

IN THE REALM OF MUSIC

An Excellent Program For the Big Concert Centennial of National Hymn This Month

AS THE winter season approaches a problem presents itself in what disposal shall we make of the long winter evenings? One solution, and one particularly pertinent to us who live so far removed from the cities with their many theatres and places of amusement, is that of music. Musical enjoyment is probably the sanest enjoyment of our generation, and never in the world's history has it been as easily possible to enjoy practically all the music of all the world as it is today, for by means of the modern mechanisms of reproducing music, those who have no other training in the musical art can become familiar

BIRTHDAY OF NATIONAL AIR

THE fourteenth day of this month is the 100th anniversary of the writing of Frances Scott Key's immortal song, "The Star Spangled Banner." It is a singular fact that this song whose tones have roused responsive throbs in every patriot's heart should celebrate its one hundred years of existence at a time when America is the sole nation of all the world's powers to be at peace.

The history of the "Star Spangled Banner" is a most romantic one. Its real origin is obscured in doubt, but almost one hundred years before Frances Scott Key, a young lawyer, gave it a new birth in the form in which it has since remained, it was widely known, that is the music, not the words, which Key wrote later, as a drinking song, entitled "To Anaceroo in Heaven." Because of its large compass, its constant skipping, the exhilarating upward rush of melody in its opening phrase and its forceful professions in the latter phrases, it made it a most popular ballad in the city. Neither the name of the author nor composer can be found to the song in this form. The words have been attributed to many authors, one of whom was Ralph Tomlinson, who was in the 18th century, president of the Anaceroo Society of London, a wild drinking club which held its meetings in the "Crown and Anchor" in the Strand.

The melody was very popular in England, and many editions were published and also many plagiarisms and parodies. A masonic setting of the tune was published in Dublin in 1802, but no credit was given to the original composer. As an ode in the masonic order it was made known to many prominent and patriotic Americans, and from some of these sources it is inferred that Frances Scott Key must have been familiar with the melody when he wrote "The Star Spangled Banner." His connection with the song is related as follows:

In the summer of 1814 the war which was raging between the United States and Great Britain seemed to run almost entirely in favor of the latter nation. Washington had been captured and burned, the shores of Chesapeake Bay were revealed to a British fleet under Admiral Cochrane; Baltimore itself was threatened with speedy capture. At just this juncture, Frances Scott Key, a young lawyer determined to seek the British Admiral to procure, if possible, a physician of Maryland, who was Key's personal friend. Procuring proper credentials from President Madison, and proof that Dr. Beanes was a non-combatant, Key set out for his mission. Key arrived on the British vessel just as the fleet was preparing to attack Fort M'Henry, and while Admiral Cochrane, who held Dr. Beanes, a prisoner, treated Key and Beanes with respect, he would not permit them to leave the vessel until he had taken the American fort. Key and his friend were forced to witness the enemies' attack on his country's stronghold. He watched the flag at the fort through the whole day with an anxiety that can better be felt than described, until the night overcast began from seeing it. In the night he watched the launch slip away, and early dawn his eye was again greeted by the proudly waving flag of his country. He learned then that the British attack had failed and the American party was free to go ashore. During the hours of the early morning, beginning with that great moment when he had been able to discern the American flag through the field glasses, Key had hastily jotted down the opening stanzas of the poem that was to become so celebrated, on the back of a letter which he happened to have in his pocket. He first named it "The Bombardment of Fort M'Henry."

Its melody is by no means an ideal one for chorus singing, but its great associations and its lofty words have forever endeared it to the American heart, and until some native composer can give us a more practical tune, "The Star Spangled Banner" will justly remain the national air of our country.

For the words and music of this song in its earlier stages any one may find them in "The National Music of America," by Louis C. Elson, volume 780 E49 in the Marshfield Public Library. Its history is also treated at considerable length in the book.

A committee on music for the Methodist Episcopal Church, composed of Mrs. Howard Savage, Mrs. Milo Sumner and Mrs. W. Langworthy, will take charge of the music of that church October 1, the beginning of the new conference year. Any plans they have made have not yet been made public.

Mrs. Effie Farringer, who plans to spend the winter in California, will take up the study of the pipe organ during her absence.

with the world's great compositions as were the great impresarios and the most diligent students of a few years ago.

The makers of phonographs and talking machines are making an especial effort this month, because of the season and because of the centennial of "The Star Spangled Banner," to give the public all that is best and highest in music. The September lists of productions contain many numbers that it would be impossible to hear except on concert stages. Noted singers and players have combined to render programs of extreme merit. A feature of peculiar interest is the great artists in combination, for instance, the rendition by John McCormack, the great Irish tenor, of Schubert's "Ave Maria," accompanied by Fritz Kreisler, Austria's famous violinist. An opportunity to hear them in concert has never been presented on the concert stage, but through the medium of the phonograph they can now be enjoyed, as well in Marshfield as New York. It has remained for the makers of these popular instruments to accomplish this, not only bringing the art of the great musicians true to life, but enabling one to hear combinations of artists which even in real life it would be impossible to hear up to the present time.

Another combination for the month's output of records is the singing, by Pasquale Amato, of the Metropolitan Opera Chorus, New York, and Frieda Hempel, of a duet from Traviata. It is beautifully rendered by these two artists. Not only combinations, but solos from the popular and classical operas are given interpretations enjoyable to the taste not cultivated by contact and study of the presentations in actual productions.

Popular composition, military band music, instrumental selections, comedies, new ballads and tuneful refrains from modern comic and light operas compose a list of such excellence that the winter months may indeed be rendered charming instead of dismal in their length.

The educational records for the month are mostly of a patriotic nature, the celebration of "The Star Spangled Banner's" 100th anniversary influencing the productions, and the playing of these educational records will aid in rendering the celebration truly national.

