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IN THE AUDITORIUM.

The Opera House presented a brilliant spectacle as the National Anthem was played, inaugurating the commencement of the season. Prince Henry was in the Royal box, with his Royal Highness being the Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury and Lady Mary Ashley-Cooper—both ladies wearing pink—and General Sir Frederick Ponsonby. On arrival, the Prince was received by Lieut.-Colonel Eustace Blois, managing director of the London Opera Syndicate. Princess Helena Victoria, in grey, was in the stalls. The German Ambassador was among those present. The Marquis and Marchioness of Blandford were together, Lady Blandford, in black, wearing a pastel pink velvet coat, with a chinchilla collar, and some small diamond ornaments. Lady Ludlow was in white crêpe-de-Chine, with an emerald green fringed scarf, and had a long coat of dull crimson, panne with a deep fur collar. Evelyn Lady Alington wore a pink crêpe-de-Chine dress, and a coat of gold lace and deep rose-pink satin.

Viscount and Viscountess Ullswater were together, Lady Ullswater wearing black. Lady Evelyn Ward chose white, and had a cape of red and gold brocade. Lady Hylton, who was in heliotrope satin and chiffon, wore a long coat of velvet in a sable shade of brown. Lord Hylton was with her. Dame Nellie Melba wore a flame-coloured soft brocade dress, and a cloak trimmed with chinchilla. Mrs. Lionel Harris, with a gold and pink cloak, had a pale gold dress and small diamond ornaments in her hair. Mrs. Courtauld appeared in a dress of bright apple green crêpe-de-Chine, and over it was a long and lovely coat of silver and apple-green brocade, with a deep collar of long feathers in the same beautiful shade.

Others who were present included Lord and Lady Stuart of Wortley, Lady Ralli, Captain Malcolm Bullock, Lord Beaverbrook, Lieut.-Colonel E. F. and Mrs. Lawson, Lord Wittenham, Miss Olga Lynn, Mr. and Mrs. de Laszlo, Major J. S. Courtauld, M.P., the Right Hon. Walter Runciman, M.P., Mr. Northcote, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Peto, the Hon. Evelyn FitzGerald, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Higgins, Major Greenless, Mrs. Charles Hunter, Sir Milsom Rees, the Hon. Lady Lawson-Johnston, Mr. F. O. Dempster Smith, and Sir Otto Beit.