

Parsifal

1951

Saturday, October 13, 1951 7:00 PM  
Sunday, September 23, 1951 2:00 PM

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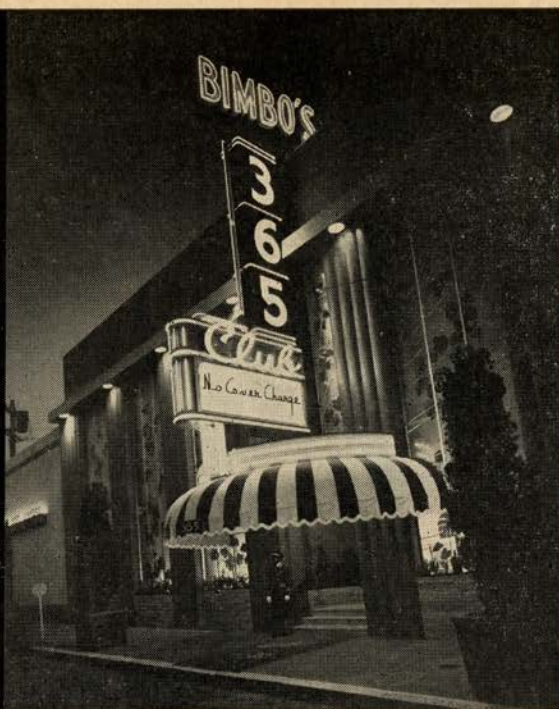
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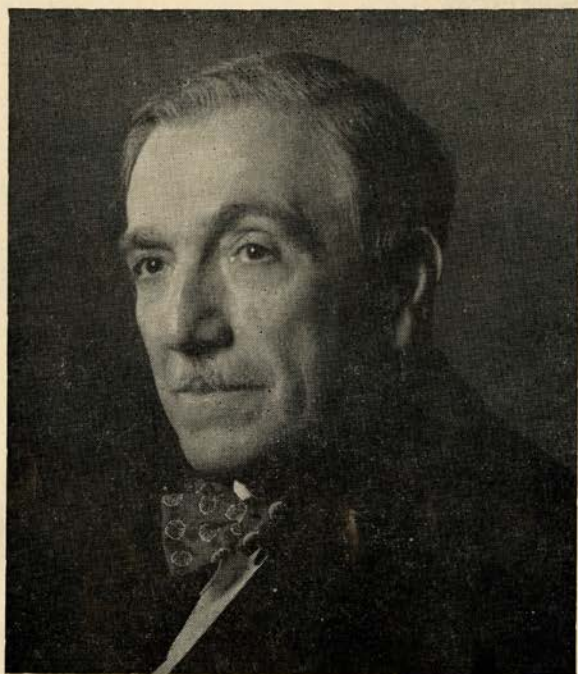
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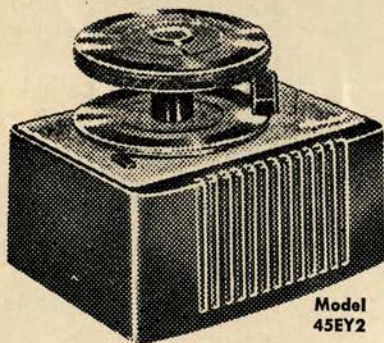
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## REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION SERIES

