

# ROYALTIES ON ENEMY OPERAS SEIZED HERE

Incomes from Many Plays and  
Broadway Musical Hits to  
be Put in Liberty Bonds.

## NEW JOB FOR CUSTODIAN

Proceeds of Emmy Destinn's Talk-  
ing-Machine Records and Some  
Books Also Taken Over.

A. Mitchell Palmer, the Enemy Alien Property Custodian, invaded the field of light and heavy operas yesterday, not as an impresario, composer, or advocate of "art for art's sake, but as the collector of hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of royalties which formally accrued to enemy holders of American rights to Broadway hits.

All the royalties thus collected will be invested promptly in Liberty bonds, for which reason Uncle Sam's interest in the success of the Viennese operetta "Pom Pom," or Richard Strauss's "Salome" will be every bit as keen as that of any producer.

Versatile as they have been in reconstructing the management of most every type of German-owned business up to the present time, Mr. Palmer and the members of his staff had to confess yesterday that the manipulation of a crop of operettas, operas, plays, and playlets, not to speak of talking machine records, offered something entirely new to their experience.

However, just as they have been compelled to learn by experience how to continue the income producing powers of a German-owned shoe factory, so they expect to learn by further experience how to preserve the box office prestige of "Little Boy Blue," "Miss Springtime," and others, even after the enemy interest in these successes ceases to exist.

### Making Exhaustive Inquiry.

Francis P. Garvan, Director of the Bureau of Investigation, is now conducting an exhaustive inquiry into the entire field of royalties, copyrights, patents, &c., as he is convinced that much enemy property of this kind is still lying about on Broadway, unreported to the Enemy Alien Property Custodian's office. Without impairing their box office values, Mr. Garvan will quietly seek to transfer all enemy control of American rights to musical and dramatic productions to the Government, no matter what they are.

On the list of enemy owned operettas in which Custodian Palmer seized the American rights yesterday are "Her Soldier Boy," "Alone at Last," "The Star Gazers," "Gypsy Love," "The Dollar Princess," "Pom Pom," "The Gay Hussars," "Sardi," "Little Boy Blue," "The Chocolate Soldier," "Miss Springtime," and "The Riviera Girl." Among the plays in the list are "Madam X" and "The Concert," and the grand operas include "Salome," Wolf Ferrari's "The Jewels of the Madonna," and "The Secret of Suzanne."

The German theatres in this country will suffer heavily, because the Alien Property Custodian has also taken over the American rights to whole repertoires of German plays, among them being many which have been produced at the big German theatre in Milwaukee and the German theatre in New York. They include "Das Kuckuck's Ei," "Das Buch Einer Frau," "Der Rettungengel," "Griechisches Feuer," "Der Weibsteufel," "Des Pastors Rieke," "Fraulein Chef," "Die Schwebende," "Fräulein Chef," "Die Schwebende Jungfrau," "Der Meister," "Die Spanische Fliege," "Eine Ehe," "Laura-Massiert," "Das Ratsel Weib," "Magdalena," "Frau Majas Rache," and "Lottchen's Geburtstag."

### Talking Machine Records Affected.

In the matter of royalties on talking-machine records the Alien Property Custodian's most notable seizure was that of the records of Mme. Emmy Destinn, the Metropolitan Opera prima donna, among the records being "Wiegenlied," "The Wedding," "My Homeland," "Good Night," "Pique Dame—Es dammert," "Pique Dame—O viens non," "Trovatore—Miserere," "Mignon—Kennst du das Land," "Madama Butterfly—Un bel di veuremo," "Aida—O patria mia," "Tosca—Vissi d'Arte e d'Amore," "Tannhäuser—Elizabeth's Gebet," "Magie Flute—Pamina's Air," "Pique Dame—Es geht auf Mitternacht," "Rusalka—Lieblicher Mond," "Trovatore—D'amor sull'ali rosce," "Ave Maria," "Die Bekehrte," "Quand je dors," "L'ultima Canzone," and "Guarany—Sento una forza indomita."

Among the musical compositions on the list are "Andante Religioso," "Berceuse," "Elegie," "Indian Lament," Dvorak-Kreisler's "Studien" for violin and Mendelssohn's "Schuler Konzert Op. 213."

Custodian Palmer also took possession of the American royalties on the following books:

Professor A. Gudeman's "Latin Literature of the Empire," Arnold Kutner's "Commercial German," Mrs. K. C. H. Dreschel's "Grimms Simbads," Josepha Schrakamp's "German Readings," German juvenile book, "Max and Moritz," Professor Max Walker's "Beginners' German," John L. Stoddard's lectures, "Influence of the Bible on Civilization," and J. Weingren's publication, "Electric Power Station."

Mr. Stoddard is an American citizen, but is now living at Meran, Austria, hence his property is subject to seizure.