

## Describes Mario Lanza

### as a Sawdust Caruso

To the Editor—A reader says that a *Globe* review of "The Great Caruso" was unfair to the "magnificent, glorious," etc., voice of Mario Lanza. My complaint is that it was too gentle on this sawdust Caruso.

Caruso was the greatest tenor of our times, possessing the most powerful voice of his day, with a range extending from the heights of tenor to the depths of bass. His breath capacity was unequalled and enabled him to expand his chest nine inches. The Metropolitan Opera had its "golden age" when Caruso sang there.

Lanza, on the contrary, never was accepted by the Metropolitan. His voice is high and thin, although sound amplification and other tricky devices of the movie industry try their best to give a better impression. Lanza's breathing is entirely incorrect. On every breath he pushes out his chest. Correct breathing is done unnoticed in the diaphragm. The story is, of course, grossly inaccurate.

If it were not for his poor English, Jussi Bjoerling should have been put in the role, for he is the world's greatest tenor and resembles Caruso to some extent, vocally and physically. Due to this setback, English-speaking Richard Tucker of the Metropolitan would have been splendid.

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