAY, MARIE LEONORE, MONA POULEE, JOSEPHINE TAGGARD, ANNA YOUNG, *sopranos*; JOHANNA HACKENBERG, JEAN HARTMAN, CATHERINE STEED, BETH WOLFF, *contraltos*; JOSEPH TISSIER, *tenor*.

Continued on Page 13

# NBC ARTIST SERVICE

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## OPERA SEASON 1936

SAN FRANCISCO

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*Dana Singing Ensemble	Elisabeth Rethberg
Doris Doe	*Trudi Schoop and Her Comic Ballet
Kirsten Flagstad	Friedrich Schorr
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### **Tenors, Baritones and Bases**

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### **Boy Choir**

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Continued on page 34



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# Repertoire

## Regular Series

- LA JUIVE (HALEVY) . . . . . *Friday Night, October 30, at 8:00*  
With Rethberg, Martinelli, Boener, Pinza, Clemens, Howell, Wright, Burr, Guenter,  
Corps de Ballet. MEROLA, Conductor.
- TRISTAN UND ISOLDE (WAGNER) . . . . . *Monday Night, November 2, at 7:45*  
With Melchior, Flagstad, Meisle, Schorr, List, Gabor, Clemens, D'Angelo, Oliviero.  
REINER, Conductor.
- CARMEN (BIZET) . . . . . *Wednesday Night, November 4, at 8:00*  
With Castagna, Kullmann, Pinza, Tumminia, D'Angelo, Kroph, Doe, Oliviero, Russell,  
Howell, Corps de Ballet. PAPI, Conductor
- RIGOLETTO (VERDI) . . . . . *Friday Night, November 6, at 8:00*  
With Tibbett, Tumminia, Kullmann, Pinza, Gruninger, Cordon, O. Jones, Oliviero, Howell,  
Green, Hackett, Lawlor, Corps de Ballet. PAPI, Conductor.
- GOTTERDAMMERUNG (WAGNER) . . . . . *Saturday Afternoon, November 7, at 5:00 \**  
With Flagstad, Melchior, Schorr, Gabor, List, Manski, Meisle, Kroph, Doe, Merrill, O'Dea.  
REINER, Conductor.
- \* There will be an intermission of two hours after the first act. The performance will be resumed at 8:30 sharp. No one will be seated after the curtain rises.
- MARRIAGE OF FIGARO (MOZART) . . . . . *Monday Night, November 9, at 8:00*  
With Pinza, Rethberg, Askam, Boerner, Vanna, Monte, Callahan, O. Jones, D'Angelo,  
Clemens. LERT, Conductor.
- I PAGLIACCI (LEONCAVALLO) . . . . . *Wednesday Night, November 11, at 8:00*  
With Martinelli, Vanna, Tibbett, Oliviero, Howell. PAPI, Conductor.
- FOLLOWED BY
- GIANNI SCHICCHI (PUCCINI) . . . . .  
With Tibbett, Vanna, Kullmann, Doe, Green, Oliviero, Gabor, D'Angelo, Merrill, O. Jones,  
Gandolfi, Wright. PAPI, Conductor.
- DIE WALKURE (WAGNER) . . . . . *Friday Night, November 13, at 7:30*  
With Flagstad, Lehmann, Meisle, Melchior, Schorr, List, Manski, Doe, Merrill, Callahan,  
Gruninger, Glando, Watt, Green. REINER, Conductor.
- LA FORZA DEL DESTINO (VERDI) . . . . . *Monday Night, November 16, at 8:00*  
With Rethberg, Martinelli, Morelli, Doe, Callahan, Pinza, D'Angelo, Gandolfi, Oliviero, Burr,  
Howell. PAPI, Conductor.
- LA TOSCA (PUCCINI) . . . . . *Wednesday Night, November 18, at 8:15*  
With Lehmann, Kullmann, Tibbett, Howell, D'Angelo, Oliviero, Cordon, Alibertini, Frimont.  
PAPI, Conductor.
- OTELLO (VERDI) . . . . . *Friday Night, November 20, at 8:00*  
With Martinelli, Rethberg, Tibbett, Clemens, Gruninger, D'Angelo, Cordon, Russell, Howell.  
MEROLA, Conductor.

