

MUSIC

EDITED BY JOSEPH MACQUEEN



Miss Winifred Forbes

UNCERTAINTY of the music situation in this city, with regard to old and new influenza regulations, has brought the suspension of the proposed concert of the Apollo Club, planned for this month in the Public Auditorium. Lambert Murphy, the noted New York City tenor, has not found it possible again to arrange his concert dates for a concert in this city at the present time for the Apollo Club, and his engagement to sing with it has been regretfully canceled.

It is now proposed that the Apollo Club singers appear in their first concert of the season about the second week in January, 1919, and it is hoped that the Public Auditorium then will be in condition, and fumigated, to allow concerts to be resumed there by that time. Negotiations are being opened with another soloist for this January concert.

REED COLLEGE RECITAL DEC. 10.

The many friends and admirers of Lucien E. Becker are looking forward with pleasure to his second concert on the Olds memorial organ in Reed College, Tuesday night, December 10. Mr. Becker is playing regularly the second Tuesday of each month in Reed College, but owing to the influenza epidemic the November recital was postponed until this date. The numbers on the programme for Tuesday are all from the modern French school, and their selection is another evidence of Mr. Becker's skill in programme building. The big number is the Gullmatt "Fifth Sonata," which is one of the most interesting of the works of this famous composer. In direct contrast is the delicate and charming "Swan," of Saint Saens. The Christmas atmosphere is given by the "March of the Magi Kings" (Dubois). The complete programme:

"Fifth Sonata" (Alexandre Gullmatt), all-gro-appealante, adagio con moto" (Ludwig Schuberl), scherzo-allegro, recitativo-choral et furioso (Franz Liszt), "The Song of the Magi Kings" (Theodore Dubois), "Serenade à l'Éclair" (Gabriel Faure), "Elevation" (Samuel Rousseau), "Variations de Concert, op. 1" (Joseph Bonnet).

This is the second of a series of pipe organ recitals being given by Mr. Becker the second Tuesday of each month. The next recital will be January 1. These recitals are open to the public.

ANOTHER MUSIC STAR DIES.

Those who are related to the late Tom Dobson by ties of blood, or relationship, of course miss him the most. The blow is deeper, and the sense of personal loss keener.

But to the great mass of the American music-loving, especially in this city and New York City, the death of Tom Dobson means that a friend has passed whose place it is not easy to fill. There are other singers, other entertainers, other singers of funny and serious songs, but only Tom Dobson could deliver his message—and the heart that he played so well and so skillfully is silent.

Tom Dobson had a merry smile, a cheerful look that healed better than drooping shoulders. He was in his happiest mood when, seated before an audience, he played his own accompaniments to funny little songs like "A Fat Little Fellow" or "When I Was One and Twenty." He sang the words distinctly, and his face always was composed until the last bar of music was sung. Then invariably he turned toward the laughing audience, and his face was sunny in smile, as if he were saying: "Say, good folks, let me in on the joke, too. I'll laugh with you." And he did. Yes, Tom Dobson's merry smile, his good fellowship, his free and easy manners as a song-comrade, always were features of the Dobson concerts.

Tom Dobson's piano accompaniments also were music gems that were treasured in the minds of audiences long after the dates and places of the concerts were forgotten. His playing was inevitable, because their composer created a sunshine place for himself in American music.

Then comes the sad thing we call death, and Tom Dobson's music activities are silent.

But surely such astonishing music gifts as our friend had are not wasted or blotted out. What if Tom Dobson's music life in this little sphere of ours is after all merely a preparation for the better, more lasting life that is not visible to those human eyes and human ears of ours, as they are at present constituted?

Poets say that long ago, when men lived close to God and lived pure lives, when money did not so warp our souls, that men and women were more psychic and were able to lift the veil that separates us from infinitude.

If that is so—and is it not a blessed hope—our friend Tom Dobson has just gone to the place of reward, where those who work not for money and gain, but for the joy of working. Maybe Tom Dobson is not so far from us after all.

CARUSO'S RELATIVES WRATHY.

Park Benjamin, attorney and father-in-law of Enrico Caruso, opera singer, is wrathful at Caruso because, it is alleged, Caruso linked his name with that of Mr. Benjamin's son, who was wounded in battle in France and is now in this country convalescing from his wounds.

Mr. Benjamin denounces Caruso for exploitation purposes and Caruso says he doesn't need any advertising—from his father-in-law, for money.

