

A NEW NOTE IN PIANO-TUNING

The Professionally-Trained Tuner and His Work—Deterioration of Standards in the Calling has Made Technical Education a Necessity—Where the Factory System of Training Falls Down.

BOSTON, Jan. 21, 1905.—Piano tuning bids fair to be changed within the next generation from a trade to a profession. Heretofore the tendency has been in the opposite direction. Everybody knows that the tuners of the old-fashioned type, though they do not go much on scientific principles in their work, are, nevertheless, for the most part, pretty efficient men. They are apt to have the handsomeness and intelligence characteristic of the old-time artisans.

But their breed is one that for some time has been getting scarcer. In their places have come the tuners trained in the great piano factories, men who seemingly should be very skillful, but who too often are very one-sided and undeveloped; remarkably skilful in what they do, but lacking in the craft and absolutely ignorant in the others.

The deterioration in the standards of piano tuning has been, of course, for some time a matter of considerable concern to professional musicians and teachers of the piano. Incompetent tuning makes no end of mischief among the million or more instruments in the United States, bearing the good old name of piano-forte. The majority of these certainly are in regular use from day to day. All need tuning; most get it, of a more or less professional sort, from time to time and would be better off for more of it, and better.

It is, of course, not at all strange that the factory system has tended to eliminate the skilled tuner of the old days. In the great piano shops, as in so many other industrial plants, labor has been subdivided down to the minutest point. It rarely happens that a man is able to become thoroughly familiar with every detail of the manufacture of the piano. Go into any of the factories of this city or New York or Chicago and you will find amidst the confusion and din a large number of young men engaged in "snapping up" piano cases; that is to say, in making pairs and trios of stinging wire in uniform by means of little testing sticks. There is a certain knack about this work and it requires a sensitive ear. Otherwise it is an elementary job in which almost anyone who has ordinary powers of concentration may become proficient inside of two weeks. Advance in knowledge of the instrument requires quick promotion to the more complex problems of the profession. Yet, in the factory, the young men who are supposed to be learning the business are kept "snapping" at wages of three or four dollars a week for three or four years. Of course, it is desirable that they shall be thorough; actually, however, the reason for holding them so long at the elementary task is one of economy. The "snapping up" is of fundamental importance to the manufacturers and in these days of close competition they must get it done as cheaply as possible.

So it goes through every part of the shop. To master the necessary details would be a matter of months if the work were entirely educational. In point of fact, however, it is also commercial, it takes from five to ten years, and very few there are who ever become familiar with all the departments; who are able, for example, to "set a temperament," as the technical phrase is, distributing the "wolf," or residual overtone skillfully through the whole scale. Many get to a certain department and stick to it, for example, showing himself adept in leveling and spacing keys. Quickness is prerequisite in this work, and consequently this man is induced to continue his job as a key spacer, though he may know nothing of the other parts of the action. Indeed, in many respects, it is of advantage to the shop if he does know nothing else. But when he goes out to earn his living as a piano tuner, the one-sidedness of his training stands constantly in his way.

Yet it is out of the piano factories that the better class of the younger piano tuners are now recruited. Below them there is the large element known in the trade as "tramps," men who have somehow picked up a more or less adequate knowledge of "tuning," which is in reality only one branch of the three main divisions of the professional tuner's work, the others being the "snapping" and the action work. These tramps are often men who have considerable natural skill, but they work without a foundation of technical knowledge, and they are only too liable to commit all sorts of blunders when it is a matter of making any radical repairs in a valuable instrument.

As a relief to present conditions, however, there is beginning to appear a new class of professional tuners, those who have been trained in the music school under expert instruction. The New England Conservatory of Music in this city led the way some time ago by the establishment of the earliest piano tuning school in the world, one provided with ample accommodations for a full and systematic course of instruction, embracing two objects; first, thoroughly to qualify young people who want to make tuning a profession; second, to meet the needs of all students of music.