- OTELLO (*Verdi*) *Tuesday Night, September 18, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Nelli, Ostrowsky; Messrs. Vinay, Valdengo, Schwabacher, Ligeti, Cehanovsky,  
 Curzi, Trevor  
 CLEVA, Conductor
- ROMEO AND JULIET (*Gounod*) *Friday Night, September 21, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Sayao, Glaz, Ostrowsky; Messrs. Bjoerling, Moscona, Schwabacher, Ernster, Herbert,  
 Ligeti, Harvey, Curzi, Andersen  
 BREISACH, Conductor
- DER ROSENKAVALIER (*Richard Strauss*) *Tuesday Night, September 25, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Roman, Thebom, Graf, Glaz, Chauveau, Brubaker, Thronson, Lanyon, Baldwin,  
 Lagorio; Messrs. Alvary, Herbert, De Paolis, Conley, Ligeti, Curzi, Harvey, Schwabacher, Andersen,  
 Thomson, Miller, Guenter, Rossi, Trevor  
 LEINSDORF, Conductor
- LA FORZA DEL DESTINO (*Verdi*) *Friday Night, September 28, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Nelli, Turner, Baldwin, Knapp; Messrs. Baum, Weede, Moscona, Baccaloni, Alvary,  
 De Paolis, Sze, Cehanovsky  
 ADLER, Conductor
- BORIS GODOUNOFF (*Moussorgsky*) *Tuesday Night, October 2, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Thebom, Ostrowsky, Wilkins, Hartzell, Chauveau, McIntosh, Farrell; Messrs. Rossi-  
 Lemeni, Fredericks, De Paolis, Baccaloni, Moscona, Ligeti, Schwabacher, Curzi, Sze, Porta,  
 Cehanovsky, Lawrence, White, Novi, Guenter  
 LEINSDORF, Conductor
- LA TRAVIATA (*Verdi*) *Friday Night, October 5, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Pons, Chauveau, Baldwin; Messrs. Pearce, Valdengo, Ligeti, Cehanovsky, De Paolis,  
 Sze, Lorenzini  
 CLEVA, Conductor
- LA BOHEME (*Puccini*) *Monday Night, October 8, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Sayao, Graf; Messrs. Bjoerling, Valdengo, Moscona, Cehanovsky, Baccaloni,  
 Lorenzini, Harvey, Curzi, Kersnar  
 BREISACH, Conductor
- TOSCA (*Puccini*) *Friday Night, October 12, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Kirsten, Thronson; Messrs. Bjoerling, Weede, Baccaloni, De Paolis, Cehanovsky,  
 Ligeti, Sze  
 CLEVA, Conductor
- MANON (*Massenet*) *Tuesday Night, October 16, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Sayao, Hartzell, Chauveau, Baldwin, Lanyon, Hurd, Knapp; Messrs. Vroons,  
 Valentino, Alvary, Cehanovsky, De Paolis, Harvey, Andersen, Lorenzini  
 CLEVA, Conductor
- FIDELIO (*Beethoven*) *Friday Night, October 19, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Varnay, Giaz; Messrs. Svanholm, Janssen, Ernster, Ligeti, Schwabacher, Lawrence,  
 Sze  
 WALLENSTEIN, Conductor

## SUNDAY MATINEE SERIES

- OTELLO (*Verdi*) *Sunday Afternoon, September 23, at 2:00*  
 With Mmes. Nelli, Ostrowsky; Messrs. Vinay, Valdengo, Schwabacher, Ligeti, Cehanovsky,  
 Curzi, Trevor  
 CLEVA, Conductor
- DER ROSENKAVALIER (*Richard Strauss*) *Sunday Afternoon, September 30, at 2:00*  
 With Mmes. Roman, Thebom, Warenskjold, Glaz, Chauveau, Brubaker, Thronson, Lanyon,  
 Baldwin, Lagorio; Messrs. Alvary, Herbert, De Paolis, Fredericks, Ligeti, Curzi, Harvey,  
 Schwabacher, Andersen, Thomson, Miller, Guenter, Rossi, Trevor  
 LEINSDORF, Conductor
- BORIS GODOUNOFF (*Moussorgsky*) *Sunday Afternoon, October 7, at 2:00*  
 With Mmes. Turner, Ostrowsky, Wilkins, Hartzell, Chauveau, McIntosh, Farrell; Messrs. Rossi-  
 Lemeni, Fredericks, De Paolis, Baccaloni, Alvary, Ligeti, Schwabacher, Curzi, Sze, Porta,  
 Cehanovsky, Lawrence, White, Novi, Guenter  
 LEINSDORF, Conductor
- LA BOHEME (*Puccini*) *Sunday Afternoon, October 14, at 2:00*  
 With Mmes. Sayao, Hartzell; Messrs. Bjoerling, Valdengo, Rossi-Lemeni, Cehanovsky, Baccaloni,  
 Harvey, Lorenzini, Curzi, Kersnar  
 BREISACH, Conductor
- MANON (*Massenet*) *Sunday Afternoon, October 21, at 2:00*  
 With Mmes. Sayao, Hartzell, Chauveau, Baldwin, Lanyon, Hurd, Knapp; Messrs. Vroons,  
 Valentino, Moscona, Cehanovsky, De Paolis, Harvey, Andersen, Lorenzini  
 CLEVA, Conductor