It was not that it was Caruso, declared Mr. Benjamin to a New York re-

TWO PORTLAND MUSIC PEOPLE ACTIVE IN CURRENT EVENTS.

Lucien E. Becker gives the second of series of pipe-organ recitals in Reed College Tuesday night, December 10.

Miss Winifred Forbes, violinist, played solos at the MacDowell Club meeting last Tuesday afternoon in the Little Theater.

Her thoughtful interpretations, beautiful phrasing, clean technique and singing tone were admirable. Mr. Mowrey's pianistic ability, well known in Portland, has won him the complete favor of Seattle.

The next regular meeting of the Oregon Music Teachers' Association, Portland district, will be held tomorrow night, 8 o'clock, in Sopman, Wolfe & Co.'s music room. There is a genuine treat in store for members on this occasion, for Madame Lucie Valair will talk on the subject of "The Music of France," and later in the evening will sing two groups of French chansons. Miss Grace Story, pianist, will play two groups of compositions by French composers. Miss Julia Pratt will be accompanist.

Mr. J. Curtis Simmons was substituting soprano Sunday at the Mount Tabor Presbyterian Church. Her solos were "My Redeemer and My Lord" (Dudley Buck), and "No Night There" (Danks).

This highly critical notice of singing at a recent concert of the Apollo Club appears in the Boston Transcript: "Within easy memory of the Apollo Club has sung more interesting music than that which filled the larger part of the programme for its concert in Jordan Hall. 'Patriotic pieces' abounded and the quality of such numbers as music seldom matches the merit of the sentiment or mood it is intended to express. One, however, a setting by James H. Rogers of Dr. Van Dyke's verses, 'The Name of France,' gave the writer of the words opportunity to return spoken thanks and an occasional acknowledgment and applause from and to French officers who happened to be in the audience. As the fortune of the evening went, by far the best conceives and written of these patriotic numbers was Denshausen's 'Hail, Land of Liberty,' the work of a deceased and cherished member of the chorus. The dramatic setting of parts of Lowell's 'Vision of Sir Launfal' proved too tepid a music for even a men's choir to animate, while the chosen choruses, 'The Dreamy Lake' was no more than Schumann, vaguely sentimental. Happily, the chorus kept to its excellent standard of song, throughout. That is a sonata, invited its volume and precision, rather than its fineness and fluidity, while the other numbers gave too little room for its brightness and the sense of rhythm. Mr. Williams likewise gave the familiar pleasure that her light, clear voice and vocal dexterity have often yielded to her townfolk."

MUSIC BRIEFS.

The second rehearsal of the Portland Oratorio Society since the influenza ban was lifted was a decidedly enjoyable one. Eight new members registered and others signified their intention to join the chorus. "And the Glory," "O Thou That Tellect," "For Unto Us," "Glory to God," "Surely" and "The Amen Chorus," from Handel's "The Messiah," were studied. Many of the regular members were present. The Portland Oratorio Society, now in its seventh season, meets every Monday at 7 P. M. in room 4, Central Library building. This will be the seventh annual rendition of "The Messiah" by this society, the concert being planned to take place about the middle of January. The following chorus members are welcome. Joseph A. Finley, who was to have gone to France in Y. M. C. A. work, will again direct. Mrs. Nina Divine is accompanist.

Miss Helen Gordon, a talented young singer of Astoria, has come to Portland to make her home. She is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. W. S. Gordon, and was presented in recital last June at the Astoria theater by Mrs. Rose Courten-Breed. Miss Gordon is a new member of the Treble Clef Club.

Joseph A. Truesel, musical director of "You're in Love" company, is interested in a new theatrical production next season for presentation in New York, the book being by Arthur J. Lamb, well known as the author of "Sleep in the Deep," and the music by Jules Chauvenet, the French composer, who lives and conducts a theater in Paris. Mr. Truesel, who recently was on tour in this city, speaks of a wonderful new prima-donna for the company.

Mr. Hall, soprano, sang two solos at a recent entertainment given by the Knights and Ladies of Security in the Woodmen of the World Hall. Her singing was much appreciated.

