

**Les Contes d'Hoffmann.** At the first costume fittings designer Maria Björnson, with wardrobe staff and dressmakers, assembles basted costumes on Plácido Domingo, left, on Sir Geraint Evans, right, and on two members of the chorus



**Les Contes d'Hoffmann.** Maria Björnson, exhausted during the fitting of over 300 costumes, sits in the millinery department, while work continues on trimmings in the dressmaking rooms, on hat fittings and wig adjustments.

Opposite: John Schlesinger directs a rehearsal of *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, with conductor Georges Prêtre (left) and assistant producer Richard Gregson (right); and assesses the stage set for Act I

