

School Students Music Contest

(The following article by Norman Wilks, famous Canadian pianist, is the fourth contest in the series promoted by the Conservatory of Music. Read the article and keep it if you like. At the end of the seven articles, contestants will be required to answer the questions in writing at an examination held in the schools. Rules are published below.)

ON PRACTISING
Vladimir de Pachmann was one of the greatest Chopin players and unique as a player of delicate forms and lovely sounds. When he was sixty-five, and still giving concerts, he said to a friend, "If I had learnt to practise properly when I was young, I could really have been a great pianist." What de Pachmann meant, of course, was that he had wasted a great deal of time during countless hours he had practised by not thinking about his work and from not having a definite plan.

How often one hears a student say, "Yes, I love playing, but I don't like practising!" Who would enjoy practising if one had never been shown how interesting and amusing piano practice can really be. A passage is difficult, and a pupil will often ask, "How can I get this right?" "Practise it slowly", is often the only reply. As a matter of fact, slow practice, except as one of the useful methods in its proper place and time, will never in itself produce facility. What then, are some of the ways to make practising amusing?

First, it is necessary to have a plan—so much time for scales and technique, new piece, old piece, and sight reading every day. The following is the kind of idea. Supposing a student has only one hour for music every day, divide the time something after this plan:

- (a) 20 minutes—Scales, Exercises, and a Study.
- (b) 20 minutes—New Piece.
- (c) 10 minutes—Old Piece.
- (d) 10 minutes—Sight Reading

and keep rigorously to the time scheme.

(a) Do not try to play more than one or two scales each day, but practise in as many different ways as possible. Slowly — staccato — fast — loud — soft — crescendos up — crescendos down — with accents on every third or second note — and transfer the accent to the first and fourth notes for a change. Then play the arpeggios of the same scales, or scale, with all these changes too. Next, play the chords of the scale. Try and see how many kinds of tone you can make — p, mf, pp, and ppp. Watch whether you make these different sounds with your forearm or whole-arm weight. Be careful never to hit a chord; it will always sound hard if you do. Take five minutes now for finger exercises — play them slowly one day, fast the next day, and listen to the sound all the time. Do not play loudly all the time; sometimes try and see how softly you can play, with every note sounding. A few minutes will still be left for a study. Unless you know the study very well, only practise a few bars or lines. Take each hand separately. One day perhaps one hand alone all through the five minutes. Learn each hand separately till you know the notes perfectly, and even then, some days should be used for playing hands separately all the time. The right hand always wants to play quicker than the left (This is because we use the right hand more all day. We write, turn pages, shake hands, etc., all with our right hands!).

(b) Then the new piece. Learn cult to correct a note that has been

the notes first. It is always difficult to learn wrong. Take each hand separately, and never try to play a piece through quickly before the notes are correct. Again, take only a few lines, or a few bars, and get them right. It is astonishing how quickly pieces can be learnt this way. Learn something, if possible, about the composer, and the history of the period in which he lived. Try to find out where dances like the Minuet and Polonaise were used. What does the word Fugue mean? Always try to remember all you can about the history of the piece. It will be much more interesting playing it if you do.

(c) Never forget the ten minutes for an old piece. What is the use of playing the piano if, when anyone asks you to play, you can only say, "I don't remember anything," or "I am working" at examination pieces, and they are not ready." But do not always play your favourite piece, and be sure to listen to your tone all the time. An ugly tone will never please anybody; a beautiful tone will help you enjoy practising. Imagine sometimes that you are playing to an audience. Try and see how many times you can play the piece through without a mistake.

(d) Then the sight reading. Don't put this off until the next day. It is just as important as the rest of your practice. Perhaps more so. Very few of us can hope to be great pianists, but later on we may often be called upon to play an easy accompaniment, a dance or a hymn tune, and how nice it is to see somebody sit down and play without making a fuss.

Change the sequence of your practice. Start some days with Sight Reading or an Old Piece. Make it as interesting for yourself, as possible, but always keep to the time you have allowed yourself for a particular kind of practice. If this system is given a fair trial you will be amazed at the steady progress made, and how quickly the time passes. Where more than one hour can be found, lengthen each practice period.

Example for one hour and a half—
30 minutes for Scales, Exercises and a Study
30 minutes for New Piece
15 minutes for Old Piece
15 minutes for Sight Reading
or for two hours as follows—
40 minutes for Scales, Exercises and Studies
40 minutes for New Pieces
20 minutes for Old Pieces
20 minutes for Sight Reading.

