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In Concert

The Columbia School Symphony orchestra gave the first concert of the season at Orchestra hall December 15. This was the first of a series of three given each year, with Ludwig Becker, the conductor. The splendid ensemble work and the beautiful tone quality and shading of these young students, as it was professional playing, and not in the student class, were outstanding features of the evening, during which the following program was given and broadcast. All the soloists were members of the faculty of the Columbia School of Music:

- Prelude to "Die Meistersinger von Nurnberg" Wagner
- Concerto for Pianoforte, E flat major Liszt
- Allegro maestoso
- Quasi adagio
- Allegretto vivace
- Allegro marziale animato
- William Hill
- Aria—"Ave Maria" (Cross of Fire) Bruch
- Helen Protheroe
- Fourth Symphony Tchaikowsky
- Andantino in moda di canzona
- Finale—allegro con fuoco
- Concerto for Violin, B major Tchaikowsky
- Allegro moderato
- Ruth Ray
- Symphonic Poem—"Die Moldau" Smetana

**Dodge Bros. Cut Price;
Amount Is Not Stated**

Advertisements released for publication recently announce a sharp reduction in the prices of all Dodge Brothers motor cars.

The announcements are unusual in that the amount of the reduction is not given, although the word "tremendous" is employed in conveying an idea of their magnitude.

The unusual is further injected into the situation by the fact that the reductions are made retroactive. Although the new prices will not be actually announced until January 7, they are effective immediately.

The purchaser of a Dodge Brothers motor car is, therefore, in the position of not knowing the price of the product he is buying.

"He does know, however," said W. T. Wersted, local Dodge Brothers dealer, "that Dodge Brothers have always given exceptional value for the money and he also knows that Dodge Brothers, Inc., is an institution that may be relied upon absolutely to fulfill its slightest obligation to the public."

The advertisement declares that the reductions are made possible by the completion of a \$10,000,000 expansion program—new buildings and equipment that will double the capacity of Dodge Brothers factories in 1926.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ware, 325 Abbottsford road, Kenilworth, spent Christmas in Denver with Mr. and Mrs. Edward Harrison. From there they will go to Pasadena for the remainder of the winter season.

**WILMETTE MAN SCORES
IN CIVIC OPERA ROLE**

**Howard Preston Achieves Fame
by Interpreting Faninal in
"Der Rosenkavalier"**

Howard Preston, Wilmette resident, came forth during the busy holiday season to emblazon his name among those who are leaders in the ranks of the Chicago Civic Opera company.

The unexpected death, a few weeks ago, of William Beck, interpreter of important roles, left the opera directors in rather a quandary, particularly in view of the fact that Mr. Beck was scheduled to sing, within five days, the important role of Faninal in "Der Rosenkavalier." The responsibility was tendered Mr. Preston and, to employ the words of a noted critic, the company found him "a most able interpreter."

That, however, was a rather mild description of his performance, for Karleton Hackett of the Chicago Evening Post, and Edward Moore of the Chicago Daily Tribune, critics not given to over-efulgence unless the object of their comment sincerely merits approbation, waxed enthusiastic in their praise of the newest acquisition to the ranks of the opera.

Has "Right Stuff"

Mr. Hackett said in part: "Mr. Preston had a difficult task to perform, and, as well as I could judge from such casual phrases as I heard when dropping in on the performance during my Sunday wanderings, he came through the ordeal with gratifying success. His voice was full and firm and he played the part with understanding of the drama . . . the music is of such complexity that it did not seem possible a man could learn it in five days . . . Mr. Preston showed that he had the right kind of stuff in him by carrying it through, but it took courage. A good job well done."

Edward Moore declared that Mr. Preston in Faninal accomplished his debut with excellent results as to voice and make-up.

The Musical Leader, recognized journal of the profession, termed Mr. Preston's appearance as an extraordinary achievement. It states that Mr. Preston "has genuine talent for the stage and is a distinct 'find.'" His voice was characterized as "rich and impressively dramatic."

Mr. Preston has appeared in Europe with great success. He is well known to Chicagoans as a concert and opera singer. He is regarded as an important acquisition to the Chicago Opera company and another example of what can be done by an American who has devoted many years to serious study.

Mr. Preston appears Sunday afternoon, January 3, in the cast of "Hansel and Gretel," the regular "Suburban Matinee" given at popular prices.

Frank Sherritt, 330 Oxford road, has returned to Kenilworth for the holidays.

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