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## Contents for June, 1945

VOLUME LXIII, No. 6 • PRICE 25 CENTS

### EDITORIAL

The Supreme Service of Music ..... 2

### MUSIC AND CULTURE

The Spectacular Meyerbeer ..... Arnold Hugon 24  
Childhood in Valhalla ..... Friedelind Wagner 24  
The Secret of Leschetizky ..... Frank La Forge 24  
Beginning, Middle, and Ending ..... Helen Oliphant Bates 24  
Relax!—Then What? ..... George MacNabb 24

### MUSIC IN THE HOME

War-Time Broadcasts of Notable Interest ..... Alfred Lindsay Morgan 24  
The Etude Music Lover's Bookshelf ..... B. Meredith Codman 24

### MUSIC AND STUDY

The Teacher's Round Table ..... Dr. Guy Maier 24  
You're Not Too Old to Play the Piano ..... John Erskine 24  
Music in the Post-War Curriculum ..... Captain Edward T. Payson 24  
What Determines Quality of Tone? ..... Sidney Bushell 24  
The Value of Studying Hymns ..... Irving D. Bartley 24  
Orchestral Bowings for High School Students ..... Elizabeth A. H. Green 24  
The Challenge of the High School and College Band to the American Composer (Part Two) ..... William D. Revelli 24  
The Violinist's Forum ..... Harold Berkley 24  
Questions and Answers ..... Dr. Karl W. Gehrken 24  
America's Musical Yesterday ..... David Eben 24  
Be Your Own Guide! ..... Dorothy Kirsten 24

### MUSIC

**Classic and Contemporary Selections**  
Moment Beautiful ..... Robert Syd Duncan 24  
Ivan Dances ..... Vladimir Scheroff, Op. 10, No. 2 24  
Andante Con Moto, from the 5th Symphony ..... L. van Beethoven 24  
On the Lake ..... Frederic A. Williams, Op. 48 24  
Squadrons on Parade ..... Robert A. Hellard 24  
Fairest Lord Jesus ..... Silesian Folksong, Trans. by Clarence Kohlmann 24  
Garden of Roses ..... Irene Marschand Ritter 24  
Mexican Poppies ..... Vernon Lane 24

### Vocal and Instrumental Compositions

June (Violin and Piano) . P. Tchaikovsky, Op. 37, No. 6, Arr. by Frederick Hahn 24  
A Winding Road (Secular song—low voice) ..... Louise E. Stairs 24  
Prelude, from Organ Concerto, No. 1 (Organ) . J. S. Bach, Arr. by Paul Tonner 24

### Delightful Pieces for Young Players

The "Toy" Symphony (Piano Duet) (from "The Child Haydn"—Childhood Days of Famous Composers Series by Lottie Ellsworth Colt and Ruth Bampton) ..... F. J. Haydn, Arr. by Ruth Bampton 24  
Song of the Seesaw ..... Anna Priscilla Risher 24  
The Waltzing Doll ..... Edna Taylor 24  
Farmer Boys' Dance ..... Lewis Brown 24  
Fairy Frolics ..... Hilda Nordstrom 24

### THE WORLD OF MUSIC

THE JUNIOR ETUDE ..... Elizabeth Gest 24

### MISCELLANEOUS

Four Ways to Save Waste Paper ..... 24  
Governor Dewey Hails Music ..... 24  
Important Notice to All Etude Subscribers ..... 24  
Voice Questions Answered ..... Dr. Nicholas Douy 24  
Organ and Choir Questions Answered ..... Dr. Henry S. Fry 24  
Violin Questions Answered ..... Harold Berkley 24

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# The Supreme Service of Music

MUSIC'S supreme service is to minister to the spiritual and emotional needs of Man. There are times in life when no language save that of music seems capable of expressing human emotions. Nowhere is this thought more rapturously sensed than in the Psalms of David. That precious series of songs, prayers, and exhortations contains over fifty addressed "To the Chief Musician":

"O sing unto the Lord a new song; for He hath done marvelous things; His right hand and His holy arm, hath gotten Him the victory."

—Psalm 98:1

Down through the ages, as music has slowly developed from the primitive sounds of aboriginal peoples to the noble creations of immortal masters, great sages, seers, and poets have recognized that beyond and above speech there is the mystic medium of music by which man soars to his highest spiritual strata and looks upon the presence of the Eternal. Carlyle noted this in these exalting words, which we have often quoted in THE ETUDE:

"Music is a kind of inarticulate, unfathomable speech which leads us on to the edge of the Infinite."

In the passing of Franklin Delano Roosevelt a singular phenomenon occurred. With all bitterness, slurs, and backbitings of violent political conflict overcome by death, a sudden realization of the nature of the nation's loss came to friends and opponents alike. Here was a strange situation that words could not encompass. Spontaneously the radio broadcasts, so intimate a part of our American life, took on a wholly different character. There

was news of the hour and a few commemorative tributes to the late President. The usual programs of entertainment were silenced, and music, majestic music of the soul-sustaining, heart-consoling kind was heard in all parts of the land. Relatively little of the music was of the funeral type. The powerful symphonies of the masters, the simple, rich melodies and hymns that will never die, the grandeur of Bach, Handel, Beethoven, Schubert, Tchaikovsky, Verdi, Grieg, César Franck, and others poured into homes everywhere, making an impression that never will be forgotten. The broadcasts, notably those conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham, were masterpieces of dignity and beauty for this momentous occasion. Millions who heard the many magnificent programs were made aware of the greater import of music that exalts life.

Then it was that the public realized that the President, liberated

from his physical infirmities, the cares of public office, the shocks and horrors of war, the disappointments, and the countless fetters that held him down and yet had not thwarted his spirit, was now free from his huge burden. The people saw an empty wheel chair and bowed their heads.

This was the first time in the history of our country that such a thing as a nation-wide resort to music was possible. Never before had the resources of the radio been presented in such lofty manner for the exaltation of the lovers of freedom throughout the world. Too much praise cannot be given the broadcasting authorities for the way in which they met this national emergency. The great outpouring of transcendent music was, for the moment, far more moving and appealing to the people of America than floods of adjectives and flowered encomiums. The hour had come when the zenith to which words may rise no longer sufficed. There remained only music. Well might Horace call music "the sweet and healing balm of all troubles."

Naturally the Beethoven Eroica Symphony was heard frequently. Mr. Ormandy and Mr. Koussevitzky immediately changed their programs to include wonderful performances of this masterpiece. As everyone knows, the original title page of the Eroica reads thus:

Sinfonia grande  
Napoleon Bonaparte  
804 im August  
del Sigr.  
Louis van Beethoven

Sinfonie 3 Op. 55

When Beethoven heard that Napoleon had forsaken his democratic ideals to crown himself emperor, the composer flew into a rage and tearing off the title page, flung it to the floor and ground it beneath his feet. He then renamed the work "Sinfonia eroica per festeggiare il sovvenire d'un gran uomo" ("Heroic symphony to celebrate the memory of a great man").

The master had little thought that a century thereafter, in a new world, the Eroica would become the threnody for another man whose humane ideals were akin to his. Majestically, the glorious work came over the same air waves which, in 1940, brought the stentorian voice of Mr. Roosevelt, proclaiming, "I hate war!"

The President's belief in the vast importance of music at a time of serious national crisis was well known. In 1942 THE ETUDE presented his famous letter to Mrs. Vincent Ober, former president of

(Continued on Page 316)



# The Spectacular Meyerbeer

by Arnold Hugon

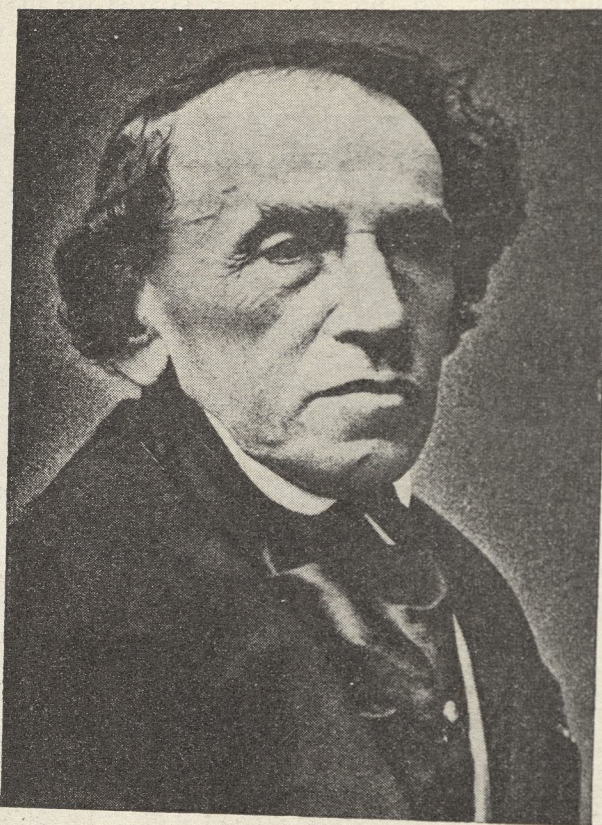
THERE IS a certain analogy between Giacomo Meyerbeer and Felix Mendelssohn which has been interesting to students of musical history. Both were born of Jewish parents of great wealth who, having tired of making money, devoted their time to the promotion of culture. Meyerbeer's brother Wilhelm took up astronomy and gained a prize from the French Academy, while another brother, Michael, became a poet and dramatist who won the high esteem of Goethe. Both Mendelssohn-Bartholdy and Meyerbeer bore names that were only in part their own. Meyerbeer was born Jakob Liebmann Beer in Berlin September 5, 1791. His grandfather, named Meyer, discovering that the boy was destined to become a musical genius, settled a fortune of 300,000 francs upon him, with the understanding that the name of Meyer should be added to that of Beer. The case of Mendelssohn was slightly different. Mendelssohn's mother, whose name was Lea Salomon, had a brother who was a protégé of the owner of a restaurant garden named Bartholdy. He persuaded young Salomon to adopt his name and become a Protestant Christian and willed the young man a fortune. When Lea Salomon married the banker, Abraham Mendelssohn, he decided to adopt the name Bartholdy and to become a Christian also. Abraham's two sisters, Dorothea and Henriette, had become Roman Catholics. Jacob Ludwig Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, born in Hamburg, February 3, 1809 and brought up in Berlin, married in 1837 Cécile Charlotte Sophie Jeanrenaud of Frankfurt, "a young lady of great beauty," daughter of a clergyman of the French Reformed Church. Meyerbeer married his cousin, Minna Mosson, in 1827.

Here, however, the analogy ceases. Mendelssohn had an organic creative mind which functioned from deep internal conviction. Meyerbeer, on the other hand, while he did many ingenious things in orchestration, theatrical effects, and in melodic treatment, seemed on the whole to spend his time contriving results which were without the sincerity or profundity which moved Mendelssohn. In fact, Schumann said of him contemptuously, "I place him with Franconi's circus people," and Wagner, with his customary ingratitude, referred to him as "A Jew banker who composes music." Beethoven, who died when Meyerbeer was only thirty-six years old and therefore could not have known much of his music, said that Meyerbeer "lacked the courage to beat the big drum."

Felix Mendelssohn, as his name Felix suggests, was of a very happy and joyous disposition, while Meyerbeer was the opposite. Rossini, when asked why he and Meyerbeer could never agree, said, "Meyerbeer likes sauerkraut better than he likes macaroni." Mendelssohn found no pleasure in Meyerbeer's music, and called it cold and calculating. He agreed with another writer who called it "banker's music, written for high finance and deserving the fate of the money makers in the Temple."

What, then, was there about the music of Meyerbeer which enabled it to dominate French opera for the better part of a century? Why is it that so few of his works are known to the public today? The reader is challenged to try to hum or whistle a theme from any one of his seventeen operas. The *Coronation March* is fairly well remembered, but most of his other music is now forgotten in the popular musical mind, in which the vital lines of the great masters find a permanent place.

Meyerbeer began his career as a child pianist in



MEYERBEER IN HIS OLD AGE

Berlin at the age of seven. He had studied with Lauska and Clementi. He then took up the study of composition under Anselm Weber. While studying with the Abbé Vogler at Darmstadt, one of his fellow pupils was Carl Maria von Weber. Meyerbeer was very modest and sincere in his ambitions and when he heard the famous pianist, Johann Nepomuk Hummel, play, he was so thrilled by his finesse that he decided to postpone his debut for another six months, to permit further practice.

Meanwhile, his compositions displayed what his friends thought was a very heavy mathematical style, ill adapted to the fluent melodic operatic demands of the day. An English critic called it "more counterpoint than charm." Therefore, Salieri suggested in 1815 that Meyerbeer go to Venice, where he could hear more Italian opera. This resulted in seven operas produced between 1818 and 1824, one of which, "Il crociato in Egitto," was a triumphant success. He returned to Berlin to endeavor to produce a three-act German opera, "Das Brandenburger Thor," named after the famous gate on the Unter den Linden, which has been so furiously bombarded during the present war.

## An Operatic Life Saver

In Prague, Meyerbeer met his classmate, Carl Maria von Weber, who criticized him for following ephemeral Italian models. Meyerbeer took Von Weber's advice to heart and went to Paris, where he made an exhaustive study of French opera, from Lully on. This ushered him into a third period of composition, by which he is best known. He also advanced his orches-

"FORWARD MARCH WITH MUSIC"

tral skill very greatly and "Robert le Diable" was produced at the Grand Opéra in 1831 and was a tremendous success that the failing finances of the Opéra were revived in fantastic fashion. Collaborating with the librettist, Eugène Scribe, he found a collaborator who could supply the background for his spectacular and melodramatic ideas.

"Robert le Diable" was followed by "Les Huguenots" (1836), a work of much higher quality but without the bombastic elements which had made "Robert" a spontaneous hit. "Les Huguenots" cost nearly twice as much to produce. Then came "Le Prophète" in 1844. In the same year Meyerbeer was called to Berlin as Musical Director because of the huge artistic success of "Les Huguenots" in the capital of King Frederick Wilhelm IV. There he wrote an opera entitled "Feldlager in Schlesien" (1843), in which the role was taken by Jenny Lind in 1844. In 1845, on his tour to Vienna and London, he returned to Berlin and produced Richard Wagner's "Rienzi" which, as every reader will remember, was patterned in the Meyerbeer style. Meyerbeer went far out of his way to flatter Wagner at many times. Wagner repaid him with ingratitude and scurrilous epithets.

## A Flair for the Spectacular

In 1849 Meyerbeer's "Le Prophète" was presented at the Grand Opéra in Paris. "L'Étoile du Nord" followed at the Opéra Comique in 1854. This was a French version of "Das Feldlager in Schlesien" ("The Camp in Silesia"). His graceful "Dinorah," with the opera house success of "Shadow Song," came to the Opéra Comique in 1861. Meyerbeer never saw his last and probably greatest work, "L'Africaine," which was not produced until ten years after his death.

Meyerbeer's flair for the spectacular and the atrical led to unheard of expenditures for stage productions at that time. In these days of \$2,000,000 Broadway movies, \$50,000 seems a mere trifle, but the Paris Opéra of one hundred years ago, such as it was, was staggering. Meyerbeer, with his theatrical background, would be a great hit in the Hollywood of today.

Meyerbeer's works in other forms (apart from "Fackeltänze" or Torch Dance and the "Coronation March") are literally forgotten at this time. There is no question that Wagner's jealousy of Meyerbeer was due to the fact that he did not hesitate to use some of the latter's very ingenious and brilliant orchestral instrumentation.

The late nonagenarian pianist and critic, Franz Berger, long a contributor to THE ETUDE Music Magazine, wrote in "Musical Opinion" of 1915:

"Meyerbeer was, if not the first, certainly among the first, to discover the fact and utilize the knowledge that the tone quality of every instrument in the modern orchestra has a character of its own, and that the wise and competent composer allots to each instrument only such music as is in accordance with its character. His scores abound in beautiful examples of this judicious selection, of which many are so good that they can easily be recalled."

## Meyerbeer and Orchestration

"The use which he makes in his 'Robert le Diable' of the trombone as a solo instrument, is an instance of his bold innovation in scoring. Wagner, in his 'Tristan und Isolde,' took a leaf out of Meyerbeer's book, while we have since helped ourselves ad lib to this innovation of Meyerbeer's originality."

"No other instrument than the cor anglais has been more appropriately selected to describe the poignant and passionate appeal for mercy which makes in her wonderful aria, *Robert toi que je crois* from 'Robert le Diable.' And can anything more fully represent the fierce stubborn bigotry of the Protestant soldier, *Marcel*, in 'Les Huguenots' than the use which is made of piccolo and bass drum in the wonderful song, *Piff-paff*. How eloquently romantic the viola obbligato in the tenor aria, *Più bianca più bianco velo*, in the same opera; how overwhelmingly crushing the orchestration of the *Coronation March* from 'Dinorah,' the imposing strains of the churchyard scene in 'Robert le Diable,' the sprightly, elegant, tripping scoring of the *Coronation March* from 'Le Prophète,' or the portentous notes in *Ah! mon* (Continued on page 304)

# Childhood in Valhalla

An Interview with

Friedelind Wagner

Author and Lecturer, Daughter of Siegfried Wagner

Granddaughter of Richard Wagner

Great-granddaughter of Franz Liszt

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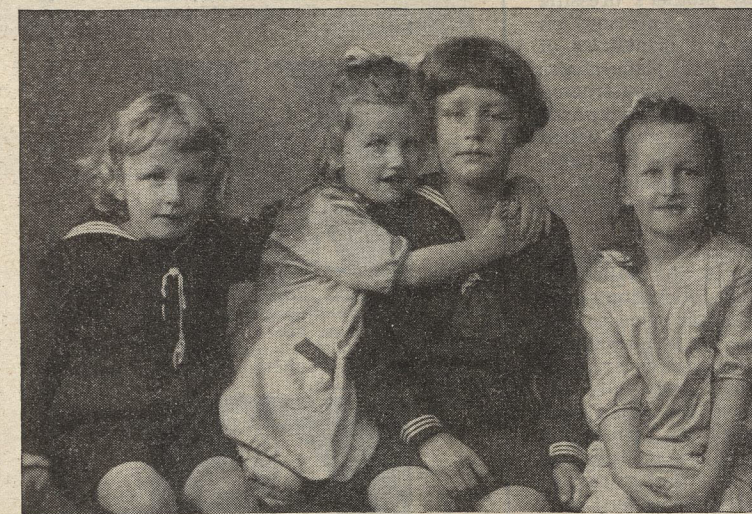
HITLER'S ALLEGED DEATH ADDS SENSATIONAL INTEREST TO THIS ARTICLE

If you heard that a dynamic young lecturer is touring the United States of America in order to dissipate false conceptions about her grandfather's music, you would hardly find the statement exciting. It becomes electric, however, when you learn that the lecturer is Friedelind Wagner and the grandfather, Richard Wagner. And the electricity stems from Miss Wagner herself, as well as from her illustrious ancestry. Born in Villa Wahnfried on Good Friday of 1918, Friedelind is every inch Wagner. Her high, arched forehead; the deep-seeing expression of her clear gray eyes; the prominently marked curve of the upper lip, all bear an almost startling likeness to the features of the young Richard Wagner. And the golden hair, brushed back from the fine brow, manages to combine the modern "shoulder-length bob" with a suggestion of Franz Liszt. What goes on inside that interesting head is also every inch Wagner. Liberal, tolerant, and forward-looking, Miss Friedelind is animated by a passionate desire to disassociate Wagner's music from Nazi ideology; to bring people to realize that the real and eternal themes of the great music-dramas are not "race theories" but symbols of human redemption through pity and through love. —EDITOR'S NOTE.

THE CHIEF PROBLEM of being a granddaughter of Richard Wagner is explaining how it is that I really do not remember my grandfather! Wagner was fifty-six when his son Siegfried was born, and Siegfried, my father, was forty-nine when I made my appearance. Hence, more than a century separates me from the grandfather (and the great-



FRIEDELIND WAGNER  
From an oil portrait by Krause



CHILDREN OF SIEGFRIED AND WINIFRED WAGNER  
(Left to right) Wolfgang, Verena, Wieland, and Friedelind

grandfather) about whom personal recollections are sought. Again, I often am disappointed when stories about 'Wagnerian tradition' are wanted. The fact is that we children knew very little of the significance of our background before 1924, when the Festspielhaus at Bayreuth was reopened after ten years of silence because of the first World War. Prior to that time, we took our ancestry very much for granted, the way children do in any home. Certainly, there were busts and portraits around the house, books, mementoes, and decorations; but it never occurred to us that all this was something to set us apart. Indeed, our parents did not wish us to feel set apart! They wanted us to be as free as possible, to develop whatever might be within us rather

"FORWARD MARCH WITH MUSIC"



RICHARD AND COSIMA WAGNER  
With their eleven-year-old son, Siegfried

than to lean on the development of those who had gone before us. The result was that we were all rather wild, unrestrained, and naughty.

When visitors and tourists spied us out and spoke to us in awed and admiring tones, I am afraid that we giggled and ran away. The busts and the portraits provided fun for us, though. Our ancestress, the Comtesse d'Agoult, was spoken of only as 'Madame Ragout'—ragout had a delightful association for us, while the name proper meant very little.

## Fun at Christmas

And then at Christmas time, we always dressed up the busts in our hats and coats, my own invariably being fastened upon Wagner because of the resemblance between us. The result always made the climax of our lark. The taken-for-granted place that music held in our home became clear when the authorities of my first school rushed in to my dear father to question him on his political views! Our teacher had asked each child his father's occupation; and, having rather vague ideas about *ein Komponist* (a composer) and *ein Kommunist* (a Communist), I simply neglected to correct a slight slip of the tongue when I said the second word instead of the first! No, we were not allowed to feel ourselves at all 'different'!

"I have a clear remembrance of my grandmother, Cosima Wagner, who lived until 1930. When I was tiny, she still walked about and took part in household affairs, a tall, magnificent figure. But in her latter years, she spent the day on a great couch in her sitting-room, carefully tended by her daughters, Eva and Daniela, who read to her and protected her from outside disturbances. Our nursery was next to her sitting-room, and we often went in to play near her. A house



rule that may seem curious to outsiders was that all mention of Wagner was forbidden in Cosima's presence. Her affection for him was so intense that reference to him caused her emotional crisis. It is well known that, when Wagner died, Cosima refused food and tried to die, too. She survived him by forty-seven years; yet, at the end, she returned to that earlier emotional intensity. Although Cosima had been a magnificent pianist, she never touched the piano after Wagner's death—except once. When my brother Wieland was born, some eighteen months before my birth, Cosima went voluntarily to the piano, played a few bars of the *Siegfried Idyll*—and then suddenly broke off, never to play again. Cosima resembled her father, Franz Liszt. Because of her prominent nose, no doubt, my father always called her 'his elephant'. And the austere Cosima loved it! Because of the difficult circumstances of her youth, she had never developed any great sense of humor—but my father developed it for her, and by the time she was old, she was very jolly.

#### Bayreuth Reopens

"Everything about my father gave off jollity and good humor! I have often thought that, had he not been overshadowed by the fact of being Wagner's son, his own accomplishments would have been recognized earlier. Siegfried Wagner was a fine conductor, an eminent composer, and the greatest stage-director of his time. He had longed to study architecture, for which he had a great gift. But music was stronger in him, and so he jumped into music! Home discipline was administered by my mother, the British-born Winifred Williams, later (after her adoption by the friend and editor of Wagner), Winifred Klindworth, with whom I never enjoyed the same hearty relations that I had with my father. Father simply had fun with us! He was too busy to come to tuck us into bed every night, but whenever he did, there were larks! He would dress up in one of my mother's dressing gowns, set one of those vast German tea-cosies on his head, and impersonate kings and dignitaries of the church! One of Liszt's specially built piano-chairs was in the house—Liszt's chairs had to be constructed with a view to his habit of bending over backwards when he played—and we children made a game called 'playing like Liszt', the essence of which was to wriggle ourselves into as many odd gyrations as possible. Well, we broke the historic chair, and punishment threatened. But Papa only laughed!

"In 1924, however, when Bayreuth once more opened its doors, our carelessness gave way to the realization that there really might be something interesting about all those busts and pictures that people came to see. We were, of course, permitted to see the performances; and my aunts arranged with the costume department to make us miniature stage clothes, stylistically accurate in every detail. Then we gave Wagnerian performances of our own! Papa played the themes for us and, according to our moods and our abilities, we either spoke or sang the scenes. No, they were not 'traditional'—they were merely hearty home fun!

"My father would not permit us to study music until we were eight years old. He believed that before that age, the hand is not ready for an instrument and the mind is not ready for full musical understanding. Papa did not teach us himself, but he supervised our studies. And he made the firm rule that no one could learn a second instrument, or develop in any other way, until he was able to read and to play all the Wagnerian scores. That, perhaps, is the chief point of difference in our training.

"Naturally, it was hoped that some or all of us would carry on the tradition of Bayreuth. My older brother Wieland early showed marked aptitude for painting and my father encouraged him. In 1936, Wieland did one of the most beautiful *Parsifal* settings that Bayreuth ever had. My younger brother Wolfgang is a gifted engineer, and my sister Verena (the 'baby') has a beautiful coloratura voice—although the last I heard about her, she was said to be studying medicine. Although my pianistic progress led to some public performances at Bayreuth (of which I still treasure the press notices!), my real love is for stage-craft. I had the opportunity of working and studying, on the

## 4 WAYS TO SAVE WASTE PAPER



**Wastebasket Paper (Wrappers, Envelopes, etc.):** Flatten and pack down in a box or bundle, so that it can be carried.



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"FORWARD MARCH WITH MUSIC"

Bayreuth stage, under Intendant Tietjen, and day, I hope to continue along these lines. But when, . . . ?

"All the splendid fun and ardors of our home came to an end when my father died and when Wagner was born. Hitler, of course, was a frequent visitor. I clearly remember seeing him, as a young man, He did not impress me at all—except for his timidity. He definitely had hypnotic power. The staidest people would suddenly begin to do the queer things in his presence—they'd tremble, drop what they had in their hands, break cups. And every time he spoke in an unnatural tone of voice! That disturbed me, even before I was old enough to weigh the things of his ideology. And then it seemed to me that I could not stand living under a regime that conducted cruelty, injustice, persecution, and murder. Now, for the first time, perhaps, in all my carefree years of Wagnerian taken-for-grantedness, I turned to the memory of my grandfather for aid. Wagner had rebelled, had exiled himself, had fought fanatically for liberty and justice. I could do the same—certainly not with equal distinction, but with equal sincerity. And so—I left home! Since 1940, I have no word of my people. Like millions of others, I can only hope they are safe. I am not sorry I left; I am sorry only that conditions forced exile upon me.

#### A Self-Imposed Exile

"The best use to which I can put this exile of mine is to tell people—to cry it to them, to force it upon them—that Wagner is not the 'symbol of Nazism'. The Norse gods with whom he peoples his works are not of his creation; they exist, as mythology, as the root of popular thought, beyond which history does not go. What Wagner put into his works, of his own creation, is his spiritual message. And every thoughtful person must see that it is as far removed from Nazism as it is possible to be. Wagner wanted people to see the beauty of Christ's law—after *Parsifal* who can doubt this? He showed, in the *Ring*, that greed, lust, and selfishness produce only the downfall of those who practice such qualities. Three years ago, I said publicly that the only connection between Wagner and Nazism is the fact that Hitler could plainly read his own doom in the *Ring*—that the *Twilight of the Gods* had already descended upon him. Only recently, to my joy, I saw that for some time past now, neither *Parsifal* nor any of the *Ring* works has been performed in Germany! There, I think, lies the best proof that Wagner was not a Nazi! Further, I may say that, while all public accounts credit Hitler with listening almost incessantly to Wagner, we who knew him intimately never found the slightest evidence of his Wagnerian tastes. From my personal experience, I can say that Hitler's 'favorite operas' were not Wagner's, but 'The Merry Widow,' 'The Daughter of the Regiment,' and 'Madama Butterfly.' Bayreuth will rise again—somewhere, some time—and with it, the realization that Wagner's deepest creed was human compassion and justice."

#### Governor Dewey Hails Music

GOVERNOR THOMAS E. DEWEY, commenting upon the observance of Music Week, proclaimed:

"The hearing of good music is no longer the prerogative of the very rich and their companions. It is a privilege enjoyed by tens of millions among us. The composing and interpretation of good music are no longer attended by a life of hardship and want, subsidized patronizingly by the great and powerful. It is now possible in these United States for large numbers of musicians to pursue their art according to their talents and sincerity and also to earn a decent livelihood.

"This has been brought about in a manner befitting a free people, neither by government regulation nor government subvention. The advance in the last twenty years has been almost miraculous."

Governor Dewey, while at the University of Michigan, was given an excellent training in music, prior to taking up law as a profession.

THE ETUDE

## The Secret of Leschetizky



FRANK LA FORGE

by Frank La Forge

to know under whom I had studied, why I came to him, what I expected to do. Finally satisfied that my intentions were serious, he motioned me to the piano. Having prepared Schumann's "Etudes Symphoniques" for the occasion, I played one movement and looked up inquiringly. "Well, go on," he said. When I finished, he set a time for the first lesson and I was overjoyed that the ordeal was over and he had accepted me as a pupil.

I can only touch on a few of my experiences with him here. Lessons were an hour long, sometimes longer, and there was never a dull moment. He sat at a second piano while I played, scanning the music. To make a correction, he would not point it out to me, but would stop me instead and play over the passage as he wished it to go. This was one way of developing a sensitive ear. One would have to listen with the utmost attention to know his intentions, since he rarely repeated. He could detect ungrateful fingering without seeing my fingers, since it usually meant poor phrasing. Fingering was an individual matter with Leschetizky, depending upon the hand's conformation and the proper phrasing. He often advised me to work out three fingerings to a difficult passage, then choose the one which seemed most natural and comfortable.