## Popular Series

- BARBER OF SEVILLE (ROSSINI) . . . . . *Saturday Night, October 31, at 8:15*  
With Kullmann, Tumminia, Morelli, Pinza, D'Angelo, Gruninger, Oliviero.  
MEROLA, Conductor.
- IL TROVATORE (VERDI) . . . . . *Saturday Matinee, November 14, at 2:00*  
With Rethberg, Martinelli, Castagna, Morelli, D'Angelo, Oliviero, Maschio, Burr.  
PAPI Conductor.
- DAS RHEINGOLD (WAGNER) . . . . . *Saturday Night, November 21, at 8:30*  
With Schorr, Gandolfi, George, Clemens, Gabor, Oliviero, Cordon, List, Manski, Merrill,  
O'Dea, Kroph, Doe. REIDEL, Conductor.

## Extra Performances

- CARMEN (BIZET) . . . . . *Sunday Matinee, November 15, at 2:00*  
With Castagna, Kullmann, Pinza, Tumminia, D'Angelo, Kroph, Doe, Oliviero, Russell,  
Howell, Corps de Ballet. PAPI, Conductor.
- TRISTAN UND ISOLDE (WAGNER) . . . . . *Tuesday Night, November 17, at 7:45*  
With Melchior, Flagstad, Doe, Schorr, List, Gabor, Clemens, D'Angelo, Oliviero.  
REINER, Conductor.
- DIE WALKURE, (WAGNER) . . . . . *Sunday Matinee, November 22, at 2:00*  
With Flagstad, Lehmann, Meisle, Melchior, Schorr, List, Manski, Doe, Merrill, Callahan,  
Gruninger, Glando, Watt, Green. REINER, Conductor.



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# Programme

## LA FORZA DEL DESTINO

MONDAY NIGHT, NOVEMBER 16, AT 8:00

Opera in four acts and seven scenes. \*Music by Giuseppe Verdi.  
Text (in Italian) by Piave.

### THE CAST

Marquis of Calatrava . . . . .	LOUIS D'ANGELO
Donna Leonora } <i>his children</i> . . . . .	{ ELISABETH RETHBERG
Don Carlo } . . . . .	{ CARLO MORELLI
Don Alvaro . . . . .	GIOVANNI MARTINELLI
Father Guardiano, Abbot of Hornacuelos . . . . .	EZIO PINZA
Melitone, <i>a friar</i> . . . . .	ALFREDO GANDOLFI
Preziosilla . . . . .	DORIS DOE
Curra . . . . .	OLGA CALLAHAN
Trabucco . . . . .	LUDOVICO OLIVIERO
The Surgeon . . . . .	JOHN BURR
Alcade . . . . .	JOHN HOWELL

*Staff Officers, Muleteers, Peasants, Soldiers, Friars, etc.*

Conductor: GENNARO PAPI

Stage Director: ARMANDO AGNINI

Chorus Master: WILLIAM TYROLER

\*The opera was first produced in St. Petersburg, November 11, 1862. Seven years later at La Scala another scene was added. The original production is here given with the overture played between Scenes 1 and 2 of Act I.

TIME AND PLACE: About the middle of the Eighteenth Century;  
Spain and Italy

Act I Scene 1. Room in the House of Marquis of Calatrava  
Scene 2. An Inn at Hornacuelos

Act II The Cloister of the Monastery of Hornacuelos

Act III Desolate Farm House in Velletri Wood

Act IV Scene 1. Same as Act II

Scene 2. A Solitary Spot near the Convent.

*Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises.*

*Encores not permitted.*

## **T H E   S T O R Y**

### **ACT I**

Don Alvaro, a young prince of India, and Leonora, daughter of the Marquis of Calatrava, plan to elope. They are discovered by the Marquis, and in the altercation which follows Alvaro's pistol is accidentally discharged killing the Marquis. (Scene 2): Parted from Alvaro in their flight Leonora, in male attire, stops at an inn at Hornacuelos to which her brother, Don Carlo, disguised as a student, has come in pursuit of the eloping lovers. She flees the place in the confusion which follows the announcement that Italy and Spain have declared war.