The list of music for the month is instructive as well as entertaining. There are selections to suit every taste, and all rendered to perfection by the best possible talent.

And modern genius has made possible the acquaintance of the stars of the world, even to the humblest of us and we who are so far removed from those places where aristocracy is best known.

MUSIC IN THE HIGH SCHOOL

THE year's work in music in Marshfield's schools promises to be of unusual interest. The work of past seasons will be extended as far as practicable and several new features will be added.

Professor Roy E. Waite, who will be principal of the High School the coming term, is an experienced cornetist and leader, and he plans the organization of a High School Orchestra from the student body who, under his direction, will inaugurate a feature that has been an ambition of the school for several seasons past. Talent in sufficient numbers now appears available for a successful carrying out of the plans and that the musical organization can and will be perfected is regarded as almost certain.

In choral work, presentations will be made during the school term, of a number of operettas, at least three to be attempted. Last season an effort was made to present the ever-popular "Pinafore," but at the last moment, to the great disappointment of the student body and faculty, the plans were abandoned. It will be attempted again this year, together with at least two others of similar nature.

Miss Volz, the teacher of music in Marshfield's schools, will be here next week to prepare for taking up the work this season. She has been enjoying an extended vacation to northern points and Alaska. Her labors will be similar to last year. She will visit the different rooms and grades in person for instruction and through the teachers will encourage the drills and keep in close touch with the work in the grades.

The High School gives credit for work in music done outside provided it is done under competent and approved teachers, when the work is done to the exclusion of some required study in the regular High School courses. It is expected that a greater number this year than last will take up courses in music for the credits to be gained.

With the presentation of plays and the organization of a High School Orchestra, the study of music this year will be given an impetus unknown in previous years and the work of music will take on a larger meaning for the students of the High School.

NEW MEN FOR CONCERT TOUR

For the coming booster trip and concert tour of the Coos Bay Concert Band, Director Fenton announces that he has secured three additional musicians who are expected to strengthen the organization with their extreme ability.

Mr. G. A. Martin, of the Bradley Caudy Company, and cornetist with the band, will not be able to make the trip, and in his place Mr. Fenton has secured O. D. Joiner, of Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Mr. Joiner is a cornet soloist of national fame, and one of the finest performers in the country. He is now bandmaster of the First Lighthorse Regiment Band at Calgary. He was for two seasons cornet soloist at Krueg Park, Omaha, and was with the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra for two years as first trumpet. Mr. Joiner was a soloist with the Canadian Fifteenth Lighthorse Regiment that toured the world in 1907.

Another musician who will make the trip with the local band is Carl Kirkpatrick, clarinetist, of Pendleton, Oregon, leader of the State Hospital Band in the Eastern Oregon city. Mr. Kirkpatrick is a musician of great powers of execution and is a brother of H. G. Kirkpatrick, bassoon player with the band. He will arrive here with his family in a few days, and after the band returns to Marshfield, will make his home on Coos Bay.

L. H. Bullard, a very fine French Horn player, will arrive in Marshfield on the next Nann Smith for the purpose of making the tour with the band. He has been for years connected with traveling concert bands and orchestras and has played in many cities with symphony orchestras. He has recently been in the offices of the Standard Oil Company at Marysville, California, and he, like Mr. Kirkpatrick, will make his future home here.

That the three men will add in a great measure to the finish of the band's concert work is expected by Mr. Fenton, who has been familiar with their capacities for some time.

Alexander Martin, who made an enviable place for himself in local musical circles during his residence in Marshfield left this week for Boston, where he will enter the Boston Technical Institute.

PROGRAM FOR BIG CONCERT

The program for the band benefit concert Tuesday evening, September 15, at Masonic Opera House, has been prepared by the committee in charge, Perl Riley Ballinger and Edna Louise Larson, as follows. Certain of the finishing details have not yet been arranged, but the number will be given as in the announced program.

- 1 Band Selection.
- 2 Bass Solo.
- 3 Harry Bultmann, Piano, Eight hands.
- 4 Miss Larson and pupil, Miss Mary Kruse.
- 5 Mrs. Ballinger and pupil, Miss Esther Asplund.
- 6 Flute Solo.
- 7 Wolfram Schuedding, Soprano Solo.
- 8 Mrs. Franklin E. Conway, Piano.
- 9 Miss Mary Kruse, Soprano Solo.
- 10 Mrs. Mayme Stanley Gidley, Violin Solo.
- 11 Lew Keyzer, Piano.
- 12 Mrs. Ballinger, Sextette.
- 13 Band Selection.

Additional details of the program with the names and descriptions of the various selections will be given next week.

Miss Esther Johnson, whose beautiful contralto voice created so much favorable comment last season, is planning to renew her vocal studies the coming winter with Mrs. A. B. Gidley.

The Baptist Church Choir is planning a series of musical Sunday evenings during the coming winter. It is planned to hold one song service one Sunday each month to take the place of the regular Sunday evening service.

Miss Mabel Harrigan, who is now visiting relatives in the East, expects to reach Boston about September 15, when she will take up the study of the violin at the Boston Conservatory of Music.

Mrs. A. B. Gidley will sing at the morning service of the Methodist Church on Sunday.



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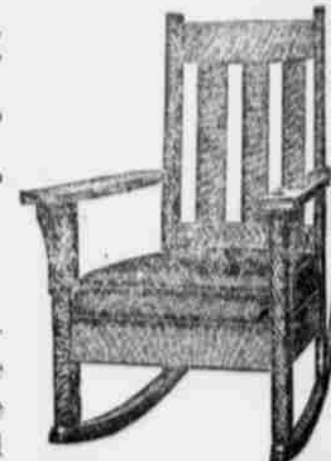


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