#### Moods of the Master

When I first went to Leschetizky, I wanted to study Chopin, but he would have none of it, giving me Bach and Beethoven instead. He felt that I needed the rhythmic incisiveness which a study of these composers cultivated. Leschetizky displayed many moods at each lesson, and one never knew what to expect. At one time he would be the soul of geniality, the next minute

he would blow up and scream at you. He had an uncontrollable temper.

I especially recall the weekly men's class at which Leschetizky would have only the members play. There were twelve men in the class I attended and they were invariably stormy sessions. There was, however, method in his madness; he was trying to condition his students to become concert artists, to overcome any timidity or stage fright they might have. Sometimes a student would barely get started when Leschetizky would stop him and ridicule him unmercifully.

On asking a student once what he had brought to the class, he replied Liszt's *E-flat Concerto*. "What!" Leschetizky thundered. "You of all people. What makes you think you can play that? It's preposterous." At the end of this tirade, the student ventured timidly to say that he had better not play that, at which Leschetizky gave him another blast for being so easily cowed. Leschetizky tried his best to discourage timid souls, no doubt to insulate them against discouragement and critical audiences later. One had to develop great fortitude to remain a member of the class.

#### His Manner of Illustrating

Students sometimes took these outbursts in a personal way. One boy was so upset after a turbulent lesson, he did not show up at the Christmas party, thinking Leschetizky considered him hopeless as a pianist. When Leschetizky heard why he had not come, he was remorseful and sent the boy two hundred gulden. Leschetizky would not accept a pupil unless he thought the latter would profit by lessons.

Leschetizky had innumerable devices to illustrate his point. He made up fantastic stories. If a pupil's rhythm was faulty, he would walk like a lame, old man, or lunge jerkily along. He told a pupil once, "Your playing is just like your coat—unbuttoned." He smoked innumerable cigars and would pause in the lesson frequently for a light. "You know why I fool with this cigar lighter?" he once asked. And then as though to answer his own question, he went on, "To give my ears a rest."

One of Leschetizky's great passions was a warm, beautiful tone akin to the singing voice. In fact, he advised his pupils to listen to good singing frequently and to phrase and breathe passages as would a singer. He held that no piano playing justified the name unless it said something.

Guiding a talent to the light was to him a matter of infinite fascination in which he never lost interest, for each pupil presented a new problem and offered new adventure. He learned as much from his pupils as they from him.

#### Leschetizky's "Method"

Leschetizky did not disparage technic, neither did he emphasize it. Certain characteristics were noticeable among his pupils, particularly rhythm, also sense and clarity of phrase, inaudible pedaling, warmth of tone and staccato brilliancy. These things were regarded by many as the chief subjects taught and yet they played but a small part in his scheme of unfoldment. His was a system which made its primary aim the study and interpretation of piano literature; its second, that of effects to be obtained from the instrument; its third, that of development of the hand.

Before a pupil came to Leschetizky, unless technically proficient, he must be prepared technically, a duty relegated to a corps of assistants. From long experience they devised certain ways of treating technical problems. There was great argument among his pupils on definite rules. Some claimed he advocated a firm wrist, others a relaxed wrist. I asked him once about this, but he was evasive, refusing to be pinned down. Nevertheless the impression (Continued on Page 353)

"FORWARD MARCH WITH MUSIC"

JUNE, 1945



# Beginning, Middle, and Ending

A Fundamental Art Principle Which, If Universal, Will Assist in Giving Balance and Climax to Your Interpretations

by Helen Oliphant Bates

MANY of the laws of art have a powerful influence which extends far beyond the limits of any single art form. Such laws are not the narrow dictates of isolated creators, but the fundamental principles of all art, and the very laws of life itself. The formula, "Beginning, Middle and Ending," is one of the most universal of laws, because it applies to every type of art that takes place in time—drama, dancing, literature and music. And in every form of art to which this formula is applied, we find that the same psychological and emotional forces affect the three parts.

In art, and in life, the Beginning consists of an introduction. The Beginning of a poem introduces the idea, the mood, and the rhythm. The Beginning of a musical work introduces the principal theme or themes. And the Beginning of a story, play, operetta, or musical comedy introduces the characters, the problem and the original situation.

During a social introduction, the average person is somewhat more formal than after the acquaintance has ripened. So it is in art. In the opening, when themes, ideas, or characters are being presented to readers or listeners, the treatment of thematic material will usually be comparatively reserved. This does not mean that every composition begins in a stiff and dignified manner. A capricious piece will start whimsically; a serious composition soberly. But, no matter what the style of the work, whether it be frivolous or solemn, the Beginning is inclined to be more constrained than the Middle section.

The Beginning of a sonata or fugue, generally called the Exposition, is particularly formal because the composer is expected to present subjects according to prescribed rules that affect the order of entry and the choice of key. But even in the freer musical forms, the phrases of the Beginning are apt to be more regular in rhythm and structure, and more conservative in harmonic treatment than those of the Middle section.

## Restraint in Interpretation

The interpreter should also keep in mind the fundamental qualities of the Beginning. Just as a composer uses restraint in the rhythmic, harmonic, and structural development of the Beginning, so too, the performer should use restraint in such factors as tempo, touch, tonal coloring, and style. Unless he does this, he will not be able to rise to dramatic heights in the climax.

In the Middle section of an art work, the creator or the interpreter seeks to gain variety, to quicken interest, and to build toward the climax. The poet uses richer imagery. The composer and the interpreter intrigue the imagination of the listener by harmonic novelty, and changes in tempo, touch, tonal coloring, or style. The story writer or the opera librettist makes his hero confront problems that increase in difficulty, danger, or emotional tension, until the suspense of the reader or listener becomes acute.

A characteristic trait of the Ending of a musical, literary, or dramatic work is the circling back to the Beginning. But since it is seldom effective to restate

exactly, the third part should be enriched. The creator and the interpreter will endeavor to infuse into the return to the material of the Beginning something of added significance that will raise the thought or the musical development to a loftier plane.

For example, one of the most effective ways to end a story is to refer to a comment or statement made in the first paragraph. The mere reference, though, is not enough. The last sentence should show how the condition at the start has been changed, and preferably improved, because of the struggle in the Middle division. Poems, in their Ending, frequently return to the words of the first part, in which case the poet tries to give new meaning and heightened connotations to the restated words. Musical compositions that belong to one of the ternary forms (three-part song form, song with trio, and on a broader scale the sonata and fugue), likewise in their Ending return to the theme or themes of the Beginning. The restatement of thematic material may be made more significant by new harmonization, a different style of accompaniment, embellishments or elaboration.

## Building for a Climax

Poems and musical compositions, though, do not always come back in such an obvious way to the words or the melodies of the Beginning. The return and the enrichment are often far more subtle. A poem may begin with a rhythm that is fairly regular, proceed to a Middle in freer or contrasting rhythm, and finish with a return to the typical and regular metre of the Beginning. The original rhythm is linked with new words that complete the thought and elevate it to a climax. A musical composition, like a poem, may return to the general style and harmony of the first part, without returning to the actual themes, as is done in the ternary forms. Or the return may be still less noticeable. It may be only the tonic harmony of the first part in the closing measures of the piece. But there will nearly always be found some circling back and up.

Summarizing, then, we find that the characteristics of the three divisions are:

- I. Beginning—comparatively reserved introduction.
- II. Middle—free and varied development with increasing intensity of thought and feeling.
- III. Ending—return to the Beginning at a higher level.

Let us analyze how these qualities are developed in two familiar compositions.

The first measures of the *Spinning Song* by Mendelssohn (Songs Without Words, No. 34), introduce us to the spinning wheel and the spinner with that comparative restraint characteristic of the Beginning. The first uncertain turns of the wheel are vividly described in measures one and two by the backward and forward movement and the narrow compass of the notes. The harmonic treatment of the Beginning is also reserved. The music stays in the tonic key until the modulation to the dominant at the end of Part I. Since the spinner is using a new pattern, he works with a certain precise carefulness. This is indicated by the regular structure—two introductory bars, and a period in parallel construction.

With the start of the Middle on the last beat of

Measure 10, the spinner turns the wheel with a bold swing. The melody jumps first to F, and four measures later to B-flat, both higher pitches than were reached in the Beginning; the melodic line is reinforced in the left hand at the interval of a sixth; and the harmonic background is more varied. Instead of that steady weaving of the Beginning (the regular four-measure phrase construction) the spinner uses free and easy movements. These are expressed by the extended second phrase, Measures 15-20, and the retransitional passage, Measures 25-29. The retransition is developed from the same figure that was used in the introduction. But the figure has a different effect now because instead of being cramped into two measures it is allowed to run unchecked for five measures.

The spinner is so fascinated with the designs in the cloth he is creating that in the Ending he weaves on and on, loath to stop. The first pattern is introduced with richer colors, last beat of Measure 29 to Measure 41. Instead of the period in parallel construction used in Part I, it is now a group of three phrases. The spinner glances back at the lovely design used in Part II. How exquisite it would be in a different shade of yarn. So Part II is transposed down a third, to make Part IV—the last beat of Measure 41 to Measure 44. The first theme is brought in still another time to make Part V, the last beat of Measure 64 to measure 76; and a border—the Coda, added to finish the whole.

## Another Example is Analyzed

The *Venetian Gondola Song*, No. 1 (Songs Without Words, No. 6), is only a two-part song-form. Nevertheless, we find a distinct three-fold development in the Beginning, Middle and Ending.

The first measures of this piece introduce us to imagination, to the characters and the setting. Different interpreters will naturally have different ideas about this, because Mendelssohn has left us free to fill in the details of the story ourselves. If we want to, we can even choose a period after the time of Mendelssohn. So just for illustration, let us go back to one of those care-free years before the war, when so many Americans were touring Europe. It is a moonlight night in Venice. Our party steps out of the hotel into a gondola.

At first we glide quietly on one of the side-canal canals with the comparative reserve that usually characterizes the Beginning. How has Mendelssohn achieved the effect of quiet sailing? By the simple harmonic treatment, by the direction to play with cantabile touch, and by the structure. The Beginning here coincides with Part I, which consists of an introduction, and a period in parallel construction. The parallel construction of the period helps to give the feeling of calm.

## Painting the Picture

But with the start of the Middle section on the last beat of Measure 17, the interest increases. At this point our gondola turns into the Grand Canal. What an enchanting sight! Hundreds of festive lanterns and gaily decorated boats. Scores of listeners in gondolas are grouped around the floating opera stages to hear familiar arias sung by mellow voices.

Mendelssohn has expressed this increased animation of the Middle section by a more varied and more "excited" harmonization. Instead of the tranquil parallel construction of the period in Part I, the composer has used a contrasting construction of a dotted period. This helps to paint the picture of fascinating sights in every direction. We will render the phrase of the Middle with a fuller tone than was used for the Beginning. But listen! A faint melody is heard in the distance. Let us play the second phrase *pianissimo*. Now our attention is drawn in another direction. And so the Middle continues with changing tonal coloring to the close of Part II in Measure 29.

The Ending of this composition starts on the last beat of Measure 34, which is the first note of the Coda. Here our gondola turns off the Grand Canal and we are headed back to the hotel. This is indicated in the music by a fragment from the principal theme. While it is just a snatch of the principal melody, it should be played with some significance, because it represents the return to the Beginning at a higher level—the higher level of a joyous memory. Our gondola is now retracing its (Continued on Page 34)

## A DIFFICULT PASSAGE IN CHOPIN

Mr. MacNabb discusses the fingering of the Chopin Etude, Op. 10, No. 1, with Miss Phyllis Wood, Senior Pianist at the Eastman School of Music.

THE VERY AMBIGUITY of the word "relaxation" provokes its misunderstanding and abuse. Actually it means "to make lax or loose, to mitigate or enervate." How can such a condition be of use in piano playing, or in any activity for that matter? To fully evaluate the term and to make a proper use of it you should know, and from experience, literally what extent of activity is intended by it.

According to Matthay: "... really complete relaxation may possibly be physically unattainable, perhaps even undesirable, pathologically considered, but the term thoroughly conveys what has to be striven for; for it is the most complete possible relaxation of all muscles that in playing should be passive, which forms the real 'secret' of all good tone-production, including agility; or of good muscular technique applied to anything else." Surely piano playing requires muscular action, an action which is possible only by tension, for a completely relaxed condition is an inactive one. Moreover, this necessary tension must be applied at the strategic moment, in the right amount, and in the right muscles.

## Relaxo-Mania

Relaxation has been unduly exaggerated and grossly misrepresented in its application to playing the piano. I have heard teachers tell students to "relax," "let yourself go," "let your arms hang limply at your sides," "get that all-gone, loose, lax feeling." Such admonitions are both insufficient and inaccurate. Also, I have seen students bidden to walk around a room with shoulders sagging and arms swinging flabbily and criss-cross in front of the drooping body. The Baboon Exercise might be a good name for this one, but how utterly ridiculous and completely ineffectual it is. This accomplishes only devitalization (deprivation of vitality) of the mental and physical processes. These poor, benighted students are forced to perform silly and self-conscious antics simply because they are unfortunate in being under the tutelage of Relaxo-Maniacs who blindly believe that relaxation is the panacea for all pianistic ills. It is incredible!

## Relaxation or Devitalization

Complete relaxation—devitalization, or a total lack of muscular tension—may be found in the body when one is sleeping, or in the hands and feet when they

# Relax! Then What?

by George MacNabb

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are dangled. Since specific energy is inevitable for every manifestation of physical action, total relaxation is not only of no value in piano playing, but is even detrimental. Rather we need the suspension of all superfluous exertions and the cancellation of the needed impulses at the precise moment. This is achieved by alleviating all unnecessary strain and permitting the activating muscles to work energetically and entirely unimpeded by the passive group of muscles. Inasmuch as the simplest muscular process is an intricate action, so intricate as to be virtually unthinkable, the only alternative is to sense how it feels to play correctly, and also incorrectly.

Even posture is dependent upon tension, for to effect posture (or any directed movements) without external assistance requires an exact amount of joint fixation to overcome weight. In other words, there must be a

to the required muscles the proper measure of nervous and muscular tension while retaining the capacity for inaction of all the unrequired muscles—a simultaneous contraction of the two opposing sets of muscles.

## Energy Applied and Energy Released

Before you can diagnose and teach relaxation you must thoroughly understand tension. Resting arm weight on the keyboard by means of the finger tips is not a condition of relaxed arm, but one of mild fixation equalized in all joints and muscles. Consequently a more comprehensive interpretation of relaxation in piano playing (and in all activities) is effected by presenting it as balance, coordination, muscle and joint equilibrium and collaboration. The main point at issue is to acquire a delicately balanced inter-action between tension and its subsequent relaxation—really a fine control of the intensity and duration of the tension.

The application of weight, power and energy to the key and the impelling of these forces—floating power as it were—over the keyboard demands the proper contraction of the controlling muscles. Immediately as this contraction has accomplished its work (tone-production), it is necessary to dispose of the power so that instantaneous relaxation (as much relaxation as the situation of the moment will permit) can take place after each tone. In other words, true relaxation is the result of good tone, not the means; moreover, it is a definite and unqualified muscular function.

## The Mechanical Considerations

At the instant sound arrives, which is before the key reaches the key-bed, relaxation should take place, with just enough energy (or muscular contraction with a maximum of relaxation) allotted to hold the key down for the duration value of the note; which action takes less energy than that used to produce the softest *pianissimo*. After the sound is produced the key continues its descent until it comes in contact with the key-bed, which is a small, round pad of felt. The distance in key-descent from sound-arrival to key-bed is very minute—nevertheless it is a mechanical consideration for the pianist. Exclusive of the pedal, nothing further can be done to alter the quality and quantity of a tone once it has arrived. The subsequent concentration should be on the duration value of said tone and on the preparation for the next tone. The violinist, having direct contact with the string, can enhance the tone by the use of vibrato, but using vibrato on the piano key, or exerting pressure on the felt pad, will: (1) impair the instrument itself by wearing this felt pad down; (2) destroy balance and coordination; (3) make for excess, dissipated energy; (4) retard timing by intensifying the difficulty of estimating with accuracy the precise measure of force desired for the production of the succeeding tone; (5) seriously reduce the probability of securing speed, agility and endurance, because the energy consumed (and wasted) in pressing is unavailable for these uses.

## The Practice of Relaxation

The principle, then, that relaxation is the result of good tone-production is one of the most basic, and without doubt the most momentous, in pianistic ideology. How many students even suspect the existence of this theory, or realize its indispensability in the development of technique? (Continued on Page 346)



DON'T BE A BABOON!

legitimate strain on all muscles and joints for any activity. For example: any one part of the arm is held in position by the muscular contraction of another part of the arm, or if one part of the arm moves another part necessarily moves also. Otherwise the arms would be at the complete mercy of the force of gravity and would dangle loosely at the sides of the body like the links of a chain or a fur neck-piece. What can be more convincing of the fact that contraction (or tension) is a vital and necessary requisite to work, and moreover, that relaxed muscles are incapable of activity or motion?

Immoderate tension results in rigidity or over-contraction, whereas too little or not enough tension results in under-contraction. This latter condition (over-relaxation) will cause smudginess and blurring, particularly in passage work. There are, however, certain loud, percussive and brilliant effects in piano literature which cannot be achieved without some degree of rigidity (and it has been proved through scientific tests that the range of dynamics is greater with rigidity than with relaxation); but that rigidity must be employed only where needed, never constantly. An excellent example of the application of this may be found in the closing measures of the *Dense Rituelle du Feu*, by Manuel de Falla. Stiffness is a failure to relegate



# War-Time Broadcasts of Notable Interest

by Alfred Lindsay Morgan

ON APRIL 8 Dr. Frank Black returned to the General Motors Symphony of the Air for the first of a series of concerts to be heard during the summer months. This will mark the third summer that Dr. Black has conducted these programs. Since 1932, he has served as general music director of the National Broadcasting Company. One of the most versatile musical directors of the airways, Dr. Black has established an enviable reputation as composer, arranger, recording conductor and radio personality. His concert achievements on the air during the past thirteen years would be virtually impossible to enumerate. Not so long ago when asked to recall the unusual works he had introduced to listeners in and out of radio, he smiled and shook his head: "That's a large order," he said, "I'd have to refresh my memory from my files." But to refresh his memory would take time which the conductor does not have these days; for his schedule for the coming months is a heavy one. Dr. Black is frequently called upon to serve as guest conductor with important symphony organizations in various parts of the country. Last season, he conducted eight weeks of concerts with the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra, and in March of this year he returned for another six programs.

Dr. Black, who hies from the famous Quaker City of Philadelphia, divided his studies in his youth between chemistry and music, but upon being graduated from Haverford College, he told us—"cadenzas won over crucibles," and from that time onward he concentrated only on his musical career. At first it was his intention to be a concert pianist, and many people remember his remarkable gifts in this direction. His long, tapering fingers are those of the born pianist, and recently in his studio, when he sat at a keyboard and illustrated some points in music to us, we realized the remarkable gift he owns in this field. His technic with the baton has not eclipsed his technic at the piano; the same precision and strength show how carefully and conscientiously his musical career has been developed. Dr. Black is known and admired for his forthrightness, his firm beat; he has always eschewed sensationalism and tricky effects.

When one enters Dr. Black's office in Radio City, one is struck by the evidences of his work and his love of music. His piano, a concert grand, is in a straight line with the door, and it, like his desk, is piled high with manuscripts and published scores. He owns priceless mementos, manuscripts, portraits, and photographs, and other souvenirs of the outstanding men of music.

Dr. Black's devotion to the classics has not hampered his championing of modern composers nor of music in the popular field. If he thinks a piece of music is worthy of public performance he programs it. In the lighter field, he has shown an ability as striking as that in the symphonic field. And the aid he has given to contemporaries along the path of fame is already legend. His summer concerts are devised with an idea to wide appeal; he will program both lighter as well as serious musical fare. In the current summer series he intends to feature soloists in concertos and other works, and already we have heard several noted violinists and pianists in familiar and widely admired compositions. His opening concert will be recalled for the splendid performance of George Gershwin's Piano Concerto with Earl Wild as soloist, and also for the presentation

of the "Suite, The Tall City," by the Austrian-American composer, Hans Spialek.

In connection with the sponsorship and performance of symphonic music on the radio, the eminent British conductor, Malcolm Sargent—who was heard during the winter season of the NBC Symphony, has had some pertinent things to say. At a luncheon for newspaper representatives in New York before his return to England, Mr. Sargent stated: "It must be remembered that music, particularly the performance of symphonic orchestral compositions is a costly, cultural enterprise. In the old days, public performances were sponsored by the church or by the rich, enlightened 'Aristocrats'. By 'aristocrat' I mean a person who through his education and native good taste is capable of discriminating and choosing the best and most worth-while things in life.

"In Europe today the wealthy patron of arts can no longer exist. In England, for example, with taxation nineteen shillings and six pence to the pound, no sane person expects anyone to use his last six pence to provide entertainment for the public. If music is going to be given the great masses of people (and it must be given them), then they must get it either from a state subsidy or there may exist enlightened, financially-sound business organizations sufficiently broad in their outlook to feel that the sponsoring of this form of entertainment is both their duty and their pleasure.

"General Motors seems to be fulfilling this ideal. They are sponsoring a unique and magnificent orchestra with the greatest of living conductors—Toscanini—at the head of it. They are proving themselves to be 'aristocrats of industry' and I take off my hat to them in that respect and wish them, and all such organizations who may be similarly enlightened, God-speed!"

Mr. Sargent has paid a tribute to all the "enlightened" sponsors of good music over the air; the sponsors of such outstanding programs as the Saturday afternoon broadcasts of the Metropolitan Opera, the Sunday programs of the Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra of New York, and many others. It is not a matter of waving the American flag when we say that no-

where else in the world is such an imposing array of musical programs available over radio as in this country; it is merely the statement of a fact. And that we continue to have such extraordinary musical fare available in our homes when one of the worst wars in history is being waged throughout the world, is proof of our democratic way of life. It is gratifying to know that American industry has become the "enlightened aristocrats" of a modern world.

The National Broadcasting Company, following precedent of last year, is presenting each Saturday series of orchestral programs, featuring different symphony orchestras throughout the country (3:00 to 4:30 P.M., EWT). This symphony array, known as the Orchestras of the Nations, gives us an opportunity to appraise the work of men of music in widely different localities. Not so long ago, the leading symphonic group of the Blue Grass Country, the Louisville Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Robert Whiting, was heard in an interesting program. De-

fault and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra have also given a series of concerts. Late in April, Howard Hanson and the Eastman-Rochester Symphony Orchestra took over this spot. Other organizations are scheduled to follow. Dr. Hanson, long a pioneer of American music, brought us in his first concert two new scores by Bernard Rogers and Robert Sanders; the first—a world premiere—was *Three Dramas after Hans Christian Andersen*, and the second was *Concerto for Violin*, featuring Jacques Gordon as soloist. On the same program Dr. Hanson gave a new opportunity to admire his own talent as a composer in his *Song from Drum Taps*, which the orchestra was joined by the ever reliable Eastman School Chorus. The fine musical talent of young America is splendidly evidenced in the programs of the Eastman-Rochester Orchestra and the Eastman School Chorus.

Mutual has started a new series of programs called *Symphony of the Americas*. This series, designed to salute our Western Hemisphere neighbors in music, heard on Saturdays from 8:30 to 9:00 P.M., EWT. The conductor is Valter Poole, American-born assistant leader of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Fifty members of that organization are used for the broadcasting orchestra. These programs feature semi-classical and lighter symphonic works, with the accent on modern music representing the various Pan-American countries. Each week, *Symphony of the Americas* salutes one or more of the American nations, with prominent artists invited to perform music of those countries. These "salutes" are prepared with the cooperation of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs to give listeners in this country an intimate view of the life and culture of the nations of the Western Hemisphere. This series is one of the replacements of the Detroit Symphony broadcasts to be heard during the summer months.

Jean Goldkette, a well known name in popular music, takes over the latter half of the Detroit Symphony period for the summer (9:00 to 9:30 P.M., EWT). He is featured as pianist and conductor of his sixty-piece orchestra. Typical Goldkette arrangements of today's favorite popular songs comprise most of the programs.

*Time To Remember* is a new five-a-week series of Americana to be heard over the Columbia Broadcasting System—Mondays through Fridays, 3:00 to 4:30 P.M., EWT. Milton Bacon, long a student of Americana, is the narrator on (Continued on Page 311)



ELISABETH SCHUMANN

RADIO

"FORWARD MARCH WITH MUSIC"

## STORIES OF CHRISTIAN SONGS

"MUSIC IN EVANGELISM." By Phil Kerr. Pages, 244. Price, \$1.00. Publishers, Gospel Music Publishers.

The story of evangelistic music is one of far greater interest than many have supposed. Phil Kerr, evangelist, composer, musician, and author, has brought out a new edition of his "Music in Evangelism," in which he covers his field in very comprehensive fashion. In chapters one to four (inclusive) he gives an outline of the development of music, its power, Old Testament music, and Christian music. Some of the verses of the early hymn writers are morbid beyond belief. Here is one from Wesley, in a joyous and frolicsome meter:

"Ah, lovely appearance of death!  
What sight upon earth is so fair?  
Not all the gay pageants that breathe  
Can with a dead body compare.

"With solemn delight I survey  
The corpse, when the spirit is fled,  
In love with the beautiful clay,  
And longing to lie in its stead."

Yet this hymn was frequently sung in churches. Another song which Mr. Kerr tells us was sung in thousands of revival meetings was that called "Wicked Polly." This ecclesiastical melodrama went thus:

"O young people, hark while I relate  
The story of poor Polly's fate.  
She was a lady young and fair  
Who died a-groaning in despair.  
She'd go to balls, and dance and play  
In spite of all her friends might say.  
One Sabbath morning she fell sick,  
Her stubborn heart began to ache.  
She called her mother to her bed,  
Her eyes were rolling in her head.  
My loving mother, you I leave,  
For wicked Polly do not grieve,  
For I must burn forevermore.  
When thousand thousand years are o'er,  
When I am dead remember well  
Your wicked Polly groans in hell.  
She wrung her hands, and groaned and cried,  
And gnawed her tongue before she died;  
Her nails turned black, her voice did fall,  
She died, and left this lower vail.  
May this a warning be to those  
That love the ways that Polly chose."

Over one hundred pages are given to stories of well known hymns and evangelistic songs, and twenty-six pages to short biographies of evangelistic song writers. The book is obviously invaluable to those in the field.

## FREEDOM OF VOICE PRODUCTION

"DYNAMIC SINGING." By Louis Bachner. (With an Introduction by Marjorie Lawrence.) Pages, 144. Price, \$2.75. Publishers, L. B. Fischer Publishing Corp.

Your reviewer is one who for some years had the temerity to teach singing, and in this time read enormously upon vocal problems and had many a good laugh at some of the widely varying opinions. In the past half century, vocal theories and cults have had a way of falling in line with common sense. "Dynamic Singing," by Louis Bachner, is a case in point. This new book is refreshingly clear and does not run to fads and "isms." It is not a singer's manual, but a book about singing. Any student who reads it regularly would have no need to fear false doctrines.

Mr. Bachner, born in New York, became a teacher of singing at the State Academy of Music in Berlin (the old Royal Academy). Among his famous pupils besides Miss Lawrence, were Sigrd Onegin, Michael Bohnen, Lily Djanel, Heinrich Schlusnus, and others. The book ranks in usefulness as advice to singers with the famous treatises on singing by Clara Rogers and Lilli Lehmann.

JUNE, 1945

# The Etude Music Lover's Bookshelf



Any book here reviewed may be secured from THE ETUDE MUSIC MAGAZINE at the price given plus postage.

by B. Meredith Cadman

## THE "MET"

"METROPOLITAN OPERA MILESTONES." By Mary Ellis Peltz. Pages, 74 (10x7, printed on glazed paper). Price, \$1.00. Publisher, The Metropolitan Opera Guild, Inc.

A brief but surprisingly comprehensive history of the "Met," giving an outline of all its significant achievements, excellently illustrated with half-tone illustrations,

telling the story of the great opera house for sixty years. An astrological addict might say that the stars were particularly propitious in October, 1883, because it was in that month and year that the Metropolitan Opera House was opened, and it was at that same time that Theodore Presser founded THE ETUDE Music Magazine in Lynchburg, Virginia. Both institutions have worked great good for the art in America and both are "going strong" as modern instruments for musical development.

The first presentation of the Metropolitan was "Faust." The cast included Christine Nilsson, Sofia Scalchi, Italo Campanini, Giuseppe del Puente. The amazing fact about the Metropolitan Opera Company is the extremely high and uniform quality of its performances for well over half a century.

## READING VOCAL MUSIC

"SIGHT SINGING MANUAL." By Allen I. McHose & Ruth Northup Tibbs. Pages, 101. Price, \$2.00. Publishers, F. S. Crofts & Co. (Eastman School of Music Series).

A great deal of very valuable time at rehearsals could be spared if singers were taught to read readily and precisely. The authors of this work have adopted a modified French "Fixed Do" system, and training is given in all four of the commonly used Treble, Alto, Tenor, and Bass Clefs. The material is organized upon a basis of Rhythm and Pitch. The three hundred and twenty examples have been chosen with masterly skill, so that a wide experience may be gained in Rhythmic Reading, Unequal Time Durations, Ties, Syncopations, Superimposed Backgrounds and Superimposed Meter, Subdivision of the Background, Remote Modulation, the Divided Beat, Modal Melodies, Less Common Meter Signatures, and Mixed Meters. The singing student who has been given a thorough drill in these melodies by a capable teacher is to be envied.

## HYMNS AND THE PEOPLE

"HYMNS IN THE LIVES OF MEN." By Robert Guy McCutchan. Pages, 208. Price, \$1.50. Publishers, Abingdon-Cokesbury Press.

Those who have known Robert Guy McCutchan as Dean of Baker University and as Dean Emeritus of the school of music of DePauw University, have come to love this genial teacher of music. His recent exploration of the field of the influence of hymns is a scholarly and exceedingly interesting work which will be an inspiration to clergymen and choir leaders in search of material. Dr. McCutchan tells in brief but adequate words the story of the music of worship, from pagan sources to the present.