## THURSDAY EVENING SERIES

- CARMEN (*Bizet*) *Thursday Night, September 20, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Thebom, Warenskjold, Hartzell, Ostrowsky; Messrs. Vinay, Valdengo, Alvary,  
 De Paolis, Cehanovsky, Andersen  
 BREISACH, Conductor
- ROMEO AND JULIET (*Gounod*) *Thursday Night, September 27, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Bjoerling, Glaz, Ostrowsky; Messrs. Bjoerling, Alvary, Schwabacher, Ernster,  
 Herbert, Ligeti, Harvey, Curzi, Andersen  
 BREISACH, Conductor
- LA FORZA DEL DESTINO (*Verdi*) *Thursday Night, October 4, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Nelli, Turner, Baldwin, Knapp; Messrs. Baum, Weede, Rossi-Lemeni, Baccaloni,  
 Alvary, De Paolis, Sze, Cehanovsky  
 ADLER, Conductor

(Continued on Tenth Page Over)

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  - ERNANI**, Verdi. With Mancini, Peno, Taddei. 3-12" LP's, 1210 . . . **17.85**
  - ADRIANA LECOUVREUR**, Cilea. With Prandelli, Clabassi, Bertocci, Meletti. 3-12" LP's, 1218 . . . . . **17.85**
- new September releases:**
- PAGLIACCI**, Leoncavallo. With Gavazzi, Bergonzi, Tagliabue. 2-12" LP's, 1227 . . . . . **11.90**
  - KING FOR A DAY**, Verdi. With Pagliughi, Capecci, Bruscantini. 2-12" LP's, 1225 . . . . . **11.90**
  - FEDORA**, Giordano. With Caniglia, Prandelli. 2-12" LP's, 1222 . **11.90**
- special release:**
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SATURDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 13, at 7:00

# Parsifal

Sacred Festival Music-drama in three acts.  
Music and Text by Richard Wagner; based on the legend of the Holy Grail.

## THE CAST

Titurel, a Holy Knight.....	DESIRE LIGETI
Amfortas, his Son, Keeper of the Holy Grail.....	HERBERT JANSSEN
Gurnemanz, a Veteran Knight of the Grail.....	DEZSO ERNSTER
Parsifal, a "Guileless Fool".....	SET SVANHOLM
Klingsor, an Evil Magician.....	RALPH HERBERT
Kundry, an Enchantress.....	ASTRID VARNAY
A Voice.....	CLARAMAE TURNER
First and Second Knights.....	CAESAR CURZI, YI-KWEI SZE
Four Esquires.....	UTA GRAF, HERTA GLAZ ERNEST LAWRENCE, JAMES SCHWABACHER
Six of Klingsor's Flower Maidens.....	UTA GRAF, YVONNE CHAUVEAU, HERTA GLAZ, LOIS HARTZELL, JOYCE STEPHENS, ALICE OSTROWSKY

*Knights of the Grail, Klingsor's Flower Maidens, Youths and Boys.  
Boys Selected from San Francisco Boys Chorus*



### STAGE DIRECTOR.

ARMANDO AGNINI

### CONDUCTOR

ERICH LEINSDORF

### CHORUS DIRECTOR

KURT HERBERT ADLER



**TIME AND PLACE:** Middle Ages; Monsalvat, Spain

- Act I: Scene 1: A Forest near Monsalvat  
Scene 2: Hall in Temple of the Holy Grail
- Act II: Scene 1: Court of Klingsor's Castle  
Scene 2: Enchanted Garden of Klingsor's Castle
- Act III: Scene 1: Grounds of Monsalvat  
Scene 2: Same as Act I, Scene 2

