

Sings Like Hayes



Senora Gloria de la Cuesta
Native of Havana, Cuba, who
studied music in Havana and in
Paris, France, gave a successful
recital in Harlem at Imperial
Hall, Tuesday evening, Septem-
ber 27. Senora Cuesta's art was
praised by a Paris critic as being
like that of Roland Hayes. She
will make an American tour if
she can effect the proper ar-
rangements.

ALAINE LOCKE SAYS: "AMERICANS AT GENEVA ARE CONSISTENT DEMOCRATS"

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—
Dr. **Alain Locke**, who has been
in Geneva most of the summer,
studying the work of the
League of Nations with par-
ticular reference to the mandate
system of colonial administration,
arrived home last week on the Ile
de France. He went immediately to
Washington to resume his work at
Howard University.

Seen shortly after his arrival,
Dr. Locke had the following to say:
"My report, which will take some
considerable time for preparation
will be submitted first to the Foreign
Policy Association of New York,
under whose auspices I was sent to
Geneva. However, I am free to say
some things of general interest
right off and without reservations.
In the first place I am so impressed
with the opportunities for study and
contact at Geneva that I am plan-
ning to return next summer, and I
hope some of our enterprising young
men and women students will join
the enthusiastic forward looking
students of other peoples and na-
tionalities who crowd Geneva every
summer. They will see a new world
in the making, and will be made
welcome, because Geneva is the
mecca of the liberal and progressive
elements of all nations.

"This is equally true of the Amer-
icans at Geneva; they are the type
that is the hope of America. They
are trying their utmost unofficially
to discharge America's moral obliga-
tions in the program of world recon-
struction which the World War has
made necessary and possible. They
feel committed to this task, even
though America officially does not
take part. I was convinced by their
courteous and cordial reception that
unlike Mr. Wilson who committed
them to this international task by
his sponsorship of the League of
Nations, they are consistent Demo-
crats, as anxious for the enlarge-
ment of Democracy at home as
abroad. I return more convinced
that ever that the liberal and en-
lightened forces of our own country
are with us in our struggle for self-
determination and just recognition.
But if we expect to be the beneficia-
ries of this new Democracy, we
must ourselves participate in its
birth struggles and help it into be-
ing. Our selfish isolation in our own
group problems is inconsistent with
what we expect from America and
the world at large. To have a place
in the sun we must come out of the
shadow of the race problem and toil
for the common good.

"Among the progressive move-

ments of today none is more impor-
tant than the work of the League
of Nations. Its basic principles of
the equality of nations, of the self-
determination of peoples, and the
moral responsibility of governments
before the court of World opinion,
are the only basis upon which we
can hope for a world free of the
oppressions and exploitations of the
old order of things, the only pro-
gram that may successfully avoid
race war on a scale bigger even
than the war we called 'the World
War.' Though we have no political
interests involved, the whole moral
issue of the race question is at stake
in such a program, and we are
morally bound as Negroes particu-
larly to helpfully participate."

It was, moreover, a great satisfac-
tion to see at Geneva Abyssinia,
Liberia and Hayti actively working
in the family of nations; to hear, for
example that the former Haytian
representative, M. Bellegarde had
left behind him the reputation of be-
ing one of the real statesmen and
benefactors of the League. On the
subject to which I was assigned, it
was a new vision of Africa that the
program of the League revealed. For
the Mandate system, with its new
sense of trusteeship for native inter-
ests and rights and the principle of
international responsibility and
guardianship, is a new departure in
colonial policy which in time will by
the very contrast of its methods and
ideals force a revolutionary change

of colonial practise all over Africa.
Already the colonial governments
are being forced to make reforms
in their colonies proper to escape
the moral indictment of the en-
lightened programs in the Mandate
areas.

"Intelligent participation in Afri-
can affairs, constructive help in Afri-
can reconstruction, will eventually
be the Negro-American's world duty.
Our schools and colleges should al-
ready be paying special attention to
these problems and questions, pre-
paring the younger generation for
intelligent, skilled, participation
along these lines. The next few
years must see a program formu-
lated and undertaken which will re-
deem the limitations and fanaticism
of Garveyism and which will make
a small scale movement like the
Pan-African Congress is but a fore-
runner of a crusade. It's significant
that this very summer, the Pan-
African Congress, which owes its be-
ing to one of our outstanding liber-
als, should have come at last to
America. It seems to me that noth-
ing is more reprehensible in our
race life today than the compara-
tive lack of knowledge and interest
about Africa.

"By coincidence it was from Gene-
va that it fell my lot to reply to
the challenge of Mr. Lothrop Stod-
dard, the avowed champion of this
losing principle of the inherent su-
periority and permanent overlord-
ship of certain peoples and races.

One could answer him almost se-
renely from a vantage point where
one can really see how far in the op-
posite direction the world has al-
ready moved, and how all the signi-
ficant trends point to a slow but
peaceful abdication of that overlord-
ship.

"You ask me what I think of our
recent debate in the Forum? That
is not for me to say; the public is
the referee. I have a short rebut-
tal reply in the next issue. I would
have been keenly disappointed if
Mr. Stoddard had argued any dif-
ferently. His very confusion of the
question of intermarriage and amal-
gamation with the real question at
issue—cultural opportunity and rec-
ognition, is an admission of the di-
lemma in which the creed of White
Supremacy has involved itself. To
shield itself from its own self-con-
tradiction, it has to pretend to be
the aggrieved party, menaced by a
black peril. All that is a nightmare
of moral indigestion. Fortunately
there is growing up, even in the
South, a generation with no such bad
conscience and no such hysterical
fears. They may be expected to ap-
preciate the fact that social rela-
tions are matters of individual
choice and personal progressive; and

that what the Negro asks and needs
is civic equality and full cultural
opportunities. And they may be ex-
pected to see that in granting this,
Democracy has more to gain than
the Negro."