

Frederic Chopin's Piano To Be Sent on U.S. Tour

By **FREDERICK M. WINSHIP**
 United Press International
 New York—(UPI)—Composer Frederic Chopin was born 150 years ago today near Warsaw, Poland. His music lives on, and so does his favorite piano—a mellow toned baby grand which will soon be sent on tour of the United States.

The piano, made by the famous Paris firm of Pleyel in 1839, was shipped here from France last Thursday accompanied by a lovely young representative of the Pleyel firm, Chantal Toulouse. She is not only a baby sitter for the baby grand, but an expert on Chopin history.

"He loved this piano," said Mlle. Toulouse. "It went with him wherever he lived for the last ten years of his life. He composed some of his greatest music at its keyboard, including the preludes, the 'Nocturne in G minor,' many mazurkas, and the famed 'Funeral March.'"

The piano was loaned to Chopin by Camille Pleyel, the manufacturer, and taken back by the firm when the composer died of consumption in 1849 at the age of 39. Pleyel and his father, Ignace Pleyel, were Chopin's friends, musical advisers, publication agents, concert managers and money lenders.

Instrument Graceful
 The graceful mahogany instrument has been displayed at a number of Chopin commemorative exhibitions over the years, and will be sent to several major U.S. cities including Boston, Washington and Dallas. Accompanying it will be original Chopin scores painstakingly written in brown ink, documents and concert programs owned by the Pleyel firm.

"The piano has been kept in remarkably good condition and is quite playable, but it couldn't stand up under hard usage or concert work."

Mlle. Toulouse said. "The surprising thing is how up-to-date it looks, except for rather antique looking legs."

Mlle. Toulouse said she was amazed when the U.S. customs officials refused to allow her to bring the piano into the country duty free as an antique. According to customs regulations, an object must be manufactured prior to 1830 to qualify as an antique.

Chopin probably "sweat blood" over this keyboard while preparing for concerts, Mlle. Toulouse said. She recalled how difficult it was for the shy, nervous composer to go through with a concert, although his playing abilities were prodigious.

He gave only 19 concerts in Paris in his 18 years of residence there and was the only soloist at four of these. He usually played at the piano firm's elegant concert hall, the Salle Pleyel, which had the atmosphere of a large private salon.

Chopin once wrote that he suffered "martyrdom" for three days before each concert and nearly died when the time came to face his audience.

"I feel suffocated by the atmosphere, paralyzed by these inquisitive looks, mute, in front of all these foreign faces," he said.

Mlle. Toulouse has a pale pink ticket to Chopin's last Paris concert, Feb. 16, 1848. Twenty months later the keyboard genius of this immortal son of Poland and France was still forever.

Birthday Party Held in Gold Hill

Gold Hill—James McCoy was honored at a surprise party in observance of his 16th birthday anniversary. It was held February 17 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Taylor. Guests were Gene Governor, Clair Huntley, Harley Blanchard, Kenneth Houghton, Miss Linda Ramsey, Miss Georgia Ramsey, Miss Joyce Frances, Miss Marilyn McCoy, Miss Reba and Irita Taylor.

Merced—Some of the big redwood trees in California parks and forests are well over the 1,000 year old mark.



New York—This is a maternity fashion produced by the Frankfurt sisters of Dallas, Tex., who organized a firm known as Page Boy Maternity Fashions which now does about three million dollars worth of business each year. The design shown is a scarf-printed silk surrah tunic boldly patterned in black and grey on white and bordered with gold and amber. Buttons at each side of the slightly raised waist allow individual adjustment. Underneath is a slim, black cut-out silk linen skirt. (UPI Telephoto)

Returns

Gold Hill—Mrs. Lily McKay has returned to her home here from Sacramento, Calif., where she was a guest of her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Richard McKay and family for several weeks.

Spaghetti Shortcut

New York—(UPI)—Three new shortcuts to a spaghetti dinner are on the market. Two are canned tomato sauces—one with mushrooms and the other with meat (beef and bacon). The third is spaghetti and hot dogs in tomato sauce.

Square Dance Clubs Plan Workshop, Several Parties

A workshop and a number of dances are on the schedule this week for valley square dancers.

Y Knot Twirlers will hold a workshop Thursday, February 25 at 8 p.m. at the YMCA. The figure "Shuffle the Deck" will be taught. The club will provide coffee, and dancers are asked to take cookies. Douglas Fosbury is caller; interested dancers are welcome to attend.

The Teeners Square-N-Round Dance group will meet Thursday, February 25, at the home of R. L. Glather, 61 Vashti way. Interested teenagers may call Karlene Neill, SPring 2-7611, evenings, for information. D. J. Neill is instructing the group.

On Friday, February 26, an open hoedown is planned at the Derby school, nine miles up the Butte Falls road. Douglas Decker and Jake Toews will be callers.

Four dances are set for

Saturday, February 27. The Applegaters will dance at the Provolt Grange hall Saturday night, with Byron (Buzz) Dibble as caller.

A Leap Year dance is planned by the Star Promenaders at Roxy Ann Grange hall beginning at 8:30 p.m. "Ladies choice dances" are planned and potluck refreshments will be served. All square dancers are welcome to attend. Kenneth Hood will be caller.

The Keeno Squares will dance at the Pythian hall in Grants Pass Saturday night, with Peter Dunster as caller.

Also planned for Saturday is a dance at Take It Easy lodge, Grants Pass, for the Jeans and James club. Charles James is caller.

Mothersingers Present Program

Central Point—District 6C Mothersingers gave the first presentation since organization at the Central Point Parent-Teacher association meeting, February 18. The women sang "So In Love," "You Will Never Walk Alone," and "Be Kind To Your Parents."

