

Girls Win Way to High Ranks

Byrd

SALEM GIRLS WIN FAME WITH MUSIC

Two Salem girls whose appearance is always welcomed in the Oregon Capitol have won their way to high ranks in New York City. Winifred Byrd, pianist, and Mary Schultz, violinist. Both sprang up from childhood and became music students, then plunged into the conservatories of Boston and New York. Both have inherited talent from musical families for several generations. Both are acknowledged to have great gifts that will carry the happy possessor farther and farther into the realm of Art. One has become master of the piano, the other of the violin. In the strictest sense of the word these two instruments are the concert instruments that have been cultivated by the composers of the musical classics and the greatest masters in the music world have found expression in one instrument or the other. Whenever Winifred Byrd or Mary Schultz come to Oregon, concerts have been demanded of them and now Miss Byrd is to appear Thursday, March 29, at the Capitol Theater in this city. Her appearance will revive the interest in several generations of piano players and teachers in Salem, Portland, and valley cities, who have conducted classes or enjoyed conservatory privileges, men and women who have worked hard to extend conservatory training to the younger generations. Both of these Salem artists have the distinction of appearing in radio for the New York Federa-

WINIFRED BYRD CONCERT Capitol Theatre, March 29 at 8:15 o'clock PROGRAM

- Chopin—Ballade in G minor
Waltz in B minor
Study Opus 10 No. 10
Study Opus 10 No. 5 (Black Key Study)
- Beethoven-Rubinstein—Turkish March
- Group of Children's Pieces—dedicated to the young musicians of Salem
- Czerny—Two Studies from Opus 740
- Bartok—Children's Pieces
- MacDowell—Brer Rabbit
Witches Dance
- Alkan—The Wind
- Liszt—A Dream of Love (Transcription)
Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2

tion of Churches under WEAF every Sunday. Miss Schultz expects to be on the Pacific coast sometime during 1928. Miss Byrd has been called to the coast recently by the severe illness of her father, Dr. Wm. H. Byrd of this city, a prominent Oregon pioneer surgeon, on the faculties of several medical schools, and at present convalescing at a Portland hospital.

Followed the Village Band Winifred Byrd has played piano and lived in an atmosphere of music since she toddled on the streets of this city listening to the meadow larks, singing and chasing after the village band with the pal of her childhood, Corinne Riley, now in the movies, both absorbing the technique of natural musicians. In addition Winifred Byrd has inherited talent and a wonderful touch possessed only by her mother, Mrs. Wm. H. Byrd, English born Teresa Holderness, under whom pioneer lovers of piano music like the Chamberlains, the Wellers, the Moores and the host of other pioneers and descendants of musical families received training in the earlier days. Her next teacher was the late Beatrice Shelton, whose classes imparted musical instruction to hundreds of the on-coming generations. One star of musical culture in the profession in New York came all the way to the west to complete Winifred's early training in her home city, Frances Pelton Jones, still a concert player on the instrument that preceded the piano, the harpsichord, an instrument on which the noted classicists, Bach, Handel and Scarlatti worked out their melodies which are now the musical treasures of the world.

The little girl who had rowded on the streets with Corinne Riley had made advancement by this time, clearly indicating that the piano would be her companion for a life career, playing her way down the choral avenue of life since a very tiny creature. This can be said of Winifred Byrd that with all the cultural advantages that could be crowded into her life in our country, Chicago, Boston and New York, and a conservatory career in Berlin, she has retained the quality of a natural musician with the bird-like touch gained in the open air from the songsters of all outdoors. One of the features of her bird-like will be a group of compositions especially for the younger musical students of Salem and vicinity that are already displaying talent on this instrument.

The Young Graduate The New England Conservatory at Boston occupied her for three years when at the age of sixteen she won the Spaulding Free Scholarship in Piano under Carl Baermann and went abroad. On her return to New York, Miss Byrd entered the concert stage of her career, becoming essentially and typically an American-born artist in her generation. Making her home in New York City, she acquired a personality as an essentially American artist. This is not alone because of the place of her birth in the west but because of her tremendous western energy and fiery youthful spirit of spontaneity. She expresses national characteristics, a pianist of power with a big quality of performance. From her studies abroad, Winifred Byrd was thrown back into our country to make her permanent home in New York, when the World War broke out. This alone prevented her having the recognition of a Continental debut as Madam Carband, Band Master Stoudemeier, in Berlin. Instead she made her first appearance in the American metropolis. Has crossed the continent a number of times in concert tours and is today probably by far the most distinguished pianist in the west.

