

U. S. Schools Building a Nation of Musicians



THE public schools are building for America a nation of musicians. This, in a sentence, is the explanation for the extraordinary interest in music at present displayed by all ages and classes of society offered by nearly a score of noted artists, educators and other leaders, included in a symposium compiled by the Conn Music Center, Elkhart, Ind. The Music Center was lead to secure the opinions on the value of music to the public school pupil that follow by the publication of government figures showing a large gain in the number of professional musicians, and further indicating that the sale of musical instruments throughout the country has more than doubled in the past twelve years.

According to the published figures, there are now in the United States as many musicians as there are clergymen or lawyers and five times as many as there are journalists. This, of course, does not take count of the thousands of semi-professional and amateur musicians who are doing part-time work teaching, singing in choirs, or earning extra dollars by working on the side with violin and saxophone. Figures from the same source also show that while the value of musical instruments turned out in 1914 was only \$119,000,000, in 1923 the figure had risen to \$242,000,000 and is steadily going up.

Of the millions of boys and girls who are entering high schools in America this fall, the Conn Music Center estimates that close to a million will have some sort of musical training before they enter college or commerce. These will form the bulk of the high school and university bands of tomorrow, later turning to lodge and community bands and orchestras, a few into symphonic orchestras and still others to grand opera. They will take the places now being filled largely by musicians brought in from abroad, and among them will be the great soloists to represent America in the world councils of music.

"Young Boy Can't Sing"

Three striking viewpoints stand out in the symposium below. Several of the contributors make the point that Americans are no longer content with merely hearing music, but that they are showing unmistakable signs of wanting to take an active part in creating music. Sportively speaking, it might be interpreted to mean that the rising generation is tiring of watching a baseball game when the opportunity is there to go out and play golf. Unquestionably, there is a growing inclination on the part of Americans to develop their "musical bump."

Frederick Neil Innes, one of the greatest bandmasters of all times and now head of a unique institution in Chicago which aims to train band men as well as band leaders, thinks that the present amazing popularity of instrumental music among young folk is a reaction to the distress experienced by their parents in being forced to take vocal work in the schoolroom in their youth. The boy in the adolescent stage, he says, will not sing because he has "no voice to sing with," but given a trombone, cornet or any other instrument, it is amazing with what energy he will apply himself to it. Mr. Innes is a strong believer that band and orchestra are vastly superior to the vocal class as a training medium and in this he is seconded by several of the contributors to the symposium.

Another new thought on music in the schools is advanced by C. D. Greenleaf, for ten consecutive years president of the National Association of Band Instrument Manufacturers. He thinks instrumental music should be included in the manual training course of the school curriculum. "Our schools have been developed so that now a child can learn to be a carpenter, mechanic, printer or a member of a number of other professions, all at public cost," says Mr. Greenleaf; "why not extend the same sort of opportunity to children who desire to take up music as a life-work?"

Youth Blowing Its Horn

Continuing, Mr. Greenleaf says: "Radio, the phonograph and the public school band are conspiring to make the United States the most musical nation in all the world. After hearing more music than any other generation has ever heard, America is expressing an ardent wish to blow its own horn in the actual sense of the phrase. The creative spirit is lifting its head and today training in the United States is developing more musicians and embryo musicians than ever before. "No matter how far short he may be from the accepted standards of his instrument, the player derives far more satisfaction and pleasure in the knowledge that he is creating music than he could possibly feel from the strains of the modern masters, artificially reproduced."

"It is a serious problem with many parents these days to find wholesome methods of recreation for their children. The band and orchestra furnish an ideal outlet for the energies of the 'gang' which might otherwise be expressed in ways not nearly so healthful. It is pretty generally agreed that while the child is growing up is the best time to imbue him with a knowledge and love for music. The child has the time to devote to it, and learns music readily. By not giving him a musical education in childhood, we are probably depriving him of the joys of music forever."

Other contributors and contributions to the music school symposium are:

John Philip Sousa, recognized as "king of band leaders"—"What I should like to see in this country, what I believe would do more than anything else for its musical development, is the extension of the band idea along the lines de-

veloped by organized baseball. This game was once a purely local thing; isolated teams dotted here and there in school or village or factory. We know what it has become. Why cannot the American band be made as vital and universal a part of our everyday life?"

The musical training of children is a most important part of any program for making America more and more musical, but I believe that, like other education, its place is in the school and not in the home. The reason why many children of past generations have found music drudgery is because it was made an extra task, an infringement upon their playtime instead of a part of their schooltime.

Frederick Neil Innes, director of the Conn National School of Music, Chicago—"America is destined to be the leading nation of the world in the realm of music. It does not yet rank with Germany, France, Hungary, Italy or England. But she is climbing. It is the music in the public schools which will give America her supremacy. Fully eighty per cent of the high schools have some musical organization, orchestra or band. No other country offers her young people such opportunity to know, to appreciate and to play good music."

I believe the band or orchestra is vastly superior to the vocal class. Why? Because the boy in the adolescent stage simply will not sing. He may be compelled to go through the motions, but he will not actually sing. He refuses for the simple reason that he has no voice to sing with. But give him a trombone or a cornet, or any other instrument of the band, and watch his progress. It is amazing how he will work and study. There is no question but the public schools are wise in devoting more time to instrumental instruction. When music occupies a position in the school on an equal footing with mathematics and history America will have capable musicians."

Dr. Herman N. Bundezen, Commissioner of Public Health, Chicago—"David's harp drove away Saul's ill humor. Music plays a vital part today in the mind and body of the nation. We have learned that tones can play a vital part in the treatment of the mentally ailing. Hospitals have learned that with music they can ease the suffering patients."

