

Second Thoughts On Music

'Amahl' Effectively Given As Holiday Season Feature

Soloists and Orchestra in Menotti Opera Here, 'Nutcrackers' Ballet Expertly Presented; Mount Holyoke College Glee Club in Concert

By WILLARD M. CLARK The Springfield Symphony Orchestra's Christmas offering to the area was much enjoyed by the few who heard it. The holiday season is not a good time to attempt to fill the Auditorium. There are too many distractions. Menotti's charming work "Amahl and the Night Visitors" has become a tradition during the lifetime of the composer. It was given on an excellent production by Call Board Theater, Inc., and its story was expressively told by the excellent soloists whom conductor Robert Stafford had chosen for the various parts.

When the original English Singers performed it in the '20's it is open to debate.

MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL CONCERT IS TODAY

Mrs. Stusick and Daughters Will Perform An instrumental music concert for patients, friends and invited guests from the Springfield Hospital for Club and Golden Agers will be given this afternoon at 3 at Springfield Municipal Hospital by Mrs. Stanley S. Stusick and her daughters, Veleida and Mary Alice.

A program of harp, violin and flute, comprising the favorite selections of the late Frank C. Ball, will be played. Mr. Ball was one of the foremost violin makers in the country and once was featured in Hill's Music Magazine of London. Many of his instruments have been on exhibit in New York and some of the capitals of Europe. The solo and duet violin numbers will be performed on violins that Mr. Ball made. The piano to be used was given to the hospital by Mrs. Ball. It was previously owned by Robert Day.

HARVEY BRIGHAM WITH SYMPHONY SINCE ITS START

Clarinetist Took Part in Navy's Musical Program

Harvey Brigham, principal clarinetist for the Springfield Symphony Orchestra, has been a member of the organization since it was established in 1944. Born in Lawrence, Brigham studied clarinet with Emil Arcieri and Victor Polotschek, both of the



Boston Symphony Orchestra. He has also attended the New England Conservatory of Music. Served in Navy During World War II, he participated in the United States Navy's musical program, and was first clarinetist under Arthur Fiedler with the WBZ Symphony Orchestra during 1942-43.

In addition to his many performances as a member of the Springfield Symphony, he has also appeared in solo assignments with the Pioneer Valley Orchestra under Werner Josten and the Springfield Chamber Music Ensemble. Brigham has won wide recognition as a music instructor, having taught clarinet at the Long School of Music in Cambridge, and at Smith College, and also at his own studio in this city.

He is a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity, and in the spring of 1956 he conducted six concerts performed by the Young People's Symphony of Springfield.

RADIO HIGHLIGHTS

- 8.15 to 8.30—WTIC—Faith in Action. A Christmas message by Elder Adam S. Bennett, member of the Council of the Twelve Apostles, entitled "The Empty Tomb." Selections by the Madrigal Singers of Brigham Young University. 9.00 to 9.15—WTIC—World News Roundup. 9.15 to 9.30—WTIC—Art of Living. Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, minister of the Marble Collegiate Church, New York City, speaks on "The coming of the King."

10 Top Records

- (Selected from a poll of listening audiences) Popular "Jailhouse Rock," E. Presley (RCA Victor). "Wake Up, Little Susie," Everly Brothers (RCA). "Chances Are," Johnny Mathis (Columbia). "All the Way," F. Sinatra (Capitol). "April Love," Pat Boone (Dot). Classical Concerto No. 2 (Rachmaninoff), A. Rubinstein, piano (RCA Victor). "Coppelia" (Delibes), E. Ansermet conducting (London). "Boheme," M. Callas-G. di Stefano (Angel). "Swan Lake," E. Ormandy, Philadelphia Orchestra (Columbia). "18th-Century Xmas," A. Janigro String Ensemble (Vanguard).

Nothing Too Small

Small towns in rural areas and large metropolitan centers are eligible to urban renewal assistance.

SUNDAY MORNING RADIO PROGRAMS

Table with columns for radio stations (WHYN, WBZA, WTIC, WMAS) and their respective programs for Sunday morning.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON RADIO PROGRAMS

Table with columns for radio stations (WHYN, WBZA, WTIC, WMAS) and their respective programs for Sunday afternoon.

SUNDAY EVENING RADIO PROGRAMS

Table with columns for radio stations (WHYN, WBZA, WTIC, WMAS) and their respective programs for Sunday evening.

MUSIC FOR EVERYBODY BY SIGMUND SFAETH. Advertisement for a music book.