Ira Glackens Collection

Christine Nilsson as Marguerite

BOOKS

"FORWARD MARCH WITH MUSIC"



## Mozart

PIANISTS give Chopin, Bach and Beethoven programs, but almost never a Mozart program. If they play Mozart at all, a sonata, rondo or fantasia is sandwiched apologetically between more "effective" pieces by other composers. As for the twenty-eight concertos by Mozart, how many artists play more than one (if indeed, one) in public? Starved Mozart lovers will be lucky if they hear half-a-dozen of these glorious symphonic masterpieces in a lifetime of concert going.

Why then do performers shy away from Mozart? Perhaps it is because they do not like his music. . . . Or it may be that they are afraid of boring their audiences—quite overlooking the fact that this is their fault, not Mozart's. The truth is that the common, garden variety of player stands in terror of Mozart, for he is ruthlessly exposed when he approaches a composition of this master. No virtuosic slick-trick will gloss over his incompetence; and for once the years of mechanical, repetitive practice do not save him. Bare bones protrude shockingly. . . . Even the audience finds something amiss.

Mozart is the most exacting as well as the most inaccessible of all composers. He stands aloof, untouchable. Bach, Beethoven, Brahms and the rest have feet planted firmly on the ground even while their heads touch the stars. They offer a bridge from the temporal to the eternal. Mozart makes no such compromise. His music, the veritable essence of pure spirit, stands apart, remote, forever incomprehensible to those who take no pains to penetrate its surface. Is it any wonder then that trickster and plodder alike become panicky at the thought of a Mozart recital, concerto or even group of pieces?

And when such a pianist *does* play Mozart, he makes no pretense of going beneath the surface. With perfumed gloves, suave manner, airy touch and pretty-pretty graces, he slides through his Mozart. . . . Again and again have critics been taken in by this surface sparkle and velvet sheen, which they mistake for the true Mozart.

The disarming childlikeness, deceptive simplicity, and the transparency of the texture of Mozart's music are partly to blame for this superficial treatment. . . . Mozart is often given to children to play. One well known "figure" in the music world has said that Mozart should be played by children only. On the contrary, he should never be studied by any but the most gifted children and played in public only by discerning artists. Mozart is a composer for serious, profound maturity. His inner voice can be apprehended only after years of humble, intelligent study.

It is forever one of the miracles of music that such perfection could be achieved through such a precise medium. There, in its clean perfection the music stands for all to contemplate but few to comprehend. Mozart's immaculate manuscript, and his own clear, simple directions, are but the framework for profound utterance. He offers the bare skeleton, into which must be breathed the breath of life. . . . Only a loving, aspiring laborer can reconstruct the Mozartean miracle.

Yet, he who strives to follow Mozart's explicit directions will sooner or later



Correspondents with this Department are requested to limit letters to One Hundred and Fifty Words.

have his reward. Mozart shows the way, points the guide posts. When, as often happens, the voyager is lured along blind paths, he need only return to the nearest sign and ask, "Where does Wolfgang Amadeus want me to go from here? What does *he* say about the way?"

## Guide Posts

What are Mozart's guide posts? How recognize and follow them? The first is of course the edition studied. The values of all notes and rests, the directions for short and long phrases, the dynamic and other markings, staccato and legato indications—all must be scrupulously respected. For this the original or U R text, now procurable in part in this country, is indispensable. Compare the U R text with almost all other editions and note the cleanness of Mozart's version in contrast to the muddy editing of later printings. For best results, use this U R text in combination with the Presser edition, not only for comparisons but for fingerings, suggestions for playing embellishments, pedaling, and so on.

The next guide posts are of course Mozart's own dynamic markings. Composers of his day often found it unnecessary to write detailed directions in their compositions, since musicians of good taste were supposed to know how to meet every ordinary musical contingency. The composer needed only to indicate roughly. . . . Consequently the student of Mozart must learn to "read between the lines". . . . He must be able to recognize typical Mozartean idiosyncrasies of which the following are examples:

A. The beginning of a Mozart composition is usually to be played *forte* if no dynamic indication is given.

B. There is often an implied *crescendo*

## The Teacher's Round Table

Conducted by

Guy Maier

Mus. Doc.  
Noted Pianist  
and Music Educator

between a *piano* sign in one measure (or part of it) and a *forte* in the next; or an implied *diminuendo* between a *forte* and a *piano*. . . . Mozart often failed to indicate such *crescendos* or *diminuendos*.

C. Careful study of the melodic curve will reveal whether a "sub'to" (*forte* or *piano*) is meant, rather than a *crescendo* or *diminuendo*.

D. The many obvious *fp*'s and *sfp*'s are of course to be played "subito," but never harshly.

E. Mozart usually avoided extremes in his indications; there are comparatively few *ff*'s and *pp*'s. For fullest effect, however, his music often requires *ff* or *pp*,—but always in the Mozart "frame,"—never in the "fresco" style, say, of Beethoven or Brahms.

F. Sometimes the dynamic markings of an entire section or movement must be filled in by the player himself, because of the frequent sparseness of Mozart's expression marks. The familiar C Major Sonata (K.545) is an example; in all of it, Mozart wrote no dynamic directions excepting one *sf* and one *p* in the slow movement. In such movements the performer should not accept any editor's directions, since most of these were notoriously careless or tasteless. He must draw up his own thoughtful plan.

On the other hand, some Mozart compositions overflow with a wealth of exact markings—such as the Fantasia and Sonata in C Minor, and the Sonata in F Major (K.322).

## Additional Points

1. Watch carefully all two-note slurs



which must be phrased exaggeratedly, since such phrasing indicates uneven note lengths and qualities. The first note is given more time duration and more tone (stress) than the second note. In rapid movements the second is sometimes scarcely audible.

2. In playing rapid Mozart movements use only brief touches of "top" pedal, or none at all.

3. Slow movements should often be practiced without pedal. If a pianist can play Mozart warmly and vibrantly without damper pedal, he is coming close to the heart of the music.

4. Do not play "second" or subsidiary themes slower than first themes; with his unerring instinct for rightness, Mozart has taken care of this in his own all construction of the movement. For second themes of sonatas, concertos, exactly the tempo of the opening theme.

5. Mozart was often not explicit in notation of embellishments. A trill indication in rapid tempo is sometimes better executed as a mordent—which, after all, is only a trill reduced to lower terms. . . . Extended trills begun on the note above the principal note divide evenly and offer no difficulty, since the turn also divides evenly. Some artists prefer to play a very rapid "ecclesiastical" trill, starting on the principal note, with the turn played in plenty of time so as not to disturb the smoothness of the accompaniment. . . . Never accent the first note of any trill—whether it is begun on the principal note or the note above.

6. As to Mozart's bewildering array of grace notes—follow the usual rule: long grace notes; that is, give the grace note half the value of the principal note, thus:



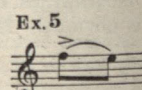
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forming a four-note phrase group with slight stress on the first tone:

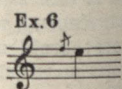


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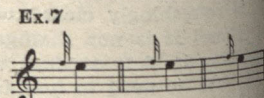


as a two note slur. . . . Long grace notes are important both for their length and stress.

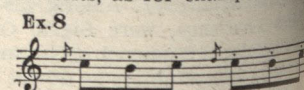
7. On the other hand short grace notes have practically no dynamic value or duration. Mozart almost never marked short grace notes in the usual manner:



but simply used small sixty-fourth, thirty-second or sixteenth notes for these:



For meticulousness and clarity in rapid movements, as for example:



(Continued on Page 345)

## You're Not Too Old to Play the Piano

by Dr. John Erskine

A NUMBER of my friends, entirely sane men and in good repute with their neighbors, wish they could play the piano a little as a very personal hobby, and regret that it's now too late to learn.

It isn't too late! If you have the love of music and want to exercise it within reason, it's easier to play the piano than to play bridge, which many people seem to have taken up in their mature years. Moreover, it's easier to learn the piano than it used to be, because the modern technique is cultivated more with the brain than by mere dogged persistence. Moreover, the middle-aged have an advantage over the children, in those cases where the love of music is intelligent and well-considered, and where the use of the brain has long since become a habit.

A child at the piano, even a willing child, needs a powerful lot of teaching. The adult can cover quite a distance on good advice. Especially the man or woman who took lessons in childhood, thumbed out bumpy scales, broke down in badly-studied pieces, and was permitted at last by the nerve-worn family to give it up. Assuming that a love of music survives, and at least a modest wish to play, you'd be surprised at the degree of progress which is quite possible if the mature person comes to the piano with a fresh mind, and with a grasp of essential principles. The average piano teacher didn't mention those principles to us when we were boys; now every good teacher begins with them, which is one reason why the children do better nowadays.

## Playing for Fun

Far be it from me to encourage unnecessary noise in the world, or to say—or seem to say—that the middle-aged, merely by taking thought, can become

piano virtuosos! I'm speaking to men of my own age, or a little younger, who have, I hope, a sense of humor and who won't overestimate their talents, but who on the other hand are wise enough to get pleasure out of such talents as they have.

I have been invited to give some practical advice on taking up the piano again—taking it up for fun. Perhaps it was because I worked away at the piano when I was young, had then abandoned the study, in the best modern tradition, and after I was 40 I took it up again, and have been enjoying my piano ever since.

When I was a child I had a good teacher, but when I wanted to renew my acquaintance with the instrument I went for an overhauling to one of the very greatest piano teachers now living. I expected his instruction to be complicated and highly "advanced"; I was amazed to find it far simpler than I had met in boyhood, with a most engaging appeal to musical sense and to common sense, and yet with far-reaching implications as you thought it over.

This particular teacher is a famous musician and himself a virtuoso of the first order; the simple but profound philosophy of technique with which he aided my middle-age is shared by all artists today, violinists as well as pianists, and it is a lifesaver for even the modest amateur.

## Three Great Obstacles

The most direct way to approach the problem of your technique is of course to notice the things which you imagine keep you from playing the piano, you who have neglected it and are now no longer young. I can hear you checking off your three great obstacles:

1. Your fingers are stiff.
2. Your ear is all right, but you can't remember the left hand.
3. You always found it hard to read music.

Well, on every count but one, you're wrong. Your ear is probably not bad, if you have any love for music, but your fingers aren't stiff; you *can* remember the left hand, and it's very easy to read music. Your trouble is that you're getting off on the wrong foot. You think first of your fingers. Important as the fingers are for piano-playing, you should think of your fingers last. The music comes first. If you get the music into your brain, it will come out at your fingers. Anything you can hear in your mind, you can play. You usually listen to the melody and the melody is usually in the right hand. That's why you say you have a good ear. If you listen to the left hand, you'll discover that your ear is just as good on the low notes.

So the first rule for piano technique is:

Learn the music by heart before you try to play it. For a beginner this sounds like extravagant impossibility, but it's absolute sense, and it will save you many hours of the wrong kind of practice. Perhaps your way has been to pick a new piece out at the piano, but how can you get anywhere until you know what you want to pick?

I've the habit, supposed to be vicious, of reading myself to sleep every night, and since I can't devote to the piano as many hours as I'd like, I save myself time by learning new music in bed, listening to it in my mind until I can remember it as a whole, both hands, and know how I want to make it sound. Or sometimes I practice an old piece this way, clearing up spots which I hadn't understood.

## Get the Mind to Work

The second rule for piano technique is to practice slowly enough for your mind to suggest each note. It's not your fingers which are stiff; it's the motor centers of the brain which are slow. You practice for the benefit of those motor centers. No matter how slow the motor centers are at first, with exercise they soon speed up, but you must give every note a chance.

Try this with the easiest piece you can find, or with a section of a piece. Study it away from the piano till you can hear it in your mind, then take the music to the piano and play it slowly enough to hear every note. You will say I'm moving too fast; you'll protest that you can't make this experiment unless you can read music and hear it mentally.

Quite right, but give me credit for having set a little trap for you. When you named the obstacles which keep you from playing, you probably put first the stiffness of your fingers, and only at the end did you mention the reading. In the correct approach to piano-playing the reading comes first. You can't do a thing without it. And when we speak of reading music, we mean not only an understanding of the signs—notes, sharps, flats—but also an exercise of the ear, so that the music can sound in the mind. Fortunately the signs are easy to explain. Ear-training, which is more important, takes a little more time, but it's less difficult than the mastery of a good drive in golf.

The symbols used in printing music have a long history, and they are far from perfect, but their purpose is obvious, and they should be studied with that purpose in mind. You read music to find out three main things—how high or how low the note is, when and for how long it should sound, and in what time or rhythm.

To show the pitch of the note, we have the five horizontal lines, the clef of key. Each line designates a note, and so does each space between lines. You have only to count up, and hum the notes of the scale, one note for each line or space, and there you are!

Of course you must know where to start from when you count. The clef for the right hand is marked by a florid G, placed on the second line from the bottom. The clef for the left hand is marked by a rather slipshod F, placed on the second (Continued on Page 316)



Photo: A. Tennyson Beals

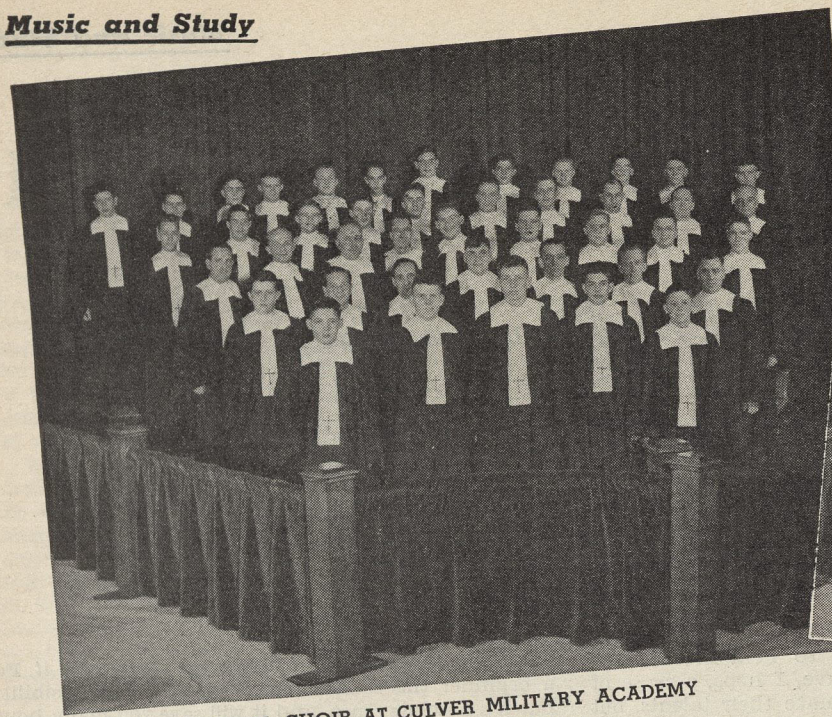
DR. JOHN ERSKINE

JUNE, 1945

"FORWARD MARCH WITH MUSIC"

313





THE CHAPEL CHOIR AT CULVER MILITARY ACADEMY  
Captain Paul M. Barada, Director



THE CONCERT BAND AT CULVER MILITARY ACADEMY  
Captain Edward T. Payson, Director

## Music in the Post-War Curriculum

by Captain Edward T. Payson

Chairman, Music Department  
Culver Military Academy  
Culver, Indiana

For the past six years Captain Payson has been judge of district and state band contests and festivals in Indiana and Michigan. Culver Military Academy is making an extensive survey of needs and trends in post-war education in secondary schools and colleges.

—EDITOR'S NOTE

IF THE ADVANCED THINKERS on educational problems are right, "there is a great day coming" for music and other subjects euphonicly called "electives" in school and college courses. Thousands of students now more or less tolerantly sitting out their four annual required courses, and being forced to let the "extras" go by the board in order to avoid the stigma of low grades, will probably see their sons and daughters able to indulge the universal craving for the skills of self-expression.

Fifty years ago organized music study of any nature was practically nonexistent in schools. Instrumental instruction was supplied outside of school hours by the private "professors" and the pupil practiced or got out of practicing during hours which might have been used for exercise and sports.

Twenty-five years ago the great high school music movement was under way in America, and the doors to the enjoyment of music were opened to hundreds of thousands of school children.

But still there were many flies in the ointment. School officials were eager to have a band which could be turned on and off like a public utility for school functions, or they were insistent that their choruses, orchestras, and bands win every annual contest. But this had to be done, mind you, without interference with any program of "requirements." Little by little music began to win a class period here and there, but it merely meant that an ambitious pupil had to do his "required" courses in less time. Even now there are

school children in large and so-called "progressive" schools who leave home in the morning before daylight in order to attend rehearsals of musical organizations before the first class starts. Even with credit being allowed for participation in music and a class period supplied, it takes an intellectually and physically robust child to maintain the pace.

### An Educational Drama

What lies ahead for musically talented or even musically curious students in our schools? Just this: the hope that Bill, who wants to listen to symphony records and who wants time to have them explained to him will not have to get up before daybreak to study; the assurance that Bob, who sings in the choir, will have a chance to sing some of the stuff that he always wanted to sing instead of racing the clock in order to have the required numbers for the spring contest prepared; the promise that John, who plays in the band, will have a chance to take that harmony or composition course he wants because he feels an urge to create some music of his own and still keep up his trombone lessons.

To illustrate the problem and its possible solution let us look in on two scenes from an educational drama which is far from imaginary.

Scene I: Dean's or Adviser's Office, any school.  
Time: Present and Past.

Enter Student:

Student: "Mr. Educator, I would like to take the

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Music Appreciation Course in addition to Band next semester."

Educator: "But Bob, that course is given during the fifth class period when you have to get your French II."

Student: "Can't I take the music instead of World History, and take French during the second hour? I like languages but I don't seem much interested in History."

Educator: "Well, you know you have to have World History to get your diploma."

Student: "That's right, sir. How about dropping advanced Algebra?"

Educator: "You have to have the Algebra to get into Middle-West University, don't you? I'm sorry. It's a shame that you can't squeeze it in, because you seem to have an exceptional interest in music and a lot of talent."

Exit Student, puzzled.

Scene II: Same.

Time: Future.

Enter Student.

Student: "Mr. Educator, I would like to take the Music Appreciation Course in addition to Band next semester."

Educator: "Okay, Bob, I think that can be arranged. You're going to keep up your private lessons on oboe, aren't you?"

Student: "Yes, sir. Music seems to interest me more than anything else. Even if I don't go into it professionally I want to know more about it."

Educator: "Well, as long as you keep up good work in your basic Mathematics and English courses, you should branch out in your special field. You've shown a lot of talent already. We shall see to it that you get the training that fits every person for citizenship, and still have time to develop your skill and knowledge in Music."

Exit Student, happily.

### When Reforms Are Instituted

When curriculum reforms are brought about students can expect the opportunity to share fully in the enjoyment of music in the following threefold way:

They may through (Continued on Page 315)

LET US TAKE it for granted that every vocal student is familiar with these two facts:

1. The pitch of the tone is fundamentally dependent upon the frequency of the vibrations set up by the vocal cords.

2. The loudness of the tone depends upon the amplitude of the vibrations.

A third fact, that the quality, timbre, or color—call it what you will—of the tone depends on the form of the resonating cavities affecting the vibrations, is slightly more complex. An amplification of this statement, that the presence or absence of overtones determines quality, the whole being determined by the character of the resonance, is the subject of this discussion.

### Why Voices Differ

Differences in general character, between voices of the same classification, are due mainly to one thing: The variations in texture of the bony structure of the fixed resonators—the cavities of the masque and the size of those cavities.

Variations in quality of the tones produced by the individual voice are caused by adjustments of movable parts, namely, the pharynx and mouth in conjunction with the soft palate.

### The Pharynx

That we may visualize clearly, and not repeat the mistake of the student who described the pharynx as "The bird that rose from the ashes," it may be well to explain that the pharynx is a sort of adjustable tube, extending from the larynx to the nasal cavity. Picture it if you like as the small end of the old-time gramophone horn, flaring upward to the dual resonating areas—the mouth and the facial sinuses. It acts in the same manner as does the tube of brass instruments—with this difference—it is adjustable. "The wider it freely opens, the fuller the resulting resonance and the better the tone." Of the adaptability of the human vocal instrument, Helmholtz remarked, it "admits of much variety of form, so that many more qualities of tone can thus be produced than on any instrument of artificial construction."

### The Mouth and Soft Palate

Between the mouth cavity and the path to the nasal sinuses is the pendant veil of the soft palate—perhaps the most important of all the adjustable parts that control the character of resonance. Thomas Fillebrown says ("Resonance in Singing and Speaking"): "The true office of the soft palate is to modify the opening into the nose and thus attune the resonant cavities to the pitch and timbre of the note being given by the vocal cords and pharynx."

If a vibrating tuning fork be held before the open mouth and the shape and size of the opening be varied, there will be found one adjustment which will most powerfully reinforce the vibrations of the fork. This would seem to indicate that for every tone there is an ideal resonator-adjustment, and this, in singing as has just been intimated, is the main function of the soft palate. In other words, it serves to balance the characteristic resonance of the mouth with that of the sinuses, the resulting combination being the quality of the tone being sounded.

### The Object of Tone Practice

It becomes obvious, then, that the fixed resonators, in conjunction with all the adjustable parts leading thereto should, under the control of the vocalist, work as a coordinated whole. This brings us to the aim of all purely voice, or tone practice, that is, the acquiring of a sensitive, subconscious control of the adjustable parts of the resonators which, under the direction of a closely listening and intensely critical ear, shall produce the best quality of tone of which the voice is capable; that is, fundamental tone, plus overtones, which will be present in degree dependent upon the character of the resonance, which, in its turn is dependent upon the nature of the individual resonators which, as we have endeavored to show, are largely under the control of the vocalist.

The variety of tones of which the human voice is capable makes tone practice necessary so that the student, by countless repetition and experiment may learn how to produce and choose the best—not by con-

## What Determines Quality of Tone?

by Sidney Bushell

hard, tight and unsympathetic. As another writer has stated, "no overtone should have greater prominence than its fundamental."

Let the practicing student imagine himself as a "mixer" in a radio station control room and "mix" with his fundamental tones just that proper amount and character of resonance that results in a tone that is beautiful, which means free, loose, clear, steady and true to the pitch. Mere loudness and stridency have no part in the perfect tone.

### Words of Wisdom

Many years ago, the famous tenor, Evan Williams wrote an article for THE ETUDE entitled, "How I Regained a Lost Voice." In this he made reference to two specific sounds: the "dark" sound and the "animal" sound. This was his method of differentiating between the fundamental tone and the overtones of resonance. The vocalist's aim was to make himself aware of both, separately, and then to blend the two into beautiful tone.

Be assured of this: The more the attention is directed towards the seat of resonance and the mental shaping of the emitted tone, together with adequate support at the diaphragm for that other great resonator, the expanded chest—in these two directions—less thought will be given to the throat. It is best forgotten altogether!

In another place in his excellent book "Resonance in Singing and Speaking," Dr. Thomas Fillebrown states:

A tone lacking in resonance is ineffective,—devoid of carrying power,—is diffuse and unfocused; while a resonant tone, no matter how soft dynamically, has carrying power and is focused in its vibration.

Now "voice placing" depends primarily on correct vowel placing, which in turn depends on proper adjustment of the resonators, which again depends chiefly on the positions and motions of the organs of articulation. The interdependence of tone quality and pronunciation is therefore obvious.

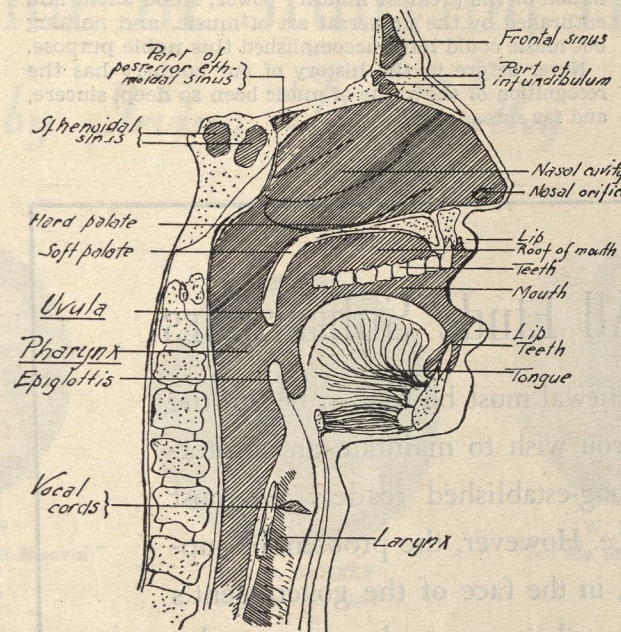
Constant emphasis must be laid upon the fact that focusing a tone is a matter of resonance, and that perhaps the most important element in this is nasal resonance. In this country, particularly, teachers have, in their desire to overcome the too common nasal twang, mistakenly sought to shut out the nasal chamber from all participation in speech and song.

### Nasal Resonance

There are those who, partly recognizing the importance of head resonance, would secure it while ignoring nasal resonance. It is impossible to secure head resonance in this fashion, for it is only through free nasal resonance that the coordinate resonance in the air sinuses above the nasal cavity and connected with it can be established.

The fear of nasal twang and failure to distinguish between it and true nasal resonance has been the stumbling block. They are very different—one is to be shunned, the other to be cultivated. The first is an obvious blemish, the second is an important essential of good singing.

Nasal tones are caused by a raised or stiffened tongue, a sagging soft palate, a stiffened jaw, or by other rigidities that prevent free tone emission and which at the same time—note this—prevent true nasal resonance.



### THE ORGANS OF SPEECH AND SONG

Reprinted from "Resonance in Singing and Speaking," by Thomas Fillebrown, M.D., D.M.D. Copyright MCMXII.

sciously trying to adjust the parts by local muscular effort, but by a critical listening to his voice at all times, and by the mental demand, while the tone is being emitted, for the very best that the voice can produce.

### The Importance of Listening

(While subscribing in theory to the oft-repeated admonition, "first think the perfect tone, then sing it," the writer has never been wholly able to put it into practice. It always seemed necessary to have something audible on which to work, or build.)

In the early stages there will be, as it were, a momentary period of "shaping" during the emission of single, sustained tones; very soon, however, subconscious memory develops until there is established a mental ability to anticipate the requirements of the tone, which will be as near perfect as possible at its inception.

In this connection, one writer in THE ETUDE some time ago likened the vocalist to a person riding a bicycle, balanced, so to speak, on the tone, making continuous infinitesimal adjustments. It is an apt simile.

Where such stress is placed upon the desirability of resonance and overtones in the voice, there is a possibility of overbalance in the direction of too much resonance. When this happens, the tone sounds

### VOICE

"FORWARD MARCH WITH MUSIC"



# The Supreme Service of Music

(Continued from Page 303)

the National Federation of Music Clubs:

"The inspiration of great music can help to inspire a fervor for the spiritual values in our way of life; and thus to strengthen democracy against those forces which would subjugate and enslave mankind."

"Because music knows no barriers of languages; because it recognizes no impediments to free intercommunication; because it speaks a universal tongue music can make us all more vividly aware of that common humanity which is ours and which shall one day unite the nations of the world in one great brotherhood."

In the remarkable wave of music following the President's passing, one of the most poignant compositions heard over and over again was *Going Home*, William Arms Fisher's beautiful setting of the *Largo* from Dvořák's "New World Symphony." Mr. Fisher was one

of Dvořák's American pupils and was associated with the Czecho-Slovak master when he was engaged upon his magnificent work. Realizing the beauty of the theme, Mr. Fisher wrote the poem, "Going Home," and made the choral setting.

The universality of music is one of its distinctive powers. Music appeals alike to all races, all creeds, all colors, all stations of life. It has the inimitable quality of bringing rest, repose, and confidence to people when they need it most. Tennyson caught this in his distinctive verses:

"There is sweet music here that softer falls,  
Than petals from blown roses on the grass,  
Music that gentler on the spirit lies,  
Than tir'd eyelids upon tir'd eyes.  
Music that brings sweet sleep down  
From the blissful skies."

At one of the most portentous moments in the story of life, the United States, which we are now told is the nation of the greatest military power, stood silent and enthralled by the universal art of music, and nothing but music could have accomplished this noble purpose.

Never before in the history of our country has the recognition of the value of music been so deep, sincere, and far spread.

## Important Notice to All Etude Subscribers

During the wartime pressure, your renewal must be sent in before the first of the month of expiration, if you wish to maintain an uninterrupted flow of issues. Our loyal, long-established readers are most assuredly entitled to continuous service. However, the problem of supplying ETUDES to all who wish them, in the face of the government's paper curtailment program, is so serious that we must have your order for renewal by the first of the month of expiration, if we are to send you the very next issue.

If your order is received after that date, the subscription must necessarily be treated as a new subscription, and thus must wait until some discontinued subscription makes a place for your renewal (sometimes four to five months), since we are not permitted to print anywhere near enough copies to fill all our orders.

New subscribers, during this great emergency, are now obliged to wait from three to five months before it is physically possible to send them the first copy.

Your subscription order must be marked clearly *RENEWAL*, to secure this privilege of prompt preferential handling. We are very grateful to our old friends and subscribers for their understanding and patience. With a very greatly reduced wartime staff in our Subscription Department, we are all striving to keep up the fine, established spirit of THE ETUDE, BUT we must have your help.

## You're Not Too Old to Play the Piano

(Continued from Page 313)

line from the top. You therefore know where G is in your right hand and where F is in the left. From those points you count off the lines and spaces.

I don't need to remind you that the notes have slightly different forms, to show whether they are whole notes, half notes, quarter notes, and so forth. A whole note sounds twice as long as a half note. The mathematics needed here will not detain us.

The time or rhythm is indicated by figures at the beginning of the piece, or wherever the time changes.  $\frac{4}{4}$ , for example, means that there are three quarter notes to a measure, and the perpendicular bars show you where the measures begin.

I doubt if this part of music-reading bothers any intelligent person, but unless the notes suggest sounds, you're no further ahead than you would be if the letters on this page suggested no words.