It is not really the amount of time spent in practising that is as important as how the time is used. Fresh air and games are equally important. Think, too, of your pieces away from the piano. Try and go right through an old piece every night before you go to sleep. During the day listen to all kinds of sounds, car horns, birds singing and people's voices, and never let anyone keep the radio turned on unless everybody listens and nobody talks.

QUESTIONS

1. Is it advisable to practise according to impulse or by a plan?
2. Suggest five different ways to practise a scale.
3. Should you play loudly all the time when practising?
4. When learning a new piece, is it better to learn with both hands at once or separately?
5. Even if we don't become great pianists, how is sight-reading useful?
6. If you follow a plan when practising, is it advisable to change the sequence sometimes?

RULES

1. Students attending High, Public and Separate schools from York Mills to Richmond Hill are eligible.
2. Applications must be made by the end of the fifth article through music teachers in the schools. Rural teachers may obtain application forms by applying to the office of this paper.
3. Each article will contain six questions. Public School pupils may answer any three questions of each series, High School pupils will be required to answer all six.
4. All contestants will be required to write this contest at examination centres which will be specified later.
5. Answers will be submitted to judges appointed by the committee in charge of this contest. Decision of the judges will be final.

Further information may be obtained from the following members of the committee in charge: In Lansing, Miss Edythe Lewis; Willowdale, Mrs. John Harrison; Thornhill, Miss Lorraine Davidson; Richmond Hill, Miss Lola Jones.

Enlist in the Fourth Arm of the service by investing in War Savings Certificates regularly.

Social and Personal

The popular Rexall One Cent Sale is now on at Scotchmer's Drug Store, Richmond Hill.

Rev. Douglas Davis of King was the speaker at the mid week prayer meeting in Richmond Hill last night.

Mr. J. Roy Herrington who has been confined to his home through illness this week is progressing favorably.

The C.G.I.T. annual Mother and Daughter banquet will be an interesting event of Friday evening.

A large number of ladies enjoyed the Fish Cooking Demonstration sponsored by the Presbyterian W.A. Monday afternoon.

The United Church Choir intend to present a one-act play and musical program on the evening of April 1st. Further notice later.

Mr. Schisler of Knox College, a nephew of Mr. Frank Schisler of the village, was the preacher at Richmond Hill Presbyterian Church last Sunday.

Another dance in aid of British War Victims Fund will be held by St. John's A.Y.P.A. Oak Ridges in the Parish Hall on April 16. Further particulars later.

Sgm. Art Warrington spent the week-end with his family here, returning Monday to Camp at Kingston. Art has spent some weeks in the hospital but is now able to resume his training.

Dr. and Mrs. J. P. Wilson, Rev. C. W. Follett, Rev. H. E. Wellwood of Richmond Hill and Mr. J. A. Rose of Maple are attending the Temperance Federation Convention in London this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Russell, Richmond Hill, this week received a cable from their son Roy serving with the Royal Air Force at Cyrenaica, Northern Africa. The cable said that he was fine. A recent letter from Roy stated that the weather where he is stationed is very hot in daytime with cool nights. A photo enclosed showed him to be looking real well and putting on some weight.

There was a large attendance at the annual "At Home" of Richmond Lodge A.F. & A.M. held at the Masonic Hall, Richmond Hill, Wednesday evening. The hall was beautifully decorated in red, white and blue and tables were attractive with flags and gaily colored favors. The guests were received in the Lodge room by the Ruling Master, Mr. Albert R. Hill and Mrs. Hill, and the Immediate Past Master, Mr. Carl Swanson and Mrs. Swanson. The evening's program included supper, cards and dancing to music by Max Boag's orchestra. The crowd numbering about one hundred and thirty included several guests from Toronto and neighbouring districts. Mrs. Norman Anderson and Mrs. P. G. Savage won the ladies' prizes for bridge, and Mr. John Hart and Mr. G. Willis the men's prizes. Euchre prize winners were Mrs. J. C. Murphy, Mrs. L. E. Atkinson, Mr. Clarence Mylks and Mr. Morley Beynon. Several novelty prizes added variety to a delightful evening's program. Mr. W. L. Glass acted as director of ceremonies.