A letter has been received from Miss Ada Altes Tuttle, written in Paris and dated November 12. She called from New York October 31 on the same steamer with Miss Isom, of Portland, Sarah Bernhardt and a number of Y. M. C. A. and Red Cross workers. The trip was a pleasant one save one storm, the landing being at Bordeaux. Miss Tuttle was fortunate to arrive in Paris at the time when the greatest rejoicing was being observed following the signing of the armistice. Miss Tuttle is a well-known pianist-lecturer of this city.

The quartet choir of the First Methodist Episcopal Church is preparing a Christmas cantata entitled "The Star Divine." The text is by F. V. Hubbard played the most exacting programme of the newer compositions and the music is beautiful. The quartet consists of Miss Gildie Peterson, soprano; Mrs. Esther Collins Chaiten, contralto; Walter J. Gill, tenor, and G. H. Kramer, baritone. Mrs. Gladys Morgan-Farmer is the organist and director. These ladies are all organists are doing excellent work.

Dent Mowrey presented Mrs. Connell Jesse to a Seattle audience last Monday night. The piano recital was a triumph for all concerned and the pianist received enthusiastic approbation from a large and critical audience. Mrs. Jesse played a number of new modern compositions in its first programme, ranging from Bach to Chopin by way of Cesar Franck, Debussy and Ravel.

Arthur Middleton, the great American baritone, has been on tour of the principal cities of Oklahoma, Nebraska and Colorado which will keep him occupied until Christmas.

It was a refreshing pleasure to attend the concert of the MacDowell Club in the Little Theater last Tuesday afternoon and drink in the inspiration of a delightful recital programme, ably interpreted by Miss Winifred Forbes, violinist, and Fritz De Bruin, baritone, with Mrs. Marion W. Selts and Mrs. Harry Van Dyke Hardwick piano accompanists. Miss Forbes wisely chose for sparkling tunefulness and bright attack, the "Nocturne" by Chopin, and the "Nocturne" by Schumann, played with exact technique. She played from memory and played so splendidly that her violin sent out a living music message. Her playing was so beautiful that among violinists in this section, has a "large" violin tone for a young woman and her art is steadily broadening. Her two big numbers were the violin part of "Sonata No. 1" (Rubinstein) and "Second Polonaise" (Wieniawski). Mr. De Bruin sang with fine voice, cultured style and in true concert. His lovely voice is shining in color and sparkle of tonality and his distinct diction is a treat to hear. He, too, sang from memory. His last number was "The Fairy" (Wodvansky) which was grandly and impressively rendered, voice and piano accompaniment being skillfully blended into a concert in itself. Mrs. Selts and Mrs. Hardwick played admirable accompaniments. Both soloists were cordially received and extra numbers had to be rendered.

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Ignace Paderewski, the "dean" of all piano virtuosos, has sailed from New York City for Europe en route as the representative of Polish societies in this country. His new republic that is being set up in the new Poland.

While Mr. Paderewski has no official recognition from this Government, says a New York City correspondent, he is completely the hero of the hour among the societies to represent them and he doubtless will have an official status when he reaches the other side.

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Miss Malen Burnett, pianist, of Walla Walla, Wash., is visiting in this city at present.

The Vancouver, Wash. Music Club chorus, which under the direction of John Claire Monteith, is making splendid progress in preparation of their first concert for this season, has a number of new voices in its personnel. The club is holding rehearsals every Tuesday and Thursday nights to make up for recent loss of time and is featuring a number of new modern compositions in its first programme. The members of the club are: Mrs. J.

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S. G. Langsdorf, president; Mrs. Clement Scott, Mrs. Mills, Mrs. Vernon Ross, Mrs. E. G. Ditlevsen, Mrs. Foster, Mrs. H. Williams, Mrs. Marshall, Mrs. Dan Steinhoff, Mrs. Earl Leslie, Mrs. C. C. Curtis, Mrs. John Intlekofer, Mrs. Frank Fletcher, Mrs. Signs, Mrs. Chester Palmer, Mrs. George Simpson, Mrs. Joseph Steffan, Mrs. O. K. Sullivan, Mrs. John Spurgeon, Mrs. John Wilkinson, Mrs. J. J. Padden, Mrs. Fannie Crocker, Mrs. Benjamin Williams, Miss Lurline Williams, Miss Erna Marsh, Miss Gertrude Pierce, Miss Mildred Curtis, Miss Bessie Sorella, Miss Marian Ashby, and Miss Ida May Cooke, accompanist.