### **ACT II**

Leonora, believing Alvaro has deserted her, seeks refuge in the monastery at Hornacuelos confessing all to Father Guardiano. He grants her sanctuary as a hermit in a cave near the monastery. The monks gather to consecrate Leonora's penitence. Laying a curse on any who may seek the stranger's identity, the monks are warned to shun the cave unless summoned by an alarm from the bell hung within it.

### **ACT III**

Alvaro, thinking Leonora dead, had enlisted under an assumed name at the outbreak of the war. He chances upon a quarrel and finds Don Carlo sorely wounded. As the two had never met, there is no recognition and a close friendship is formed. (Scene 2): In a following battle Alvaro is mortally wounded. Fearing death he begs Don Carlo to destroy the letters to be found in a sealed casket among his effects. But Alvaro does not die and Carlo, his suspicions aroused by the mention of Leonora's name, searches Alvaro's kit and finds a picture of his sister. When Alvaro recovers, Don Carlo reveals his identity and demands vengeance for the dishonor to his family. Alvaro strives to convince Carlo he is guiltless of wronging Leonora and refuses to fight. Carlo then tells him that Leonora still lives and threatens to take her life instead. In the duel which follows Alvaro is victorious but, recognizing the force of destiny, enters the monastery of Hornacuelos.

### **ACT IV**

After five years' search Don Carlo finds Alvaro, now Father Raphael, and attempts to taunt him into fighting. The priest refuses, even prostrating himself to petition peace. But, goaded by insults, he at last grasps the offered sword and they rush off to unconsecrated ground to duel seeking the hill-side where, unknown to either, Leonora abides in solitary misery. (Scene 2): Leonora has come from the cave to implore heaven for the thousandth time to let her die, but is driven back by a breaking storm just as the two men come upon the scene. Again Alvaro vanquishes Don Carlo who falls wounded unto death. Leonora, aroused, hurries from her hermitage, and sounds the alarm. Recognizing Alvaro she rushes to embrace the dying Carlo who, relentless and unforgiving, stabs her. Father Guardiano, summoned by the alarm, surrenders Leonora, dying, into the arms of Alvaro who curses the mockery of destiny which leaves him, the only guilty one, unpunished.



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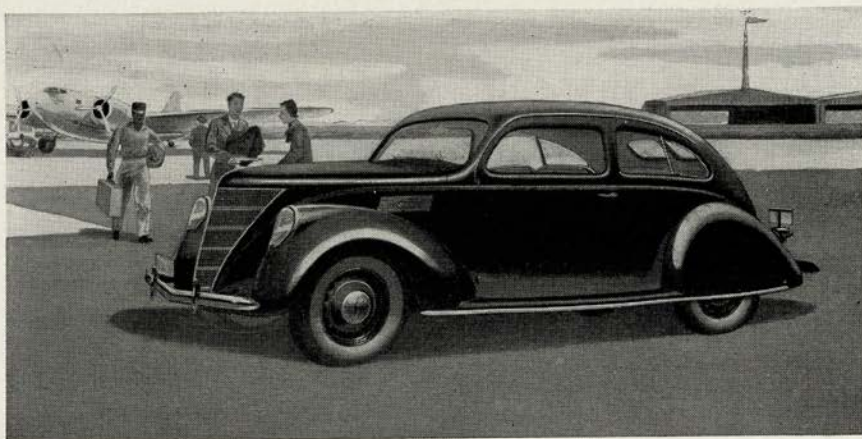
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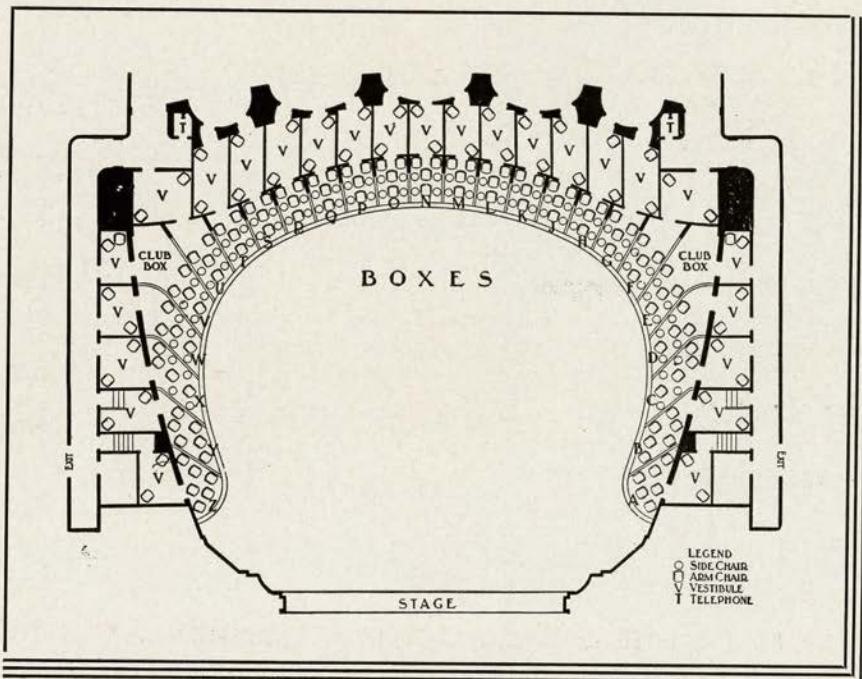
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*Continued on page 35*