*Encores not permitted — Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises*

## The Story of "Parsifal"

PREFACE—"Parsifal is the legend of the Holy Grail, the cup that caught the blood from the side of Christ on the cross and He blessed. The cup and the sacred spear that pierced the side of Christ came into the custody of Titurel and the Knights of the Holy Grail who have guarded them in their Temple of Montsalvat atop the Pyrenees. Becoming old, Titurel had appointed his son, Amfortas, keeper of the Grail. Angry at not having been made a knight of the Grail, Klingsor, a sorcerer, had built a magic castle and garden near the castle of the Grail. Under his spell he had brought Kundry, who in a previous incarnation had mocked at Christ on the cross, and surrounded her with maidens of ravishing beauty to lure the Knights to their downfall. In ordinary existence Kundry is an uncouth and penitent creature bent only on service to the Grail but under the spell of Klingsor is transformed into a defiant and beautiful woman whose blandishments none can resist. Amfortas, in an attempt to vanquish the sorcerer had himself fallen to her wiles and while in her arms had been robbed of the sacred spear by Klingsor and with it wounded in the side. He had returned to the castle heavy with remorse and stabbed by pain. But he cannot die nor can his wound be healed until it is touched by the sacred spear in the hands of a "guileless fool" to be brought to Montsalvat by heavenly messengers.

ACT I—SCENE 1—Gurnemanz and the esquires awaken and kneel to offer up their morning prayers. Kundry, penitent now, comes with a balsam from India to heal Amfortas' wound. Amfortas is borne by in a litter. He accepts the balsam but does not hope for a cure until the "guileless one" comes. Gurnemanz here relates the story of the Grail and the wounding of Amfortas. Suddenly a wounded swan falls among them and Parsifal appears. Gurnemanz rebukes him for killing the swan, for all birds and animals are sacred near the Grail. He confesses to having shot the swan but says that he sees no wrong in it. Gurnemanz is impressed by his innocence. Kundry startles Parsifal by telling him that his mother had died since he left home. Astounded he seizes Kundry and attempts to strangle her but Gurnemanz prevents him from doing her harm. Again Parsifal sees no wrong in his act. Gurnemanz is still more impressed and thinking he may be the Promised One invites the youth to go with him to the temple of the Grail.

SCENE 2—The knights are about to celebrate the feast of communion. Amfortas is brought in. The aged Titurel commands him to unveil the Grail which gives spiritual strength to all who look upon it. Amfortas feels that he is unworthy and begs to be spared both the spiritual and physical pain but finally obeys. The Knights drink from their goblets and eat bread. Parsifal does not join in the communion. The Grail is covered again and all withdraw except Gurnemanz and Parsifal. The former, now believing that the youth is nothing but a stupid fool warns him against further shooting of swans and ejects him from the temple.

ACT II—SCENE I—Klingsor knowing that his power is threatened by the "guileless fool" awakens Kundry from her sleep. He mocks the obedient, half-rebellious woman because of her remorse and orders her to exert all her wiles to lure Parsifal. Darkness falls and the castle sinks. In its place appear the enchanted gardens.

