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MUSIC IN THE HOME.

Abusing the Bull Fiddle. The big fiddle standing in the back row of the orchestra and sawing away solemnly through most of the concert wins the curiosity but very little of the interest of the average audience. Beethoven in his "Fourth Symphony" concludes with a passage which suddenly seems to bring the basses into a sort of nervous convulsion. The players used to dread this passage, and Weber in an amusing satire, in which he has the instruments remain after the concert and tell their troubles, gives the following humorous lament to the big bass viol: "What are your troubles to mine, pray? It is my part to preserve the dignity and sobriety of the orchestra by my staid and respectable conduct. Instead of this, Beethoven, this insufferable youth, forces me to leap and gallop, skip and run, and dance about like a lunatic as though I were a trifling young fiddle. Outrageous!"

Where Are the Amateurs?

There was a time, especially in the eighteenth century, when every gentleman was able to carry his part in a glee, a madrigal, or a part song. Many of them played some solo instrument well enough to be able to do their parts in a chamber quartette. And what has become of these amateurs?

Doubtless not all of these gentlemen played or sang in a manner to satisfy professional criticism. But right there is the rub. We have allowed professionalism so to pervade our thought that we want to measure everything by its standards. We must be professionals or remain forever mum so far as the musical expression of our souls go. In those olden days the amateur, the real lover of music, joined his voice or instrument in the rendering of well written compositions, and in so doing imbibed a wonderful amount of soul culture. He possessed an accomplishment that was a source of real heart development.

Where are the amateurs? Shall we remain in a state far surpassed by our great grandfathers?

Be a real amateur. Sing, play, lend your voice or effort to some musical enterprise, if it be but singing in a local chorus or church choir. Stick at it and grow with practice into larger things. Do your best in a small way and the larger will develop. If you do nothing more than develop a love and appreciation for the good and beautiful in art, you will have added a large fund of real joy to your life.

Musical Briefs.

A national centre for the advancement of American arts is proposed to be established in Washington. A proposition has been submitted to the U. S. Senate asking for the creation of a commission to consider the proposal of a central building for this purpose. Music and the manufacture of musical instruments are included in the list of the centre's activities.

A machine which produces music and paintings simultaneously with an impressionistic relationship to each other has been devised by Charles Esmeric, a Frenchman, one of the emulators of Archipenko, Marinetti and other artistic ultra-radicals. The invention is one of several machines originated by Esmeric, the latest of which is supposed to give the effect of a pyrotechnic display accompanied by jazz music. The inventor predicts that his machine may be perfected to such a degree as to supplant conventional theatrical performances in the favor of the public. A machine of this nature is said to have been successfully tried out recently in one of Berlin's theatres.

Richard Wagner's widow, despite reports to the contrary, is alive and expects to celebrate her 85th birthday next Christmas. She is also planning to be present at the resumption of the Bayreuth Festival in 1923.

Like most musicians, Mozart, as a boy, had a strong taste for mathematics.

The Civic Music Association of Milwaukee has succeeded in having the school board of that city grant credits to pupils who take their music lessons outside the high school. Sitka spruce, found in British Columbia, is said to be well suited for the manufacture of sounding boards for pianos, violins and violoncellos. This is the finding of Professor Percy Groom, of the Imperial College of Botany, London, who was commissioned after the war to look into the question of finding new material for sounding boards.

Germany, which secures its supply of raw material from the slopes of certain mountains in France, Germany, Austria and Switzerland, is generally conceded to be the best manufacturer of sounding boards. Owing to the heavy demands for German pianos, the supply in these districts quickly diminished and there now exists only a possible source of supply from the mountains in and near Roumania.

Dan Godfrey, the noted British bandmaster, was recently knighted by King George for what he has done for music in general and for British music in particular. Many present-day composers have to thank Sir Daniel for the performances without which their music would have remained dumb.

His Job Was Safe.

A newspaper that was not making expenses decided to economize, and accordingly two reporters and a special writer were dismissed. The other employees became nervous with the exception of one man who showed no symptoms of uneasiness. He worked in what was known as the art department, for the journal published a great many pictures. Asked if he had no qualms as to the stability of his job, he said: "Oh, no. They can't fire me." "Why not?" "They are cutting all along the line." "Well, I figure that the paper can't afford to make a cut in its art department. You see we have so many subscribers who do not read."

TEA AND SALE HELD.

By Ladies of St. Mark's Church on Wednesday afternoon.

On Wednesday afternoon a successful tea and sale was held in Barrieheld town hall by the Woman's Guild of St. Mark's church and aware of the good things provided by the Barrieheld women, crowds of Kingston people went over to come laden with purchases. Mrs. George Brooks, the president, and Miss Cooke received, and Miss Frances Cartwright and Miss Finnigan were at the receipt of custom.

The doll table, a small fair in itself, with dolls of every size beautifully dressed, was in charge of Mrs. W. Norman and her assistants, Miss Alice Norman, Miss Marjorie Hewitt, Miss Janet and Miss Beatrice Esford, Miss Edith Wash and Miss Eva Hewitt. The work table in the centre was most attractive, and in charge of Mrs. H. J. Dawson, Mrs. W. Millin, Mrs. Rolfe, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. W. Ruttan and Miss Edith Pense. Home made cooking weighed down the long table presided over by Miss Tyrrell, Mrs. D. Wilmot, Mrs. W. Murray, Mrs. McCartney, Mrs. R. Gray, Miss Medley, Mrs. Sheppard, Mrs. Van Horns, and Miss Edna Berry. Fruit and vegetables were sold by Mrs. Searle. Mrs. Waller and Miss Paul. A wonderful Fish Pond, with waves, waterlilies and real fish of great value, was arranged by Mrs. M. Stanton and Miss Agnes Stanton. Candy was in great demand, Mrs. Victor Anderson and Mrs. J. Merchant being in charge. Tea was served by Mrs. Vokes, Mrs. Charles Abbott, Mrs. John Baxter, Mrs. W. Knight, Misses Rita Connors, B. Merchant, and F. Knapp. Over \$300 was realized by this fine bazaar.

Oil on Elizabethtown Farm.

Brockville, Nov. 16.—Discovery by a man engaged in digging a ditch of an oily substance oozing through the soil on the farm of James Warren, near here, has led the owner to believe that the heavy black soil covers an oil deposit of commercial value. The flow, while not large, appears steady, and a sample of the substance will be analyzed.

The will is of no earthly use unless it finds the way.

Critics are cleaners of other men's clothes.

What seems cheap may prove dear.

WILL BE SUSTAINED.

The Mussolini Government Will Have a Large Majority.

Rome, Nov. 16.—Premier Mussolini is prepared to face parliament, to ask for a vote of confidence from both houses. He will appear first in the Chamber of Deputies and explain the fiscal and bureaucratic reform decided upon and will then deliver a similar message to the senate. According to all indications the government will receive a large majority from all groups excepting communists and socialists.

Make quite sure the whip is needed before you use it.



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