You can train your ear in two ways. You either count off the lines and spaces between any two notes, and so get their relative distance, or you can cultivate absolute pitch and hear the piece exactly as it will sound when played.

The first method is very easy. You soon learn to recognize the relative pitch of notes which have one note between them (thirds), or which have two notes between them (fourths), or three notes (fifths), or four notes (sixths), or five notes (sevenths). With a little concentration you could become accustomed to these intervals after a few hours at the piano, and then you could recognize the intervals mentally, hear them in your mind, when you see them on the page.

But if you are training your ear at all, you ought to make at least one good try at absolute pitch. It's merely a question of listening intently. Strike any note on the piano, G, let's say, or A or C. Fix the sound in your mind. Come back in half an hour and sing or whistle the note before you check up on the piano, to see how closely you've stuck to it. After two or three days, trying it two or three times a day, you'll come within a tone or two, and at the end of a fortnight, if your ear is good, you'll get it right most of the time.

Now you're ready to take up your piano-playing again. I've tried to explain the general principle of training the mind before the fingers; perhaps it would be well to set down the proper order of the essential preliminary work to be done.

1. Brush up on musical notation—lines, spaces, clefs, notes, sharps, flats. You must have your old beginner's book still around the house, or if you haven't, borrow your children's.

2. Train your ear, helping yourself at the piano until you can hum the intervals at sight. If you have the curiosity, you might try for absolute pitch.

3. Take some easy piece, an old folksong or one of the simpler minuets of Bach, Handel or Mozart, and learn it away from the piano till you can hear it mentally.

4. Then play it slowly, using the music to guide you and to correct your memory. Be sure to hear every note you play. Listen to both hands, or if that is difficult, play them separately till they both have your attention.

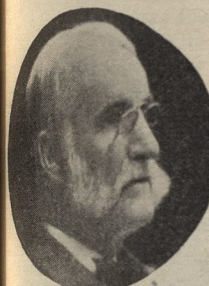
5. As soon as you know the piece, play it for somebody. Performance for even a hostile family will drive the piece into your memory and give you confidence. If you play only in private, you're beaten before you start.

You may think I'm a long time in reaching the fingers, but I've been emphasizing the principle that this preliminary ground work is essential for even a modest technique. If you drum on the piano without it, you'll find yourself at the end of a year just where you started, but if you give a month or two to the ground work, your playing will improve at once and keep on improving.

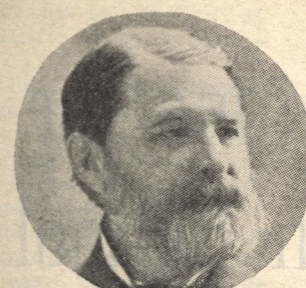
The amateur player of modest ambition will not need the whole armory of the great concert artist. He should have a command of scales and of arpeggios and he should be able to manage octaves without breaking his wrists. The (Continued on Page 316)



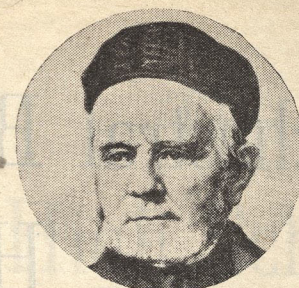
OLIVER HOLDEN  
"Coronation"



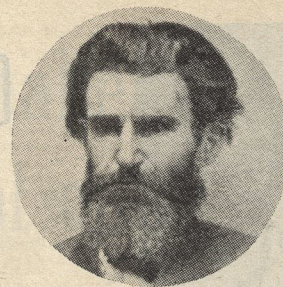
WILLIAM G. FISCHER  
"I Love to Tell the Story"



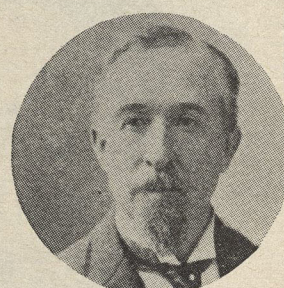
ROBERT LOWRY  
"I Need Thee Every Hour"



LOWELL MASON  
"Nearer, My God, to Thee"



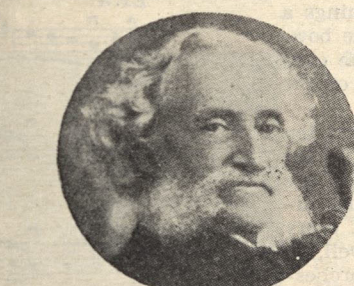
WILLIAM B. BRADBURY  
"Just As I Am"



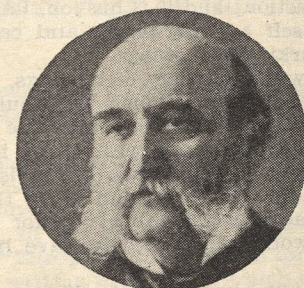
GEORGE C. STEBBINS  
"Saved by Grace"



JAMES McGRANAHAN  
"The Crowning Day"



L. O. EMERSON  
"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"



IRA D. SANKEY  
"Ninety and Nine"



W. H. DOANE  
"Tell Me the Old, Old Story"

## The Value of Studying Hymns by Irving D. Bartley

THERE SEEMS TO BE some skepticism in the minds of many music teachers regarding the value of teaching their pupils to play hymn tunes. Is it not true, however, that such important basic principles come to light in the playing of hymns that to ignore them seems unwise?

In the first place, because hymns are by nature lacking in complexities, admirable practice in sight reading is afforded by devoting a few minutes a day to the playing of them. The student who forms the habit of sight reading for instance, three hymns a day in the order in which they occur in the hymn books, so that he learns the unfamiliar as well as the familiar ones, those in difficult as well as the easy keys) will be so encouraged by his progress, that he will be convinced that sight reading of moderately difficult music is not unattainable. The writer has known cases of students who, having despaired of their sight reading ability, found that by being exposed to playing for routine church services for a period of a month or two, they gained such confidence that they felt they could tackle almost any hymn without preliminary practice.

From a practical angle it cannot be denied that a pianist who can sight read at least the simpler types of music such as hymn tunes and the old songs is an asset to any church or community. Furthermore, if a pianist accepts all chances to play for church services or community sings whenever opportunity affords, he may soon discover that he has unwittingly been cultivating the art of playing by ear, thereby further increasing his value as a musician. What a convenience it is to all concerned if the pianist has at his finger tips the *Doxology*, *America*, and *The Star-Spangled Banner* without having to scramble around to find the page number in the hymn book!

Some of the most fundamental technical problems can be ironed out *par excellence* through the study of hymns. That old but ever-present bugaboo of "holding notes" ("independence of fingers") can be learned to good advantage through the conscientious study of

hymn tunes. One of the many examples of holding one voice while another one moves may be found in *Amsterdam* in the illustration below. At points marked "a" one or more voices are held while another one moves:



The teacher should, if needs be, inform the student that hymns are written in four-voice harmony and that at all times (except where a "unison" occurs, as at "x") four notes should be sounding on the piano. As an exercise it may be advisable for the student to observe the holds found in parentheses in the above illustration and count the number of notes that are depressed on the piano at those points before proceeding further.

The pianist who fails to hold down a note its proper duration is guilty of impoverishing the harmony. In this connection it should be stated clearly that no damper pedal should be used in the playing of hymns until the teacher is satisfied that the student is alert to the importance of holding the correct notes.

Many young pianists do not realize that it is often necessary to play three notes in the right hand while one is taken in the left. This occurs when the tenor is over an octave from the bass part, in which case it is

nearly always possible for the three upper parts to be taken in the right hand.



If a student is inclined to be weak in rhythm (and how many are not?), much can be accomplished in the studio if the teacher has previously classified the hymns found in the hymn book according to various rhythmic principles. In one column could be listed all hymns in which is found the dotted quarter followed by an eighth note (for instance, *All Saints*, *New and St. Christopher*); in another column the dotted eighth followed by a sixteenth note (for instance, *Christmas*); in a third column two eighth notes in duple time (*Sicilian Mariners' Hymn* and *Dominus Regit Me*); and in a fourth column a listing of hymns in compound time (such as *True-Hearted*, *Whole-Hearted* or *Blessed Assurance*). As the pupil is tested on each of these rhythms the teacher can ascertain on which of these the student will need to concentrate especially.

If a student does not fully comprehend the difference between the proportionate values of the dotted quarter and the eighth note following, the correct rhythm may be attained if he is informed that the first note is three times as long as the second. The next step obviously would be for the student to count aloud rapidly four eighth notes, including the note following the eighth for musical purposes. The same scheme may be used in the figure in which case the rapid counting of sixteenth notes should take place, again including one more note to make the musical phrase complete. (Continued on Page 348)

## ORGAN

"FORWARD MARCH WITH MUSIC"





ELIZABETH A. H. GREEN

"UP BOW!—Darn it!—Up Bow!" It was a vitriolic blast from an irate teacher who was principal of his section in one of America's greatest orchestras. He was using a language somewhat stronger (in speaking to the school student whom he was instructing) than is generally associated with the so-called "academic procedure," but it was immensely effective in its educational results.

The student was suddenly jerked, so to speak, from ignorance to knowledge. After all his years of study, and they were not few, he was suddenly made conscious of the fact that in the orchestral world there is a difference between down-bow and up-bow.

The immediate result of the revelation was to throw the student into weeks of chaos as far as his bowing was concerned. All that cocksure security of "coming in" on the beat following a rest had to be reorganized and tempered with a knowledge and an intelligence as to what direction his bow should take when he did come in.

The student at this time finds that he has to set up a whole new series of habits and reactions to the printed page, and this cannot be done in a few days, or even in a few weeks. To arrive at a state of security relative to orchestral bowing takes a knowledge of a wide literature, an experience of many types of music and many styles of composition, many *fortes*, many *pianos*, coupled with many speeds or *tempi* of execution.

It is however, my contention that the days of chaos need never confront the student if the teachers themselves will teach the youngsters, bit by bit, and year by year, the essentials of good orchestra bowing.

At a recent string clinic session, we asked a well-known teacher of second and third grade youngsters how early in the game she began to teach these tots that the first note of a measure comes on a down bow and the last note of the measure on the up bow: (the fundamental rule of orchestra bowing from whose live branches all the exceptions blossom). Her answer was lovely, "Oh, about the second lesson!"

This is exactly the thing we mean. Contrast it with the experience of a student who recently sat in an orchestra rehearsal, having studied for some five or six years privately, and found herself constantly "standing on her head" as far as the bowing of the section was concerned. Her bowing was always upside down!

If more of our private string teachers would make contact with our fine symphony men, even if only

# Orchestral Bowings for High School Students

by Elizabeth A. H. Green

Of the School of Music,  
University of Michigan

for a few lessons, and would go into this question of orchestral bowings with them, the results would be thrilling to everyone concerned, and most of all to the students of these private teachers.

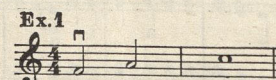
And now, to jot down briefly some of the things a concertmaster should think about in setting the bowings for his section; and it is his job, unless the conductor is himself a string player and capable of the intelligent marking of bowings.

In the following summary of bowings, the first ten listed are the first ten things we would teach the child about orchestra bowings; and the chances are that the student will meet with them in actual orchestral experience about in the order listed. If every child knew these ten things, and knew them well, by the time he had finished with his junior high orchestra work, he would never need to have his "weeks of chaos."

The second ten bowings on the list cannot be classified in chronological order. They would depend upon such unpredictable factors as to whether or not the student met, say, the Beethoven Seventh Symphony before he met the Oberon Overture; or whether he came into his first symphonic organization at a time when a slow movement was being rehearsed or a fast one.

The latter bowings are simply things to look out for as the gorgeous panorama of symphonic literature broadens its horizons before the fascinated gaze of the orchestral neophyte.

1. The down bow should be used on the first beat of the measure.



(Read further for the exceptions.)

2. If a piece starts on the last note of a measure, it should start up bow.



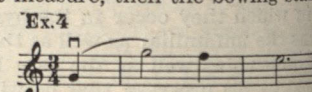
To set this bowing, count back from the first beat of the first complete measure, calling the first note of the complete measure "down bow." The preparatory note or notes should be bowed in such a way that this first-note-of-a-complete-measure arrives on a down bow. See Ex. 2 a, b, c.

3. When playing figures of four even notes, slurred, either singly or reiterated, the first note of four comes on the down bow.



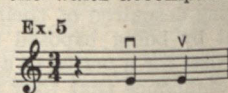
Exception: Oberon Overture, in the strings, seventh and ninth measures from the end. Here the up bow is customarily used for the first note of four in runs. If the contour of the passage is such that it is impossible or inadvisable to arrive with a down bow on the first of the four notes, accommodate as shown in Ex. 3, a, b. Note also in this connection the section of the bow used is of paramount importance. In general, and most often, it is the section between the middle and the point, on the strings, bouncing. In *prestos*, and for *spiccato* (off the effects), middle of the bow. If slow *spiccato*, near bow about one inch nearer to the frog end than actual middle of the bow.

4. If a piece starts on an up beat (last beat of measure) and this up beat is slurred to the first of the next measure, then the bowing starts down.



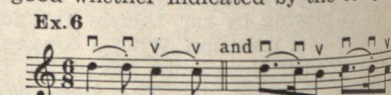
(See number 12 for exception to this.)

5. In playing the waltz accompaniment, the

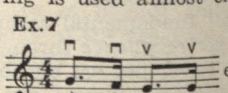


is down, up, and if played nearer the frog of the bow than the point with the bow leaving the strings between the notes (between the second and third of the measure), the effect will be more sprightly of better style.

6. For the six-eight fast movements, teach the student to bow the figures as marked in Ex. 6. This is good whether indicated by the composer or



7. For the dotted eighth and the sixteenth



Exception to this: Rose- (Continued on Page 319)

**BAND, ORCHESTRA  
and CHORUS**  
Edited by William D. Revelli

"FORWARD MARCH WITH MUSIC"

# The Challenge of the High School and College Band To the American Composer

Part Two

by William D. Revelli

Members of the Panel Include Dr. Edwin Franko Goldman,  
William Schuman, Morton Gould, and William D. Revelli (Chairman)

THE FIRST PART OF THIS STIMULATING DISCUSSION APPEARED IN THE ETUDE FOR MAY

and they will not do these wonderful things for the band unless they can do so on a commission from a publisher.

Mr. Gould: I agree with the idea of composers working on a commission. A composer has a responsibility, too. He must be not only creative but an excellent craftsman in writing for all kinds of media. Contemporary European composers, as for example Prokofiev, have written many works which are not "serious." They are charming and entertaining pieces. They are written simply and directly and for great audience appeal. If you look through the catalogs of the American composers you will find very little of that. The composers themselves must be made aware of the wide gamut that music runs. To become so, they must be in physical contact with bands so that they can realize their tremendous possibilities.

Member of the audience: Since there are so many more bands than orchestras, it looks as though there should be more remuneration in writing for bands than for orchestras.

Mr. Schuman: Choral works take less time to write. I think if a catalog of band works of American composers were established it would bring good results.

Mr. Revelli: Mr. Schuman, as a composer, what restrictions and limitations in reference to scoring have you encountered when you write for the band? What effect has the lack of professional concert bands had on your attitude in scoring for the band?

Mr. Schuman: I wouldn't say that the limitation is burdensome in any way; it is merely a different set of limitations. I really enjoy writing for band. It is fun.

Mr. Revelli: Mr. Gould, when you were commissioned to write "Jericho" were you given any recommendations as to type, character, style, and difficulty of the composition, or were you just asked to write a work?

Mr. Gould: They just asked me to write a work. I would like to add that much of the standard repertoire is difficult; for example, *William Tell*. Many notes are omitted in its performance.

Dr. Goldman: That is true of *Poet and Peasant* and other standard works, also.

Mr. Revelli: Many of the school band arrangements, transcriptions as well as original compositions, are thickly scored "with an eye" to keeping every player

busy every measure. School band conductors insist that this is necessary since the problem of discipline in education is eliminated. Do you agree that this "busy work" is essential?

Dale Harris: No, that is why I like the *Symphony* for band of Ernest Williams. He doesn't have all the band playing all the time. In one section of the second movement, a woodwind quintet is used for a rather extended period and is very effective.

Dr. Goldman: May I speak about this, because it has been a sore spot with me for a long time. Publishers have said that every instrument must play whether it is appropriate or not. One band I conducted had all the instruments playing all the time, even in the *pianissimo* parts. School conductors should not insist on having parts for every instrument for every measure. We should take music more seriously. We don't want the same instrumentation for every type of music. If a composer desires a certain effect, why shouldn't we play it that way, with the instrument he requires? Publishers, however, refuse a piece that does not call for full band, and school band conductors refuse to play it.

Member of the audience: I think the limitation of budget in small schools has something to do with that. We can't get all the instruments we should have.

Dr. Goldman: Then there should be special music written for such bands.

Mr. Revelli: I believe a conductor of a school band must take it upon himself to build instrumentation for his particular organization. It takes time, but the small community can have a band with full instrumentation. I do not believe enough is being done in that direction.

Since most of the repertoire for bands of today is published for school bands, and since musicianship, technical facility, and general playing ability of these school bands are naturally limited, the general repertoire, growth, and musical achievement of the band have been affected. Can the band of the future maintain its proper status under these conditions?

The professional composer when writing for the orchestra is not primarily concerned with the proficiency and technical limitations of the orchestra. When he is composing for the band his primary consideration must be devoted to the limitations of the band. This is due to the fact that in one instance he is writing for professional musicians, whereas, in the second, he is writing for school musicians. In one instance, he is a creator of music, and in the second he is concerned with the educational problems at hand.

There are only two or three professional bands in the United States. We have a great many more pro-

Mr. Revelli: Mr. Gould, what do you believe is the contemporary composer's attitude toward the modern symphonic band? First, as a means of expression, and secondly, as to its potentialities in the future?

Mr. Gould: I think the band has tremendous potentialities for color which have not been used very much. A band has a very contemporary sound; its instruments are very adaptable to popular and folk music, and many of our composers today are writing music that has as its base folk and popular music texture. (I write that kind of music.) Symphony orchestras find it awkward to project certain types of music with jazz or folk music base. The band has a color and an instrumentation that is compatible with much of our contemporary American music. Secondly, I believe bands offer a wide practical outlet for composers. I am all for the idea of commissioning works. A band number that has a practical playing value is also just the kind of number for which many orchestrations can be sold. That should mean that enough of an income could be derived from that source to make it worth a composer's while to write for the band even if he does not get a commission to do so.

I was made aware that this country has many young people who are vitally interested in music and who play instruments in a way that surprised me. They possess so much in tone, technique, and in style. We must realize that these young people are capable of more than we credit to them. Professional orchestras sometimes have difficulty with rhythms that young



MORTON GOULD

folks do not have; they dance to it and hear it all the time and the rhythm is a part of them. For example, the Viennese Waltz rhythm is a difficult thing to do, but when you have people who actually feel it, they can play the music with no trouble at all. I repeat, these young people have that rhythm and if they are given a chance to acquaint themselves with good works they will be able to overcome the difficulties inherent in the work.

To get back to the question as to the band's potentialities in the future, I say, yes, it has great potentialities.

Member of the audience: There has been a lack of perception on the part of publishers. I am a member of a publishing firm. Too frequently publishing houses buy music "by the pound." They don't see the idea of American composers being good enough to write musical compositions. There is a certain economic compulsion involved as far as most composers are concerned

**BAND and ORCHESTRA**  
Edited by William D. Revelli

"FORWARD MARCH WITH MUSIC"

JUNE, 1945



fessional symphony orchestras than concert bands. Therefore composers for band must depend almost entirely on the school band field. We owe something to students of these organizations. They deserve a worthy repertory for the band.

Mr. Gould: On the problem of writing simpler music and of writing for an instrumentation that would be practical for small bands, I want to say that it is most difficult to write simple music. That is what every composer tries to do. He tries to write as directly as possible and with a minimum of fussiness. I believe that compositions can be written for Class C bands that can still be good music. The texture and idiom of the music may be difficult for some to accept. That is why it is necessary for school band conductors to become as aware of, and familiar as possible with, the musical scene—with good boogie-woogie and good jazz.

A composer writing a work which has as its aim mass consumption must face the fact that many orchestras and bands are lacking in certain instrumentation. He must give close attention to cross-cueing and the conductor must follow through with careful cross-cueing when he works with his band. I believe band arrangements need a good housecleaning. A light phrase often uses all the instruments in the band. Get rid of the excess weight and the result will be much better.

Mr. Revelli: Is Mr. Gould attempting to write for an instrumentation which few bands possess? In *Jericho*, for example, there is a solo for the English Horn, an instrument which few school bands have. I do believe that scoring for oboes and other rare instruments would create more and better players of these same instruments. Band conductors would also become more familiar with the teaching of oboe and the bassoon if parts were written for them and required in every appropriate score.

Member of the audience: When we buy an arrangement, we usually get the condensed score. Why can't we get full scores published with the music? If we can't read the full scores we can learn to read them, so that we can understand what the composer did want originally.

Mr. Schuman: You wanted something practical to happen at this meeting with regard to composers. I believe schools could have works written for them in the following way: If one hundred conductors were to get together, even possibly tonight at this meeting, and requisition a composer to write a work for them, agreeing on the instrumentation and expressing full confidence in the composer, any publisher would be delighted to publish the piece. Any publisher would be happy to publish a piece that would sell one hundred copies of band sets. Isn't there something in this idea?

Mr. Revelli: I think that is an excellent suggestion. If one hundred band conductors in the state were to take such action we would initiate a movement which could have much influence in the writing of literature for the concert band of tomorrow.

Mr. Schuman: I would like to see this commission carry with it directions for the specific parts to be written for every instrument. There is nothing a composer likes better than writing on direct order. I am sure he would meet the challenge.

Dr. Goldman: You have a great opportunity here to inaugurate an important move which would raise the standard of bands tremendously. Every state in the union would follow suit. It would be wonderful to take such a step.

I do want to add that it costs a lot to print scores. We should have scores for every work. Then the conductor can see what the composer's aims are and he can get changes and substitutions for the score. I believe it is necessary to have the condensed score, too. The conductor should rehearse with full score, but for performance, the condensed score is also practical.

Mr. Bovee: I would like a check vote of the number here who would pledge to such a plan as Mr. Schuman suggests.

(Approximately one hundred hands were raised.)

Dr. Moore: It may be of interest to you in connection with this discussion to know that the National Association of Schools of Music is concerned with the need for improving the literature for wind instruments in

small ensembles. Recently each member of the Association has been asked to subscribe for a series of compositions for woodwind and brass instruments which would be commissioned from American composers and which would appear during the next five years at approximately five compositions each year. The response on the part of the membership indicates wholehearted support of this proposal. The discussion this evening on the larger area of new literature for the concert band, it seems to me, is symptomatic of the widespread interest at all levels for wind instruments. I commend this group for its recognition of a responsibility and willingness to pioneer the development of a sorely needed literature.

Mr. Revelli: I feel that this plan should be studied from many angles, that procedures, instrumentation, type, length of work, and other problems, must all be given due consideration. But the initial action and your indication that you desire such a plan has brought this meeting to an important climax. If we can carry this plan out to fulfillment, we can begin to get capable composers and a worth-while repertory. Then we can say that the band is truly a worth-while musical development.

## War-Time Broadcasts of Notable Interest

(Continued from Page 310)

these programs; he will be remembered by many for his work as narrator on CBS programs, *Transatlantic Call* and *God's Country*. This series is devoted to American folklore, legends, and true stories, and at this time is an important addition to radio entertainment. Though strictly a dramatic series, these programs nonetheless tie in with our folk music ones.

The musical programs of this month's NBC University of the Air—"Music in American Cities"—(heard Thursdays, 11:30 to midnight, EWT), takes into consideration four great musical centers. These are Mexico City (June 7); Washington, D. C. (June 14); Rio de Janeiro (June 21); and Boston (June 28). Last fall, this program series paid tribute to Mexico City in the period before the twentieth century. The program of June 7 considers Mexico City of modern times. Previous to the upheaval of the Revolution of 1910, there was no feeling of national renovation. The Revolution brought about not only political and social changes but an important cultural awakening. The program will trace this development. The broadcast of the fourteenth will turn the spotlight on the Nation's Capital and will trace the development of its musical growth from the first concerts of the United States Marine Band, which began as a group of fifers and drummers in 1775. Highlights of nineteenth and twentieth century Brazilian composers will be heard in the programs of the twenty-first, and the music of Boston of the modern period will engage our attention on June 28th.

It was our intention to speak of the fine music heard on Easter Sunday of this year over the American radio, but space will hardly permit us to go extensively into this. To be sure, Easter is behind us, and the long months of summer, vacation time, and the periods of outdoor recreations lie ahead. But remembering an important holiday and how it has been observed over the radio makes for greater appreciation of musical broadcasting. Remembered with keen pleasure is the last of Toscanini's winter broadcasts with the NBC Symphony, which on Easter gave us the exquisite music of the second act of Gluck's "Orpheus and Eurydice" and the enduringly beautiful final chorus from Bach's "Passion According to St. Matthew." When one turns off a program like this, one does not shut out the music which has terminated but recently, instead one recalls with pleasure the perfect hour of a broadcast which brought music of incomparable worth. On the Wednesday, prior to Easter, in the *Invitation to Music* broadcast (Wednesday, 11:30 to midnight, EWT—Columbia network), the lovely soprano, Elisabeth Schumann, sang several Bach arias from the "St. John" and the "St. Matthew

"FORWARD MARCH WITH MUSIC"

Passion," and also parts of "Dies Natalis," a cantata by the modern English composer Gerald Finzi. One wishes that such things could be perpetuated so that there would be another opportunity to hear them.

Speaking of Easter brings us to an important series of broadcasts now being sponsored by the Church of the Air (Sundays, 10:00 to 10:30 A.M., EWT—Columbia network). This series, which started on April 15 and is to extend for thirteen weeks, is entitled "The Christian Vocation." It is devoted to a discussion of the "Christian viewpoint of the place of men and their work in the world." It is presented in cooperation with three speakers representing the Congregational, Christian, Methodist, and Presbyterian denominations. This is the first time that CBS Church of the Air has presented a series of programs on a single theme with the same speaker on successive broadcasts. The purpose and importance of these programs is explained by Elinor Inman, Broadcast Director for the Church of the Air. She says: "This series has been planned to provide opportunity for a discussion of the Christian viewpoint of the place of men and their work in the world. This is a very significant thing to talk about now when we are forced by the condition of the world to develop new ideologies and new attitudes as to the relationship of men with each other." The prominent choirs have been engaged to sing the devotional music heard on these programs. The speakers featured are: Dr. Douglas Horton, Minister of the General Council of the Congregational Christian Churches (he was heard in the first half of the series, April 15 to May 20); Dr. Ernest Fremont Tittle, pastor of the First Methodist Church, Evanston, Illinois (he takes over on June 3 to continue through the broadcast of July 8), and the newly elected Moderator of the Presbyterian General Assembly (who was heard on May 27). These programs aiming to present new ideas and ideals on what can be accomplished in our day-to-day work are worthy of every listener's consideration, for—as Miss Inman says—"It is in our day-to-day work, outside the circle of our families, that the most intimate contact comes."

## Music in the Post-War Curriculum

(Continued from Page 314)

amplified and augmented courses in listening and to understand and enjoy music in its true light as reflection, an interpretation, and an expression of life. They may look forward to having the time to develop the skills necessary to the highly social and necessary, coöperative performance in musical organizations.

They may, having mastered the basic skills common to all, determine that music is to be their life and may be assured of opportunity and facilities for securing advanced technical knowledge and skill in performance, composition, teaching, and criticism.

There are some of us who believe that music education is, in itself, a preparation for higher citizenship. If any average symphony lasts forty minutes. If any governing or planning group for any project or activity could apply itself to a problem with the same seriousness of purpose and intensity of concentration, the same astonishing degree of coöperation, and the same competent technical skill exhibited by any major orchestra—well, there you would have a new era in government, business, science, and human relations. Music in the post-war curriculum will help education make young Americans self-sustaining, self-respecting, and self-sacrificing. In the possession of these qualities lies the happiness of men.

*The man that hath no music in himself,  
Nor is not mov'd with concord of sweet sounds,  
Is fit for treasons, stratagems, and spoils;  
The motions of his spirit are dull as night,  
And his affections dark as Erebus;  
Let no such man be trusted.*

SHAKESPEARE

THE ETUDE

## A Stimulating Letter

I enjoyed very much your contribution to the Violinist's Forum in the February issue of *The Etude*. I have played and taught violin for forty years and more, so feel that I have had long experience. Now that my children are grown and have "grown the nest," music takes up the slack and fills my mind and time with stimulating work, and contacts with young people, the feeling that I am enriching their lives, make life worth while. . . . I think I have familiarized myself with violin methods and studies more than most of the teachers I have known, and your ideas coincide with mine "to a T." For the last few years I have found the "Tune-a-day" method by Paul Herfurth very successful with young pupils; it has never failed to hold their interest. I do not always use Book II . . . but Book III, introducing the third position, is excellent. I have also found the first book which Charles Levenson compiled very good, as it . . . furnishes more variety of style and familiarizes the student with many old masters of the violin. . . .

Don't you think the teacher of beginners has a most vital rôle? How many young students soon lose interest and give up! And in most cases I believe it is due to a lack of tactful effort by the teacher. If you put yourself in the place of a young child, who probably has no previous musical knowledge, you can realize the discouragements which beset him. Practice by himself is at first often wasted; he knows (perhaps?) that nothing sounds right, and he can easily become disheartened before any satisfaction of accomplishment. . . . So I have used the following procedure with pupils living near to me. In the first place, I accumulated a few "fiddles" of various sizes and I loan them to beginners for a try out. If they wish to continue they generally wish to own one, but in this way the parents go to no expense while it is an experiment. I manage to have them come and practice with me each day for ten or fifteen minutes—keeping the violins here. No bad habits are allowed to form, and when they use the left hand, correct intonation is much more quickly established. . . . I train the left hand at first by playing pizzicato, so that the pitch—also hand position—is concentrated on. . . . After two or three weeks they then come three times a week—taking the violins home—then twice a week. In this way the instrument is kept in condition—and teachers know how seldom that happens in the case of most beginners. It is amazing the progress the pupils make, the parents are so pleased, and the pupil's interest keeps at a high pitch. . . .