TO FARMERS

Rex Wheat Germ Oil, the greatest natural source of Vitamin E. Assures better breeding for all animals and poultry. A supply at the Elevator. I. D. Ramer & Son, phone 10, regularly.

C.G.I.T. BANQUET

The annual C.G.I.T. Mother and Daughter Banquet will be held Friday, March 14th in the United Church Sunday School at 6.15. Miss Tehni Camateevalla of Persia, who is attending the Dental College in Toronto will speak on her life in Persia. All mothers and daughters will be very welcome. Price 25c. Tickets may be obtained from the C.G.I.T. girls.

A young man, after eight years' absence, alighted at his home station, and despite his expectations, there was no one there to meet him. He then caught sight of the stationmaster, a friend since boyhood. To him at least he would be welcome, and he was about to extend a hearty greeting, when the other spoke first. "Hello, George!" he said. "Goin' away?"

It pays to use Liberal Classified "Ads".

RED CROSS NOTES

The Red Cross Society wishes to obtain names of any boys who have recently enlisted in active service, the addresses of any boys who have recently gone overseas, and any change in address of those already over there. Please phone the secretary, Mrs. J. Langstaff, Richmond Hill 100 or Mrs. O. L. Wright, Richmond Hill 78.

RICHVALE SOCIAL CLUB

A Euchre will be held next Wednesday evening, March 19, in Richvale School, Stop 22A Yonge Street, 8.15 sharp. Good prizes.

Prize winners last evening were: Ladies, Mrs. Joe Taylor, Mrs. T. Reid; gentlemen, R. Ball, W. J. Adams.

ANGLICAN W. A.

The regular meeting of St. Mary's W.A. will be held at the home of Mrs. (Rev.) R. S. Mason, South Yonge Street next Tuesday afternoon at 2.30 o'clock.

FIREMEN'S DANCE AT MAPLE

Maple Fire Brigade will sponsor a dance to be held in the Concert Hall, Maple Friday, March 21. Gilham's Orchestra, Ernie Evans, floor manager. The proceeds are in aid of the British War Victims' Fund. Les Laver, Fire Chief; P. White, Secretary; W. J. Johnson, treasurer.

BINGO

A Bingo will be held by East Vaughan Ratepayers Association on Monday, March 17th, in Richvale School. Everybody welcome.

"SAVE OUR HOME"

We can do without tobacco;
We can do without our wine;
We can do without the cocktail,
And yet be feeling fine.

We can do without our euchre;
We can do without the dance;
But to do without our churches
Is taking an awful chance.

We can do without the play house,
And without the loud applause;
We can do without the Hitler;
But we cannot lose our God.

We can do without our lipstick,
We can do without our paint;
We can do without the sinner
But we must not lose the Saint.

The cigarette is weakening,
And it only dulls our brain;
But it leads to crime and folly;
What good can we hope to gain?

Let us try to be like Jesus,
Loving, tender, kind and true.
Leave out all things which are foolish,
Let us start our lives anew.

We can lose our beers and taverns,
Our tobacco shop and hall;
But if Hitler rules the country
We will then be losing all.

Let us work while we are able,
Up and doing every one.
Do not fall behind and grumble,
For we must not lose our home.
Maple, Ont. M.H.P.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

(Anglican)
RICHMOND HILL
Rector: Rev. W. F. Wrixon, L.Th.
4 Markham Road
Sunday, March 16 Lent 3
11 a.m.—"Fundamentals of the Faith." 3—Sin.
2.30 p.m.—Sunday School.
7 p.m.—"Parables of Jesus." 3—Test of Deeds.

Wednesday, 8 p.m. — The United Lenten Service Anglican Church. Speaker, Rev. J. H. Colclough, B.A., B.D., of Thornhill, Ont.

RICHMOND HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, March 16
11 a.m.—Morning Worship.
2.45 p.m.—Sunday School.
8 p.m.—Y.P.S. meeting.

RICHMOND HILL UNITED CHURCH

Rev. C. W. Follett, B.D. Pastor
Sunday, March 16
11 a.m.—Public Worship. Preacher, Rev. Roy H. Rickard, B.A., M.R.E. of Colborne, Ont.
7 p.m.—The pastor in charge. Inspiring music at all services, and a very cordial welcome to everybody.
N.B.—Sunday School at 9.45. All Departments.
Lenten Community Service on Wednesday evening in the Anglican Church. Come and bring a friend with you.