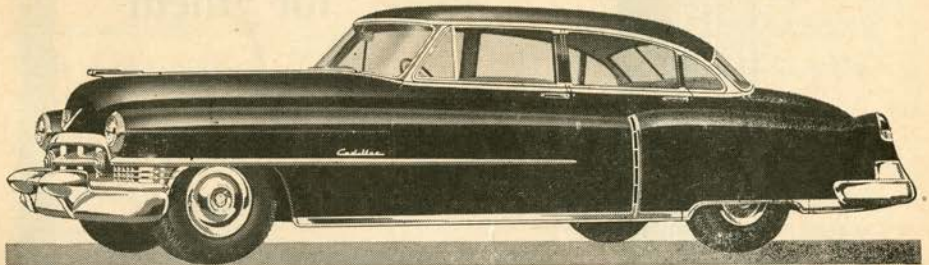
SCENE 2—The lovely maidens who people the gardens bewail the slaughter of their lovers. Parsifal scales the wall. Arraying themselves in flowers, the maidens attempt to beguile him. But he does not succumb to temptation. Kundry, now bewitchingly beautiful, lies in wait for him. She tells him of his father and mother and he sinks down at her feet. Her arms around him she presses her kiss upon his lips. For the first time the youth knows passion and feels what he thinks is the wound of Amfortas in his own breast. Now knowing how Amfortas was lured to sin in love's gardens he comes to his feet, his eyes opened at last, and denounces Kundry. She suffers intense grief but Parsifal tells her that if he sinned with her he too would be damned. Klingsor appears and hurls his spear at Parsifal. But a miracle happens. It hangs in mid-air. Parsifal seizing the spear makes with it the sign of the cross and Klingsor is annihilated together with his castle and his gardens. Kundry falls insensible. Parsifal disappears.

ACT III—SCENE 1—Years have passed. Parsifal, wandering, ever holds to the sacred spear. The aged Gurnemanz finds Kundry in a thicket almost lifeless. He revives her. She has repented and has consecrated herself wholly to the service of the Grail. Parsifal comes with the spear. Gurnemanz recognizes him as the "guileless one" and is overjoyed. Kundry humbly washes his feet and dries them with her hair. Gurnemanz anoints him. Parsifal baptizes Kundry exhorting her to trust in God. He sings of the country's beauty. It is Good Friday and the bells call the Knights to prayer. Parsifal is arrayed in a robe of the Grail Knights.

SCENE 2—Titurel is dead and his body is brought in with the Grail. Once more the cup is to be unveiled. Amfortas again shrinks in agony from looking upon the Grail. He pleads with the Knights to slay him and release him from his terrible pain. But now Parsifal enters and touches the wound of Amfortas with the spear. Instantly it heals. Titurel, coming back to life for a moment, sees Parsifal kneeling before the Grail. Kundry dies forgiven. A dove descends and hovers over the head of Parsifal—the new keeper of the Grail.



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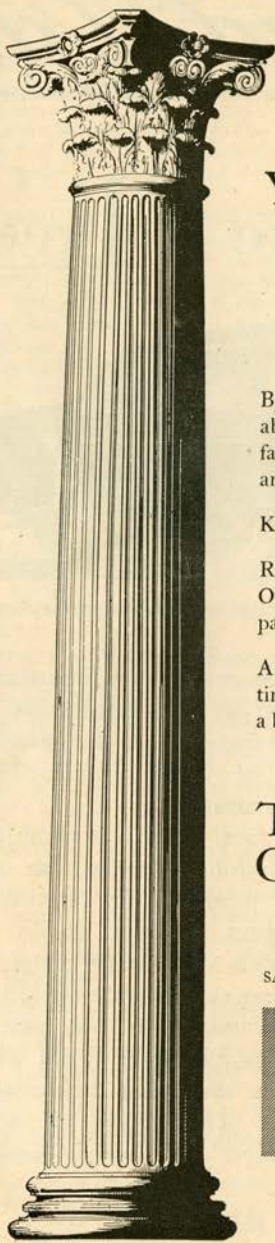
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SUNDAY MATINEE, OCTOBER 14, at 2:00

# La Boheme

Opera in four acts. Music by Giacomo Puccini.

Text by Giacosa and Illica.

