

CONDUCTOR ITURBI DENIES HE CALLED U. S. MUSIC TRASH

Leader of Philadelphia Orchestra Says Light Songs Were Inserted in Program Without His Consent.

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—(AP)—Jose Iturbi, fiery Spanish pianist-conductor, got into that rumpus Monday night in Philadelphia because, he said, he refused to permit certain songs to go on the air for the reason that "we have more dignified composers for such a place."

"What actually happened," said Iturbi today in his New York apartment, "was this:

"Four days before the concert I gave the program as I arranged it to Gordon Kahn, in charge of programs. I had been put in charge of programs, of course, as conductor of the Philadelphia orchestra at Robin Hood Dell.

Manager Stays Away

"Between the time I gave the program to Mr. Kahn and the day of the concert I tried many times to reach Alfred Reginald Allen, manager of the orchestra, to get his confirmation. He was playing golf or something; I never saw him until the morning of the concert.

"Then he came to rehearsal. At no time did he object to the program as I had suggested it. And I knew nothing of any change until I arrived to conduct.

"Then, with a few seconds to go, I found that my program had been changed, and two long groups of light songs inserted. That would have meant that the Philadelphia orchestra, 110 of the best musicians alive, would sit 35 minutes on the stage while these songs, which can be heard anywhere, were sung with piano accompaniment.

"The management a week before the concert had suggested these two groups of songs, and I had said no. The only reason I ever gave for this refusal was that the program was for the benefit of the Musicians' Protective association, and in celebration of Constitution day.

Undignified

"I said that I thought it would be undignified for the orchestra to sit idle while this was going on; I also said that I thought we had composers of more representative American music for such an occasion.

"I never called these songs 'trash.' Nor did I call the songs 'cheap, rotten music.'

He refused to comment on the statement from E. C. Mills, chairman of the administrative committee of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, that American composers would be within their rights if they withheld their compositions from him.

"It has been one of the leading propagandists for American music since I came to this country," he added.

Officer Johnson Enters Business

J. C. ("Spud") Johnson, for the past three years a private in the Oregon state police with headquarters in Medford, yesterday announced his resignation from the organization to enter business. Purchase of the Amity confectionery store in Amity, Ore., was made by the popular state policeman who, with his wife and children, will leave Medford immediately to take possession.

The store was bought from M. T. Rosenbalm, Johnson said. He and his wife will operate the business, which is located on the west side of the Pacific highway in Amity's business district.

Capt. Lee Bown of the state police expressed regret at Johnson's resignation, but stated that he was glad to see any of his men better them-

...selves when, and if, the opportunity occurred.

Dog Swims 12 Hours
 LAUSANNE (UP)—Bodo, a police dog, was so frightened by fireworks at the Venetian fair here that he plunged into the lake, swimming frantically. The next morning 12

hours later, Bodo landed on the French shore nine miles away, an exploit unique in the history of Lake Geneva. The tired dog rode home to Lausanne in a motorboat.

Buy Fake Top Hats
 LONDON (UP)—At least 24 Americans who came to London for the

coronation bought top hats they believe were once worn by the Duke of Windsor. A dating swindler, it has been revealed, bought two dozen second-hand "toppers," cleaned, pressed, and stitched new leather bands with the royal crest on them. Then he sold them as "one of the Duke of Windsor's top hats."

Collie Escorts Postman
 MINNEAPOLIS (UP)—Serving under his own appointment and acting without compensation, Laddie, a young collie dog, takes personal charge of mail deliveries in the district in which his owner lives. For years the dog has met the district postman twice daily at the point

where the mail carrier gets off the street car and escorts him around the entire route.

Plumbers' Minds Plumbed
 SALT LAKE CITY (UP)—Utah plumbers had to remember to bring all of their tools to a state examination before they could practice

their trade in the state. Each plumber has to pass tests in lead work, plans and charts, and a written examination of 20 questions covering sanitation, ventilation, and public health before he can receive a state license.

Use Mail Tribune want ads.

"Conscience Debt" Paid
 FREMONT, Ohio (UP)—Howard Faber lost a pocketbook containing \$30 ten years ago. It was found by a Zanesville man who recently paid back the "conscience debt" through the mayor of nearby Liffin. The money was given to Faber's father, Faber having died since the loss.

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