—Mrs. E. F. O., Rhode Island.

To receive a letter like this is a pleasure and an encouragement, and I wish I could print every paragraph of it. Mrs. E. F. O. is very evidently much more than a conscientious teacher—she has vision and a constructive imagination. To her, teaching is not merely a means of existence, it is a reason for existence. What a grand world it would be if all teachers, in all branches of education, felt this way about their work! It would be rather presumptuous to congratulate Mrs. E. F. O., but her pupils can be congratulated wholeheartedly.

The Paul Herfurth books can be used very effectively to capture and hold the interest of a beginner. Another good series is the "Learn with Tunes" (three books) by Carl Grissen. Equally valuable are the "Folk and Master Melodies" by Wesley Sontag. In all these books the aim is to awaken in the pupil a feeling for the fundamentals of good musical taste, as well as to make the effort of learning more pleasurable.

However, the "Tunes" method of teaching has one disadvantage which must not be overlooked: The various books rarely include enough material for the development of a sound technical foundation. For this reason, a detailed Method, such as those of Laoureux or Applebaum, should be introduced as soon as the pupil

# The Violinist's Forum

Conducted by

Harold Berkley

Prominent Teacher and Conductor



No question will be answered in *THE ETUDE* unless accompanied by the full name and address of the inquirer. Only initials, or pseudonym given, will be published.

derstanding in the teacher's approach. No two pupils can be taught in the same way, because no two of them have the same individualities. Every new student is, or should be, a challenge to the teacher's ingenuity, to his sympathy and his sensitivity. That is probably why no enthusiastic teacher ever grows old in mind, no matter how advanced in years he may be!

Mrs. E. F. O.'s plan of loaning a violin to the beginner and giving him daily lessons, while keeping the violin at her home, is a really brilliant idea. As she says, it entails no expense to the parents, it gives the children no opportunity to get into bad habits of playing, and it keeps the violins in proper tune and adjustment. It is no wonder that the pupils make rapid progress, for everything they do in the first few weeks is under supervision, which helps them to acquire an instinct for what is right.

This was a stimulating letter to read, and I am sure it will be appreciated by every teacher who sees it.

Now what about all you other teachers? Haven't you some pet ideas that have proved successful in building your classes, in awakening a pupil's interest, in mastering some particular musical or technical problem? If you have, won't you send them in? This page is open to you. An exchange of ideas and experiences is sure to be valuable and stimulating.

## Concerning "Stop and Rest"

In recent copies of *THE ETUDE* I notice you say several times that as soon as a player begins to feel tired he should stop and rest. Now, can one develop real strength that way? . . . I am trying to get a strong and rapid trill, and it seems to me that if I stop and rest every time I feel a bit tired, I shall be always just where I started. . . . I wish you would tell me why frequent rests are necessary.

—F. F. B., Oregon.

I understand very well your wish to acquire a good trill, but I can assure you that you will be very lucky to do so if you let yourself go on practicing when your hand is tired. You are much more likely to strain the muscles of your hand, making your finger permanently weak,

*"The relation of the amateur to music is rather like that of the 'gentle reader' and the 'delightful letter-writer' to literature. Without such comprehending friends and lovers, without such free disciples and followers (paid only by the pleasure of their service), not one of the arts—and least of all, music—could really enter into the larger life of the world."*

—ROBERT HAVEN SCHAUFFLER.

or else to develop a chronic muscular cramp which will seize your hand whenever you have to play a trill. No, the surest way to gain a relaxed strength—and that is what you must have for a good trill—is to practice consistently, but always to rest for a few seconds when fatigue begins to appear. Ten seconds—which is not a very long time!—is quite sufficient to relax your hand completely, unless it has become very tired. Just let your hand drop to your side and shake it gently.

The cause of fatigue is interesting. A friend of mine, a well-known doctor, recently explained it to me, and I am passing on the gist of what he said as I think it may help you to realize why frequent rest periods are necessary. If a muscle is used repeatedly, it contracts forcibly and easily at first but soon becomes fatigued since it cannot obtain the oxygen—carried by the blood—which is necessary for its recuperation between the individual contractions. Muscular energy means combustion, and the fuel used is the various carbohydrates. When the oxygen supply is insufficient, lactic acid accumulates and the muscle becomes tense. This formation of lactic acid causes minute centers of irritation at the junction of the muscle bundles and the related nerves. This intensifies the sense of fatigue and may, if the muscle is constantly overworked, be a cause of neuritis.

When exercise is consistent, but is never allowed to become exhausting, not only the muscle is developed, but also the vascular system which feeds it. This means that an ever-increasing supply of oxygen is brought by the blood, and the muscle can be exercised without discomfort for longer and longer periods of time. So you see that endurance depends, not merely on the strength of the muscle, but very largely on having an adequate supply of blood to bring oxygen to the muscle. And this supply can be gradually increased by regular but never exhausting exercise.

Now don't think too much about all this; you are a violinist, and the less you concern yourself with anatomical and biochemical matters the more natural your playing will be. Just keep in mind that a tired brain cannot learn, and it is therefore unreasonable to expect a tired hand to do so. Be patient, and give your hand a few seconds of complete relaxation as soon as it begins to feel tense. Before long you will find that your trill is gaining both strength and speed. In *THE ETUDE* for March, 1944, I wrote something about the trill and suggested certain exercises; if you will refer to that article, I am sure you will find it helpful.

Relaxation, however, influences violin playing far beyond such technical details as the trill: a freely flowing tone and a flexibly eloquent style of performance are dependent on a relaxed physique and mind. Don't confuse relaxation with slackness or flaccidity—it can, indeed it must, coexist with a white-hot intensity of feeling. In the large sense, it is the removal of mental and physical tensions which have nothing to do with the act of playing. To acquire it is to remove the most obstinate barrier to free and expressive performance, the player becoming then an instrument through which the music can flow without hindrance.

"FORWARD MARCH WITH MUSIC"



# French Counting and Solfege

Q. 1. Could you explain French counting and its advantages, and mention a source where I might read about it in detail?

2. Where could I find some reading material about solfege? I would like to know the solfege names of the chromatically altered scale tones, both ascending and descending, and if there are any for doubly altered scale tones.—B. B. N.

A. 1. In French counting, quarter-notes are called *Ta*, half-notes *Ta-a*, dotted halves *Ta-a-a*, whole-notes *Ta-a-a-a*. Two eighths are *Ta-te*, four sixteenths *Ta-fa-te-fe*, dotted-quarter and eighth *Ta-a-te*, dotted eighth and sixteenth *Ta-e-fe*, and triplets *Ta-te-ti*. The following rhythm would be counted thus:



The advantage of these rhythmic syllables is that they enable students (particularly small children) to sing the pitches of a melody while concentrating on the rhythm. This system is used quite widely in England, but has not been adopted to any extent in America.

This French counting is explained in Chapters 3, 4, 5, and 6 of "Principles of Musician'ship for Teachers and Students," by Yorke Trotter and Stanley Chapple; and on Page 6 of "Student's Practice in the Staff" by James Gallie, there is a well-organized chart showing all rhythms with these syllable names.

2. I do not know what kind of reading material you want about solfege. The term "solfege" originally meant simply a vocal exercise, but has been extended today to mean the study of sight-singing, either with syllables, a neutral syllable, scale numbers, or words. In France, Italy, and Belgium the "fixed do" syllables are generally used, but elsewhere the "movable do" is most frequently employed. For a good history of the term, I refer you to the article "Solfege" in Vol. IV of "Grove's Dictionary of Music and Musicians."

There are a great many volumes of sight reading material on the market, such as my own "Supplementary Sight-Singing Exercises," which contains almost 300 pages of melodies in unison, two, three, and four parts. The "Student's Practice in the Staff" by Gallie, to which I referred above, is a similar collection, but contains only thirty-seven pages. An interesting collection of folk songs is the "Oxford Folk Song Sight Singing Series" which comes in ten small books of about one hundred melodies each.

Syllables when sharpened take the vowel color of "i" (pronounced "e"), and when flattened the color of "e" (pronounced "a"), except "re" which becomes "ra." Thus the chromatic scale, ascending and descending is: Do, di, Re, ri, Mi, Fa, fi, So, si, La, li, Ti, Do; Do, Ti, te, La, le, So, se, Fa, Mi, me, Re, ra, Do. There are two exceptions: in the descending form So, Fi, Fa is almost always used instead of So, Se, Fa; and in the ascending form La, Te, Ti is sometimes found instead of La, li, Ti. These two changes occur because of the frequency of modulatory inflections to the dominant and subdominant.

# Questions and Answers

Conducted by

Karl W. Gehrkins

Mus. Doc.

Professor Emeritus  
Oberlin College

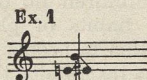
Music Editor, Webster's New  
International Dictionary

There are no syllable names for doubly-altered tones. Such alterations are found only in highly chromatic music, and by the time one is able to sing that kind of music, he should be beyond the need of syllables.

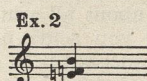
All of the books mentioned may be procured through the publishers of THE ETUDE.

## A Question of Notation

Q. How should one perform the following notes from Ravel's *Jeux d'Eau*? Should they be played together or separately? They occur in the left hand, twice in the first measure of Page 8, and similarly in the third measure.—F. J. N.



A. All three notes are to be sounded together. Since it is impossible to write E-natural and E-sharp on top of each other, the notes must be arranged as they are. The passage would be played the same if it were notated thus:



But this would be harmonically incorrect since the background of the entire measure is the dominant seventh chord C-sharp—E-sharp—G-sharp—B, and this cannot be spelled C-sharp—F-natural—G-sharp—B. I might also warn you that the chord directly preceding the one you quoted should be C-sharp—E-sharp—B, but in some editions the accidental sharp before the E has been omitted.

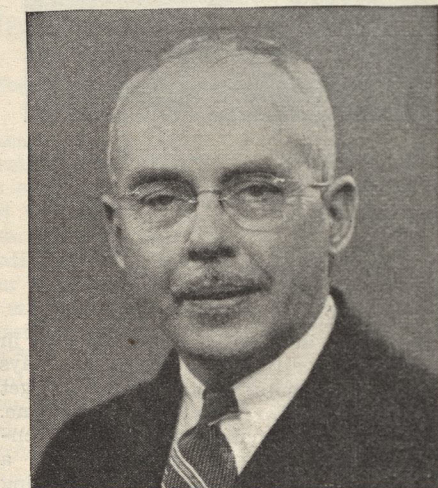
## How to Learn to Play Popular Music

Q. 1. I am an adult piano student, and for the past year have studied hard in the entire Volume 925 of "The Virtuoso Pianist" by Hanon and the John M. Williams' "Adult Beginner" through self instruction. I have faithfully studied all the most difficult pieces in the Williams' book and memorized them.

My desire and aim in music is to play popular tunes. Therefore I have selected the easier pieces I could find and worked on them as I went along with the two volumes mentioned above. Some of these pieces are *Idaho*, *Cherry Blossom Time*, *Diane*, *Sundown*, and others of similar difficulty.

I know my progress would be bettered if I knew the proper material to study and the method of practice that would help me most in acquiring the skill necessary to play the type of music I am interested in.

Will you please suggest further material to practice and the best procedure to follow in achieving my aim? Is it advisable to work on popular music with the musical background that I have?



No question will be answered in THE ETUDE unless accompanied by the full name and address of the inquirer. Only initials, or pseudonym given, will be published.

2. Is it detrimental to watch the keyboard and hands while playing memorized pieces?—R. L. N.

A. 1. If you have done Hanon 925 really thoroughly, you should have a good solid technique, and it seems to me that you now need to gain fluency in your playing. For that purpose I would suggest any of the following books, all of which are good to follow the John M. Williams' "Adult Beginner": "Music Study for Adults," "A Treasure Chest of Famous Melodies," by Buenta Carter; "Modern Piano Course," Books III and IV, by John Thompson; or "Famous Classics," Books I and II, by John Thompson. Also, such supplementary volumes as "Opera Gems," Volumes I, II, and III; or "Piano Pieces the Whole World Plays" should help in gaining the facility you need.

Since your aim in piano study is to learn to play "popular" rather than "classical" music, by all means play popular songs. In order to play jazz well, it is, of course, necessary to have a good technique, and that is the reason I have recommended the material in the above paragraph. But while you are working on that, try your hand at popular tunes. I might warn you that just playing the notes as they are printed in popular

sheet music will never give a satisfactory effect. They must be elaborated in various styles in order to sound like real jazz. So I would suggest that you get some such volume as Duke Ellington's "Piano Method for Blues," which shows how to devise rhythms, accompaniment figures, harmonies and so forth for popular songs. Ellington also has a volume called "Piano Solos" which consists of only piano solos, no study material, but these solos will show you how his ideas are used. There are many books on the market, and if you are an Ellington fan, you might prefer "Rhythms" by Teddy Wilson, or "Provisations" by Art Tatum. In any case get some such book and study it. I really want to learn to play jazz. Also listen carefully to some of the pianists on the radio, or better yet study their phonograph recordings, to try to learn their styles.

2. It is perfectly all right to watch keyboard and hands while playing memorized music, providing you do not come a slave to this practice.

## What Are the Correct Tempos

Q. Please suggest metronome markings for the following piano works:

1. Chaconne in D Minor (Bach-Busoni)—*Andante maestoso*, *ma non troppo* *Piu mosso*, *ma misurato* *Sostenuto* *Allegro moderato* *ma deciso* *Piu vivo*
2. "Organ-Choral-Preludes" (Bach-Busoni)—*Come, God, Creator* *Awake, the Voice Commands* *Now Comes the Gentiles' Saviour* *Rejoice, Beloved Christians* *I Call on Thee, Lord* *In Thee is Joy*
3. Air and Fugue on White Keys (Fuleihan) *Air (largo)* *Fugue (vivace)*

A. 1. Chaconne in D Minor (Bach-Busoni)—*Andante maestoso*, *ma non troppo*  $\text{♩} = 52$ ; *Piu Mosso*, *ma misurato*  $\text{♩} = 58$ ; *Sostenuto*  $\text{♩} = 108$ ; *Allegro moderato* *ma deciso*  $\text{♩} = 92$ ; *Piu vivo*  $\text{♩} = 144$ .

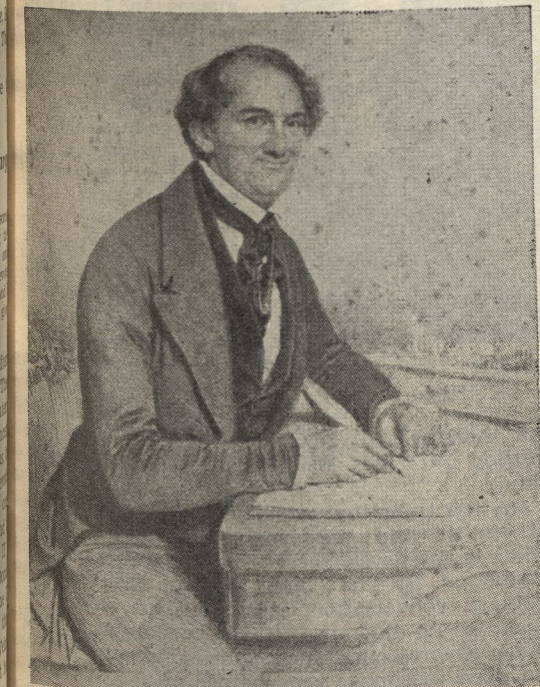
2. Organ-Choral-Preludes (Bach-Busoni)—*Come, God, Creator*  $\text{♩} = 60$ ; *Awake, the Voice Commands*  $\text{♩} = 66$ ; *Now Comes the Gentiles' Saviour*  $\text{♩} = 76$ ; *Rejoice, Beloved Christians*  $\text{♩} = 132$ ; *I Call on Thee, Lord*  $\text{♩} = 63$ ; *In Thee is Joy*  $\text{♩} = 80$ .

3. I regret that I do not have Fuleihan composition.

## Books Dealing with the Forms

Q. Could you please tell me of any books that go into detail concerning the form and writing of the symphony and the piano concerto? Most books on these subjects are only a short space to these subjects, and I would like to find some that really give a detailed study.—C. F.

A. As you have discovered, the literature on these subjects is limited. There is a great deal of analytical material about standard symphonies and concertos, and about the history of these forms, but there is almost nothing which is exclusively to the writing of such compositions. The best I can recommend is the symphony in Volumes I and II of "Essays in Musical Analysis" by F. Tovey. For the concerto, Volume I of the Tovey "Essays" is fine, and is also a new book by Abraham Lincoln called "The Concerto" which might interest you. All of these volumes contain a great deal of historical material, and I believe they will also give you the information you need. (Continued on Page 350)



PHINEAS T. BARNUM  
The flamboyant showman risked his last penny to bring Jenny Lind to America.

JUNE, 1945

# America's Musical Yesterday

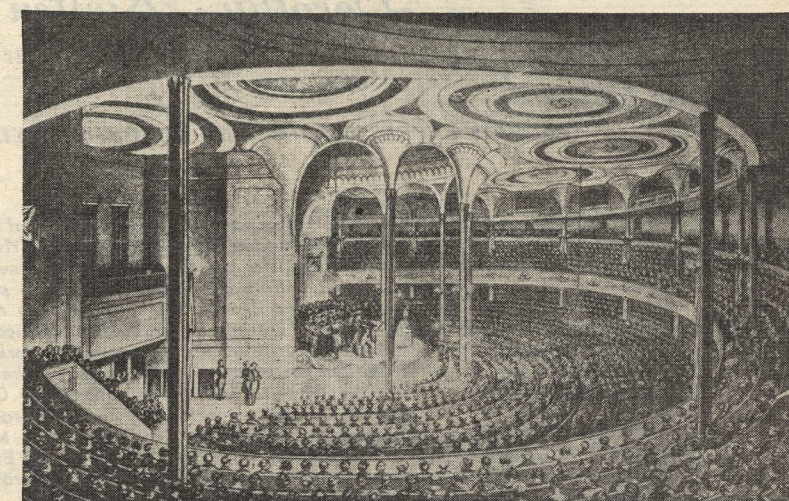
by David Ewen

New York hatter, Genin, for \$225.00.

Jenny Lind was forced to appear as nothing more than a circus attraction in an age that looked upon a musical performance as a circus show. When Americans went to the concert hall they wanted spectacle, display, eccentricities. And they got them! The concert activity of a hundred years back and less consisted exclusively of Barnum-like attractions.

## Tricks and Stunts

A concert pianist named Hutton had a sleigh bell attached to his ankle which he would jingle to accompany the music he was playing. In some numbers he was supplemented by an assistant who would appear and use an



FIRST APPEARANCE OF JENNY LIND IN AMERICA  
Castle Garden, September 11, 1850



JENNY LIND

instrument imitating the cracking of a whip—numbers which would (in the words of Dwight's "Journal of Music") "arouse a storm of applause which had no end." A highly publicized prodigy was four-year old Marsh, who could play on two drums at one time. A Polish pianist, Volovski, brought audiences to his concerts with the promise that he could play four hundred notes in one measure, while the singer De Begnis exploited the fact that he could render six hundred words and three hundred and fifty bars of music in one minute. Leopold de Meyer performed on the piano with

fists, elbows, and even a cane, and another pianist, Henri Herz, even went to the irrelevant length of featuring at his concert the attraction of a thousand candle illumination. The celebrated bandleader, Patrick Gilmore, often included actual cannon outside the bandstand, fired by an electric button on the conductor's music rack. This was considered a marvel of electrical engineering. In 1869 a performance of Verdi's *Anvil Chorus* in Boston called for one hundred red-shirted firemen, who struck an anvil as the music played.

The music that Americans went for at the time was equally bizarre. Pieces like *Yankee Doodle*, *The Arkansas Traveler*, *Money Musk*, and *Brittle Silver* were staples in the repertoire of most important concert performers touring this country. Even great artists like Anton Rubinstein, Thalberg, and Henri Viextemps had to play them. Rubinstein even composed a set of variations on *Yankee Doodle*. Henri Wieniawski, one of the greatest violinists of his generation, featured meretricious paraphrases of Irish ditties. Ole Bull invariably included *The Mother's Prayer* and *The Carnival of Venice* at his concerts. Even so self-respecting a musician as William Mason went to the extreme of catering to his public by playing *Old Hundred* with one hand and *Yankee Doodle* with the other.

## Cacophonous Favorites

A great orchestral favorite was a piece called *Fireman's Quadrille*, which was heard on programs that also included music by Mozart and Beethoven. The clang of firebells sounded offstage, as the music was played on the stage. Suddenly, firemen in full regalia marched on the platform to pour actual water from fire hoses on a simulated fire. The music reached a feverish climax as the firemen marched triumphantly off. Another popular number was *The Railroad's Galop*, during the performance of which a toy locomotive would be set off on the stage, puffing smoke as it ran. Still another favorite was *The Battle of Prague*, a cacophonous piece enlisting tin pans, rattles, and any other available percussive contrivance capable of registering noise. This composition, arranged for piano, was the war horse of many mid-Victorian *Walküre*.

As in the circus, so at (Continued on Page 352)

"FORWARD MARCH WITH MUSIC"



# Be Your Own Guide!

A Conference with

**Dorothy Kirsten**

Popular American Lyric Soprano

SECURED EXPRESSLY FOR THE ETUDE BY MYLES FELLOWES

Dorothy Kirsten has built her career on a foundation of musicianship that began in her childhood, with the traditions of home. Her great-aunt, Catherine Hayes, known as "the Irish Jenny Lind," enjoyed a distinguished reputation throughout the British Isles and the European Continent; her grandfather, James J. Beggs, cornetist and conductor, directed Buffalo Bill's band and became president of Local 802 of the AFM (the "Musician's Union"). Miss Kirsten declares that music was so much a taken-for-granted part of home, that she hardly thought of it as a possible career. She first studied dancing and later, dramatic acting, both of which gave her greater security when she began vocal work. Though she has been before the public but a few years, Miss Kirsten has asserted herself as one of the most promising young artists of the day. For her performance in La Traviata, with the New York City Center Opera, she was hailed by Time Magazine as "the greatest Violetta since Muzio," and her broadcasts and recordings have attracted a wide following throughout the country. Born in New Jersey, Miss Kirsten has studied both here and in Italy. In the following conference, she informs readers of THE ETUDE of the particular kind of coöperation that must exist between teacher and pupil as the basis for profitable study.—EDITOR'S NOTE.

THERE IS NOTHING NEW in the idea that the ambitious young singer must work, but a great deal of confusion can arise as to *how* that work shall be carried forward. No inexperienced vocalist can work alone; indeed, he should not work alone. Neither can the teacher be expected to assume the entire responsibility for his progress. There must be the closest kind of coöperative team-work between teacher and pupil, in which the teacher directs what is to be done, and the pupil guides the manner in which those directions are followed. How, then, is the pupil to guide himself? My own experience has led me to believe that this personal guidance must result from the closest possible attention to one's own sensations while singing.

## The Miracle of Bel Canto

When I first began vocal work, my voice was small; so small, in fact, that it was doubtful whether I should ever be able to aspire to anything more than musical comedy parts. I went to Italy, however, for further study, and soon found that my voice was developing. My range became enlarged, my volume grew, and altogether my voice was "brought out" in better projection. Now, the curious thing is that I really do not know how this was done. My studies were reorganized along the lines of purely *bel canto* production—and the miracle happened. But I do know this: my teacher advised me to analyse my sensations while I sang, and to make the most careful note of when I felt easy and free, and when I did not. On the basis of my own observations of how I felt while singing, problems were discovered and subsequently overcome. From my own experience, then, I counsel other young singers to make an accurate report to their teachers of any sensation that is not entirely free and comfortable. Nothing is too small or insignificant for attention!

The very physical construction of the resonating apparatus makes it impossible for the singer to hear himself as others hear him. Frequently, a tone that sounds large and full to the singer himself, fails to travel, to project. Others hear it as a small, tight tone. A good teacher can, of course, correct defective projection—but it is not the *tone* upon which he works; it is, rather, the tone-producing *organs* of the pupil. This work can be done only in terms of the sensations the pupil experiences. When my voice began to grow, for example, I was conscious of an entirely new sensation. For the first time, I felt that I was no longer singing

from my throat, but with my whole physique. The strong support of the abdominal muscles, the complete inflation of the lungs (felt not in the chest but in the back), the perfect freedom of neck, throat, and mouth made me feel like a different person! Thus, I learned to strive for these sensations, and my singing improved. This, of course, is a different matter from trying to sing a specific exercise in a specific way. The "specific way" of singing results from the physical ease of the vocal tract—of the entire body, for that matter—and only the singer himself can determine what these sensations are. Again, although my early study developed my voice, it did not perfect the evenness of my scale; I was conscious of a certain lack of smoothness between the registers of range. My present teacher, Maestro Ludwig Fabri, has helped me solve that problem—again by directing my attention to the *feel* of it. When I experience perfect ease and freedom in my scale work, it "comes out" even!

## Note Sensations While Singing

The point is, then, for the young singer to watch himself! Does your jaw feel tight? Do you make faces or mouthings that cause your facial muscles to feel tired? Does a long period of singing fatigue you? Matters like these are what you must study. Bring your teacher a clear report of the sensations you *feel*. Then he can correct your work. On the other hand, if you feel particularly easy and comfortable while singing one tone, one register, one vowel, report that, too. In



DOROTHY KIRSTEN

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this way, your teacher can help you discover the strong points of your work and extend them to everything you do. Even now I cannot hear my own tones as others hear them, but I know my projection is in good order because I never feel tired after singing. When a full stage performance is over, I feel that I could go right on and sing it through a second time. I feel tired only in my back—and that comes from standing and carrying about a heavy costume. In *Manon*, my costume and jewels weigh seventy-five pounds!

I hesitate to recommend specific studies or exercises because no two throats function in the same way—what is helpful to me might be quite useless to another voice. However, I am quite willing to state that any voice is improved by careful and continued drilling on pure vowels—all vowels. Every day, I exercise my voice by singing through my full range on vowels and changing vowels. Every vowel must be sung on every tone. To my mind, it is a great mistake to practice on *ah* (or on any other one vowel). One often finds singers practicing on *ah* (or *o* or *ou*), and taking up the other vowels only when the first warming-up is done. They tell you that the particular vowel they prefer "sits" best on their voices; that they project a better tone by using it. To me, this is simply a tacit admission that their production is not in sound order! The well-projected tone "sits" well on all vowels. Then, too, one must prepare for the demands of future singing. Suppose you are given an aria in which the high-F falls on the final *i* (ee) of an Italian word! How are you to prepare for that if your practicing is done on *ah*? One of the best ways of developing both tonal production and projection is to sing through the full bel canto "grand scale" changing the vowel thus, *ah-ay-ee-ou* on every tone. Do this very carefully.

Because of the great importance of vowels, I believe that Italian remains the best language in which to learn and practice singing. Certainly, a finished repertoire must include songs and arias in all languages—but finished singing is a different matter from learning and practicing.

## The Importance of Vowels

Do your studying on the pure vowels of Italian. Then, as a separate study, master your other languages. And I mean master them! To my mind, a singer is not ready to attempt interpretation until he is able to speak the language in which he intends to sing. I have heard of young singers who think they have found a short-cut to reputation by learning phonetically a series of words, the significance of which is entirely strange to them. That is no short-cut! It is merely an obstacle to complete understanding and complete projection. How can you possibly interpret words that you do not understand?

Another thing that is vitally important to good singing and in which the young singer can act as his own guide, is the development of a single method of vocal production. By this I mean that one should speak in ordinary conversation, exactly as one sings. There should be no difference between speaking and singing as far as projection is concerned. The very fact that you need to change your method of production indicates that there is something wrong with your singing technique. If it were perfectly free, relaxed, and natural, why would you change it to another technique in speech?

(Continued on Page 33)

JUNE

P. TSCHAIKOWSKY, Op. 37, No. 6

Arr. by Frederick Hahn

Andante cantabile

VIOLIN

PIANO

Sheet music for Violin and Piano, featuring the arrangement of P. Tchaikovsky's Op. 37, No. 6 by Frederick Hahn. The music is in 3/4 time, marked Andante cantabile. The violin part begins with a melodic line, and the piano part provides harmonic support. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like *p dolce* and *mf*. The arrangement is designed for a young singer to accompany, with the piano part often playing chords that support the vocal line.

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JUNE 1945



# A WINDING ROAD

Words and Music by  
LOUISE E. STAIRS

**Moderato**

*p*

A wind-ing road that beck-ons me to fol - low,

*mf* *mp* *p* *rit.* *a tempo*

Through sun-lit fields where birds sing all the day, A friend-ly road that leads me ev-er on-ward

To wood-land glens, then bids me pause to pray.

A wind-ing road that call-to me at dawn-ing, That leads me on through

wood-land vales to roam O'erqui-et hills, till shad-ows soft are fall-ing, Un-til the sun-set glow will

guide me home.

*dim. e rit.*

## PRELUDE

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Slowly M. M. ♩ = 92

ORGAN

Gt. *mf* *Man.* *Sw. (A#)* *tr.* (clear strong stops) *Gt. (A#)*

*ten.* *f* *Sw. (G)* *Gt. (A#)* *Sw. (G)* *Gt. (A#)* *rit.*

*a tempo* *mf* *moto dim.* *Ped.*



## THE "TOY" SYMPHONY

F. J. HAYDN  
Arr. by Ruth Bampton

**Allegro moderato** M. M. ♩ = 112

## SECONDO

[illegible]

# THE "TOY" SYMPHONY

F. J. HAYDN  
Arr. by Ruth Bampton

Allegro moderato M. M.  $\text{♩} = 112$

PRIMO

This image shows a page of musical notation for a piano piece. The music is written on two staves, with the right hand on the upper staff and the left hand on the lower staff. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like *f* (forte) and *p* (piano). Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1 through 5 above or below the notes. There are also circled numbers (4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 28) that likely correspond to measures or specific techniques. The piece is in common time (C) and features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth notes. The overall style is that of a classical piano score.