Old-Time Memories Salem is easily the musical assembling place of western Oregon with a number of music schools, conservatories, and literally thousands of children and young people receiving instruction in vocal and instrumental music in this city. Piano instruction is given more opportunities than all other forms of music teaching. From pioneer days it has been the home city of the pianoforte and there have been generations of men and women who devoted their lives to training children and young people to play the piano. Many piano teachers have gone forth from the capital city and taken the music departments of scores of schools and colleges. Some of the more talented ones have conducted conservatory work in the northwest and some after triumphs in other cities have returned to live in Salem. A notable piano instructor of pioneer days was Mrs. E. M. Waite, later donor in her will of the electric fountain in the State House Square. Mrs. Waite, nee Breyman, could render a concert program. Another pioneer teacher was Professor Farwig of the older generation and well known and loved Father Dominick, still living at Mt. Angel, a teacher and classical master of the piano, and Professor Winkler, a grand pianist and head of Willamette School of Music, are well remembered by older residents. Professor Roberts and wife are long time workers and players in piano and pipe organ, having the distinction of having built a beautiful studio home in which is a magnificent three-manual Oregon built on the streets with Corinne Riley musical enthusiasts and make great sacrifices to build up this city as a music center. The Dunning System is used for beginners. Along with Beatrice Shelton must be mentioned Elma Weller, a great pianist who has adopted advanced methods of teaching the young. Ruth Bedford has spent several years with eminent instructors in Chicago to make herself a leader on the ivory keyboard. First in her teaching and inspiration of the children and young people in Salem is Mrs. Walter A. Denton, who has assisted in making possible the concert recital of Miss Byrd at this time. Prominent among the many others giving their efforts to the concert are Mrs. Hallie Parrish Hinges Salem's Nightingale, and Mrs. W. Carleton Smith. Miss Elizabeth Levy has distinguished herself many and many a time and Salem and the state of Oregon should be proud to number her among their talented musicians. She was the only Oregon girl to appear as violinist at the great World's Fair in Philadelphia in 1926. Here she played before the largest audience in attendance at the Exposition. During the Sunday afternoon of her concert, over 100,000 people entered. 10,000 were present at one time. She also broadcast from WFI at Philadelphia. Miss Levy has been a student in Brussels, Belgium and New York City. She has appeared as soloist in many parts of the country including New York City and Cornell University. In piano work, pioneers and instructors must not be overlooked, women of distinction in piano culture like Miss Eva Cox, now of Portland and devoted pianists, Mrs. Frank Wilbroke out. This alone prevented her having the recognition of a Continental debut as Madam Carband, Band Master Stoudemeier, in Berlin. Instead she made her first appearance in the American metropolis. Has crossed the continent a number of times in concert tours and is today probably by far the most distinguished pianist in the west.

of her own orchestra at the Opera House. The McElroy family, male and female, did orchestra work in Salem for years and are still ornaments of Oregon orchestras. And we must not forget Roy Geaner, who as a violinist could come nearer than any local male artist of the bow to holding a large audience spell-bound with his genius, and lives only in the memory. Chester Catlow, a Willamette university student, arose to violin fame so rapidly he was soon transferred to the permanent artist group in Chicago. Viola Verrier-Holman was a running mate in the early years with Mary Schultz. She has played in all Pacific coast cities and having toured in China also gained a reputation as a violin queen known in all the great hotel orchestras and as a soloist.

How many still remember Henry Dimond, one of the first violin teachers of ballroom dance music in Salem in the 'sixties? With what lover of music, and especially the devotees of the violin and piano instruments for centuries, favored of the gods and always preferred by real lovers of music, and when played by a real artist surpassing in giving pleasure to the soul that is musically entranced and is to be entertained by one of the most gifted children of genius, on Thursday evening, March 29, at Bligh's Theater. It was of Winifred Byrd that James Gibbons Huneker, super-critic of the New York Times, said: "She blazes with temperament. She has the energy of a demon. Her range of dynamics is excellent. She is musical. Of her much might be written. Paderewski might call her 'the little devil' of the keyboard."

Miss Mary Schultz



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