The effect of music on sick children is remarkable. Musical games and callisthenics performed to music not only stimulate, but are disciplining agents in the training of convalescent and growing children. Where there is life there is music, and where there is music there is life, love—and health."

Thomas A. Edison, the "electrical wizard"—"Campaigns should be inaugurated for the purpose of acquainting people with the advantages of musical training. Families should be induced to have all their children learn to play separate instruments and to form home orchestras. The effect of this on the musical life of our country would be immense. One of the reasons children should be taught music is that when they grow up they will have a taste for it and a means with which to occupy their leisure."

Edward W. Bok, editor, author and philanthropist—"To be brought up in a home in which there is no music is a terrible deprivation. If I had my life to live again I should certainly want to make music a part of my early training. My two sons fortunately have a love for music. One plays the piano and the other plays the trombone. It has seemed to me that American musical training in the past has been far too superficial. Music has done me a wonderful and invaluable service. I firmly believe it is only a matter of time when we shall become in this country a great music-creating people."



JOHN PHILIP SOUSA



DR. HERMAN N. BUNDEZEN

Joliet (Illinois) High School Band, Winner of the 1926 National Contest.



Joint Usage of Idaho Lines Granted.
Washington, D. C.—The interstate commerce commission granted permission to the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company and the Northern Pacific for joint possession and use of the line of railroad under construction by the Northern Pacific in Clearwater county, Idaho, between Orofino and Headquarters, and of the existing Northern Pacific line between Joseph and Stites.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Umatilla County, In the Matter of the Estate of Dora Lockwood, deceased.
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed executor of the above entitled estate, and that he has qualified as the law directs. All persons having claims against the estate are directed to present the same to me at my home in Athena, Oregon, or at the office of my attorney, Stephen A. Lowell in Despain Block, Pendleton, Oregon, within six months from the date hereof, with proper vouchers.
Dated December 24, 1926.
ZEPH W. LOCKWOOD, Executor.
D31J28.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed administrator of the estate of Louisa Adaline Wagner, deceased, in the County Court in the State of Oregon, for Umatilla County. All persons having claims against the said estate are hereby required to present such claims duly verified, and with proper vouchers attached, to the undersigned, at the office of Raley, Raley & Steiner, in the First National Bank Building, in Pendleton, Oregon, within six months from date of this notice, the same being dated and published the first time this 31st day of December, 1926.

ACY J. WAGNER
Administrator of the estate of Louisa Adaline Wagner, deceased.
Raley, Raley & Steiner, & H. J. Warner, Attorneys for Administrator.
D31J28.

NOTICE OF FINAL ACCOUNT
In the County Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Umatilla. In the Matter of the Estate of John Wright, Deceased.
Notice is hereby given to all persons whom it may concern: That the undersigned has filed his final account and report in the above entitled matter and that the above entitled Court has fixed Saturday the 29th day of January 1927, at the hour of 10 o'clock in the forenoon as the time and the County Court room at the County Court House at Pendleton, Oregon, as the place for hearing said final account and report. Objections to said final account and report should be filed on or before that date.
Dated at Athena, Umatilla County, Oregon, this 24th day of December 1926.
B. B. RICHARDS
Administrator of the Estate of John Wright, Deceased. D31J28.

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION IN FORECLOSURE OF TAX LIEN
In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Umatilla.
E. C. Prestbye, Plaintiff,
vs.
Viola Butler Shafer, Defendant.

To Viola Butler Shafer the above named defendant: In the Name of the State of Oregon:
You are hereby notified that E. C. Prestbye is the holder of Certificate of Delinquency numbered 1984 issued on the 10th day of November, 1925, by the Sheriff and Tax Collector of the County of Umatilla, State of Oregon, for the amount of Thirteen and 88-100 (\$13.88) Dollars, the same being the amount then due and delinquent for taxes for the year 1922, together with penalty, interest and costs thereon upon the real property assessed to you, of which you are the owner as appears of record, situated in said County and State, and particularly bounded and described as follows, to-wit:
Lots 1 and 2 in Block 5 of Kirk's Second Addition to the City of Athena, Umatilla County, Oregon.
You are further notified that said E. C. Prestbye has paid City Liens and has paid taxes on said premises for prior or subsequent years with the rate of interest on said amounts as follows:

Year's Tax	Date Paid	Tax Rec't Number	Am't	Rate Int'at
1922	Nov 10, 1925	1120	12.74	12
1924	Nov 10, 1925	1121	14.18	12
CITY OF Athena Street Imp'vt Lien				
	Jan 4, 1926		293.05	12
	Apr 29, 1926		6.88	12
	Nov 2, 1926		85.19	6.97

Said Viola Butler Shafer, as the owner of the legal title of the above described property as the same appears of record, and each of the other persons above named are hereby further notified that E. C. Prestbye will apply to the Circuit Court of the County and State aforesaid for a decree foreclosing the lien against the property above described and mentioned in said certificate. And you are hereby summoned to appear within sixty days after the first publication of the summons exclusive of the day of said first publication, and defend this action for pay the amount due as above shown together with costs and accrued interest and in case of your failure to do so, a decree will be rendered foreclosing the lien of said taxes and costs against the land and premises above named. This summons is published by order of the Honorable Gilbert W. Phelps, Judge of the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Umatilla, and said order was made and dated the 6th day of December, 1926, and the date of the first publication of this summons is the 24th day of December, 1926.

All process and papers in this proceeding may be served upon the undersigned residing within the State of Oregon, at the address hereafter mentioned.
Address, Athena, Oregon.
WATTS & PRESTBYE
Attorneys for the Plaintiff.
D24F11.

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