

ARY 16, 1957

# KS RS Civic Opera ares 'La Boheme'

By WELDON WALLACE

The Baltimore Civic Opera production of "La Boheme" last night stimulated an enthusiastic response from a large audience at the Lyric Theater. The Puccini opera will be repeated tonight at 8.15 o'clock.

Kira Baklanova enacted the role of *Mimi* with poise, charm and tenderness. Vocally, we thought her middle and low registers better than the top. She was especially convincing in the finale scene, where the gentle phrases were produced in an affecting manner. Miss Baklanova was given "bravos" by the audience.

Charles May made an excellent impression as *Rodolfo*. He has a tenor voice of healthy proportions and fine quality, and he conveys intensity of feeling.

He is a young singer of much promise. His work will be all the more effective when he learns to rely consistently on forward projection of the tones rather than pushing them, as he sometimes did last night.

### Good Appearance

His top tones are not yet as well rounded as they might be, but there is no reason to



KIRA BAKLANOVA  
"Mimi"

CHARLES MAY  
"Rodolpho"

## Bennett Cerf

AT a dinner in honor of David Sarnoff, of R.C.A., Howard Cullman told this anecdote: Years ago, when he was running the Roxy Theater, Cullman visited Sarnoff's office to see what movies he could book there.

Sarnoff, an expert telegrapher in his youth, tapped out this dot-dot-dash message to his secretary: G-E-T M-E L-I-S-T O-F M-O-V-I-E-S A-V-A-I-L-A-B-L-E R-O-X-Y T-H-E-A-T-R-E.

"I've got her trained beautifully," chuckled Sarnoff. The secretary arrived in jig time—carrying a glass of water and an aspirin.

Teacher in a kindergarten class told her charges, "Anybody who has to leave the room should just hold up two fingers." From the rear of the class came a scornful, "How's that going to help?"

An actor was trying to per-

ssack  
er the  
, will  
t the  
. Sun-

s were  
avonic  
Czars  
visions  
ey. At  
many  
a, last  
e Rus-

ed the  
ater of  
l here

bers of  
ath of  
ip en  
ed the  
means.  
except  
ho are  
al citi-  
United

them  
ork. In  
r, Jar-  
origi-  
appear

Michael  
agnus-  
stered  
pokes-  
roup.

or

ciety  
an il-  
als at  
2103

essor  
State  
liver

KS  
RS  
ares

ing  
(a.)  
ook  
per  
he  
ws-  
itu-

w  
e  
n  
n  
a  
-  
re  
g  
ty  
lc  
ir  
ti

r  
c  
b  
v  
n

su  
cl  
m  
ga  
li  
"T  
si  
m  
ur  
he  
hi  
pl  
do