Mrs. Harvey Field, director of the chorus, stresses singing for the fun of singing and invites all women in the area who are interested to join the group which meets each Tuesday morning.

Members are Mrs. D. C. Mapel, Mrs. R. M. Korner, Mrs. Pat Schooley, Mrs. John Samples, Mrs. E. M. Bishop, Mrs. Delores Armstrong, Mrs. R. G. Ekdahl, Mrs. Lewis Cox, Mrs. John Campbell, Mrs. Ray Smith, Mrs. T. J. Harger, Mrs. Marvin Wright, Mrs. Claude Lewis, Mrs. Clifford Ayres, Mrs. Robert Jantzer, Mrs. Lawrence Loeffler, Mrs. T. G. Johnson, Mrs. Frank Bruce, Mrs. Max Flowers, Mrs. John Snook, Mrs. Marvin Wick, and Mrs. Field.

The Taylors were married February 16, 1898 in Urbana, Ill. They came to Medford in 1927. Taylor spent many years farming in the Rogue Valley and started the Taylor Produce company in Medford.

The Taylors, both 85 years old, have two children, a son, Howard Taylor, live in Medford and a daughter, Mrs. O. K. Roughton, in Urbana. There are 15 grandchildren, 24 great grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Attending the party were their son and daughter-in-law, Howard Taylor, lives in Medford and Mrs. Leonard McMahon and three sons, Douglas, Steven and Jeffrey, Gold Hill. Mrs. McMahon is a granddaughter of the honored couple.

'Cucumbers'
 New York—(UPI)—Although generally considered a vegetable, cucumbers actually are a fruit of the melon family. They have been a favorite ingredient in salads since the time of the Roman Emperor Tiberius, who ate a cucumber every day. Three hundred years ago, English writers referred to them as "Cucumbers."

Speaker Announced

Ashland—A woman who has been called one of the nation's best story-tellers will speak for the next meeting of Siskiyou Knife and Fork club. She is Ethel Barrett who through her radio career has been heard in almost every city in the United States and who is also known in several South American countries.

Mrs. Barrett formerly was women's program director for Station WPTL in Albany, N.Y. She carried on a variety program, has done a Bible story program, several secular and Christian programs for a station in Providence, R.I., and appeared in "Songtime" and "Youth on the March" over the ABC television network.

The meeting is set for Monday, March 7, in the Ashland Elks' club at 7:30 p.m. Reservations are to be made with Mrs. Ella Hendrixson, 360 Morton street, Ashland, no later than March 4.

Shady Cove PTA Marks Founding

Shady Cove—Trail—Shady Cove Parent-Teacher association observed Founders' day at the last meeting, held in the Shady Cove school cafeteria. Members of the Elk-Trail Parent-Teacher association were guests for the event.

A founders quiz was used during the program, and a silver offering taken.

Mrs. Kenneth Oliver and Mrs. Kenneth Paulson baked cakes for the event. Mrs. Oliver's decorated cake will be displayed at the coming state convention to be held in Medford in April.

The group voted \$50 for additional library books. Girl Scouts led the flag salute.

Dress Up Child's Room

New York—(UPI)—When redecorating the home, give the children a place of their own, says Evelyn Jablow, an interior designer. A child's room should suit his tastes and hobbies and make him feel important. Put special things—a good piece of furniture, a fine painting—in his room so that he will learn to take pride in himself and his possessions and to take care of them, Mrs. Jablow added.

Good News For Dieters

Chicago—(UPI)—Heartening news for dieters: Snack nibblers may be healthier than persons who eat three regular meals a day.

So says Dr. Clarence Cohn, biochemist of the Michael Reese Research Institute. In laboratory experiments, Dr. Cohn and his co-workers found that hardening of the arteries was seven times greater in meal-eating animals than in those allowed to nibble at will.

Some scientists believe that hardening of the arteries may be caused by the deposit of a fatty substance, cholesterol, on the walls of arteries. Dr. Cohn found that fatty food, when taken in frequent small feedings, is less fattening and less likely to cause fatty deposits than the same amount taken in large bursts of calories.

There's one catch, though. The theory holds true as long as we don't "exceed a reasonable daily caloric intake," the biochemist said.

Calendar

Wednesday:
 6:30 p.m.—Ladies Auxiliary, Patriarch Militant, IOOF.
 7 p.m.—Medford Order of De Molay, Medford Masonic temple.
 7:30 p.m.—Southern Oregon Dental Assistants society, Red Cross building.
 7:45 p.m.—Toastmistress club, Girls Community club.
Thursday:
 11 a.m.—Crater Lake auxiliary, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Sewing club, home of Mrs. Amy Randle, 1116 Nianctic ave.
 12:30 p.m.—Medford Sojourners club, Girls Community club.
 1:30 p.m.—Oak Grove PTA, at school.

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American Rose Society Offers Buying Guide

Columbus, Ohio—The American Rose society has issued a 1960 Guide for Buying roses which is available to anyone interested in buying bushes. The guide lists 455 varieties of roses, each evaluated by numbers beginning with 10 for a perfect rose and descending to 5, which means of questionable value.

Listed are 253 teas, 92 floribundas, 11 grandifloras, 58 climbers and 13 miniature

roses rated by home gardeners for home gardens. To further guide in selection the average height, color class and fragrance rating are included.

The guide may be obtained by writing the American Rose society, Columbus 14, Ohio. It is free.

Washington—Abraham Lincoln, 6 feet 4 inches, was the tallest U.S. President.

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