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THE NAVY LEAGUE of Canada (Ontario Division) has received notice from Thomas Mulvey, Under-Secretary of State, to report all claims that may be made by dependents of sailors lost during the war while serving in the Merchant Marine.

These claims arise from loss of life due to submarine or mine action and all persons who have just claims should send on their names at once to the Secretary.

The Navy League of Canada (Ontario Division) 34 King St. W., Toronto

Music in the Home

A Survey of School Music Activities.

It is only when one travels this continent from East to West and from North to South that one gathers the least conception of how tremendous a part music is playing in our educational system through the public and high schools. First let us visit a city of 100,000 people. There for four years the high school chorus has been giving "The Messiah" each Christmas at a concert free to the public, the school board defraying all expenses. This chorus will give "Elijah" in a few months.

In the next centre the supervisor of music in the schools has aimed at laying a foundation from the lowest grades in the public school that will bear fruit in abundance in the high school. That he has accomplished his purpose is evident from the fact that the high school maintains two orchestras, one of forty-five players and the other of thirty; a chorus of one hundred and fifty voices, and a military band of twenty pieces. So well have these musical activities developed that the schools of the town are planning to combine in giving a Spring Musical Festival.

In the public schools of a western city a well planned course has for some time been in operation, including assembly singing, musical history, orchestra and glee club practice. A short time ago a three days' musical festival was held, one day of which was given over to the schools orchestra of 150 pieces and a mixed school chorus of 400 mixed voices. The programmes these organizations gave were so well received that it has been decided to make the school participation an annual event.

To encourage choral work in another town a local daily newspaper has donated a prize for the winners of a chorus contest. In still another, the school pupils are treated to a series of concerts to acquaint them with the best music. At some of the concerts a lecture is given putting some phase of music before the children in simple and attractive form. Another city has a municipal orchestra that provides weekly concerts at popular prices and the final rehearsals are given before the pupils, each school in turn.

Again there is another city which boasts of a highly efficient Boys' Glee Club, a Girls' Glee Club, a mixed chorus, and two orchestras of forty players each, and which is proud of its school Musical Society which gives monthly programmes that are well attended. The plan of allowing credits for music studies taken under duly accredited private teachers is operating successfully in hundreds of the United States schools. The plan is one in which Canada should lose no time in following suit.

Wasting Money.

A music teacher once asked a little girl if she would be willing to pay a dollar for something, and then go back again the next week and pay another dollar for the same article. "No, I wouldn't do any such thing," the pupil answered quite emphatically.

"But," said the teacher, "that is just what you are doing now. Last week you paid me for a lesson in which we went over the work very carefully and which you seemed to understand thoroughly. But to-day, instead of teaching you something new, I have to spend the whole hour in going over the same work that you had last week, simply because during the lesson and while practising, you did not concentrate your mind enough to remember what you had been taught. And so you are throwing away your father's money by paying me again for something you paid for last week."

A flashing of the pupil's eyes showed that the illustration had appealed to her, and from that day there was a remarkable improvement in her work.

Two Musicians Went Fishing. Norway is indebted to Scotland for her greatest composer. For Edward Grieg was a descendant of a Scotch-

man, Alexander Grieg, who only went to Norway from Scotland after the battle of Culloden. Grieg required to be away from the din and distractions of life to do his composing. So he built a little hut away in a beautiful but inaccessible spot in the mountains, where he worked much of his time. On one occasion he went on a fishing expedition with a companion who was also a musician. During the day a new musical theme came into Grieg's head. He noted it down on a piece of paper which he deposited by his side. A gust of wind, unknown to Grieg, blew the paper into the water. The companion, not after it, looked it over, concealed it in his pocket, and started to whistle the tune. "What was that?" said Grieg as quick as a flash. "Only an idea I just got," returned the companion. "The devil you say!" ejaculated Grieg. "I just got that same idea myself."

The spot where Grieg's remains were interred at his death is as romantic as his favorite environment was during his lifetime. A steep cliff juts out into the fjord. Half way up is a natural grotto, accessible only by water. There in that grotto, chosen by himself, lie the ashes of the great and gifted musician marked only by a brief simple inscription.