The work of instructing young people in this art is based upon scientific study of the piano in all its parts, in the new Conservatory building on Huntington Avenue in this city are rather more than a dozen rooms containing skeleton keyboards and instruments of various makes; grand, square and upright piano-fortes, reed organs, models of every kind of action in acoustic apparatus, tools, etc., and a large two-manual pipe organ, built expressly for the department. This organ contains pipes which represent every method of tuning—namely, reeds, mixtures, and every variety of stopping and open-due pipe. Band is complete in every detail.

At the outset there were abundant tuners. This practical calling, it was argued, could never be taught in a school; only the rigorous discipline

and experience of the factory would produce really competent men. But the piano school, under the direction of Mr. Oliver C. Faust, proceeded straightaway to justify itself. Fortunately one of the best working laboratories in the world was at hand. Arrangements were made with the Chickering piano factory whereby students of the school may spend half their working time in the factory. The course of instruction as laid out is thorough, comprehensive, covering one year for piano-tuners and two years for those who wish to include also a knowledge of organ tuning and its success has surprised even the most enthusiastic musicians, who have almost been clamorous for better craftsmanship among the tuners.

Naturally enough a great many young pupils are turning to this as a comparatively new and untried profession. In most American cities it offers a means of livelihood, for a high degree of technical skill is quickly recognized by the owners of good pianos. Women in particular are finding that the calling is one which they can follow. A girl, to be an expert piano tuner, needs only to start with a reasonably good physique—since the physical labor is apt to be pretty severe—and with fair auditory powers. It is a mistake to suppose, as many do, that an exceptionally fine ear is necessary. Almost any intelligent person can learn to tune a piano. It is said that there is no other musical vocation which yields so quick a return for money expended in education as the piano tuner's. The ordinary price for tuning an instrument in one of our cities is two or three dollars, and once a tuner gets busy he can easily attend to three or four pianos a day.

All musicians are agreed that in theory every student of the piano should learn to manipulate its parts, just as the organ students have to learn to take care of the organ. In other words, the piano player should be a piano tuner. So much, however, is required of the ordinary musician today in these days that the work of piano tuning will doubtless always remain in the hands of professionals.

In the instruction as pursued at the Conservatory the actual practices of the piano shop to an extent are observed, but the student is not kept upon any one task longer than is necessary to be perfect in it. Every one is expected to spend a portion of his day at the factory. The work is divided into three parts—the snapping, the tuning, and the action work, the third involving the most difficult and complicated problems; though, of course, the first is absolutely fundamental, one of the difficulties with the untrained tuner being that, however expert he may be in the actual art of tuning, he seldom has had the experience which would enable him to arrange the strings of the keyboard harmonically.

Many of the students of this subject who come to Boston have had a general musical education and are led to go into piano tuning because they feel there is something more about it. Others start with very little technical equipment and are apt to be at a disadvantage at first, though they may catch up. Some have been professional tuners before they enter the school and merely come to perfect themselves in methods and to get that expertness which comes from daily contact with others of the same vocation in a musical center like Boston.

Legal Blanks at Statesman Job Office.

ENGAGE IN A WORDY WAR

SMITH AND LINTHICUM OCCUPY FLOOR OF THE HOUSE.

THE FORMER FIRES BROADSIDE

Members of Judiciary Committee Air Their Differences—Submit Two Reports.

Bill Introduced by Member from Josephine Providing for Filing With the Secretary of State Proposed Legislation Is Cause of Wrangle.

(From Saturday's Daily.)

Friday represented a very commonplace and unproductive day at the State House. Few bills of importance or general interest were introduced or passed. The majority of the members of the two bodies seemed to be lost in contemplating their trip to Portland after adjournment and were not inclined to turn their minds toward the consideration and enactment of legislation. The Senate took the initiative yesterday morning in the amendment of the game laws when it passed a bill introduced by Senator Pierce to prohibit the killing of prairie chickens in all counties east of the Cascade mountains except Wasco. By special request Wasco county was not included in this bill, which re-opens the season for the shooting of the birds in 1910. Several persons who are acquainted with the conditions in the eastern part of Oregon say that the step taken by the Wasco people means the practical extermination of the prairie chickens in that section. Sportsmen from adjoining counties will flock there as long as the birds last.