# ACME



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Programme  
**TRISTAN UND ISOLDE**

TUESDAY NIGHT, NOVEMBER 17, AT 7:45

Opera in three acts. Music and text (in German) by Richard Wagner

*T H E C A S T*

Tristan, <i>a Cornish Knight, nephew of King Mark</i> . . .	LAURITZ MELCHIOR
Isolde, <i>Princess of Ireland</i> . . . . .	KIRSTEN FLAGSTAD
Brangäne, <i>Isolde's friend and attendant</i> . . . . .	DORIS DOE
King Mark of Cornwall . . . . .	EMANUEL LIST
Kurvenal, <i>Tristan's devoted servant</i> . . . . .	FRIEDRICH SCHORR
Melot, <i>one of King Mark's courtiers</i> . . . . .	ARNOLD GABOR
Shepherd . . . . .	LUDOVICO OLIVIERO
Steersman . . . . .	LOUIS D'ANGELO
A Sailor's Voice . . . . .	HANS CLEMENS

*Sailor Lad, Sailors, Knights, Esquires, Men-at-Arms*

Conductor: FRITZ REINER

Chorus Master: WILLIAM TYROLER

Stage Director: ARMANDO AGNINI

TIME AND PLACE: *Legendary*

Act I On board a Vessel nearing the Cornish Coast

Act II Garden before Isolde's Castle; Summer Night

Act III Garden of Tristan's Estate in Brittany.

*Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises.*

*Encores not permitted.*



## **T H E   S T O R Y**

Sent to capture Cornwall to collect tribute, Morold, a chieftain affianced to the Irish princess, Isolde, is slain by Tristan, favorite nephew of King Mark of Cornwall. For his own wounds, Tristan, incognito, seeks the aid of Isolde famed for her healing. Recognizing him by a notch in his sword as the slayer of her betrothed, Isolde plans to kill Tristan but falls in love with him and stays her hand. But Tristan sees in her only a queenly wife for King Mark. Presently Tristan returns to Ireland to bespeak Isolde for the bride of his uncle. Isolde accepts and they take ship for Cornwall. Tristan has now come to realize his own love for Isolde but bound by honor has concealed his plight and carefully remained away from her during the voyage. As the ship nears Cornwall's shores, the drama begins.

### **ACT I**

Infuriated at Tristan's apparent indifference and despondent at the thought of her approaching loveless marriage, Isolde tells Brangane the story of her unrequited love for Tristan and, commanding her to prepare a poisonous draught, summons Tristan to her presence. Brangane, sensing disaster, substitutes a love potion for the poison cup. When Tristan comes Isolde reproaches him for the death of Morold. He offers his sword for her revenge but she, feigning forgiveness, proposes they drink a pledge of peace. Together they drain the cup prepared by Brangane and succumbing to its rapturous charm remain oblivious to their surroundings as the vessel reaches shore.