Sharps and Flats.

Mere age does not make a violin valuable.

A good band has been termed "a symphony orchestra in brass."

You cannot listen to music and worry--you cannot sing and be sad. In playing the piano or organ a well-trained thumb is a great asset.

The little folks should be encouraged to sing--but to sing softly. Shouting is harmful to tone production.

To obtain the most desirable tone from your violin, the hair of the bow must cross the strings at very nearly a right angle and parallel with the bridge.

A soft brass drum stick covered with lamb's wool is preferred by bass drummers for concert work. Usually for parades and open air playing, the hard felt stick is used.

Do your counting or count to your playing? The answer cannot vary will be answered until you get a metronome. Any way you need the assistance of the metronome's clockwork precision.

After an experience of fifteen years a music teacher observed that with the exception of pupils who were well advanced when they came to him, almost every one of them who made good progress had parents who took a keen interest in the child's musical studies. Grieg, the exponent of Norwegian music, once became interested in an old folk song which he overheard a dairy-maid singing while milking a cow. Grieg placed a piece of paper against the cow's side and recorded the air as the girl sang it. He afterwards told a friend he had a new melody "fresh from the cow."

The Origin of Accidentals.

The flats and the natural were known and used at a very early period, certainly long before the time of Guido (about 1025). The sharp or diesis, has not been traced back farther than the latter half of the thirteenth century, when we find it in some French manuscripts in the form of a double St. Andrew's Cross, as in Adam de la Halle's *Revue des Fines amourettes*. Dr. Hullah, in his *Six Lectures on the History of Music*, says that the accidentals became recognized signs about the middle of the twelfth century.

Function of Naturals.

Naturals serve four purposes: 1. As signifying white keys, never black. 2. When used to negative sharps they are, in effect, flats. 3. When employed to negative flats they are, in effect, sharps. 4. Single naturals entirely negative double sharps or double flats.

Mallorytown Tidings.

Mallorytown, Dec. 10.--Mrs. Taylor returned to her home here after spending the past two weeks in Kingston at Alexander Munroe's. Mrs. F. M. Purvis and Mrs. Lang attended the memorial service in Lyn for Pte. Carman Jones on Dec. 1st. Thad Purvis is in Kingston receiving treatment for his eyes. A number from here spent Saturday in Brockville. The remains of Holmes Morrow, Caintown, were placed in the vault here yesterday to await interment. Dr. A. Judson was in town recently. Mrs. Thad Purvis attended the Denny-Moore wedding in Lansdowne on Wednesday last. Israel Tufts and family is moving to the Mallory farm west of the village. William Summers has rented Charles Mallory's farm.

Stephen Gullis has returned from Brockville hospital much improved in health. D. S. Mallory is in Brockville acting as jurymen. Miss E. Price visited friends in Brockville over the week-end. Mrs. J. Collins, Miss Grace Gullis and Miss Bertha Chick spent Friday last in Kingston. Mr. and Mrs. W. Moore, Lansdowne, are spending a few days at S. Purvis'.

Death of Ardoch Girl.

Ardoch, Dec. 10.--The deepest gloom was cast over this community when it became known that death had claimed another young and sunny life in the person of Miss Grace Schonauer, sixth daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Schonauer. Deceased, who was seventeen years of age, was possessed of a kind and lovable disposition, and was held in high esteem by all her acquaintances. Death was due to the pre-

WAR PUZZLES



CHINA'S FIRST MOVE In the war was to oust the Russian commander at Harbin, Manchuria, preventing Bolshevik control, one year ago today, December 13, 1917. Find a Bolshevik. YESTERDAY'S ANSWER Upside down against back.



MARIE RAEPFOLD Soprano of the Metropolitan Opera, proving there is no difference between her voice and The New Edison's Re-creation of it.

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the family plot in the cemetery here. To mourn the loss of a kind and loving daughter and sister there remains her parents, seven sisters and one brother: Mrs. Wil-