## THE CAST

Mimi, an embroideress.....			BIDU SAYAO
Musetta, a grisette.....			LOIS HARTZELL
Rudolph, a poet.....	} The Four Bohemians	} {	.....JUSSI BJOERLING
Marcel, painter.....			.....GIUSEPPE VALDENG0
Schaunard, musician.....			.....GEORGE CEHANOVSKY
Colline, philosopher.....			.....NICOLA ROSSI-LEMENI
Benoit, an importunate landlord	} {	} {	.....SALVATORE BACCALONI
Alcindoro, state councilor and admirer of Musetta			
Customhouse Sergeant.....			MAX LORENZINI
Customhouse Guard.....			COLIN HARVEY
Parpignol.....			CAESAR CURZI
A Boy.....			MICHAEL KERSNAR

*Students, Work-Girls, Grisettes, Shopkeepers, Vendors, Waiters, Soldiers, etc.  
Boys selected from San Francisco Boys Chorus*



### STAGE DIRECTOR

WILLIAM WYMETAL

### CONDUCTOR

PAUL BREISACH

### CHORUS DIRECTOR

KURT HERBERT ADLER

ARMANDO AGNINI, Technical Director



**TIME AND PLACE:** About 1830; Paris

Act I: Garret of the Bohemians  
Act II: Terrace of the Cafe Momus  
Act III: A City Gate of Paris  
Act IV: Same as Act I

*Because of copyright the story of the opera cannot be printed.*

*Encores not permitted — Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises*



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Speaker: **ALEXANDER FRIED**, Music and Art Critic, S.F. Examiner

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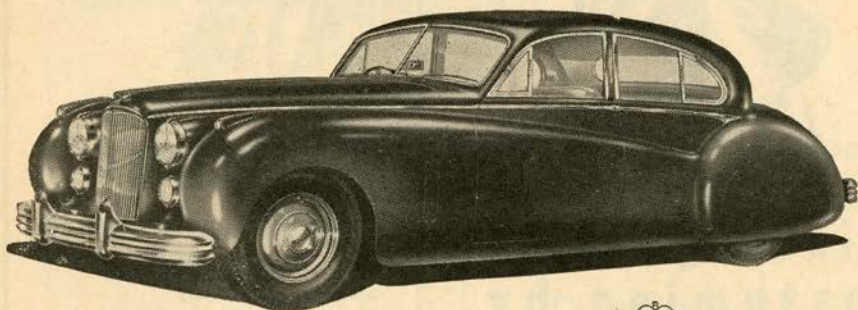
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## REPERTOIRE—Continued

- LA TRAVIATA (*Verdi*) *Thursday Night, October 11, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Pons, Chauveau, Baldwin; Messrs. Peerce, Valdengo, Ligeti, Cehanovsky, De Paolis,  
 Sze, Lorenzini  
 CLEVA, Conductor
- TOSCA (*Puccini*) *Thursday Night, October 18, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Kirsten, Thronson; Messrs. Peerce, Weede, Baccaloni, De Paolis, Cehanovsky,  
 Ligeti, Sze  
 CLEVA, Conductor

### SPECIAL PERFORMANCES

- MADAMA BUTTERFLY (*Puccini*) *Saturday Night, September 29, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Kirsten, Glaz, Chauveau; Messrs. Conley, Valentino, De Paolis, Sze, Cehanovsky,  
 Trevor, Harvey  
 RESCIGNO, Conductor
- PARSIFAL (*Wagner*) *Saturday Night, October 13, at 7:00*  
 With Mmes. Varnay, Graf, Hartzell, Glaz, Ostrowsky, Turner, Chauveau, Stephens; Messrs.  
 Svanholm, Ernst, Herbert, Janssen, Ligeti, Sze, Curzi, Lawrence, Schwabacher  
 LEINSDORF, Conductor
- RIGOLETTO (*Verdi*) *Saturday Night, October 20, at 8:00*  
 With Mmes. Pons, Glaz, Chauveau, Baldwin, Lanyon; Messrs. Bjoerling, Weede, Alvary,  
 De Paolis, Porta, Cehanovsky, Harvey  
 CIMARA, Conductor