### **ACT II**

Isolde, wedded to King Mark, has continued her relations with Tristan. They are suspected by Malot, a knight of the court, who arranges a pretended hunt in the hope of trapping the lovers. As the curtain rises Brangane confesses to Isolde her substitution of the love philtre. Fearing the hunt a ruse, she warns Isolde not to signal for a meeting with Tristan. But Isolde, lost in the intoxication of the love potion, will not heed and waves a beckoning handkerchief. The unexpected return of the hunters interrupts a long and ardent love scene. King Mark bitterly reproaches Tristan and offers him banishment. But Melot, shouting treason, rushes forward sword in hand. Tristan draws in turn but, seeking only death with honor, drops his guard and receives a mortal wound.

### **ACT III**

Tristan lies delirious in his castle where he has been taken by Kurvenal who has sent for Isolde knowing that only she can cure his master's wounds. In a lucid moment Kurvenal tells Tristan of Isolde's expected coming. The pipe of a shepherd, posted to signal the approach of her ship, takes on a joyous note. Kurvenal, crying out that Isolde comes, rushes off. Tristan, overcome by joy, tears at his bandaged wounds and staggering to his feet as Isolde arrives, dies in her arms. King Mark, having learned of the love potion, has followed in forgiveness close behind Isolde. Kurvenal, barring entrance, slays Melot and is killed by the soldiers. King Mark invokes a blessing on the dead as Isolde sings to her dead love the immortal Liebestod.



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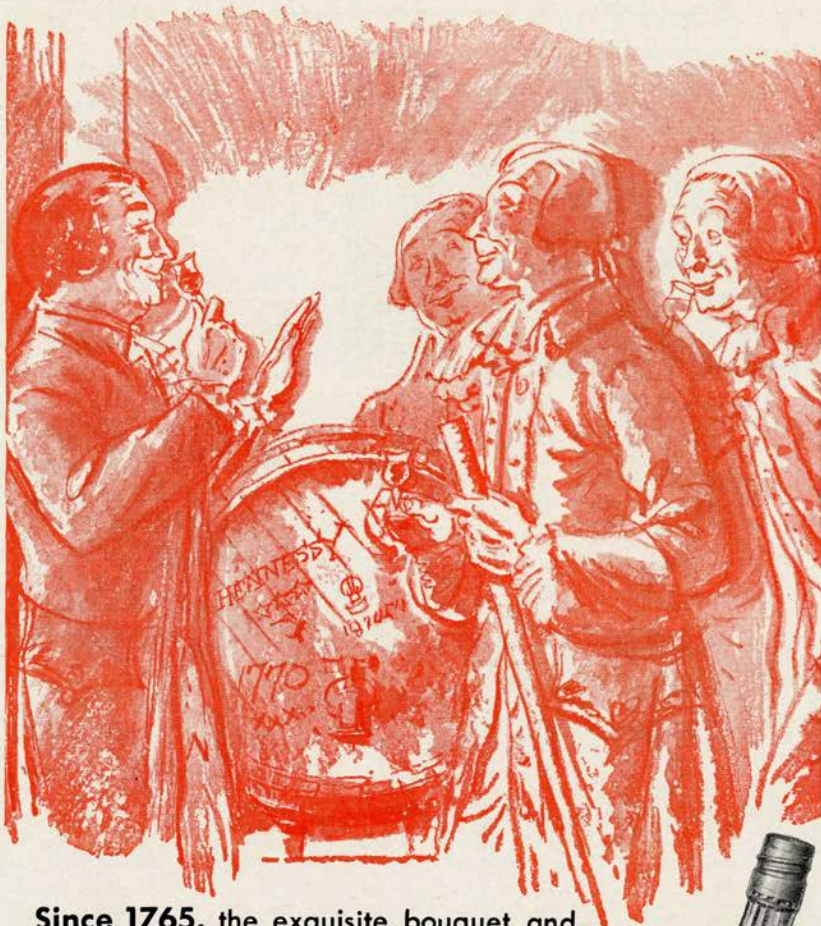
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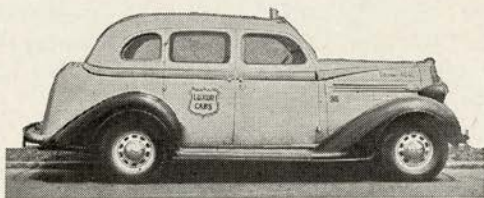


