

9-19-1941

## Henri Temianka Correspondence; (coolidge)

Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge

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## Henri Temianka Correspondence; (coolidge)

### Description

This collection contains material pertaining to the life, career, and activities of Henri Temianka, violin virtuoso, conductor, music teacher, and author. Materials include correspondence, concert programs and flyers, music scores, photographs, and books.

### Keywords

Henri Temianka, Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge, September 19, 1941, virtuosity in musical performance, culture, violinist, violin, chamber music, camaraderie, hotel, legal matters, mother, father, children, discontent



MRS. ELIZABETH SPRAGUE COOLIDGE

Hotel Oakland  
Oakland, California

September 19, 1941

Mr. Henri Temianka  
c/o Mr. Sanford Treguboff  
San Francisco Committee of Service to Emigrés  
1600 Scott Street  
San Francisco, California

Dear Henri:-

I have just sent off a telegram to you saying that I cannot undertake the legal and official letter which you have asked me to typewrite and sign before a notary. I am sorry to say this, but, in the first place, such an arduous piece of work is really too heavy a burden for me under my present rather weakened condition, and, in the second place, I feel that it would be much more appropriate to have someone who has known you longer assume this legal and official responsibility. After all, you must realize that our acquaintance dates back only a little more than a year and that I am not the proper person to say more than I have already said. This does not in any way imply any distrust of you, for of course you know that is not the case; but I simply do not feel that my information regarding your circumstances is sufficiently founded or of sufficiently long standing to warrant a legal document of that sort. Some of the conditions which you mention I have already complied with, having stated in my letter to you that I was a resident of Washington, which I suppose infers that I am a citizen of the United States. If you wish to have typed the note already sent you, adding to it the affirmation that I was born in Chicago and have never been a citizen of any other country, and addressing it to the Department of State, I will gladly



sign it before a notary, if you will attend to bringing this notary to me. The "full data" in regard to the length of our acquaintance I should have to leave to you, for I do not remember. I believe that the first time I was introduced to you was at Mrs. Stern's home, when you played for us after dinner. I cannot consent to write a biographical sketch of myself, but this has often been published.

I thoroughly understand and deeply sympathize with your distress over your parents, and cannot conceive of your doing anything less than your utmost to relieve their desperate situation; and I most certainly hope that you will find the necessary sponsors among those you have long known and intimately worked with you.

I shall be happy to hear from you and to know further details about the Beethoven concerts. I seem unable to get anything out of the Los Angeles papers, for I suppose that it is only the very early editions that are sent to the news-stands in Oakland; so I shall be doubly glad to receive the collection which you say you are making for me.

With my best wishes and regrets at my limitations in the matter of assisting you, I am

Affectionately yours,

*S. S. Coolidge*

ESC:r