### MATINEES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

*Presented by the San Francisco Opera Guild*

- CARMEN (*Bizet*) *Thursday October 4, 11 and 18 at 1:00*  
 October 4—with Mmes. Thebom, Graf, Hartzell, Ostrowsky; Messrs. Vinay, Herbert, Ligeti,  
 De Paolis, Cehanovsky, Andersen  
 BREISACH, Conductor
- October 11—with Mmes. Thebom, Cella, Hartzell, Ostrowsky; Messrs. Svanholm, Herbert, Alvary,  
 De Paolis, Cehanovsky, Andersen  
 KRITZ, Conductor
- October 18—with Mmes. Turner, Warenskjold, Hartzell, Ostrowsky; Messrs. Baum, Valdengo,  
 Alvary, De Paolis, Cehanovsky, Andersen  
 KRITZ, Conductor

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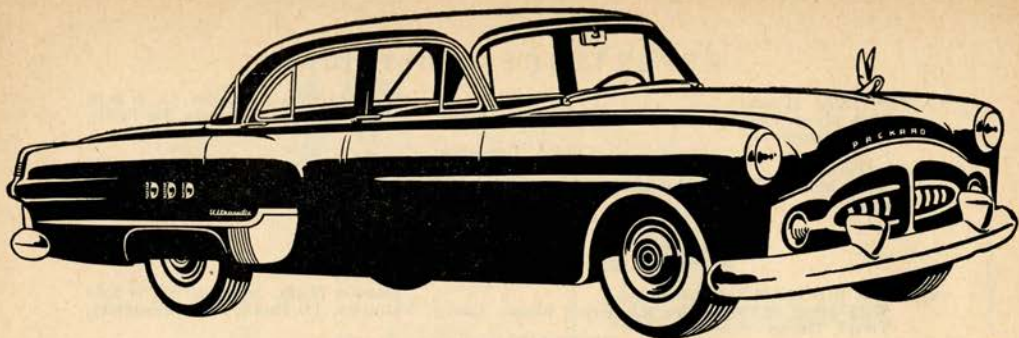
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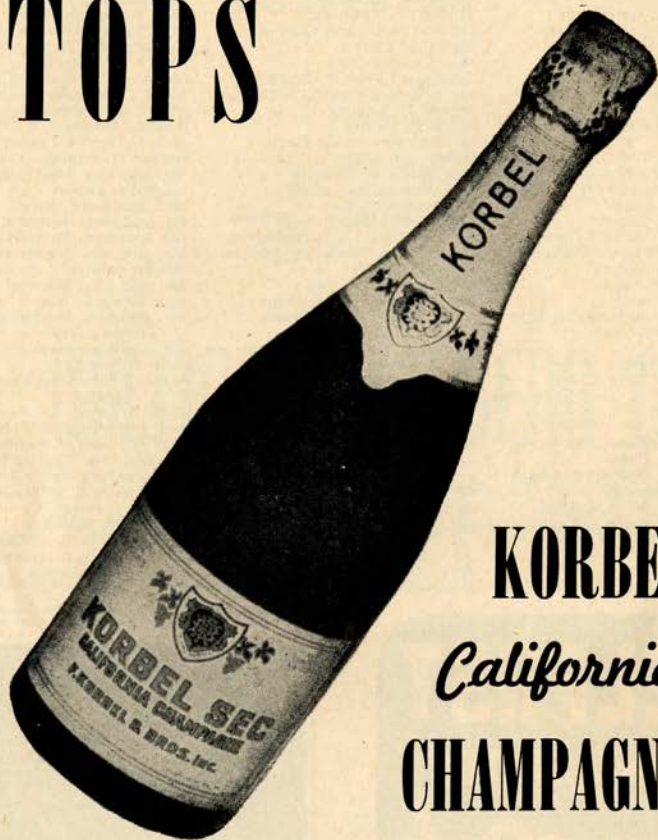
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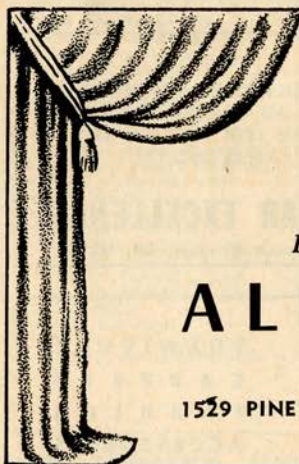
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