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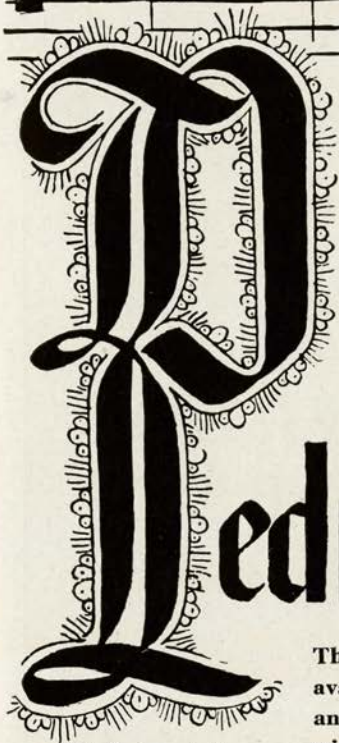
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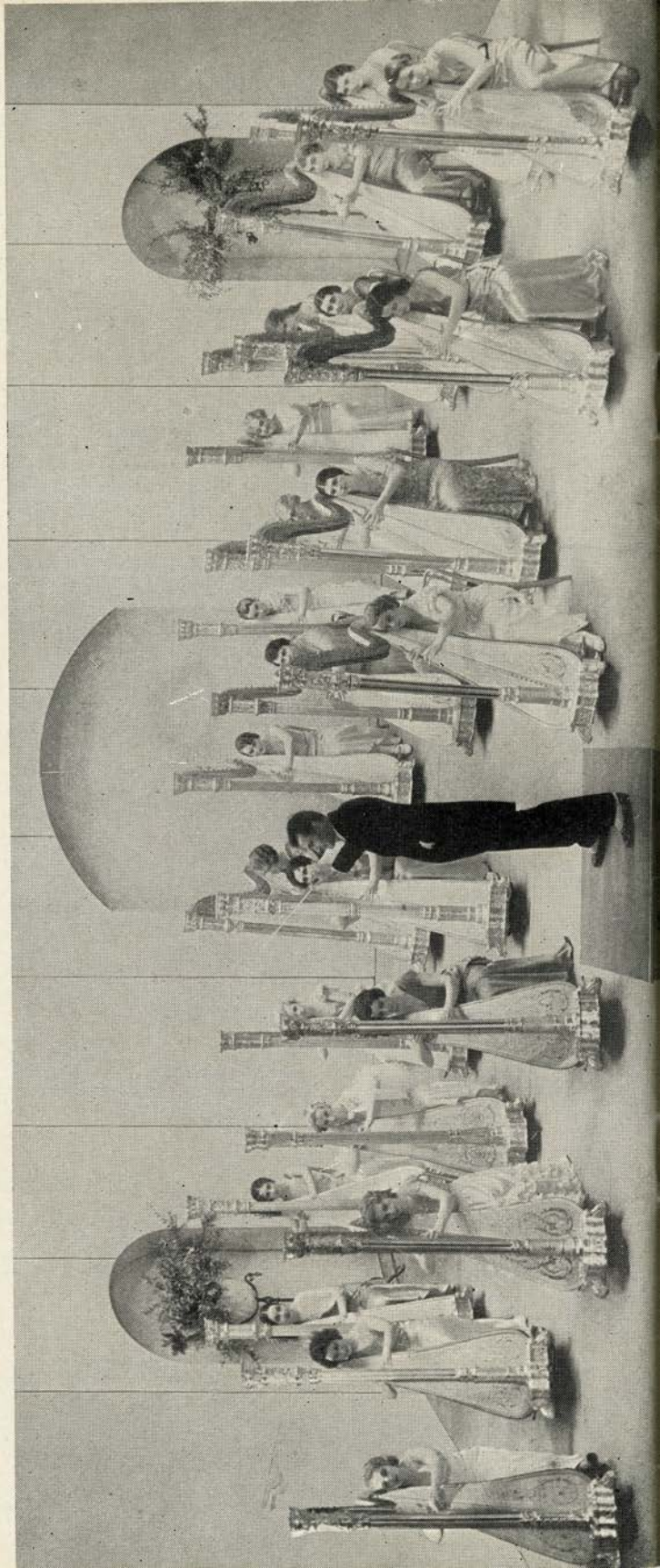
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