Grade 1.

# SONG OF THE SEESAW

ANNA PRISCILLA RISH

Valse moderato (♩ = 54)

Musical score for 'Song of the Seesaw' by Anna Priscilla Rish. The piece is in 3/4 time, marked 'Valse moderato (♩ = 54)'. It consists of three systems of piano accompaniment. The first system starts with a mezzo-piano (mp) dynamic and includes a crescendo (cresc.) marking. The second system begins with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. The third system also starts with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic and includes a crescendo (cresc.) marking. The score features various fingerings and articulations throughout.

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Grade 2.

# THE WALTZING DOLL

EDNA TAYLOR

Tempo di Valse (♩ = 54)

Musical score for 'The Waltzing Doll' by Edna Taylor. The piece is in 3/4 time, marked 'Tempo di Valse (♩ = 54)'. It consists of two systems of piano accompaniment. The first system starts with a mezzo-piano (mp) dynamic and includes a right-hand (r.h.) marking. The second system begins with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. The score features various fingerings and articulations throughout.

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342

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THE

Grade 1½.

# FARMER BOYS' DANCE

LEWIS BROWN

Allegretto (♩ = 84)

Musical score for 'Farmer Boys' Dance' by Lewis Brown. The piece is in 2/4 time, marked 'Allegretto (♩ = 84)'. It consists of two systems of piano accompaniment. The first system starts with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic and includes a forte (f) dynamic. The second system begins with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic and includes a forte (f) dynamic and a ritardando (rit.) marking. The score features various fingerings and articulations throughout.

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343



Grade 2½.

## FAIRY FROLICS

HILDA NORDSTROM

Vivace M. M.  $\text{♩} = 112$ 

*pp leggiero*

*mf* *f* *poco rit.* *p* *a tempo*

*mf* *f* *p* *a tempo* *mf rit.* *f*

The Teacher's Round  
Table

(Continued from Page 312)

It is advisable to think of playing both the grace note and the principal note exactly together; that is, to regard the grace note as having no time value. Such an approach not only facilitates the execution but clears up the old dispute of whether a short grace note comes before the beat or on the beat. If short grace notes are played in this way, no one will know which method has been used. . . . The "On-Beaters" will hear their pet way, and the "Before-Beaters" will be sure that *their* method has been used. Everyone will be happy, and the player will be complimented for executing embellishments correctly and tastefully!

8. Mozart's left hand frequently moves along in simple broken chord accompaniment:



In rapid movements such figures should be practiced and played semi-staccato, dryly and very lightly with close fingers and gentle but invisible forearm rotation. Never hold the lowest tone beyond its exact value. A disturbing un-Mozartean effect results when pianists neglect this point, and play thus:



9. Be sure to play all accompanying shapes in slow movements—whether similar to the above, or chordal or melodic—with rich, warm quality. This is necessary in order to avoid spindly and teetering structure.

10. Avoid exaggerated or long ritards, *crescendos*, *diminuendos* or *accelerandos*, except where expressly indicated (such as the long ritard on the second last page of the *Fantasia in C Minor*).

11. I do not agree with the purists who scorn brief ritards at the ends of Mozart's slow movements, because none are indicated. Again it seems to me that Mozart, realizing the inevitability of such natural expirations, relied on the sensitivity of the performer to produce these tastefully without the necessity for special indication.

12. Do not play Mozart rigidly, but pliantly. . . . Confine all freedom in rapid movements within the limits of a single long beat. Slow movements may move more flexibly, but the *rubato* should be spaced within the metronomic limits of the measure. . . . For such license we have the precedent of Mozart himself, who according to critics played his own compositions very freely. . . . Some of them even accused him of playing "out of time!"

13. One of the worst editorial offenses against Mozart is the arbitrary changing of long and short phrase-endings from their exact values to *staccato* indications. This is especially flagrant in slurred two-note cadences or chords written thus by Mozart:



altered by editors to



Unless specifically marked *staccato* in the U R text, the last chord should be played lightly and precisely as an eighth, neither *staccato*, nor too long. The first chord is played strongly with a *down* touch; the second less strong, with an *up* touch. Damper pedal is to be used similarly—down on the first chord, up on the second. At ends of sections or movements, last chords or tones must never be held by hands or damper pedal longer than their exact time values.

14. One of the most heinous sins against Mozart is the pushed, clipped phrase-end, heard even in the playing of pianists who should know better. Nothing destroys Mozartean perfection quicker than a phrase which is not allotted ample time to sing. . . . Never be in a hurry, even in rapid movements to "go around the corner." If necessary, even slow up slightly in your effort to clarify the texture, expose the form, finish it off beautifully. . . . Then, after "brushing in" the phrase, breathe almost imperceptibly before you approach the next phrase shape.

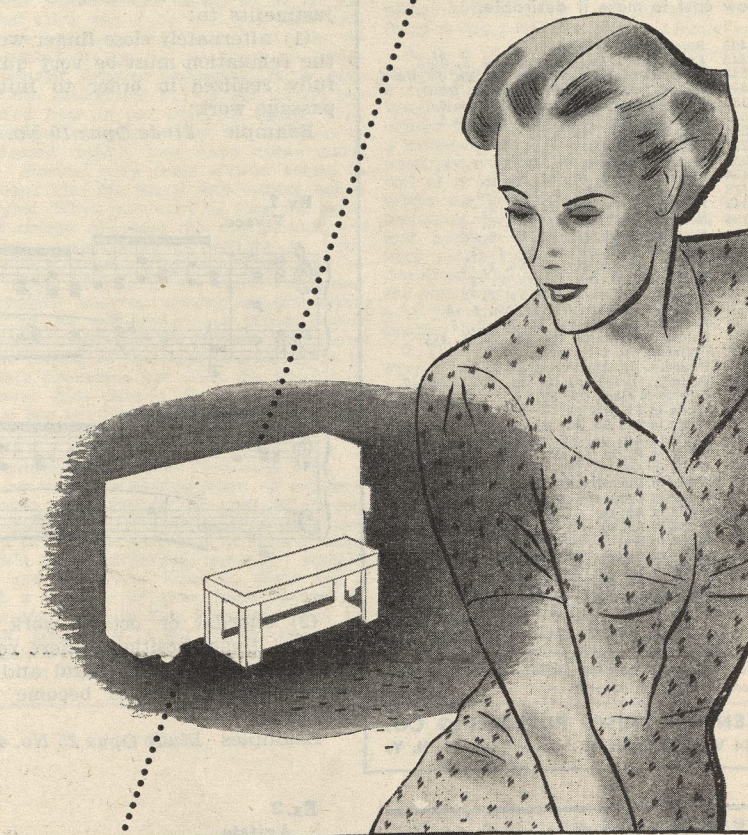
15. Concerning Mozart's lyricism and "coloratura," remember that he felt his music vocally; consequently he must always be *sung*. . . . There are no scales, arpeggios, or "passages" in Mozart. There are only curves, contours, arabesques to be molded with expert pianistic "bel canto." Slow phrases are lyric forms, warmed and brought to life by enfolding the music tenderly in the arms. Rapid figures are exquisite coloratura patterns to be curved and colored by the sensitive fingers of a controlled technic.

## The Greatest of All?

In studying Mozart it is essential to remember that he was a man, not a milksop, and a red-blooded, virile male at that. You need only to read the three ample volumes of his letters to be shocked into accepting this fact. Remember that he was perhaps the sheerest of all musical geniuses. He was no painful plodder, no slaving craftsman. His compositional processes were practically automatic. . . . Here was music sent from Heaven, itself. . . . Mozart was no brooding romantic; his own sharp sufferings were not consciously mirrored in his creative output. . . . His smile is the universal smile; back of it is always the universal tear. . . . Light and shadow, joy and sorrow, hope and despair—all the eternal oppositions are perfectly fused in the crucible of Mozart.

Apparently he gave little thought to form or content; yet creative and recreative artists of the world from his day to ours have found in him the ideal union of form and content. . . . Many of them regard Mozart as the greatest composer of all time.

If you aspire to become a true "Mozart—  
(Continued on Page 360)

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337 Nocturne in C♯m, Op. 32, No. 1, -5  
338 Nocturne in Gm, Op. 37, No. 1, -4  
339 Nocturne in G, Op. 37, No. 2, -5  
340 Nocturne in Fm, Op. 55, No. 1, -5  
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3484 Waltz in F, Op. 34, No. 3, -4  
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## Relax! Then What?

(Continued from Page 309)

Naturally, in passage work and rapid playing relaxation is impossible after each tone, but this does not repudiate the necessity of its presence. In fact, it is needed more than ever in fast playing. But the condition is that of a sustained tension, a continuous, but perfect interchange between contracting and passive muscles, making rapid, immediate adjustments to:

(1) alternately close finger work where the relaxation must be very quickly and fully realized in order to initiate this passage work;

Example *Etude Opus 10 No. 7* Chopin

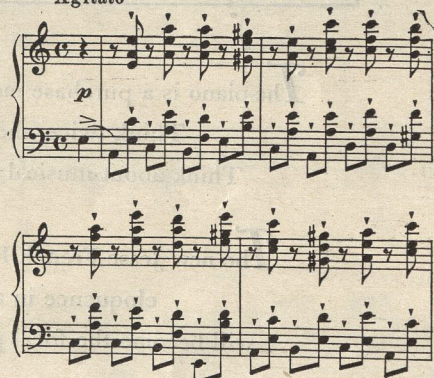
Ex. 1  
Vivace



(2) chordal or octave work, or extended finger positions where relaxation must be rapid if the hand and playing mechanism is not to become rigid or frozen;

Examples *Etude Opus 25 No. 4* Chopin

Ex. 2  
Agitato



Ex. 3



(3) the application of dynamic and touch variations where adjustments must be instantaneous and unobstructed. Beethoven makes large use of sudden dynamic changes: *sforzando*; sudden *pianissimo* after a *fortissimo* passage; *vice-versa*; and so on.

Wherever very rapid spatial adjustments, or wherever a smooth continuity of muscular effort is needed, the idea of relaxation springing from good tone-production becomes a matter of prime consideration. It is the only means of obtaining power and endurance—a continuous, sustained balance between the application and the release of energy.

## Beginning, Middle, and Ending

(Continued from Page 308)

way along the quiet side canal, but we have been enriched by delightful sights and songs, and the thrilling experience of riding on the Grand Canal of Venice.

Often the difference in parts is not as obvious as in the above examples. It may be so slight that it cannot be cataloged or described in words. But the performer who is always conscious of the normal distinction between the divisions of art works, will be able to make a subtle shade of variation in playing, even when none has been expressed by the composer.

If the musician will analyze extensively and reflect upon the manner in which the fundamental characteristics of Beginning, Middle, and Ending are developed in all types of art, he can give to his music a broader appeal, a more comprehensive beauty.

## Be Your Own Guide!

(Continued from Page 324)

The best vocal technique, though, is closely dependent upon a sound, healthy body. Singing is a physical function; it cannot reach its best development unless the singer is wholesome, healthy, sound. Thus, the singer needs to build his body as carefully as an athlete does. Swimming is, perhaps, the finest exercise for singers because it develops lung capacity. I have often done breathing exercises by taking long walks! I hit on an excellent device for this. I go out to a long concrete road near my home, a road that is divided at even intervals by black cross-lines. I have no notion what the black lines are for, as far as the road is concerned, but they have a valuable purpose for me! I use them as musical bars for breathing. I walk the distance between two lines inhaling, and the next space exhaling. Then I inhale through two spaces, and exhale through the next two.

No matter what the singer's ultimate goal may be, it is wise to build a sound repertory of both songs and operatic rôles. My own great love is opera, especially French and Italian operas which are Romance in language and romantic in spirit, and I try to perfect at least one new rôle every year. How to learn a new rôle? I believe that every singer must develop his own method of learning—no matter how much good advice is given,  
(Continued on Page 348)

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## IMPORTANT!

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The Tall Young Man With a Very Deep Bass Voice

Q. I am sixteen years old, six feet eleven and one-half inches tall and I have a span of fourteen notes. For about three years a piano teacher, has come to my house about every three weeks and given me piano lessons. I went to a well known conservatory and took a test for a scholarship in piano and I came home with a voice scholarship, even though the required age is seventeen. My range is from A below middle C to G, three notes from the bottom of the keyboard. I have two things to ask you—1. What has been the lowest note ever sung by a bass? 2. What pieces should I play?

On my own account I studied and memorized Malagüena by Lecuona. The boys from the school play it with certain effects that I cannot accomplish. The rest of my pieces are spirited but my touch is very hard. How can I remedy this? What technic and what pieces must I have at this stage? My teacher and I do not know what material to select, I am not advancing.—J. G.

A. It is quite impossible for anyone to say with any certainty what was the lowest tone ever sung by a bass. Certain Russian singers are carefully trained to produce the extreme low notes and the tone is not unusual among these basses. This is five semitones above the note you claim to be able to produce. We have not been able to find a record of any other bass who could sing this tone with good quality, sufficient volume and comfortable ease. If you are able to do so you certainly have a voice which in its lower range is very remarkable. Your upper range is very limited and needs to be developed. Perhaps your great height is associated with a large larynx and long, thick vocal cords which might account for the depth of your voice. Do not mistake a growl for a good tone. They are quite different in their effect upon an audience.

## VOICE QUESTIONS

Answered by DR. NICHOLAS DOUTY

2. No one, however talented he may be, can learn to play with a sure technical mastery and a finished style at such an early age with so few irregular lessons. That you have done so well is a tribute to your teacher's ability and your own perseverance. Our advice to you is to return to the well known conservatory and accept the voice scholarship. Then study the piano with the best known teacher in the school. Both studies should be continued with equal assiduity for a period of at least two years. By the end of that time you will be eighteen and more able to decide in which branch of the art of music you are best fitted to specialize. You will not have wasted any time for if you decide to become a singer you will be that rare bird, a vocalist who understands something of music, while if your destiny forces you to remain a pianist, you will be that still rarer animal, a pianist not entirely unfamiliar with the production of the voice.

### Bad Tonsils and a Tickling in the Throat

Q. I am a soprano in a volunteer choir. I seldom have any sort of throat trouble, but immediately upon starting any practice, I feel I must cough and clear my throat. There is a decided tickling and I have to cough before ever starting to sing. Sometimes it lasts through the whole practice, after which I have no desire whatever to cough or clear my throat. My doctor has told me that my tonsils are bad and should be removed. If this is true why does not my throat bother me at other times? Do you consider having the tonsils out an improvement to the voice? I am nervous and over fifty years old, though I am well. Would you consider that this had anything to do with it? I have a fairly strong

voice and I love to sing, but I am afraid that my voice will break. I shall be grateful for a reply.—Mrs. Z. J.

A. Your throat doctor seems to be an experienced man, and if he tells you that your tonsils are bad and should come out, why do you hesitate? If you do not trust his judgment, consult another physician. It is easy to take the tonsils out, but no one as yet has discovered how to put them in again. Your letter seems to indicate that in addition to the diseased tonsils you have some nasal catarrh. During sleep some mucus seems to drop down into the throat and collect below the larynx. When you start to sing the pressure of breath dislodges the mucus and you have, in consequence, a tickling in your throat and a desire to cough. There may be even a slight redness of the vocal cords and the laryngeal muscles, causing an occasional "break" of the tone. Have your throat doctor look at your cords and the muscles that move them by means of the laryngoscope so as to accurately determine just what the trouble is. Then have him cure it. It is unlikely that your age has anything to do with your hoarseness.

### The Baritone Who Is Not Physically Fit

Q. I am a young bass-baritone of eighteen who hopes some day for an operatic career. I have sung in a Cathedral choir since I was ten. My parents are poor and so I have never been able to afford singing lessons. I studied Italian and French at home at night and I learned a number of arias from recordings such as My Home in Fair Province from *La Traviata*, singing it in the Italian style and in Italian over and over until I know it perfectly. Also Rossini's *Largo al Factotum* in

Italian and Bizet's *Chanson du Toreador* in French. I love to sing Negro Spirituals and Old Man River in which I imitate the Negro style. I have difficulty with my high tones. Why is it that sometimes my voice sounds pleasant and my high notes come easy while at other times I find it hard to sing? My throat is sore at the bottom although I have been taking medicine for a long time. I am six feet two and weigh only one hundred and thirty-five pounds and I have always been a T.B. patient. I notice that all singers are very finely built physically. Is it very important for me to build up my body in strength and weight so as to become a great singer? I always lower my chin when singing and never open my mouth very wide. Is this right or wrong? I know nothing of breath control. Will you please help me for I am going to do every thing in my power to become a singer.—W. O.

A. It is of the utmost importance for you to develop yourself physically until you are a strong and healthy man, free from every symptom of disease. You are much underweight for your height and you say you have a tendency toward tuberculosis. Therefore you must put yourself completely under the control of a competent physician who will prescribe for you a thorough scheme of living, including diet, medication, place of residence and perhaps exercise. Fortunately you are very young and if you live under the proper conditions and obey the rules of life laid down for you, there would seem to be little reason why you could not, in time, become normally healthy and active.

2. The fact that you know something of French and Italian will be of great help to you when you are strong enough to stand the rigorous training necessary to prepare you for the strenuous life of the professional singer. Do not fail to develop musicianship also.

3. Why do you lower your chin and keep your mouth almost closed when you sing? They are both rather bad positions for the formation of a good tone but a few good singing lessons should cure you.

4. In conclusion we recommend that you devote your entire time and energy to improving your health under the supervision of a competent physician. Without good health and a strong body, success as a professional singer is impossible. We wish you all the good luck in the world.

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## The Value of Studying Hymns

(Continued from Page 317)

In counting for compound time signatures such as six-eight and nine-eight the preliminary steps would require that every eighth note be counted. The student should be informed that in compound time (a time signature in which the upper figure is divisible by three) the grouping of the notes tends to be in threes; therefore if he will count two slow beats in the measure in six-eight and three slow beats in nine-eight (in each case the dotted quarter receives one beat), a considerably more musical rendition will result and the tempo will be more nearly what is intended.

Hymns can often be used to good advantage to clinch a new scale just learned by the student. The playing of a hymn in the new key is one of the simplest ways of transferring the learning of a new scale to practical use and it can prove to both teacher and student whether the key has been mastered. Unfortunately no hymns will be found in a signature of more than four sharps nor more than five flats. The all too common practice of transposing a hymn written in four sharps to three flats is always to be discouraged by the teacher. The sooner the student loses his inferiority complex towards what he regards as the more difficult keys, the stronger musician he will be.

The teacher should constantly be on the alert that his students play the chords of hymns exactly together—not the left hand before the right. Just why the left hand should tend to precede the right is hard to explain, but it is interesting to note that it is seldom the other way around! So, in order to rid oneself of this bad habit, it will be a good plan to have the student play the hymn occasionally with the right slightly before the left hand as an exercise to counteract this faulty coordination. Playing one hand before the other reveals itself more strikingly in hymns than in any other type of composition.

In hymns of a *chorale* type, in which the harmonies shift with almost every chord, the correct method of pedaling can be taught to good advantage. In *St. Anne* (Ex. 6) the pedal should be changed with every chord, making sure that the pedal is depressed *after*, not *with*, the chord.

Ex. 6

If the hymn is taken slowly enough the student can count: "chord, pedal;" "chord, pedal" and so on, for every chord he plays. The teacher should stress the importance of pressing the pedal just as "pedal" is said.

The reason for the pedal being put on *after* the chord is sounded is that more resonance results since the strings have had a better chance to vibrate than otherwise. The two most important principles of the damper pedal—that of enriching each chord and of connecting

one chord to the next in a *legato* manner—can be learned as efficiently in the study of hymns as in any other way.

The writer has found that a fairly accurate criterion for judging the musical accomplishments of a pupil can be formed by hearing him play one or two hymns by sight. A pupil who observes key, time, and accidentals, plays with a firm touch, and uses a sane fingering, will doubtless show that he has had a thorough training and therefore will be on a good working basis for the serious study of piano literature. If, on the other hand, few if any of these details are observed by the pupil, it will probably be well for the teacher to realize that much work on tone and technique such as scales, arpeggios, and sonatinas will be necessary, and also that much will doubtless need to be unlearned because of slipshod work of the past.

Since many piano students eventually study organ, they will find that familiarity with hymn tunes will be of inestimable value to them and that their progress will be more marked because of this preparation. The piano student will never have occasion to regret the time he has spent in the sight reading of hymns.

## Be Your Own Guide

(Continued from Page 346)

you still have to find your own way. My way is to begin with the music; not interpretatively, of course, but musically. After I have mastered every least note of my part, I turn to the text. First I study the work as a whole, concentrating on the character values of the person I am to represent. In works like *Traviata* and *Manon*, I turn to the original work on which the libretto is based, and find out all I can of the actual human personality of the character. Next I copy the words of my own part into a notebook—every word. Then I study a certain number of lines every night, before I go to sleep. Often, my mind is a complete jumble of words and quantities—but in the morning, the confusion has cleared itself up, and I really *know* those lines! Only after the words are perfected and blended with the already familiar music, do I attempt complete interpretation.

I am often asked whether studying from records is a help to self-guidance. As far as interpretation is concerned, no! Nothing is more harmful than learning on the interpretations of another. Only in one regard are records helpful, and that is to acquaint the young singer with the orchestration. Often a singer is given a rôle which he has never heard in performance, and the orchestral values of which do not come out at the usual piano rehearsal. In such a case, records are helpful in revealing orchestral effects. In this as in all points of vocal mastery, the singer must be alert to guide himself intelligently.

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## ORGAN AND CHOIR QUESTIONS

Answered by HENRY S. FRY, Mus. Doc.

No questions will be answered in THE ETUDE unless accompanied by the full name and address of the inquirer. Only initials, or pseudonym given, will be published. Naturally, in fairness to all friends and advertisers, we can express no opinions as to the relative qualities of various organs.

### IMPORTANT!

Owing to extreme wartime paper restrictions, all inquiries addressed to this department must not exceed one hundred words in length.

Q. In the Organ Section of a recent number of the *THE ETUDE* I noticed a request for information on an organ manufacturer in the State of Michigan. I am familiar with information that such a firm exists and is listed as Michigan Organ Company, Jackson, Michigan—Corporal J. P. S.

A. We will publish your communication, hoping that it will reach the inquirer to whom you refer.

Q. I occasionally practice on a small reed organ, belonging to a friend—stop list enclosed. This friend always has all the stops drawn, but I have been trying to get some variation, and will appreciate any suggestions you can make along this line. Is it possible to secure solo effects on an organ of this size? I notice that one key is silent, so that I have to use the octave coupler, which is out of place when I wish to play softly. I will appreciate any suggestions which will enable me to remedy this defect as I do not feel in a position to have an organ man look at it.—D. C. K.

A. Since you apparently know how to secure a soft effect, we will confine our suggestions in registration to the inquiry you make about solo effects. You might try the Vox Jubilante as a solo stop, assuming that it is on the right hand side of the organ, and if soft enough accompaniment may be had from the left hand stops. To remedy the apparent "dead" note, you might take the front or back out of the instrument, pull the reed out, with reed hook, which may be fastened to the organ, clean reed and put it back in same place.

Q. Can you recommend suitable music for use in church—not too difficult—for an ordinary reed organ, electrically pumped? We need music for offertory, prelude and postlude.—M. S.

A. We suggest the examination or investigation of the following books: "Reed Organ Selections for Church Use," "Classic and Modern Gems for Organ," "Murray's One Hundred Voluntaries."

Q. I am puzzled at times to know the right amount of stops to use for anthem or solo work on our organ. It is a two manual instrument with stops named on list. The church auditorium is circular with dome, and holds about four hundred people. The choir works under conditions mentioned in enclosed letter. They are not independent readers, relying a great deal on the organ. In fact, we use piano for much of the rehearsal work, because they get the tones better. I feel that they need good support, but do not want to cover the voices. The Oboe is very much more like a string than a reed, and the violin stop is a little heavy. Can you give me any helpful advice on what stops to use for anthem and solo work? What stops would generally be used?—B. M. C.

A. The registration to be used will depend on the amount of support needed for the voices you have available, character of the passage and so forth. Some of the stops available for organ solo effects are Swell Stopped Diapason, with or without 4' Flute, Oboe, or Violin—on the Great organ—Melodia, with or without Flute 4' and any other combina-

tion that is effective. The Oboe you describe may be of the reedless character and not as smooth as the average organ Oboe, which is not of orchestral oboe quality. From your specification we think a "well balanced full organ" should be satisfactory for congregational singing, since the instrument does not appear to be too large for the auditorium. It is wise to use the piano for rehearsals as you evidently do, according to your communication.

Q. I have in my possession an old "Choral-Buch" dated 1826—all beautifully written on a parchment like paper, containing one hundred and forty-two chorales. In the back of the book is a "Register" of other Chorales and I presume the tune to be used therefor. Can you give me any idea whether this book has any value other than the sentiment connected with it?—M. W. H. G.

A. You might consult a "Collector" as to the value of the book. We cannot give any worthwhile opinion as to the value.

Q. We are planning a recognition service for our Choir Director, Organist, and the members of the Chorus Choir. Some have served twenty years, some ten, and some five. Would appreciate suggestions as to suitable awards. Has any system been devised such as the army use of chevrons which could be sewed on choir robes? We want to do more than present flowers and announce the name in the Church Bulletin with the terms of faithful service.—J. T. V.

A. Your idea of a Recognition Service is an excellent one. We are not familiar with any system of chevrons or decorations to be placed on choir robes, but we see no objection to using a decoration based on five year service, with additional bands or decorations for more lengthy service. Another idea would be to present each member of the choir with a book, basing the selection of the book on the basis of length of choir service.

Q. A few weeks ago we lost our church by fire, consequently our pipe organ was destroyed. We are expecting to rebuild shortly and install a new organ. Will you kindly send me some specifications for a two manual pipe organ for a church with seating capacity of about five hundred people. Of course, our older men here think we should have another older men here think we should have another pipe organ, while some of those here would like the pipeless electric instrument. So far, I am not familiar with the last named instrument as I have never had occasion to play one. Do you think that should such an instrument be installed after thirty years playing the organ I should have to adjust myself? Also will you be so kind as to state the proper seating of the choir, that is, at which end should the sopranos sit. We did not have any two foot stops on the old organ, and very few 4 foot stops. Neither did we have the chimes Vox Celeste nor Flute d'Amour which I like very much.—L. M. K.

A. You do not state what amount you expect to spend on the instrument, which, your seating capacity, would be important, as you can use a large organ in the building. Our suggestion, would be, that in view of priorities you advise all the builders that you except to consider, of your needs, and ask them what there is available. Base your decision on your needs, and the necessary adjustment of your ability. The conventional manner of seating a choir is to have the sopranos placed on the left of the Conductor, when facing them, but we suggest that they be seated according to the musical effect they produce. The stops you mention are desirable, although we do not advocate Chimes until the other important stops have been provided.



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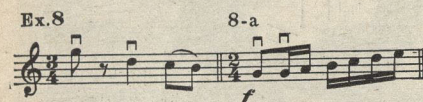


## Orchestral Bowings for High School Students

(Continued from Page 318)

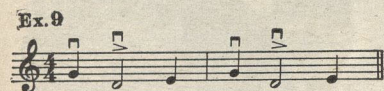
munde Overture after the last double bar where the violins have the sixteenth followed by the eighth, marked loudly. This is usually executed at the frog of the bow with an up bow on the sixteenth each time.

8. So many times, when the students have to take two down bows in succession, they fail to recover on the second down bow; that is, they do not get the bow to move back to the frog of the bow for the second down bow.



For an exception to this, often used in Bach, see Ex. 8 a. Here we stop the bow on the strings after the eighth note and then continue the down-bow stroke right where we left off, without lifting the bow from the strings at all. Good in double forte passages where the tone must bite.

9. The syncopated half note often has a new down bow all to itself. Here the bow should recover to the frog as mentioned in 8 above. This syncopate should start at the frog, not half way down in the middle of the bow.



10. The final diminuendo to *pp*. Always down bow. If the bowing should inad-

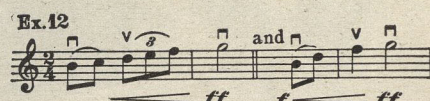
vertently come out wrong and the student finds himself starting this note on the up bow, train him to use a part of his bow and then change back to the down bow, smoothly, as the note is sustained.



11. The final *crescendo* to *ff* or *fff*. Often the experienced symphony men start the note down bow and then use a second bow, up bow, to complete the *crescendo* thus ending at the frog of the bow with a flourish.



12. The *crescendo* to a climax within the piece. The climax note is best if it comes on the down bow. The end of the *crescendo* leading to this climax should then be up bow. This takes precedence over rules 1 and 4.



13. The whole note triller on *f* or *ff* usually gets a down bow and an up bow.



14. In playing the single quarter note on the third beat of the measure which often begins a *minuetto* movement (not slurred to the first note of the next meas-

ure), the string player should take it up bow and lift the bow off the strings after this note and before the first note of the first complete measure.



15. In playing this type of figure in fast tempo

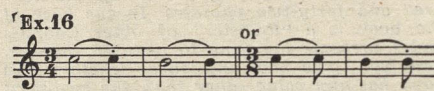


the school orchestra will get it cleaner, and better together if, instead of making the tie sound audibly, the half-note is given its full value and a rest is substituted for the tied eighth note. Play as in



Do not lift the bow. Simply stop its motion for the rest.

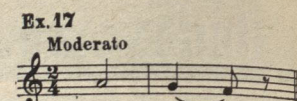
16. In a figure where the second note of the bow is a *staccato* and is longer than a sixteenth note, the bow must stop both before and after this second note.



The lack of this stop is what ails the Beethoven Seventh Symphony, first movement, when played by the less-than-professional orchestra.