An informal recital by students of the Ellison-White Conservatory of Music was held last Friday. This was the first one of the regular recitals that will take place from time to time and the object of these recitals is to give the public an opportunity to demonstrate in a practical way what they have accomplished and become acquainted with their fellow students and watch each other progress. Among those taking part were: Miss Ruth Miles and Miss Ruth Miles, both of Miles City, Mont.; Miss Josephine Rice, Ralph Mulford, Miss Mary Talmadge, violinist; Miss Helen Schuppel, violinist; Miss Bess Huff, of Baker, Or., and Miss Margaret Nota, of Baker, Or. All the students show creditable musical progress.

Miss Winifred Forbes, violinist; Lillian Jeffrey Petri, pianist, and Paul Petri, tenor, all from the faculty of the Ellison-White Conservatory of Music, will give a concert in Pacific College, Newberg, Friday night, December 13, and the same soloists will appear at Salem Tuesday night, December 17. At the latter city they will have the assistance of Miss Elsie Mae Gordon, reader.

The locale of this little "peep behind the scenes" was at the New York Hippodrome, where Schumann-Heink was the bright particular star of a big war-benefit concert. Appearing on the same program with Schumann-Heink were Blipham, and the two were overheard reminiscing about the good old days. "It is just about 35 years ago that we first appeared together. I was in the Garden Opera in London, and then at the Metropolitan," said the madame. "Yes, indeed," responded the famous baritone, and do you know that we are one of two of our colleagues that are still before the public?" Just think—of that galaxy which included Norden, Easty, and Schumann-Heink, and only these last two have weathered the vicissitudes of time and fate! What a lesson in the beauty of Schumann-Heink's voice after more than 25 years of constant usage, and the charm of her art which seems to grow more potent with the years.

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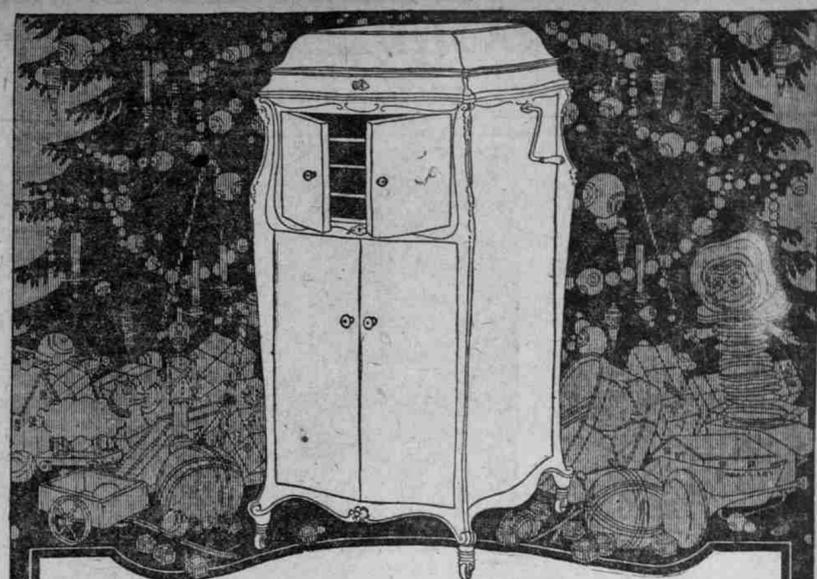
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He issued a formal good-bye, with the text: "Free Poland."

There will be a meeting of the board of management of the Monday Musical Club, Monday, December 16, 2:30 P. M., at the Central Library. Mrs. J. R. Holter, chairman of the public school department of the club, reports a splendid lecture—Recital by Lucien E. Becker, on "Russian Music," delivered in St. John's High School.

Tom Ordeman, baritone, will be soloist at the next meeting of the Portland Credit Men's Association. This popular

young baritone sang at the Portland Realty Board meeting for the Spanish War Veterans and the Cotterie Club, this last week, and was enthusiastically recalled at each appearance. Miss Eveline Calbreath was his piano accompanist on each occasion.

Harold Hurlbut is busy arranging the Christmas musical programme that is rendered annually by the Rotary Club for the children of the Fraser Home. This will be the fifth festival programme of the club arranged by Mr. Hurlbut.

Dr. Emil Enna is arranging for piano recitals by the Enna Juniors and the Enna Amateurs in the Little Theater during the second week of January.

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