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THE most important musical event of this month in Canada is the visit of Vladimir De Pachmann, who plays in Montreal on the twenty-third and who comes to Massey Hall, Toronto, on Monday evening next, the twenty-seventh. The artist's name proclaims his Slav extraction. This great interpreter of Chopin was born in Odessa, Russia, 1848, and owes his musical instruction to his father and to Professor Dachs of the Vienna Conservatorium. Attempts to explain De Pachmann's marvellous kinship with the great Polish composer are merely attempts. Talent is tangible and explicable but genius is not to be classified or traced. It is the surpassing gift which has been bestowed upon this Russian artist of whom Philip Hale has said: "A phrase of Chopin, to borrow a fine thought of Hazlitt inspired by a Mozartian melody, when it is invoked by De Pachmann, comes from the air and then returns." The Chopin numbers, of which there are seven on the programme to be played in Toronto, are wisely given the final place, for, however finished may be De Pachmann's rendering of "Perpetuum Mobile" or "La Fileuse," his supersensitive touch in nocturne, prelude, valse or etude by the Polish tone-poet is sheer magic and leaves



Vladimir De Pachmann.

the audience nothing to desire—save more Chopin.

AT His Majesty's Theatre, Montreal, a week of Grand Opera is being presented by the Van Den Berg Lyric Opera Company. "Carmen" is the favourite of the list, appearing twice in the evening and once in matinee. The prices are matter for surprise, the highest mentioned being \$1.50. Perhaps we shall have European admission charges some day.

MISS GRACE GEORGE, the famous comedienne, has recently presented at the Walker Theatre, Winnipeg, Sardou's diverting play, "Divorcons." It is some time since Miss George was in Eastern Canada which still retains lively memories of her success in musical comedy.

"THE days of Ysaye's youth," says an English critic, "were fraught with many hardships in the cause of his art. In these days of prosperity he is fond of telling his pupils of his struggles. 'Ah,' he says, 'at your age I practised in a garret, and only went out when too hungry to go on playing.' Times have changed, however, and for one American tour of fifty concerts he received the enormous sum of £25,000. With so princely an income at his disposal, there is little wonder that Ysaye—the name is trisyllabic, whether it is

cognate with that of the Hebrew prophet it so closely resembles is a question—has a unique and fabulously expensive collection of violins, the gathering of which has been one of his hobbies."

It has often been said that the United States has a habit of too frequent mention of the "financial consideration." But even in notices of musical celebrities the modern British paragrapher is fond of dragging in the dollar.

UNDER the distinguished patronage of Their Excellencies the Governor-General and the Countess Grey, the first concert this year of the Canadian Conservatory of Music Symphony Orchestra was given last week in the Russell Theatre, Ottawa. To Mr. Donald Heins, the conductor of the orchestra, is due the credit of having inspired the members with an unselfish enthusiasm for the artistic success of this organisation. Only one other city in Canada, according to an authority in the Capital, enjoys with Ottawa the possession of a Symphony Orchestra of its own, and to Ottawa alone is accorded the privilege of having one without any expense to the public, the Conservatory bearing all the expense and "enabling the public at intervals far too infrequent to enjoy it."

REPORTS have reached Canada at various times of the great expectations aroused by Miss Kathleen Parlow, a Canadian violinist, who, according to an Old Country exchange, is said to threaten Miss Marie Hall and Kubelik with successful rivalry. The story of her discovery is to the effect that a Berlin concert agent, Dr. Grosz, was told by a passer-by of the wonderful violin-playing in a certain London house. A detective was employed who discovered the wizard music to be produced by this young Canadian who is to play in London in March and afterwards in one-hundred-and-twenty concerts in North and South America.

THE Royal Alexandra Theatre, Toronto, has introduced a novelty this week in the form of two student nights, with the play, "Old Heidelberg," as attraction. Monday belonged to the "boys" who duly appreciated the occasion. Friday was an event of vice-regal importance with that almost-Canadian Governor, Earl Grey, in attendance. Hon. J. P. Whitney, Hon. Dr. Pyne and other provincial dignitaries also showed their enjoyment of student scenes by appearing on 'Varsity night.

A UNIQUE ADVERTISEMENT

A BOSTON despatch states that Joseph Keening, a wealthy real estate owner of Brookline, Massachusetts, wants a wife, and to get one will resort to advertising in Toronto. He tried it about a year ago, and had a big bunch of answers, but none suited.

Now he has had printed a number of circulars bearing his picture, which will go in the mails to Toronto to a list of claimed eligibles, and it being leap year he expects this time to be successful.

Mr. Keening is the owner of "Honey Moon Flats," a fine apartment house near the parkway in Brookline, and this will be the home of the bride. The circular bears a large black heading reading "Rich Brookline Man Wants Wife," the centre being adorned with a large photographic likeness of the advertiser.

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