

RACHMANINOFF'S WIFE HERE

Mate of Famed Musician
Talks of Duties

HAVE TWO DAUGHTERS

Not All Artists Impossible as
Husbands, She Says

By Ruth Neely

Train after train, hotel after hotel, concert after concert: life is like that for Madame Serget Rachmaninoff, wife of one of the world's greatest pianists and composers.

Or so it seemed at breakfast, which they took on arrival at the Sinton Hotel Friday morning. The great artist plays Friday night at Emery Auditorium.

It seemed, on first speaking to the tall, graceful, serious-visaged woman, the customary situation—the wife's sacrifice to the husband's career.

But not so. Madame Rachmaninoff corrected this implication promptly and definitely.

"Of course, it's not a sacrifice. We must travel constantly but that's of necessity, not sacrifice. Life's necessities are not, for that reason, to be called sacrifice."

THE BUSINESS of being a wife, if the viewpoint of Madame Rachmaninoff is accepted, is the business of being a wife, whether of a man of artistic genius, business genius or no genius at all. A good wife, who understands the business, does what should be done, and a good husband makes the doing as worth while as possible. All great artists, despite the general impression, are not trying husbands. Some are excellent. The wife of Serget Rachmaninoff considers her husband as being in the latter class.

"But he is not the only good husband I know," she added.

"Right now he is tired. We have been traveling steadily this year and last year toured as steadily in Europe.

"Concerts have been almost every two nights. But when we go to Paris this summer we shall rest some place in the country. We look forward to that."

THEIR TWO daughters, Irene, whose husband was the Prince Peter Wolfonsky, and Titiana, given the name of one of the daughters of the late czar, live in Paris, altho some years ago the Rachmaninoffs established their home in New York.

It is 12 years since the family left Russia, their native land, where great honors had been showered upon the already noted composer.

The revolution robbed them of high standing and important position. But Madame Rachmaninoff already had yielded up, voluntarily, her own personal career. She was before her marriage Natalie Satina, pianist of great promise.

"My husband was a composer. I could not disturb him by practicing. So I gave it up," she explained, simply.

THE PRESENT Russian situation, the persecution levelled against religion, deeply interests the grave and quiet woman, but even this does not move her to heated comment.

"We do not discuss political situations, of course. But it is not right to take away the belief in God from those who do believe or to deprive them of their right to worship. There is only one side to that."

This is the first visit Madame Rachmaninoff has made to Cincinnati. At the door of their suite Friday morning was a huge cake, beautifully frosted, with their name emblazoned on the surface, embellished with dancing notes of music. It carried the compliments of the hotel and it brought a smile to the face of the wife whose business is her husband's career.