

Music Within the Reach of All

Noted Instructor Explains How It Is Possible to Learn Art by Correspondence Course.

The editor received this letter the other day: "I hope to keep my girls at home with me on the farm. They both want to learn music and tell me they must leave for the city to do so. Please advise me what to do.—Mrs. E."

You put a hard problem before us, Mrs. E. But we felt there must be some way out for such girls as yours, and many like yours. To Mrs. McCurdy, head of a famous school of instruction in music, we said: "Can music be learned by mail?" This is her reply:

BY FLORA McCURDY,

Director American School of Music.

A FEW years ago any one advocating self-improvement by means of correspondence instruction was ridiculed, but in keeping with the general trend of progress, ideas in this regard have completely changed. Now every one recognizes the value of a correspondence course as a practical and efficient means of securing the knowledge sought.

Music, however, to many has seemed the one subject that could not be successfully taught in this manner, but those who have investigated this means of acquiring musical training are loud in its praise, many of the features of the correspondence system being far superior to the methods used by the ordinary personal teacher.

Then, too, it is a well-known fact, in giving a personal lesson, the teacher is explaining while the child is more or less confused in trying to find the right note to strike and listen at the same time, and it is safe to say that half of each lesson must be taken over at additional expense and loss of time to the student.

Lesson Always Before Student.

By the correspondence method the lesson, thoroughly explained and illustrated, is always before the student. No part of it ever need be lost through forgetfulness. The courses have been compiled by teachers of the highest

grade of proficiency and the subjects are all presented in their proper order and in a thorough yet comprehensive manner. Music is now considered as important a part of a child's education as the literary schooling and the correspondence method, having become practical as well as economical, has placed it within the reach of everyone.

It gives all the opportunity of learning to play well in the quiet of the home.

It does away with the embarrassment and nervousness often caused by the presence of a personal teacher and enables many a music-lover, who has failed to have these advantages in youth, to learn to play for his own amusement. For, who is there that has not at some time in his life longed to possess this accomplishment?

Music has a refining influence on the family and there is no more pleasant manner in which to spend a winter's evening, than to gather round the fire-side and listen to the mother or little son or daughter play your favorite selections.

Wonderful Results Obtained.

Time being one of the most important principles in music is taught successfully by the aid of a time-beater, which counts the time out loud for the student while he practices. This device will count slow or fast as the student desires. The rate of speed at which the studies should be played is designated in the lesson and the counting marked so there is no chance for confusion or mistakes.

Many of the correspondence schools furnish all materials necessary, free of charge. Also the whole family can learn to play from one set of lessons. Music taught by correspondence is no longer in the experimental stage and the wonderful results secured attest its success. Schools teaching music in this way are now ranked among the foremost educational institutions of today, and people living in rural or isolated portions of the country are now able to become accomplished in any line desired at home at a very reasonable cost.

Stories at Which You Will Smile

AT THE BATTLE of Cedar Creek," said the veteran captain of a company in one of Virginia's bravest regiments, "my company, which generally wasn't afraid of the archfiend himself, grew demoralized and panic-stricken. Despite all my efforts, they broke and started pell-mell for the rear.

"As one fellow, whom I knew was as fearless as a lion, dashed by me, I drew my revolver, and cried:

"Halt, and return to your place! If you don't, I will shoot!"

"Shoot and be hanged!" he replied, never slackening his pace. "What's one bullet to a basketful!"

THE DOCTOR was treating the old lady for typhoid fever, and on each visit he took her temperature by putting a thermometer under her tongue.

One day, when she was nearly well, the doctor did not bother to take her temperature. He had hardly got one hundred yards from the house when her son called him back.

"Mother is worse," said the man. "Come back at once."

The doctor returned. As he came into the sick-room the old lady looked up at him with angry and reproachful eyes.

"Doctor," she said, "why didn't you give me the jigger under me tongue today? That always did me more good than all the rest of your trash."

AUGUSTUS THOMAS in his recollections of Frederic Remington tells of going with the artist to the office of an osteopathic physician who was treating him. The osteopath was a slight man and not tall. Remington,

lying face downward on the operating table, presented a skyline so much higher than that of the average patient that the doctor, standing on the floor, lacked the angle of pressure necessary to his treatment. The doctor got astride of Remington, applying his full weight to the manipulation which he was giving to the spinal column. "I hope I'm not hurting you, Mr. Remington?" said the doctor. Remington answered, "It's all right, doctor, so long as you don't use your spurs."

THE TALK was about a member of Congress who has taken an active part in furthering the currency legislation.

"Has he any special knowledge of the currency?" asked the Western man.

The Boston man looked at him with the indignation with which perhaps his ancestor of the same name received the information that the British Parliament had passed the Stamp Act.

"Has he any special knowledge of it?" he repeated with a rising inflection that made the questioner wish he were back in Kansas City minding his own business. "Why, sir, he is a Boston man!"

DURING the general elections in Canada, Rev. J. J. McGaskill vigorously upheld the reciprocity pact in the province of New Brunswick. At a meeting in Queen's County he was discussing the effect of the agreement on the price of various commodities.

"What about hay?" shouted an opponent.

"I'm discussing human food now," retorted the speaker, "but I'll come to your specialty in a moment."

Juniper from the Indian reservations of New Mexico and Arizona may prove an excellent source of material for lead pencils. Manufacturers are searching the world for pencil woods.

Better Baby Plan Explained

BY LE MOYNE LIVINGSTONE.

THE "Better Baby" movement is no "fad," but a gradual awakening, individually, among a few thinkers of the waste of time and energy on a feministic beauty show for babies, to a scientific, educational propaganda for the betterment of humanity.

When we are lacking in facts regarding life, there is sure to be ignorance. So with a timid, imitative mother and father with no knowledge relating to their offspring many a child comes into the world unwelcomed, often miserably deformed, and diseased.

As the mother is pre-eminently the director of the child, it rests with her as to its development physically. Nourishment is the most important part of a child's life, lack of which retards the child's growth, and in after years a deficiency mentally can be traced to poor nourishment being the cause.

By standardizing our "Beauty Shows," we have made the educational centers for the enlightenment and encouragement of mothers and fathers.

With the magnificent help of the Woman's Home Companion giving us a score card containing tables of weights and measures, also the proper mental and physical development, a mother can gain a vast amount of scientific data as to whether her child is normal, and if defective the probabilities of correction.

Paulhamus Hustles for Berry Business.

The Puyallup & Summer Fruit Growers' Association has orders booked for 104½ carloads of canned goods. A telegram from W. H. Paulhamus, president of the association, who is at present in the Middle West seeking new markets, stated that he had orders for between 80 and 100 carloads of berries, what in cannery parlance is known as the Meinrath district. The district embraces Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, Minnesota, Texas, Missouri and Oklahoma, in all of which states the Puyallup and Summer goods are distributed through the Meinrath commission house. These 80 or 100 carloads for which Paulhamus has orders, are not included in the 104½ carloads that already are on the books of the association. Paulhamus' telegram also states that if he could remain away another 30 days he could bring orders up to 130 carloads.

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