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MUSIC

By JON BYRON

James Melton will make his New York operatic debut in the role of Lt. Pinkerton in "Mme. Butterfly" at the Center Theatre this Friday evening...Lotte Lehmann, whose "Midway in My Song" has just been published, is at the Ambassador Hotel...America will have its first opportunity to hear Ignace Jan Paderewski on the air when he broadcasts next Sunday afternoon, Sept. 25, from Lausanne, Switzerland.

Musical Repercussions in Italy: Artur Rubinstein has cancelled his tour of Italy "because he cannot go into a country where his co-religionists are being persecuted so unjustly." The eminent pianist, at the same time, sent back to Mussolini an autographed photograph the dictator had given him, and the badge of the Commander of the Italian Cross. A few days ago Natalie Bodanya also refused to sing in that country because of anti-Jewish measures.

Nino Martini will give a recital in the McMillin Theatre of Columbia University on Nov. 12... "Pagliacci," a film production based on the Leoncavallo opera, with Richard Tauber in the leading role, is nearing completion in England...Pasquale Rubino, himself, will direct the premiere of his three-act opera, "The Threat of Ariadne," Saturday, Sept. 24, at Town Hall.