A Brisk Debate.

The House had a brisk debate yesterday morning in which Smith (Josephine) delivered one of his characteristic speeches in behalf of one of his bills which was trembling on the brink of uncertainty. Although Smith has the majority of his bills shelved, they are not transferred into obscurity without an individual struggle from the author. Mr. Smith is the leader of a very small minority, and his Democratic colleagues always show their appreciation of his efforts by voting for his measures, but rarely taking the floor to express their views, leaving it entirely to the man who has taken the brunt of the battle upon himself.

Smith is a member of the judiciary committee. His fellow members are Linthicum, Vawter, Jayne and Muir. When H. B. 38 was presented for their respectful consideration, four of the members, after a thorough and well-directed investigation, reported unfavorably on the measure. Smith refused to abide by their decision and submitted a minority report approving of the bill. In course of procedure the two reports by the majority and minority of the judiciary committee found themselves before the House for final adjournment. This paved the way for a lively debate.

Linthicum took the first step and announced that he wanted the entanglement settled without delay. He stated the bill was absurd, as it would allow the printing of bills at any time, before or after the meeting of the Legislature. He said the sentiment was in favor of preventing the great influx of bills instead of aiding the introduction of a greater number. He said that if the members could have the bills printed at all times, their constituents would bound them day by day, urging them to prepare bills in their behalf, the result being that the incoming Legislature would be swamped beyond extrication. Vawter also made a short talk upon the impracticability of the Smith measure.

Are Not Disappointed.

Those present anticipated something sensational from the very little representative from Josephine and they certainly got it. He walked up one side of Linthicum and down the other, dancing a Scottish fling all the time he was in operation. He said that Linthicum was there to serve the people, but that all he had done was to secure the passage of bills which expedited the interests of corporations.

He said his bill would bring legislation into closer touch with the people generally, and to some extent aid in preventing measures of great magnitude slipping through. The more Smith talked the madder he got, and he used but little discrimination in his tirade against the lawyer from Multnomah. He also devoted a small portion of his oratory for the special benefit of Vawter. His searching arraignment, however, proved very ineffective as his measure was lost. Smith is a splendid speaker and one that attracts much of the crowd. Frequently when speaking he is interrupted by bursts of applause from Republicans as well as from Democrats. He is very popular as a man, but his remedies seem to be too radical for the easy-going Republicans who control both houses.

Smith Takes a Rest.

In the afternoon Smith was not the predominant feature of the session, as there was a short but nevertheless interesting debate in which the Democrats had no part. H. B. 97, Capron, to enact a law to charge one dollar a day for livestock confined in the Multnomah county pound, came up for passage in the afternoon. One after another of the Representatives declared their disapproval of the measure, Edwards, of Lane, making a particularly vituperative denunciation in condemning the bill. "What's the matter with Smith?" was whispered around. Smith, however, remained silent. The bill failed to pass by an overwhelming majority.

HOUSE.

Morning Session.

Rev. Solleck, of the First Methodist church, opened the morning session. H. B. 106, Mayger, a bill for an act to amend section 4166, 4175, 4172, relating to the Southern Oregon Agricultural Society. To revision of laws. H. B. 108, Shook, a bill for an act to amend sections 4166, 4175, 4172, relating to the Southern Oregon Agricultural Society. To revision of laws. H. B. 174, Vawter, a bill for an act to provide expenses of the 23d regular session and to provide deficiencies. To ways and means. H. B. 207, Griffin, a bill for an act

to reincorporate the city of Eugene. To cities and towns.

S. B. 113, Hodson (by request). To define more clearly the rights of riparian owners on the Columbia river. To judiciary.

S. B. 114, Coe. To exempt nonpaying mines from the annual tax or license. To mines and mining.

Report of Committees.