Beat barbarism by blackening the sky over Germany. Buy a bomber by buying War Saving Stamps and Certificates regularly.

AGED TEAM BRINGS \$200 AT O'DELL SALE

Edward O'Dell of North York Township near Weston picked last Tuesday for his farm auction sale and was favored with sunny spring-like weather. He and auctioneer Carl Saigeon are thanking their lucky stars it wasn't Wednesday. There was a good crowd of buyers on hand and good prices were realized. An aged team of chestnuts were bought for \$200 by a buyer from Sutton, and cows averaged around \$100 and none were fresh milkers. One two-year-old heifer brought \$52.00.

FIRE AT KOZAK'S TUESDAY MORNING

Fire believed to have started in the chimney badly damaged the home of G. Kozak, Richmond Hill Tuesday forenoon. The fire alarm sounded about nine o'clock and the local fire brigade was quickly on the job but the high wind made their work difficult. Most of the furniture was removed but Mr. Kozak suffered the loss of much household goods and clothing.

EUCHRE

A Euchre will be held on Monday, March 17th, in St. Mary's R. C. Church Parish Hall. Good prizes. Everybody welcome.

AN APPEAL FOR CLOTHING, BEDDING, ETC.

The Women's Association of the United Church is asking for used clothing, bedding, quilts, which will be disposed of in Richmond Hill. Please bring any articles on Tuesday, March 18th, to the School Room of the church church any time during the afternoon.

IN MEMORIAM

MASHINTER—In loving memory of Pearl Mashinter who passed away March 13th, 1940. Peacefully sleeping, resting at last, The world's weary troubles and trials are past. In silence she suffered, in patience she bore 'Till God called her home to suffer no more. —Sadly missed by husband and family.

REXALL

One Cent Sale

THIS IS A SALE WHERE YOU CAN BUY ONE ITEM FOR ITS REGULAR PRICE AND ANOTHER ITEM OF SAME KIND AND QUALITY FOR ONE CENT EXTRA.

SALE CONTINUES TILL SATURDAY NIGHT
GET YOUR REQUIRED NEEDS NOW AND SAVE

Scotchmer's Drug Store

ROYAL THEATRE AURORA

SHOWS START AT 7.30 P.M. AND 9.30 P.M. D.S.T.

TODAY, THURSDAY, MARCH 13
WAYNE MORRIS - VIRGINIA DALE in
"Quarter Back"
— AND —
WENDY BARRIE - JOHN HUBBARD - EDGAR KENNEDY in
"Who Killed Aunt Maggie"
FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MARCH 14 - 15
JOHN HOWARD - AKIM TAMIROFF - MAY ROBSON in
"Texas Rangers Ride Again"
— ALSO —
GRACE MACDONALD - ROBERT PAGE in
"Dancing on a Dime"
MONDAY & TUESDAY, MARCH 17 - 18
JOHNNY DOWNS, BARBARA ALL, JERRY COLONNA
AND THE KIDDOODLER in
"Melody and Moonlight"
— ALSO —
GEORGE TOBIAS - LUCILLE FAIRBANKS in
"Calling All Husbands"
WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, MARCH 19 - 20
GEORGE BRENT - BRENDA MARSHALL in
"South of the Border"
ROGER PRYOR - EVE ARDEN in
"She Couldn't Say No"

Peelar's R.O.P. Sired Barred Rocks

When you go to a hatchery to order chicks this spring find out what they have done in a breeding way to better the quality of their chicks and compare it with Peelar's.

During the past season we had the honor of filling an order received by the Dept. of Agriculture, Ottawa. This order was from a breeder in the Orange Free State, South Africa for 6 pullets and 2 cockerels. These had to be outstanding birds with good breeding. At New York in the Central Egg Laying Contest competing against many of the most prominent breeders in the United States we had the high Barred Rock pen.

At home this past season we made better records in R.O.P. than ever before. Qualified a larger per cent of birds with more eggs per bird.

Order your Barred Rock Chicks from
C. A. PEELAR
PHONE 57r11 MAPLE, ONT.

Talking PICTURES

It's a Lulu from Honolulu!

BING CROSBY
BOB BURNS
MARTHA RAYE in
"WAIKIKI WEDDING"
ADDED SHORTS

Masonic Hall Richmond Hill

Monday, MAR. 17th
8 p.m. D.S.T.
Adults 25c. Children 15c.