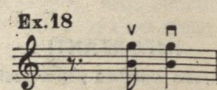


17. In this type of ending

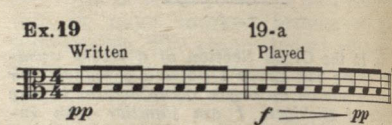


before a rest, work with the students to get them to use only about a half inch of bow for the second note, even though a good half bow has been used for the first note. So often too much bow on this second note gives the effect of "kicking a friend goodbye."

18. Get the student to start the up bow in this figure not more than an inch or two from the frog. Do not lift the bow between the sixteenth and the quarter note.



19. When the orchestra drops from full orchestra to one section such as the



violas (Ex. 19), disregard the *p* marking and instead play the passage as a *forte-diminuendo* as marked in 19-a.

20. In the playing of chords and double-stops, intonation and simultaneous execution of the notes are the important factors. Teach the students to divide and play in tune rather than to attempt the double notes and play out of tune. (Outside player on the upper note). In three and four note chords, do not let the stu-

(Continued on Page 360)

## VIOLIN QUESTIONS

Answered by HAROLD BERKLEY

No questions will be answered in THE ETUDE unless accompanied by the full name and address of the inquirer. Only initials, or pseudonym given, will be published.

### IMPORTANT!

Due to extreme wartime paper restrictions, all inquiries addressed to this department must not exceed one hundred words in length.

#### An Unknown Maker

Miss B. McB., Virginia—I have been unable to obtain information anywhere regarding a maker named Lewis E. Pyle. The inscription in your violin leads me to believe that he was either an amateur maker or else an amateur violinist who put his name and his sentiments inside his violin. You would be surprised at the number of people who do this. Under the circumstances, you can understand that I am unable to give you any idea of the value of the violin.

#### More on Left-Hand Playing

I. A. B., Rhode Island—Your letter is a welcome addition to the correspondence I have received from violinists who have taught themselves to play left-handed after having learned the normal way. You say that "with patience and concentration, it can be done, because I do it." I am sure your experience will be a real encouragement to Mr. J. G., of North Carolina.

It is interesting that you can play left-handed while using a violin strung in the usual way. You do this, I imagine, so that you can change backwards and forwards between the two ways of playing. Nevertheless, I think that a violinist who must play left-handed all the time would be well advised to have the strings changed around. For one thing a player who has learned in the normal fashion would find it much more natural to raise his bowarm when crossing to the G string. There are also some fingering problems which I do not have space to discuss. My cordial thanks for your letter.

#### Advice to a Young Violinist

Miss M. B., Texas—You are certainly well advanced for a girl of fifteen; but whether you have sufficient musical talent and performing ability to justify ambitions of a professional career—that is something a letter cannot tell me. Your teacher is in a better position to advise you. Or, if you are anxious to have an independent opinion, you should make an appointment to play for an experienced musician who does not know you, and be guided by his advice. If the opinion is favorable, and if you are quite sure that music means more to you than anything else in life, then I would advise you to go to a good conservatory and get a well-rounded musical education. At the same time, you should continue to build up your general education by taking some courses in English, or history, or civics. By all means continue your study of the piano—to be able to play piano fairly well is a great asset to a violinist.

#### A Violin by Nicolo Amati (?)

Mrs. J. S. C., Tennessee—Translated, the label in your violin means "Made by Nicolo Amati in Cremona, under the patronage of Saint Theresa, 1720." It is an odd label, because the famous Nicolo Amati died in 1684. There was another Nicolo Amati who worked in Bologna. Apart from this there is nothing I can tell you about your violin—it might have been made anywhere. The chances are, however, that it is a German instrument of no special commercial quality. If you wish to know definitely what it is worth, you should send it to a violin dealer; there are several who advertise in THE ETUDE. For a small fee, any one of them would be glad to give you an expert opinion.

#### From Bach to Engineering

D. B., Iowa—Until the war has been over for some little while, you will probably find it difficult if not impossible to get foreign editions of the Bach Solo Sonatas and Partitas, or Sauret's Gradus as Parnassus. Perhaps the publishers of THE ETUDE would be able to help you. (2) I have been able to

get but little information about a maker named Raffaele Trapani. It has not even been definitely established that a maker by that name ever existed. In other words, the name may be a fictitious one invented by a maker whose own name was not so euphonious! In any event, it is impossible to give an appraisal of the few instruments that have been seen bearing a Trapani label—each instrument has to be judged upon its own individual merits. (3) For my own part, I prefer the Joachim edition of the Bach Chaconne. I am not familiar with the one you mention. (4) I think you should make up your mind as soon as possible whether it is music or engineering that means most to you. Both are life-time studies. I certainly do not think you could study both, and expect to succeed in both. But if you decide to go in for engineering, you can be sure of getting a great deal of pleasure from your violin. This is a question which you must decide for yourself.

#### From a Soldier in India

Pfc. F. D. J., India—It was indeed heart-warming to get your letter, to hear from someone so far away who still, in the midst of strenuous and exacting work, looks forward to the time when he can resume the delicate art of violin making. For your sake, and for the sake of others, I hope it may be soon that you can do so.

There are not many books on violin making. The best is "Violin Making as it Was and Is," by E. Heron-Allen. Unfortunately, the book is at present out of print, and is likely to remain so until the war is over. But you may just possibly be able to get a copy from England. In the "Strad" magazine for 1943 and 1944 was a series of very informative articles that I am sure you would find helpful. However, the best way to learn would be to apprentice yourself to a high-class firm of violin makers. If you care to get in touch with me when you return to this country, I shall be glad to advise you further. I have answered your letter by V-mail, feeling sure that you will receive it sooner than this copy of THE ETUDE.

#### Women Musicians in Orchestras

Miss J. M., New York—Your question is an interesting one, and I am glad you have asked it. Before the war, very few orchestras would admit women violinists to their ranks, but in the last two or three years many have done so, and there is no doubt that the ladies have proved worthy of their new opportunities. The general opinion seems to be that the tabu has been broken, and that after the war there will be many opportunities for women instrumentalists in various orchestras. But they will have to be at least as well-equipped as the men. It is difficult to say just what the ability requirements will be, but certainly the ability to sight-read well will come first. To hold a place in a major orchestra, a violinist should be able to play with ease and fluency the first book of De Bériot's Concert Studies. That I judge to be a minimum requirement. (2) The violins of Albert Knorr are worth between seventy-five and one hundred and fifty dollars. They are well-made Saxon "trade" instruments.

#### An Appraisal Necessary

O. L. H., Indiana—The only way you can find out the value of your violin, and the best means of disposing of it, is to take or send it to a reputable dealer. For a small fee, he will give you a complete appraisal and any advice you may wish to ask for. In the advertising columns of THE ETUDE you will find the names of several well-known firms of violin dealers, and you can rely completely on any of them. There are many thousands of violins bearing a label which reads "Antonius Stradivarius a label which reads 'Cremonensis Faciebat . . .', and many of these Cremonensis are worth less than fifty dollars, while others may be worth several hundred dollars. Without giving a violin a personal examination, there is no way of telling what it is, or what it may be worth.

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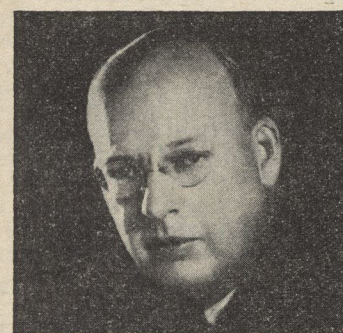
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## The Spectacular Meyerbeer

(Continued from Page 304)

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#### Keen Dramatic Sense

The famous critic, Julius Kapp, in his biography of Meyerbeer ("Giacomo Meyerbeer: Eine Biographie"), says of his orchestration (translation of Haver-gal Brian in "Musical Opinion"):

"Meyerbeer's superb dramatic sense stimulated his instinct for exploration, and very early he began to extend the boundaries of his orchestra. Even in Italy he demanded unusual 'extras,' and in Paris he found Sax busy with his many improvements in brass and reed instruments. Though Meyerbeer in his scores never forsook the ophicleide for the bass or contra bass tuba, he certainly met Sax halfway by writing for ventral horns and trumpets when other composers would not recognize them but stuck stubbornly to the 'natural' instruments. A similar attitude will be found in the early opera scores of Wagner and in the symphonies of Schumann. Meyerbeer, however, was the first composer to use the *cor anglais* and bass clarinet, contra *fagotto*, saxophones, and saxhorns in the orchestra.

"Though Meyerbeer did not develop the *leit motif*, Kapp suggests that Wagner got his idea of it from a study of 'Robert le Diable.' This may be so; but it has been said that Wagner took the idea from Mendelssohn. Meyerbeer's methods were unlike those of Wagner. His individual genius lay in suggesting a complete scene by a few bold strokes in the *ritornello*, and then building up a structure upon it. In this way, he was, at a distance, only a follower of Bach. Meyerbeer's *penchant* for sumptuous orchestral coloring is reflected elsewhere. For instance, in 'L'Etoile du Nord,' he marks the intervals in a song sung by Catherine, *trainez le son*, whilst the 'cellos which double the vocal line are marked *glissez*. In the same opera the syllable *la* is used extensively in the chorus. In the second act of this opera Meyerbeer writes a long melody for string basses and bassoons doubled several octaves above by the piccolo.

#### A Composer of the Theater

"Naturally a composer so adventurous appealed to Berlioz, who came strongly under his influence. This may be seen from Berlioz's letters and also from references in his 'Instrumentation.' Meyerbeer, for his part, was devoted to Berlioz and attended all his symphony concerts in Paris."

Like Wagner and Verdi, he was at his best when he was behind the footlights. He was essentially a composer of the

theater. He was, however, very timid, very nervous, very misanthropic, and grew old long before his time. He and the witty Rossini were great friends, despite the dissimilarity of their character. Berger relates the following incident:

"One day when Rossini was taking a walk in Paris accompanied by a friend, he met Meyerbeer. Both composers stood hat in hand, each inquiring concernedly after the other one's health. In reply to Meyerbeer, Rossini said, 'Alas, dear friend. I am a great sufferer. I have no appetite, and what I eat I cannot digest. My nights are terribly wakeful, my rheumatism gives me no peace, my sight and hearing are failing, and I feel my days are numbered.' Meyerbeer expressed himself extremely sorry for his friend's condition, and hoping to find him in much better health when next he had the pleasure of meeting him, wished him good morning, and went. When he was out of hearing, Rossini's companion asked him why he had told such a pack of lies, seeing that he was in perfect health. Rossini, laughingly replied that the dear old man seemed so thoroughly miserable and disconsolate, that he felt it his duty to tell him something which might comfort him."

There may indeed come a time when musical historians will assay the great amount of music which Meyerbeer wrote and find much that will bring him high praise for some of his innovations. His operas, while not a regular part of the repertoire of the great opera houses of the world, have a persistent way of returning to the stages of many of the leading theaters.

## America's Musical Yesterday

(Continued from Page 323)

concerts—quantity not quality drew the crowds. It was nothing unusual to have concerts by orchestras numbering several hundred, and choruses aggregating thousands of voices. The Chicago World's Fair advertised the fact that Theodore Thomas would conduct "the largest orchestra ever to assemble on the stage." At the Boston jubilee of 1869, and again in 1872, the orchestra numbered a thousand musicians, while the singers totaled ten thousand.

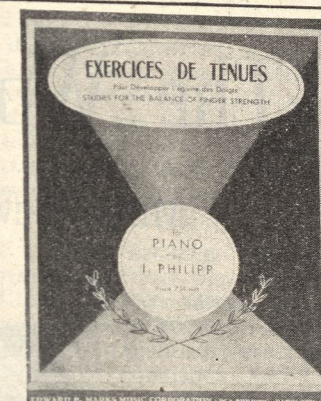
At the 1872 affair, Johann Strauss, the great waltz king, was guest conductor of his own *The Blue Danube Waltz*. He left us his somewhat dazed impressions of that event: "On the musicians' tribune there were twenty thousand singers; in front of them the members of the orchestra . . . A hundred assistant conductors had been placed at my disposal to control these gigantic masses. . . . Now just conceive of my position face to face with a public of four hundred thousand Americans. There I stood at the raised desk, high above all the others. How would the business start, how would it end? Suddenly a cannon-shot rang out, a gentle hint for us to begin playing *The Blue Danube*. I gave the signal, my hundred assistant conductors followed me as quickly and as well as they could, and then there broke out an unholy row such as I shall never forget. As we had begun more or less simultaneously, I concentrated my whole being on seeing that we should finish together too! Thank

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Heaven, I managed even that. It was all that was humanly possible."

Recitals by a single artist, however great, had no appeal whatsoever. Even artists of the stature of Jenny Lind, Anton Rubinstein, or Henri Vieuxtemps had to appear on programs featuring other artists and attractions. Vieuxtemps, as a matter of fact, was collaborator on a program that also enlisted the talent of an accordion player who delighted his audience by crushing his instrument on his nose or forehead.

#### Attraction in Number

Obviously this was a rather musically ingenious public. The anecdotes told about it were innumerable. When Theodore Thomas brought his orchestra to St. Louis, one of the men in the audience begged him to play a light number next time, "say something by Palestrina," a composer of some of the most complicated choral music in history. The Kneisel Quartet was invited by a Mid-western music lover to feature an all-Wagnerian program—who, however, neglected to explain how a quartet could play Wagner's music. Anton Rubinstein, playing in Memphis, was advised by the management of the concert hall to blacken his face, the man having mistaken Rubinstein for a minstrel performer! As late as 1904 we have similar evidences of naïveté. Walter Damrosch was performing Wagner's music-drama, "Parsifal," in Oklahoma. Immediately following the spiritual prelude, and before the curtain could rise on the first act, the local manager sprang to the stage to announce that "Stewart's Oyster Saloon will be open after the concert." One society lady wrote to the directors of the Metropolitan Opera House begging them to transfer the *Celeste Aida* aria from the first act to the second because she habitually came late and missed it. Sentimentalists were so vocal in their objection to dark and depressing scenes on the Metropolitan stage that the management was compelled to present many somber scenes in full light.

"Ah, these Americans," the European would say, "they were never meant for good music." This was particularly the view of the uninformed people of Germany, much less so in France and Italy, and still less in England. The snooty Berliners used to sneer at American musical clap-trap, while at the same time their cafés were striving to imitate American jazz, and thousands of descendants

of lusty Tyrolean Bours were forsaking the primitive *Schuhplattler* dance for the Bunny Hug and the Charleston. Like the officers on the *Unter den Linden*, who scoffed at the English but at the same time affected the swagger stick and the monocle of the Bond Street gallants, they laughed at the circus music methods of America and thronged to see an endurance performance of a piano player who claimed to be wearing out the ivories day and night for over three weeks.

## The Secret of Leschetizky

(Continued from Page 307)

grew that Leschetizky had a method. But Leschetizky was himself the method.

"I have no technical method," he once said. "There are certain ways of producing certain effects and I have found those which succeeded best, but I have no iron rules. How is it possible for one to have them? One pupil needs this, another that—the hand of each differs. There can be no rule. I am a doctor to whom my pupils come as patients to be cured of their musical ailments, and the remedy must vary in each case. There is but one part of my teaching that can be called a method, and that is how I teach my pupils how to learn a piece of music."

This was by going over it bar by bar, phrase by phrase, with infinite attention to detail, deciding on the fingering, touch, pedaling, phrasing. When these things are determined, the passage is repeated until perfect, also memorized. In fact, one automatically memorizes a piece in this way. His idea was to study a piece so thoroughly that it could be played from any point from memory, or heard in every detail away from the piano. Naturally this method of study required extreme concentration and three hours practice a day he considered sufficient for general purposes.

#### An Adventuresome Challenge

Leschetizky was born in Lancut, Austrian Poland, June 22, 1830, and first studied with his father, later with Czerny. In his fifteenth year he began teaching while attending the University as a student of philosophy, and at once became independent of his family. After he left the University, he made some successful concert tours and thought of adopting concert work as his career. But to Les-

chetizky teaching continued to remain a challenge, an adventure, and his interest in it eventually triumphed so that he became identified with the Petrograd Conservatory. There were some great names at this institution at the time, among them the two Rubinstens. Ill health, however, compelled Leschetizky to leave Russia and he settled in Vienna. It was a fortunate circumstance that he taught Paderewski early in his teaching career, for with the fame of Paderewski began the fame of his mentor. Leschetizky left the concert stage at the height of his powers to devote himself to teaching. He could have remained a virtuoso. He chose to teach. Instead of tending his own flame, he lit many candles on the altar of art.

#### Abiding Youthfulness

One of the things I remember especially about Leschetizky was his abiding youthfulness. Joachim, the great violinist, had always contended that Leschetizky was older than he, whereas Leschetizky declared that Joachim was the older. One time Leschetizky was running up the grand staircase of the Dresden Opera House and Joachim, who was trudging slowly along, said to him, "Leschetizky, can you run up the steps that way at your age?"

Whereupon Leschetizky instantly replied, "Why certainly. Couldn't you when you were my age?"

Possibly he renewed his youth constantly through his pupils. I have a rose that fell from the lapel of his coat on the occasion of his seventy-second birthday. There is an eternal quality to it that reminds me of its wearer.

## Questions and Answers

(Continued from Page 322)

of information you are seeking.

If, however, you are primarily interested in writing compositions in these forms, I think your best source of help would be some standard text on musical form, such as "Lessons in Music Form" by Percy Goetschius. All the books mentioned may be obtained through the publishers of THE ETUDE.

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## The World of Music

### "Music News from Everywhere"

#### THE NATIONAL OR- CHESTRAL ASSOCIA- TION, directed by Leon

Barzin, has concluded its first season of broadcast reading rehearsals of new scores. Designed to give young composers the opportunity to hear their works, the project has been most successful. A total of twenty-six different composers had their compositions presented; these ranging from such large works as Quincy Porter's *Music for Strings*, to smaller pieces like Victor Young's *Jeep*.



LEON BARZIN

FEBRUARY 18, 1945 will remain a historic day in television, as it was on that date that the first multiple-relay telecast was made from the city of Washington, D. C., to the city of Philadelphia. The Hon. Paul A. Porter, Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, was introduced by Mr. James Carmine, Vice-President of the Philco Corporation. He was followed by Dr. Karl T. Compton, President of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who was in turn followed by Mr. John Ballantyne, President of the Philco Corporation, in addresses commemorating this event. Following this was a telecast of a young lady in Washington conversing over the phone with Mr. Larry Gubb, Chairman of the Board of Philco, at his home in the suburbs of Philadelphia. The television broadcasts were relayed at four intermediate points on hilltops along the route from Arlington, Va., Odenton, Md., Havre de Grace, Md., and Honeybrook, Pa. This is the first step in a nation-wide march of television from coast to coast, which will bring the American home new thrills, undreamt in the past.

THE THIRD ANNUAL Young Composers Contest of the National Federation of Music Clubs has produced as winners of awards three girl music students and three service men. The award of one hundred dollars in Class One went to Virginia Seay Ploeser, of New York City, a pupil of Ernst Krenek, for her composition titled *San Clemente, Low Tide*. First prize of fifty dollars in Class Two, was won by Sergeant William Thornton, Jr., USAAAC. First prize of fifty dollars in Class Three went to Gerald R. Kechley, Musician Third Class. Second prizes of fifty and twenty-five dollars respectively, in Class One and Three were won by Frieda Ozark, of New York City, and by Theron W. Kirk, Specialist Third Class, of the United States Naval Training College at Great Lakes. A third prize of twenty-five dollars went to Ursula Lewis of New York City. The winning work in Class One was given its world premiere during Music Week, in a broadcast concert of the National Federation of Music Clubs.

THE FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL May Festival of the University of Michigan was held May 3-6 in Ann Arbor, Michigan. The Philadelphia Orchestra, conducted by Eugene Ormandy and Saul Caston, had a prominent part in all the concerts. Hardin Van Duersen directed the Choral Society and Marguerite Hood was director of the Youth Chorus. Soloists included Bidu Sayao, Eleanor Steber, Blanche Thebom, Rosalind Nadell, Frederick Jagel, Ezio Pinza, Nicola Moscona, Rudolf Serkin, Oscar Levant, Zino Francescatti, and Paul Leyssac, narrator.

NORMAN DELLO JOIO's new choral work, "Western Star," based on Stephen Vincent Benet's epic poem, received its first performance on April 28, when it was on the program presented by the Fred Waring Musical organization. It was sung by the Collegiate Choral of two hundred voices, with full orchestra, under the direction of Robert Shaw.

THE FIRST CONCERT PERFORMANCE in America of a new Trio in E minor by Dmitri Shostakovich was the feature of the concert on April 27 of Vivian Rivkin, young American pianist. In the performance of the Trio, Miss Rivkin was assisted by Joseph Fuchs, violinist, and Nikolai Graudan, violoncellist.

WINNERS in the 1945 auditions of the Metropolitan Opera Company, known as the "Metropolitan Opera Presents," were announced on April 2 at the final concert in this series, sponsored by the Sherwin-Williams Company. Awards of one thousand dollars, a silver plaque, and a contract with the Metropolitan Opera Association were won by Robert Merrill, baritone, of Brooklyn, and Thomas Tibbett Hayward, tenor, of Kansas City. Two other finalists in the auditions, Joseph Victor Laderoute, tenor, of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, and Miss Pierrette Alarie of Montreal, received five-hundred-dollar scholarships.

THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY celebration of the American Composers Concerts and the fifteenth Eastman School Festival of American Music, held April 24-28 in Rochester, New York, was featured by the first performance of six new works by American composers. These were Leo Sowerby's *Three Conversations for String Quartet*, No. 3, Herbert Inch's "Three Conversations for String Quartet"; William Grant Still's Suite from the ballet, "Sahdji," for voice and orchestra; Paul White's "Idyll"; and Hans Christian Anderson's.



PAUL WHITE

DR. HAMILTON C. MACDOUGALL, noted American organist and composer, one of the founders of the American Guild of Organists, for twenty-seven years professor of music at Wellesley College, and since 1927, professor emeritus, died on March 16, in Wellesley, Massachusetts. Dr. MacDougall was born in Warwick, Rhode Island, October 15, 1858. He studied with the leading teachers of his day and then went to London, where he became a pupil of E. H. Turpin. In addition to his



DR. HAMILTON C. MACDOUGALL

### Competitions

THE TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL Award of the Eurydice Chorus of Philadelphia, of one hundred dollars, for a composition for women's voices, is announced by The Philadelphia Art Alliance. The closing date is October 1, 1945, and all details may be secured by writing to Miss Katherine Wolf, chairman of the committee, The Philadelphia Art Alliance, 251 South Eighteenth Street, Philadelphia.

A FIRST PRIZE of \$25,000 is the award in a composition contest sponsored by Henry H. Reichhold, industrialist and president of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Composers of the twenty-one Pan American republics are invited to submit manuscripts. A second and third prize of \$5,000 and \$2,500 respectively, are included in the awards. The winning compositions will be played by the Detroit Symphony in the Pan American Arts Building in Washington. The closing date of the contest is September 1, 1945, and full details may be secured by writing to the Reichhold Music Award Committee, Room 4315, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, New York.

THE NINTH ANNUAL Prize Song Competition, sponsored by the Chicago Singing Teachers Guild for the W. W. Kimball Company Prize of One Hundred Dollars, is announced for 1945-1946. The contest is open to any citizen and resident of the United States, Canada, or of any Central American Republic. Manuscripts must be mailed not earlier than October 1, nor later than October 15, 1945; and all information may be secured from E. Clifford Toren, North Park College, 3225 Foster Avenue, Chicago 25, Illinois.

THE EDGAR M. LEVENTRITT FOUNDATION, INC., has announced the sixth annual competition for young musicians. This year's contest is open to pianists and violinists between the ages of seventeen and twenty-five who are residents of the United States, and the Award is an appearance with the New York Philharmonic-Symphony Orchestra. Applications must be submitted by June 15, and full information may be secured by addressing the Foundation at 30 Broad Street, New York City.

AN AWARD of \$1,000 to encourage "the writing of American operas in general, and of short operas in particular," is announced by the Alice M. Ditson Fund of Columbia University and the Metropolitan Opera Association. The opera must be not over seventy-five minutes in length and by a native or naturalized American citizen. The closing date is September 1, 1945 and full details may be secured from Eric T. Clarke, Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc., New York, 18, New York.

work at Wellesley, he was active as organist of various prominent churches and as a teacher of organ. Dr. MacDougall was on the staff of The Diapason, in which his column headed "The Free Lance," was a monthly feature for many years. He wrote several books on hymnody and also composed anthems, organ pieces, and piano solos. His organ pedal studies are well known among organists.

THE THIRTY-EIGHTH BETHLEHEM (PA.) BACH FESTIVAL was held on May 18 and 19 in the Packer Memorial Chapel of Lehigh University with Dr. Ifor Jones conducting. The opening session included the Cantata No. 78, "Jesus, Thou My Wearied Spirit," and Part One of Bach's famed "Passion According to St. John." Part Two of the "Passion According to St. John" was presented on the evening of the eighteenth, and at the closing session on Saturday, May 19, the complete "Mass in B minor" was presented.

THE ALL-PHILADELPHIA MUSIC FESTIVAL, sponsored by The Evening Bulletin, was held on May 7, 8, and 9, in the Academy of Music, with programs in the afternoon and evening of each day. Some of the best known choral groups of the city participated, as well as special groups and ensembles from the schools and colleges. A spectacular production, called "Philadelphia Salutes the United Nations," enlisted the services of many Philadelphians in music and dances from their ancestral homelands. Another production, "Philadelphia Schools on Parade," engaged hundreds of pupils from the city's public, Catholic, and private schools.

CARL SCHLEGEL, former Metropolitan Opera Company baritone, died on April 5, in Brooklyn, New York. Born in Nuremberg, Germany, Mr. Schlegel studied at the Royal Conservatory, Munich, where his teachers included Richard Strauss, the composer. He came to the United States in 1898 and from 1913 to 1927 he was a member of the Metropolitan Opera Company.

THE FIRST PRIZE of five hundred dollars, offered by the Independent Music Publishers for an orchestral work by an American composer, has been awarded to Elliott Carter for his *Holiday Overture*. Honorable mention was given to William Bergsma for his "Music on a Quiet Theme."



DIMITRI MITROPOULOS

THE ROBIN HOOD DELL (Philadelphia) concert series will open on June 18 and continue for a period of seven weeks. A number of very special events have been planned, one of which will be a performance of the Verdi "Requiem," sung by the Philadelphia Bach Festival Chorus with prominent soloists. The famous two-piano team of Vitya Vronsky and Victor Babin have been added to the list of soloists. A total of twenty-eight concerts is scheduled. Dimitri Mitropoulos, conductor of the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra, is the musical director of the Dell summer concert series and will conduct twenty-three of the programs.

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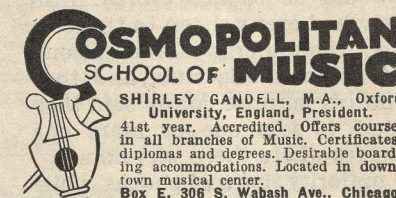
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# Junior Etude

Edited by

ELIZABETH A. GEST

## Results of Junior Etude Questionnaire (in January)

THE JUNIOR ETUDE was very much pleased to receive so many replies to the Questionnaire which appeared in the January issue, and everybody who answered seems to be on the way to becoming a good musician. Congratulations.

Practically everybody takes music lessons (there were only two who replied that they did not), while many take lessons on both the piano and another instrument, with others taking another instrument only. The other instruments mentioned cover a wide field—violin, viola, double bass in strings; trumpet, French horn, trombone, Sousaphone and saxophone in brass; flute and clarinet in woodwind; also drums and voice.

The majority replied they practice one hour a day and read the Junior Etude regularly. As for first choice in Junior Etude reading matter, many preferred stories, others playlets; others gave first choice to outlines, quizzes, games, contests, Letter Box, poetry or miscellaneous. Everyone of these topics was some one's first choice.

And here is a surprise. The majority replied they had never entered a Junior Etude contest! But many said they would do so henceforth. Also very few had ever written to the Letter Box. The majority do not belong to any Junior music club, and that was another surprise. Many said they intended to join one or start one themselves where there was none.

The majority sing in a chorus, while band and orchestra players were about equally divided. The majority live in towns, cities coming next and then country dwellers.

It was inspiring to receive so many replies to the Questionnaire and they were sent from all parts of the United States, many from Canada and one came from Hawaii. Of course before the war the replies would have also come from all over the world, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and lots of other far away places.

If any readers forgot to answer the Questionnaire in the January issue, it is not too late to do so, and the

Junior Etude would be glad to receive your answers. This is one occasion where there is no time limit. And do not forget, we will be looking for your contributions to the contests and Letter Box, and we will be glad to hear from you all, both old friends and new ones, at any time.

## Junior Club Outline, No. 40

### Brahms

- Johannes Brahms is considered by many critics to be one of the greatest composers. When and where was he born?
- How many symphonies did he write?
- How many of them have you heard at concerts or through recordings?

### Terms

- What is meant by "enharmonic change?"
- What is the term used to signify that six people are performing together?

### Keyboard Harmony

- Review modulation from tonic to dominant key in Outline No. 39. When used to lower the seventh tone of the scale, the modulation is directed to the subdominant



*J. P. Schuch*

"FORWARD MARCH WITH MUSIC"

## Recital Sign-Language

by Ruth E. French

PREPARATIONS for the pupil's recital were nearly completed and Dorothy and Tom were having their last lesson in Miss Wright's studio before the rehearsal. "That was very well played, Dorothy," said Miss Wright; "now let me see you bow."

"Oh, Miss Wright, I always get tangled up when I try to bow. It seems so elaborate."

"That's what I think, too," added Tom.

"But it's really very simple," said Miss Wright. "Just take a few steps backwards and as you take a step, bow, bending over gracefully from your head, over the forward foot. There, that's right," she said, as Dorothy tried it.

"Now, take another step and bow over the other foot. Be careful not to make your steps too long, and be sure to look at the opposite wall, so

you will keep your head somewhat up. The audience is more interesting to look at than the floor, you know."

"There," said Dorothy. "I think I understand now. Just take a few steps backwards and bow over each foot."

"Exactly," said Miss Wright, "but do not make too many bows! One before and one after you play is really enough. Now, Tom, let's see you do it."