H. B. 148, Burns. Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 106, Mayger. Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 108, Mayger. Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 70, Mayger. Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 107, Mayger. Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 43, Burns. Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 116, Shook. Unfavorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 8, Smith (Josephine). Unfavorable report. Referred to a special committee from Josephine, Jackson and Curry counties.

H. B. 95, Newell. Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 60, Cornett. Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 6, Linthicum. Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 97, Capron (by request). Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 47, Smith (Josephine). Unfavorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 28, Von der Hellen. Unfavorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 76, Mayger. Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 100, Hawter. Unfavorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 20, Smith (Josephine). Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 92, Muir. Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 64, Muir. Unfavorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 38, Smith (Josephine). Unfavorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 38, Smith (Josephine). Favorable report of minority (Smith) not adopted. Vote on whether the report be adopted: Affirmatives 18; negatives 36.

H. B. 83, Craig. Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 63, Muir. Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 120, Graham. Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 127, Griffin. Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 21, Vawter. Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 55, Miles. Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 154, McLeod. Favorable report. Adopted.

H. B. 155, McLeod. Favorable report. Adopted.

First Reading of Bills.

H. B. 2181, Kuney. To incorporate city of Waco.

H. B. 21, Cowell. To incorporate city of Dayton.

H. B. 215, Laws. To appropriate \$8000 for Lewis and Clark memorial fund.

H. B. 216, Laws. To authorize county court of Clatsop to levy tax.

H. B. 217, Colwell. Relating to disposition of property.

H. B. 218, Colwell. On publication of assessment notices.

H. B. 219, Vawter. Relating to local options.

H. B. 220, Blakey (by request). To create county of Hot Lake.

H. B. 221, Mears. To protect property of manufacturers.

H. B. 222, Muir. Relating to filing of incorporation articles.

H. B. 223, Smith (Josephine). To protect labor keepers.

H. B. 224, Smith (Josephine). To prohibit corrupt use of money during elections.

H. B. 225, Smith (Josephine). Regulating appeals in criminal actions.

H. B. 226, Smith (Josephine). To prohibit corporations from removing hydrants.

H. B. 227, Burgess. To incorporate city of Antelope.

Second Reading of Bills.

H. B. 212, Cavender. A bill for an act to fix the boundary line between Linn and Lane counties. To committee.

H. B. 207, Griffin. A bill for an act to reincorporate Eugene. To cities and towns.

H. B. 128, Gray. A bill for an act to prohibit gambling. To cities and towns.

H. B. 129, Gray. A bill for an act to prevent livestock from running at large in Douglas county. To cities and towns.

H. B. 130, Colwell. A bill for an act to authorize Portland to levy tax. To Multnomah delegation.

H. B. 131, Linthicum. A bill for an act to provide for a form of acknowledgment by corporations. To revision of laws.

H. B. 135, Killingsworth. A bill for an act to provide for the interchange and hauling of local freight cars in the state. To railroad.

H. B. 136, Burgess. A bill for an act to amend section 5095, Bellinger and Cotton's Code, relating to right to eminent domain. To judiciary.

H. B. 137, Shook. A bill for an act to amend sections 2014, 2021, 2024 and 2034, Bellinger and Cotton's Code, relating to game laws. To game.

H. B. 138, Shook. A bill for an act to fix the salary of certain county officers in Klamath county. To salary of state and county officers.

H. B. 139, Miles. A bill for an act to amend section 2010, Bellinger and Cotton's Code, amending the game laws. To game.

H. B. 140, Hermann. A bill for an act to provide for the protection of coal mines and coal miners. To mines and mining.

H. B. 146, Cavender. A bill for an act to license sailor boarding houses. To federal relations.

H. B. 160, Hermann. A bill for an act to amend section 228 of Bellinger and Cotton's Code relating to exemption of the earnings of judgment debtors. To revision of laws.

H. B. 162, Muir. A bill for an act to establish a hunter's license. To judiciary.

H. B. 163, Hudson. A bill for an act to amend section 221 Bellinger and Cotton's Code, regarding homestead exemptions. To revision of laws.

