

Famous Pianist Arrives Without Sleep, Piano, Cab

By Laura Olson and Barbara Hood

Sans sleep, sans piano, and sans taxicab, Artur Rubinstein hit Eugene yesterday forenoon—at approximately 11:50. Tuesday evening he had appeared before a crowd of 5000 at the Civic auditorium in Portland in a concert which was followed by a banquet, accounting for his lack of sleep.

The missing piano, used for all his concerts, was being tracked down, and his transportation problem was solved when Mr. G. E. Gaylord of the Eugene Civic Music association and Dr. R. D. Horn, professor of English and Mrs. Horn, drove Mr. Rubinstein to the Osborn hotel.

Mr. Rubinstein has a few words of advice for interviewees who ask

questions: "What kind of music do you prefer to play?" His answer: "Let me give you girls a tip: Don't ask any artist what kind of music he likes best, because any artist who has a preference is narrow-minded."

"Each art is a world in itself, and there are so many different interpretations for each form of art that no individual can ever be sure he is presenting his field the correct way. Actually, there is no such thing as one right way of producing art."

Pianist To Lead Drive

Poland is the subject uppermost in the pianist's mind. He has been working relentlessly to restore his homeland's independence. In May, Rubinstein will launch the "Chopin Fund drive" in New York to aid the musicians in Europe and especially in Poland. The fund will be used to rebuild conservatories, instruments and music files which were destroyed in World War II.

"The slogan will be 'Chopin Asks for His Royalties,'" Rubinstein said. "You see, during his lifetime Chopin received very little for his masterpieces. The fund will attempt to obtain donors through sympathy and understanding rather than through their pockets."

Superstitions Have Effect

According to Mr. Rubinstein, superstitions have a pronounced effect on the life of any internationally known performer. "I have at least five million superstitions gathered from all parts of the world. It seems that I add a new set to my collection in every city. I have no particular one," he added.

Energetic and vibrant, Rubinstein displayed sincerity and friendliness during the conversation. With many expressive movements of his artistic hands he

demonstrated the versatility which makes him the world's most re-engaged pianist.

The conversation often returned to his family, Rubinstein's most prized possession. He has three children. The latest addition, Alene, was three months old before the busy pianist saw her.

Family Goes on Tours

"I try to take my family with me whenever possible," Rubinstein explained, "but sometimes this is impossible. Last year I wanted to take them with me on my Latin American tour, but the poor traveling accommodations in South America caused a cancellation of the tour entirely."

Rubinstein is 56, but the dynamic musician gives no hint of his age. His talent is not limited to stage performances. He has recently appeared on "Information Please" where he matched wits with Oscar Levant.

The motion picture world has aroused his interest, too. A technicolor film, "Concerto," scheduled for release, finds Rubinstein as the man behind the piano. His interest also led to assisting in the technical side of the production.

Chinese Like Classics

Playing in every country except Tibet has led to some problems in musical selections. Citing an example, Rubinstein said, "In scheduling a concert for Chinese girls in Canton, China, I wondered what would appeal to such a group. I decided the dignified, fine music of Brahms, Chopin and Beethoven would meet with satisfaction—it did."

As Rubinstein started toward his luncheon engagement he answered the final query: "My tour is never over. I'm playing all the time."

WRITING CONTEST

(Continued from page one)

as a hunter and an explorer, having made trips to Alaska, Siberia, Central Africa, Indo-China and India.

The University of Oregon bestowed upon him an honorary Master of Arts degree in 1941.

Robert O. Case, another UO graduate who turned to writing as a career, graduated from the University in 1920. He joined the staff of the Oegonian as a reporter and, after having held various other positions on the paper, left it to begin his writing career. He is well known for his short stories which appeared in the Saturday Evening Post and the Country Gentlemen. Several of his novels have been translated into Dutch and other languages. Case is now president of the state school board.

The other sponsor, Ernest J. Haycox, is now president of the Oregon Alumni association. He served with the army on the Mexican border in 1916 and in France during World War I. After being discharged, Haycox entered the University of Oregon from which he graduated in 1923. His best-known works are chiefly western novels, several of which have been made into movies.

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