Tom tried it, reluctantly, remarking, "I don't see why we have to bow."

"You do not have to, Tom, unless you want to be polite, and I'm sure I will not stand up on the platform and try to make you!" she remarked, laughing. Tom laughed too.

"Well," she continued, "why do we bow? What do you think, Dot?"

"I'm not sure why," she answered. "Just to look fancy," chirped Tom. "Tom," said Miss Wright, "suppose you go to the house of a friend, John Pendar, for instance, and you ask him to play for you. He plays very well, and after he finishes, you tell him so. What would he say or do?"

"He wouldn't bow, I know that!" answered Tom.

"No," laughed Miss Wright, "he wouldn't. But suppose he said nothing at all, merely turned his back and walked out of the room. What would you think of his manners?"

"I'd think I had said something wrong," answered Tom, "and that he was mad, or at least very rude."

"And you would not ask him again to play for you, would you?"

"Not much!" replied Tom.

"He should say 'thank you' at least," added Dorothy.

"Of course," said Miss Wright. "You would expect him to make some acknowledgment of your praise, wouldn't you?"

"Sure," said Tom, "but what has that to do with bowing at a recital?"

"Just this," began Miss Wright. "When you go to a friend's house he greets you with some version of 'how do you do,' or 'hello,' or 'I'm glad to see you.' And when people come to hear you play you should greet them with some similar expression from the stage. Of course you can't really say such things to them at a time like that, so you make some sign—a bow—which says the same thing much better and more easily and gracefully."

"I never thought of it that way before," said Dorothy.

"Neither did I," said Tom.

"Then when you have finished playing," Miss Wright continued, "your audience cannot call out and tell you they enjoyed it, so they too, use sign language and clap their hands; then you reply politely with

(Continued on Next Page)

## Recital Sign Language

(Continued from Preceding Page)

a bow, which means 'thank you, I'm glad you enjoyed it.'"

Tom's face cleared. "When you think of it that way, bowing is not half bad."

"No," said Dorothy, "it really is just common sense politeness."

"Of course," concluded Miss Wright; "and at this recital we want good manners as well as good playing."

Ruth S. Neal (Age 10)



Margaret F. Neal  
(Age 11)  
Columbia, Mo.

(See letter below)

## Letter Box

DEAR JUNIOR ETUDE:

I am writing to tell you about our rhythm orchestra which our teacher has organized. We have nine members, three boys and six girls, age eight to eleven. We have four triangles, two tambourines, a pair of cymbals and two drums. We have elected our officers and will elect new officers next term. I hope you are interested in our band because we are interested in the JUNIOR ETUDE.

From your friend,  
ELEANOR NICHOLSON

(Yes, Eleanor, the JUNIOR ETUDE is interested to hear about your rhythm band, but we are sorry you forgot to give your address. Usually we do not use letters without addresses, but as the rhythm band is a popular activity in the early grades of music we are printing your letter, as it may be of interest to other rhythm band members.)

DEAR JUNIOR ETUDE:

Would you like to hear what my sister and I do in music? My mother taught piano and harp and so we started on those instruments when we were four years old. We have entered the district and State competitions. For several years we have kept note books in which we write words to some well known stories, like Cinderella. Then we compose music for the story and on the left side we paint pictures to illustrate the story.

Some time ago we also took up violin and violoncello and now we play them in our school orchestra. My sister Ruth also took up viola and bass viol. (She is ten years old.) This is how our day goes in music: getting up early we each practice a half hour; then after school we practice forty-five minutes and after dinner we play trio of harp, violin and violoncello for fun.

We like to read the letters in the Junior Etude about music and hope everybody enjoys music as much as we do.

From your friend,  
MARGARET F. NEAL (Age 11),  
Missouri

## Junior Etude Red Cross Afghans

Knitted or woven goods squares for the afghans have recently been received from Constance Saunders; Rachel Howard; Fay Kilborn; Priscilla Field; Ann Fitten; Margaret Lenscott; (all members of the Bridgeton, Maine, Junior Music Club who sent a box of one hundred and fifty knitted squares); Doris Mayhew; Nanette Hill; Bettina Voorhees; Joan Young; Bobbie Joan Bacon; Joyce Kennedy; Ann Hoar; Calire Heidenrich; Estelle Wiseman; Gwen Murtrie; Charlotte Newson; Richard Costello; Jennifer Costello.

## Junior Etude Contest

THE JUNIOR ETUDE will award three attractive prizes each month for the neatest and best stories or essays and for answers to puzzles. Contest is open to all boys and girls under eighteen years of age.

Class A, fifteen to eighteen years of age; Class B, twelve to fifteen; Class C, under twelve years.

Names of prize winners will appear on this page in a future issue of THE ETUDE. The thirty next best contributors will receive honorable mention.

Put your name, age and class in which you enter on upper left corner of your paper, and put your address on upper right corner of your paper.

Write on one side of paper only. Do not use typewriters and do not have anyone copy your work for you.

Essay must contain not over one hundred and fifty words and must be received at the Junior Etude Office, 1712 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia (1), Pa., by the 22nd of June. Results of contest will appear in September. Subject for essay this month, "The Orchestra."

## Me and My Music (Prize Winner in Class C)

Me and my music get along very well when I really practice. The first thing we do is always to practice scales, next we write music, then we practice the recital piece. My music and I are always winning prizes. We won a card for good progress in two months; we won superior grade at a music festival; we won a book on the musician, Bach, and many other prizes. At present I am president of our music club. When I study my Etudes I learn more about music. My music and I are great friends, and more than that, we never disagree with each other.

Music and I are always good friends. And that's the way my story ends.  
Charles R. Boardman (Age 9),  
Texas

## Other Prize Winners in "Me and My Music" Contest:

Class A, Denise Rauch (Age 17), Oregon  
Class B, Calvin Seerveld (Age 14), New York

## Honorable Mention for "Me and My Music" Essays:

Merle E. Baer; Harriet Pearlman; Zona Gogel; Leona Krebeck; Ruth Reid; Laura Peck; Frances Clarke; Margaret F. Neal; Joan Atwell; Mary Cochran; Gail Melott; Joan Fanny; Frances Stanley; Betty Maier; Ruth S. Neal; Mary Ellen Peterson.



Jeanne and Richard Harrison  
Medford, Oregon

DEAR JUNIOR ETUDE:  
I have studied music two years and like it very much. I would try for the band if they had room but they do not need another pianist just now. I have sung on the radio twice and hope to do so again soon.

From your friend,  
ESTHER SMITH (Age 13),  
D. C.

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THE COVER FOR THIS MONTH—The colorful musical montage decorating the front cover of this June 1945 issue of THE ERUDE MUSIC MAGAZINE is a creation of Wilmer S. Richter, one of Philadelphia's leading commercial artists who is known to ERUDE readers by some of his previous art creations which have appeared as ERUDE covers, his most recent previous one being on the November 1944 issue.

The musical montage on this cover does symbolize graphically the predominant part which music plays in the lives of mankind, from the first rhythmic and melodic urges which bring into being folk dances and folksongs on through lighter sources of entertainment as provided through such media as the stage, the sound films, etc., on up to the grandeur of the enduring forms of masterly creations richly interpreted by great concert artists, stellar operatic performers, and finished symphonic organizations. Then to make the cycle complete and carry our thoughts to the richest and purest and most soul-satisfying of all music, the artist has indicated the rhythmic, melodic, and harmonic beauties which abound in nature.

HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL—The 1944-45 music season brought forth the greatest wave of music buying ever experienced in American history. It will be impossible ever to compute accurately how great a dollars and cents total was represented because of the requested thousands and thousands of dollars worth of music publications which dealers and publishers were unable to supply. War-time paper use limitations and the inability of help-handicapped printers and binders to meet normal production quotas resulted in many disappointments to seekers of publications on which stocks have become entirely depleted.

Publishers no longer can anticipate buying demands months ahead of time, particularly since War Production Board paper regulations aim to limit the inventory of any paper user to a less than 50 days supply.

The "hope that springs eternal" in this connection is the hope that teachers and all other active music workers who will need music publications to initiate their 1945-46 season next September and October will now give thought to, and take action on, obtaining needed music. Even under the terrific handicaps of war help shortages, THEODORE PRESSER CO. has an unequalled staff of experienced music clerks and an unsurpassed stock of everything in music publications, but great as is this organization and its equipment it would be humanly impossible to give satisfactory service to even a small percentage of those needing music publications were every individual to wait until the last minute before ordering supplies for the start of next season.

Each year we hope this warning will eliminate the trying conditions brought about through a deluge of music orders coming all at once at the opening of the season. Under war-time conditions we do feel that there is reason to hope that this year more individuals than ever will start now to obtain the music publications that they know they must have on hand to take up next season's teaching or other musical activities without delays or disappointments. Write THEODORE PRESSER CO., 1712 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia 1, Pa., for details of the "Early Order Plan" which requires no immediate cash outlay.

## PUBLISHER'S NOTES

A Monthly Bulletin of Interest to all Music Lovers

June 1945

### ADVANCE OF PUBLICATION OFFERS

All of the books in this list are in preparation for publication. The low Advance Offer Cash Prices apply only to orders placed NOW. Delivery (postpaid) will be made when the books are published. Paragraphs describing each publication appear on these pages.

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| The Child Beethoven—Childhood Days of Famous Composers—by Lottie Ellsworth Coit and Ruth Bampton                   | .20 |
| Choral Preludes for the Organ, Bach-Kraft Classic and Folk Melodies in the First Position for Cello and Piano—Kane | .60 |
| Lawrence Keating's Second Junior Choir Book  | .25 |
| Mother Nature Wins—Operetta in Two Acts for Children—Shokunbi-Wallace  | .30 |
| My Piano Book, Part Three—Richter  | .35 |
| Organ Transcriptions of Favorite Hymns—Kohlmann  | .50 |
| Peer Gynt—A Story with Music for Piano—Grieg-Richter   | .30 |
| Singing Children of the Church—Sacred Choruses for Junior Choir—Peery  | .25 |
| Six Melodious Octave Studies—For Piano—Lindquist   | .25 |
| Themes from the Orchestral Repertoire—Levine   | .40 |
| Twelve Famous Songs—Arr. for Piano—Lindquist   | .60 |
| Twenty Piano Duet Transcriptions of Favorite Hymns—Kohlmann  | .60 |
| The World's Great Waltzes—King   | .40 |

CHORAL PRELUDES FOR THE ORGAN by Johann Sebastian Bach, Compiled, Revised and Edited by Edwin Arthur Kraft—Every organist wishes to own the works of the immortal Bach. Not only for recitals, but for the regular church services does he need these master pieces of organ music. This outstanding volume, selected and edited by a leading contemporary exponent of Bach, has been carefully arranged for present-day instruments, and will prove an ideal collection around which to build a library of the Bach organ works.

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THEMES FROM THE ORCHESTRAL REPERTOIRE, For Piano, Compiled by Henry Levine—Three years ago the Theodore Presser Company published a book by a musician then new to our ranks, Mr. Henry Levine of New York City. The book, THEMES FROM THE GREAT PIANO CONCERTOS, has proved to be an important contribution to the literature of piano music. First announced in these columns, it attracted a wide following and has been greatly enjoyed by pianists everywhere. This was followed in rapid succession by THEMES FROM THE GREAT SYMPHONIES AND THEMES FROM THE GREAT OPERAS.

It is therefore with particular pleasure that we are able to announce a fourth book in this important series. From all the literature of orchestral music—suites, overtures, tone poems, ballets—Mr. Levine has selected choice works from representative composers. Seven of these have been arranged by Mr. Levine especially for the book: Air, from Suite No. 3 in D by Bach; Themes from the Sorcerer's Apprentice by Dukas; Debussy's Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun; Themes from Roumanian Rhapsody No. 1 by Enesco; Nocturne, from "Midsummer Night's Dream" by Mendelssohn; Theme from Les Preludes by Liszt; and Saint-Saëns' Danse Macabre. Some of the other selections included are Grieg's In the Hall of the Mountain King; Two Themes from "Scheherazade" by Rimsky-Korsakow; Song of the Moldau by Smetana; and Tchaikowsky's popular Waltz, from "Serenade for Strings."

The music of the book is slightly more advanced in grade than that of the author's earlier books, some of the transcriptions running to fifth and sixth grade. All of the arrangements are carefully fingered, phrased, and edited with the author's usual thoroughness. A first-from-the-press copy of this important new book may be assured by placing your order now at the low Advance of Publication price, 40 cents, postpaid. Sale of this book is confined to the U. S. and its possessions.

CLASSIC AND FOLK MELODIES in the First Position for Cello and Piano—Selected, Arranged, and Edited by Charles Kane—One of the difficult problems in teaching string instruments is to find material for beginners which will inspire the pupil, develop fingering, bowing, and ensemble experience as well. Mr. Kane has solved this problem in CLASSIC AND FOLK MELODIES. The contents include melodies by Bach, Brahms, Mozart, and folk tunes from Bohemian, Dutch, French and Russian sources. Not only will these melodies build a foundation of the working knowledge of the cello, but will serve as first recital and recreational numbers. Each selection has been carefully edited with detail to tempo, markings and dynamic indications.

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TWENTY PIANO DUET TRANSCRIPTIONS OF FAVORITE HYMNS by Clarence Kohlmann—This collection is an outgrowth of Mr. Kohlmann's successful CONCERT TRANSCRIPTIONS OF FAVORITE HYMNS AND MORE CONCERT TRANSCRIPTIONS OF FAVORITE HYMNS. The arrangements are suitable for players of medium grade of advancement, they will be useful in recreational playing, instrumental music in church, and as accompaniments for congregational singing, since many of the original keys have been retained.

The contents of the new book in no way duplicate Mr. Kohlmann's earlier volumes. It includes: Rock of Ages; When Morning Gilds the Skies; O Perfect Love; Nearer, My God, To Thee; Work, for the Night is Coming; In the Cross of Christ I Glory, and fourteen other arrangements.

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THE CHILD BEETHOVEN—Childhood Days of Famous Composers—by Lottie Ellsworth Coit and Ruth Bampton—The forthcoming publication of THE CHILD BEETHOVEN is the fifth in the series of the Childhood Days of Famous Composers. Teachers and pupils alike will welcome this similar volume to THE CHILD BACH, THE CHILD HAYDN, THE CHILD MOZART and THE CHILD HANDEL.

This fascinating book will present the highlights in the life of Beethoven. It also will include pictures, excerpts of well-known Beethoven compositions, a list of available recordings, and suggestions on the construction of a miniature stage. The following compositions appear in easy piano solo arrangements: Minuet in G; A Country Dance; Theme from the Andante con Moto of the "Fifth Symphony"; The Metronome Theme from the "Eighth Symphony"; and the Choral from the "Ninth Symphony." The Allegretto from the "Seventh Symphony" has been arranged as a duet.

This book may be ordered now at the special Advance of Publication cash price of 20 cents, postpaid.

ORGAN TRANSCRIPTIONS OF FAVORITE HYMNS, by Clarence Kohlmann—This collection will serve ideally for many occasions and purposes. Twenty well-loved hymns are to be found between its covers, and, in the majority of cases, the original keys have been retained so that these transcriptions can be used to accompany congregational singing when organ and the Hammond Organ are included, features which will make the book doubly useful. The favorites among the contents will include: All Hail The Power of Jesus' Name; I Need Thee Every Hour; I Love to Tell the Story; Just as I Am; Onward, Christian Soldiers; and Sun of My Soul.

Clarence Kohlmann was widely known for his fine musical contributions to the services at Ocean Grove's famed Auditorium, and this book comes in response to a persistent demand for his organ arrangements of popular hymns. A single copy of ORGAN TRANSCRIPTIONS OF FAVORITE HYMNS may be reserved now, prior to publication, at the special Advance of Publication cash price, 50 cents, postpaid.

LAWRENCE KEATING'S SECOND JUNIOR CHOIR BOOK—The nation-wide success of LAWRENCE KEATING'S JUNIOR CHOIR BOOK has brought a demand for a second book of the same pattern. Both skill and careful preparation have gone into the formation of this new book, which contains over thirty well-chosen devotional texts set to original compositions and arrangements of familiar melodies. Directors will find that the two-part arrangements for young voices may be used effectively by girls alone, by treble voice choirs including boys with unchanged voices, or by a women's choir. The Advance of Publication cash price for a single copy of the book is 25 cents, postpaid.

SIX MELODIOUS OCTAVE STUDIES, For the Piano, by Orville A. Lindquist—These studies will be published in the famous Master Series of educational material, and will be one of the outstanding successes of the collection. Each study included has been created from a familiar type of octave work as found in the general piano literature. The study in repeated octaves is called The Xylophone Player. The chromatic octave study for both hands is entitled Mirth, The Spinner is a piece in tremolo octaves, The Chase deals with interlocking passages for right hand is named Solitude. Victory demonstrates "forte" octave playing with both hands together. A single copy of SIX MELODIOUS OCTAVE STUDIES may be ordered now at the special Advance of Publication cash price of 25 cents, postpaid.

PEER GYNT, by Edvard Grieg, A Story with Music for Piano, Arranged by Ada Richter—For the newest of her Stories with Music, Mrs. Richter has chosen PEER GYNT, and the music composed for it by Edvard Grieg. The story of Ibsen's play is clearly presented for juvenile readers, and the famous Grieg melodies are given in excellent third grade arrangements for piano. This engaging book will be illustrated with attractive pictures, and the musical contents will include: Morning Mood; In the Hall of the Mountain King; Ingrid's Plaint; Solveig's Song; Ase's Death; Arab Dance; Peer Gynt's Return Home; and Anitra's Dance.

While PEER GYNT is in preparation, a single copy may be ordered at the special Advance of Publication cash price of 30 cents, postpaid.

SINGING CHILDREN OF THE CHURCH, Sacred Choruses for Junior Choir, by Rob Roy Peery—As the author's YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHORUS BOOK FOR INTERMEDIATE CHOIRS is already a great favorite so, too, the publishers believe, this book will be eagerly sought by junior choir directors. It will contain twenty unison and two-part choral transcriptions based on favorite hymns and Gospel songs. These are not arrangements, but original settings in a free style. The accompaniments may be played on piano or organ.

Since the war has taken from many choirs their male voices, many choir-masters are turning to the younger generation. The literature for junior choirs is limited, and we believe directors will be glad to avail themselves of the opportunity to obtain for their libraries the single copy of this book that now may be ordered at the special Advance of Publication cash price, 25 cents, postpaid.

THE WORLD'S GREAT WALTZES, Arranged for Piano by Stanford King—Here is a book with an appeal for musicians and non-musicians alike. A few of the numbers in this truly representative collection of fifteen waltzes are Gold and Silver by Lehar, The Kiss by Arditl, Exultantia and The Skaters by Emil Waldteufel, A Waltz Dream by Oskar Straus, and The Beautiful Blue Danube and Tales from the Vienna Woods by Johann Strauss. The average player of third grade ability will find much pleasure in playing these well-edited dance waltzes, which have lost none of their enchanting melody in the transcribing. In the United States and its possessions a single copy may be reserved in Advance of Publication for 40 cents, postpaid.

MOTHER NATURE WINS, An Operetta in Two Acts for Children. Libretto by Mae Gleaton Shokunbi, Music by Annabel S. Wallace—One of the delights of juvenile experiences is the participation in an operetta which provides enjoyable entertainment to an audience. Here is a two-act operetta that is a fine vehicle for juvenile talents, and those who will have groups of children 5 to 13 years of age available for an operetta performance next season should take note of it. There are six leading parts, five of which should be able to sing the easy solos assigned to them. For certain special numbers dancing groups of almost any available number that staging conditions will accommodate may be used, but at least 12 boys and girls are necessary for the chorus of trees. The chorus work is for unison and two-part singing.

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## The Teacher's Round Table

(Continued from Page 345)

ist" you must give straight answers to simple questions like these: Do I labor lovingly to reaffirm the miracle of Mozart, or am I content to skim pleasantly over the key tops? . . . Do I play tinkling tunes, pearly scales, jingling accompaniments, soft surface sonorities, and let it go at that? . . . In short, do I play MOZART, or only NOTESART?

Next month the Round Table page will offer a study-analysis for the first sixteen measures of the second movement of Mozart's Sonata in C Major (K.545) as an example of his style. . . . Why not memorize this now, study it thoroughly, then compare your results with next month's "lesson"?

work is said to be a limbering up of the finger muscles. Nowadays this is accomplished usually by a few good stretching exercises.

I've told you here what has helped me to enjoy playing again, after having neglected it for many years. I don't pretend to be a piano teacher; I speak to you rather as a fellow-conspirator. If you can get the aid of a good teacher, get it! But don't let him frighten you with the intricacies of the art; if he tries that, he's not a good teacher. When you can hear in your mind the note you read on the page of music, and when you know where the note is, then you can put your finger on it.

And so far as that note goes, a virtuoso could do little more.

## Orchestral Bowings for High School Students

(Continued from Page 350)

dents bow across the four strings breaking the chord into two segments, so to speak. Rather, divide, with the one player responsible for the two upper notes, and the other player taking the two lower notes. Thus, all notes of the chord sound simultaneously, as they do in the woodwinds and brasses, where each player has just one note and that note is on the beat. Otherwise, the strings sound "ragged" in relation to the winds.

Ex. 20



Lastly, a few general words. Teach the students to make a definite tone, to enter solidly, and in rhythm, on any note after a rest.

If the note happens to be the first note of a melody or solo passage, see that it is clean, clear, rhythmic, and that it is immediately heard. This applies to the winds, as well as to the strings. The audience is not interested in a melody that starts on its second or third note!

The fine *legato* is often spoiled in orchestra by the cutting of corners. Teach the students to give full value to the last note of a slur, and to give it a tonal-quality equivalent to the notes that have gone before.

When a principal player in a string section has a solo passage, teach him to play with a tone that will cut through the orchestra, both by its powerful richness and by its beauty and individuality. For remember, as it was once so beautifully explained to me:

"The soloist who stands in front of the orchestra and does a concerto has thirty minutes in which to win his audience. The orchestra principal may have a solo of only a few measures in the course of the evening's concert, and in those few measures he must give his audience something so beautiful that neither the solo nor the player is ever forgotten!"

"Music will respond to any mood, or if no definite mood is present, it will respond to a whim, and if even that medium of emotional life be absent it still stands ready to serve. On the other hand, properly used it can aid greatly in unifying a group."

—PETER W. DYKEMA

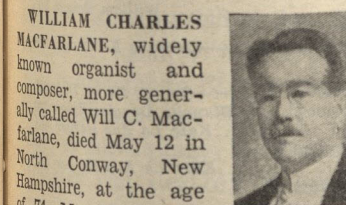
THE AMERICAN PREMIERE of the March for Victory, Op. 99, by Prokofieff, was conducted by Serge Koussevitzky in Madison Square Garden on May 31. It was played by the Infantry Combat Band at a "Salute to the GI's of the United Nations," sponsored by the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship.



FIRST LIEUT. WILLIAM A. BUHRENN of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, now with a Quartermaster Corps depot attached to the Eighth Air Force's 389th Bomb Group in England, recently conducted a performance of Handel's "Messiah" in an old historic church in Norwich. For over a year he has been guest conductor of the Norwich Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus. Lieutenant Buhren was formerly organist and choirmaster of St. John's Lutheran Church in Grove City, Ohio.

MME. MARGARET MATZENAUER, for twenty years a leading contralto of the Metropolitan Opera Association, is conducting a master class at the New England Conservatory of Music, in the art of singing, style, and interpretation. The class opened on June 27 and will close on August 7.

THE MUSIC FESTIVAL, given in Philadelphia on June 1, at the huge Municipal Stadium seating 120,000 people, was a pronounced success as a massed public event. The Festival was promoted by The Philadelphia Inquirer. Among the organizations participating were the Philadelphia Orchestra, the All-High School Chorus of Philadelphia, the Philadelphia La Scala Opera Ballet, the Westminster Choir, the Philadelphia Catholic High School Girls' Chorus, the Philadelphia Suburban Chorus, Mummies' String Bands, the United States Marine Band, and Clarence Fuhrman's KYW Orchestra. James Cagney, popular moving picture star, was brought from Hollywood to act as master of ceremonies. Prominent soloists included Oscar Levant and James Melton.



WILLIAM CHARLES MACFARLANE, widely known organist and composer, more generally called Will C. MacFarlane, died May 12 in North Conway, New Hampshire, at the age of 74. Mr. MacFarlane was the composer of many anthems and other sacred music, and formerly was organist of several leading churches in New York City. He was born in London and was brought to New York at the age of four. His musical training was received in New York City. From 1898 to 1912 he was organist at Temple Emanu-El, and from 1900 to 1912 he was organist and musical director at St. Thomas' Episcopal Church. From 1912 to 1919 he was municipal organist in Portland, Maine. Mr. MacFarlane was a founder of the American Guild of Organists. Among his many works, several of which won prizes, one of the most widely used is the cantata, "The Message of the Cross."



## The World of Music

HERE, THERE, AND EVERYWHERE  
 IN THE MUSICAL WORLD

one Saturday evening and one Sunday afternoon concert and many distinguished soloists have been engaged for the event.

FREDELL LACK, violinist, is the winner of the American Artists Award of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences for 1944-45. The award consists of a cash grant of two hundred dollars, together with an appearance next season in the Major Concert Series, conducted by the Institute in the Brooklyn Academy of Music. Miss Lack has been a pupil of Louis Persinger.

THE FIRST JOINT PRESENTATION of the music, drama, and dance departments of Michigan State College took place on May 19th in the Auditorium at East Lansing, when "Le Ballet du Roy" by Evangeline Lehman, and "The Mask of the Red Death" by Owen Reed were performed with great success before a large audience. The event was sponsored by "Orchesis," the women's physical education department, and the orchestra was under the direction of Alexander Schuster.



EVANGELINE LEHMAN

WILLIAM HOWLAND, former head of the music department at the University of Michigan; and founder of the Detroit Institute of Musical Arts, died on May 2 at Detroit, Michigan. Dr. Howland had been vice president, director, and head of the vocal department of the Detroit Institute of Musical Art since 1914, a director and music director of the Musical Festival Association of Detroit, Inc., and founder and music director of the People's Choral Union, and Detroit Festival Choral Society.

WILLIAM KAPELL, young American pianist, is on a concert tour of Australia as the next "lend-lease" musical artist to follow Eugene Ormandy and Marjorie Lawrence.

DR. FRANCES E. CLARK, affectionately known as "Mother Clark" by thousands of music supervisors throughout the country, celebrated her eighty-fifth birthday on May 27. A testimonial luncheon was given to her by the In and About Club of Philadelphia. She was showered with flowers, gifts and cards from everywhere. She has done more in her busy career to spread the employment of recorded music in educational fields than any other individual. She was the inspiration for the founding of the huge Music Educators National Conference, now one of the most influential of all musical bodies. Rich and wise in experience with surprising energy and youthful outlook and with a razor keen mind, Dr. Clark addressed the club at her birthday luncheon with wit, common sense, and force.

(Continued on Page 406)



DR. FRANCES E. CLARK

and all details may be secured by writing to Miss Katherine Wolf, chairman of the committee, The Philadelphia Art Alliance, 251 South Eighteenth Street, Philadelphia.

A FIRST PRIZE of \$25,000 is the award in a composition contest sponsored by Henry H. Reichhold, industrialist and president of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Composers of the twenty-one Pan American republics are invited to submit manuscripts. A second and third prize of \$5,000 and \$2,500 respectively, are included in the awards. The winning compositions will be played by the Detroit Symphony in the Pan American Arts Building in Washington. The closing date of the contest is September 1, 1945, and full details may be secured by writing to the Reichhold Music Award Committee, Room 4315, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, New York.

THE NINTH ANNUAL Prize Song Competition, sponsored by the Chicago Singing Teachers Guild for the W. W. Kimball Company Prize of One Hundred Dollars, is announced for 1945-1946. The contest is open to any citizen and resident of the United States, Canada, or of any Central American Republic. Manuscripts must be mailed not earlier than October 1, nor later than October 15, 1945; and all information may be secured from E. Clifford Toren, North Park College, 3225 Foster Avenue, Chicago 25, Illinois.

AN AWARD OF \$1,000 to encourage "the writing of American operas in general, and of short operas in particular," is announced by the Alice M. Ditson Fund of Columbia University and the Metropolitan Opera Association. The opera must be not over seventy-five minutes in length and by a native or naturalized American citizen. The closing date is September 1, 1945 and full details may be secured from Eric T. Clarke, Metropolitan Opera Association, Inc., New York, 18, New York.

A PRIZE of one hundred dollars plus royalty is offered by J. Fischer & Bro., New York City, under the auspices of the American Guild of Organists, to the composer of the best composition for organ submitted by any musician residing in the United States or Canada. The contest closes January 1, 1946; and full details may be procured from the office of the American Guild of Organists, 630 Fifth Avenue, New York 20, New York.

THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC of De Paul University, Chicago, announces an Inter-American Chopin Contest, the finals of which will be held in Chicago in May, 1946. The contest is to select the outstanding Chopin pianist of the hemisphere and entries are invited from the United States, Mexico, Central America, and South America. The first prize is one thousand dollars. Details may be secured by writing to De Paul University, 64 East Lake Street, Chicago 1, Illinois.

THE SECOND ANNUAL COMPETITION for the Ernest Bloch Award is announced by the United Temple Chorus of Long Island. The award of one hundred and fifty dollars is for a composition based on a text from the Old Testament, and suitable for a chorus of women's voices. Publication of the winning chorus is guaranteed by Carl Fischer, Inc.; and it will be included in the next spring concert by the chorus. The closing date is December 1; and further details may be secured from the United Temple Chorus, The Ernest Bloch Award, Box 736, Woodmere, Long Island, New York.

THE TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL Award of the Eurydice Chorus of Philadelphia, of one hundred dollars, for a composition for women's voices, is announced by The Philadelphia Art Alliance. The closing date is October 1, 1945.

"FORWARD MARCH WITH MUSIC"

JULY, 1945