H. B. 168, Shook. A bill for an act to amend sections 4166, 4175, 4172, relating to the Southern Oregon Agricultural Society. To revision of laws.

H. B. 174, Vawter. A bill for an act to provide expenses of the 23d regular session and to provide deficiencies. To ways and means.

H. B. 207, Griffin. A bill for an act

to reincorporate the city of Eugene. To cities and towns.

S. B. 113, Hodson (by request). To define more clearly the rights of riparian owners on the Columbia river. To judiciary.

S. B. 114, Coe. To exempt nonpaying mines from the annual tax or license. To mines and mining.

Afternoon Session.

H. B. 76, Mayger. A bill for an act to amend the Lewis and Clark Act. Read first time January 12, 1905. Read second time January 16. Referred to committee on judiciary.

It is to allow the Lewis and Clark Exposition to open June 1 and close October 15. The bill was passed by a unanimous vote.

H. B. 28, Von der Hellen. A bill for an act to regulate practice in justice courts. Read first time January 10, 1905. Read second time January 15. Referred to committee on judiciary. Indefinitely postponed.

H. B. 29, McLeod. A bill for an act to protect salmon. Read first time January 7, 1905. Read second time January 11. Referred to committee on fisheries and game. Reported back January 19 with recommendation that it do pass as amended. Passed. Ayes 45; nays 9.

H. B. 36, Settlemeir. A bill to amend certain sections of Bellinger and Cotton's Code relating to the National Guard. Read first time January 10, 1905. Read second time January 16. Referred to committee on military affairs. Reported back January 19 with recommendation that it do pass as amended. Passed by a unanimous vote.

H. B. 52, Kuney. A bill for an act to authorize district boundary boards to condemn lands for public purposes. Read first time January 11, 1905. Read second time January 16. Referred to committee on education. Reported back January 19 with recommendation that it do pass as amended. Passed by a unanimous vote.

H. B. 56, Linthicum. A bill for an act to amend section 5054 of Bellinger and Cotton's Code relating to corporations. Read first time January 11, 1905. Read second time January 16. Referred to committee on judiciary. Reported back January 19 with recommendation that it do pass as amended. Passed by a unanimous vote.

H. B. 15, Burns. A bill for an act to repeal law protecting salmon in Coos and Curry counties. Read first time January 10, 1905. Read second time January 11. Referred to committee on fisheries and game. Reported back January 19 with recommendation that it do pass as amended. Referred back to committee on fisheries to have emergency clause amended.

H. B. 47, Smith. A bill for an act to provide for trial by jury in municipal courts. Read first time January 10, 1905. Read second time January 16. Referred to committee on judiciary. Indefinitely postponed.

H. B. 97, Capron (by request). A bill for an act to prohibit stock from running at large in certain districts in Multnomah county. Read first time January 16, 1905. Bill failed to pass by a vote of 55 to 2.

H. B. 154, McLeod. A bill for an act to create the Eighth judicial district. Read first time January 17, 1905. Read second time January 19. Referred to special committee from Eighth judicial district January 19.

H. B. 155, McLeod. A bill for an act to create the Tenth judicial district. Read first time January 17, 1905. Read second time January 19. Referred to special committee from Tenth judicial district January 19.

These two bills were laid on the table to allow copies of them to be distributed. The House then adjourned until 11:15 a. m. Monday.

SENATE.

Morning Session.

President Kuykendall called the Senate to order at 10 o'clock and Dr. J. H. Coleman led in prayer.

First Reading of Senate Bills.

S. B. 1387, Haines. To amend the charter of Cornelius. Read first, second and third time and passed.

S. B. 138, Tuttle. To amend the charter of Seaside. Read two times and referred to municipal corporations.

S. B. 139, Avery. To amend the charter of Corvallis. Read first and second times and referred to municipal corporations.

S. B. 140, Kuykendall. In regard to convict labor.

S. B. 141, Smith (by request). To protect bees and provide a penalty.

S. B. 142, Booth. To amend code in regard to the manner of taking up estrays.

Second Reading of Senate Bills.

S. B. 82, Kuykendall. A bill for an act to protect Eastern, native or other oysters planted by the State Biologist. To ways and means.

S. B. 83, Laycock. A bill for an act to amend section 2225 of the code, defining the boundary of Grant county, to special committee.

S. B. 84, Holman. A bill for an act to provide payment of loss to Archie L. Pease by construction of fishway at Oregon City. To judiciary.

S. B. 85, McDonald. A bill for an act to amend section 4827 and to repeal section 4852 of the code, relating to roads. To roads and highways.

S. B. 86, Laycock. A bill for an act to amend charter of John Day. To municipal corporations.

S. B. 87, Malarkey. A bill for an act to authorize Secretary of State to pay license fee. To judiciary.

S. B. 88, Smith. A bill for an act to amend charter of Pendleton. To special committee.

S. B. 89, Rand. A bill for an act to establish the Malheur irrigation district. To irrigation.

Third Reading of Senate Bills.

S. B. 28, Pierce. A bill for an act to amend section 2022 of the code, protecting prairie chickens. Passed.

S. B. 52, Brownell (by request). A bill for an act to amend section 2011 of the code, protecting elk until September 15, 1912. Referred to game.

S. B. 51, Smith. A bill for an act to amend section 2023 of the code, protecting the Bob White quail until 1909. On motion of Malarkey the bill was made a special order for Monday, at 2 p. m.

S. B. 62, Malarkey. A bill for an act to amend section 5359 of the code, relating to the recording of deeds and mortgages. Passed.

S. B. 4, Miller. A bill for an act to repeal sections 3306, 3307, 3308, 3310

CREAT CATHEDRAL A WORLD'S WONDER

Modern Building Devices to Accomplish in a Generation What Required Centuries for Europe's Great Churches—Hon. Levi P. Morton's Gift Brings Within Sight the Completion of the First Stage of work.

NEW YORK, Jan. 21, 1905.—The gift of \$600,000 to the building fund of the great Cathedral of St. John the Divine, now rising on the crest of Morningside Heights, overlooking the broad Hudson, brings within sight the completion of the first stage of the work on what will be one of the most remarkable church edifices in the history of the world. Former Vice President Levi P. Morton, whose identity as the donor of this splendid contribution has just been disclosed, divided his gift into \$450,000 for the construction of the choir and \$150,000 for the installation of the reredos, choir stalls and other furnishings which will finish that part of the structure. Of the \$400,000 required for the "crossing" the Trustees already have \$150,000 outright, while \$100,000 more is pledged to be forthcoming as soon as time remaining \$150,000 necessary is raised. When this is done, in place of the irregular pile which is now all that is visible of the beautiful cathedral, there will be on the summit of Morningside Heights the largest church in the city of New York. Even this will be but a small part of the gigantic structure that is ultimately to stand there.

The statutes and canons of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine were adopted on December 27, 1904, thus creating a complete cathedral organization—an organization which in the minds of most Americans is associated rather with some sleepy English provincial town than with the great business center of the New World. Just thirteen years before these canons were agreed upon, Bishop Potter formally inaugurated the work on the cathedral on St. John's Day, 1891. The visible results of these years of building seem remarkably small to the man who is accustomed to watch a modern skyscraper shoot twenty stories from the scrap-iron in the course of a few months. A better idea of the progress that has already been made is obtained when one stops to consider how different is the erection of a great cathedral and of a steel office building.

In modern times few persons have been bold enough to attempt to erect another of those edifices on which the builders of the Middle Ages expended their strength and genius. In the interval man have become impatient as their mechanical skill has increased, and the builder of today's skyscraper is as long as a century to the man who planned the cathedrals of Europe. To the tourist it seems as if the church in which he stands grew almost of itself, so colossal is its scale, so enormous the