Any Santa Claus bringing you anything musical for Christmas? Let's hope so, for the possibilities are almost endless. The instrument is always an asset to a home, and for those who can afford it, a piano is obviously ideal.

One of the funniest records ever made is Columbia's satirical disc called "The Piano Artisty of Jonathan Edwards." Mr. Edwards solemnly presents all the cliches of popular piano-playing—the silly arpeggios, glissandos and chromatic runs that astound our musical illiterates—with exactly the right proportion of mistakes. He is accompanied by some rhythmic instruments, with which he seldom bothers to keep time.

Occasionally his wife, Darlene, inserts a "vocal," singing just enough out of tune to be credible. It may be significant that the cover shows two right hands, emphasizing the thumb.

Half notes — Roberta Peters presenting her first, Sophie of the season in the Metropolitan Opera's "Rosenkavalier." Tebaldi canceled out, owing to the death of her mother. Eleanor Steber replacing the ailing Sana Jurinac in the title role of Barber's "Vanessa."

John Brownlee, head of the Manhattan School of Music, now comments on the CBS broadcasts, "Backgrounds of Music," with and Barbara Cox, of Millersburg, O., bringing out records of barber shop quartets. Robert Goldsard in another piano recital at Carnegie Hall. Richard Tucker to start the new year singing in London and Vienna. Puccini's first opera, "Le Villi," presented at Columbia University, in honor of the composer's 100th birthday.

The filmed "Bolshoi Ballet" accompanied on the screen by "Mood Contrasts," visualizing music in motion. NBC-TV opening its season with Poulenc's "Dialogues of the Carmelites,"

VESPER SERVICE OF YULE CAROLS AT TRINITY TODAY

Chancel Choir to Present Program at 5 in Sanctuary

This afternoon at the vesper hour of 5 the Trinity Chancel Choir will present its annual candlelight carol service in the sanctuary of Trinity Methodist Church. Prescott Barrows, minister of music, will conduct a program of carols of many nations, also featuring four numbers from Benjamin Britten's "A Ceremony of Carols."

Soloists will be Betty-Ann Falconer, soprano; Calliope Shenas, alto; James S. Scott, tenor; and Edouard Beauvais, bass, all members of the Trinity quartet. Theodore Stuebli will open and close the program playing carols on the famous 48-bell carillon in the Trinity Singing Tower. The program: Carillon Prelude by Theodore Stuebli. Organ Prelude: Fantasy on Old English carols. "The Stable of Bethlehem." "Illumine Are You A-Singing." "Wailon, God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen." "Choir and Congregation." "Little Jecu of Braga." "Portuguese Sleep, My Jesu, Jesu." "Dutch Carol of the Bell." "Leontovitch Offertory: Stars Lead Us Ever On." "Sing Trihal." "The Wise Men Came." "Bronson Christmas Carol." "Clearambault-Miles Carol: The First Noel (No. 97)." "Choir and Congregation." "From 'A Ceremony of Carols' Wolcum Yule!" "Illumine." "Britten There Is No Rose, Balaloulo." "Doo Gracia." "Recessional Carol." "Silent Night (No. 106)." "Gruber Final (Symphonie II)." "Practises Participating choristers." "Betty-Ann Falconer, Arpie Basmajian, Arline Berterley, Evelyn Collins, Judith Crocker, Virginia Hooper, Rosa Levenett, Alice MacIntyre, Elizabeth Milson, Helen Murray, Irene Ribero, Calliope Shenas, Verlie Carroll, Norine DeForest, Cleo Dooler, Ingeborg Drewey, Gladys Gray, Elizabeth Lyman, Barbara Milne, Marjorie Mitchell." "Also Betty Pierce, James S. Scott, Arnold Ambler, Norman Gaudreau, LeRoy Hanson, Gustav Luik, Gilbert Vickers, Edouard Beauvais, Karl Deschler, Julius Guarnieri, Harvey Miller, Kenneth T. Miller, Jr., Raymond Farmer, G. Albert Snyder, Richard Tarr, Douglas Wardwell."

THE MUSIC BEAT

New York, Dec. 21 — Via the route of his press agent, it is learned that Texas-born baritone Walter Cassel will make a venture into Wagnerian opera when he returns to the Metropolitan in January, as Kurvenal in "Tristan." Just prior to this he will sing Jurgan in a Barcelona production of "Salome" for which Virginia Copeland will be Salome, under the direction of Laslo Halasz.

The Metropolitan Opera will be divided next year among Robert Herman and Erich Leinsdorf. It is expected that Herman will assist Rudolf Bing in administrative work with the singing personnel, and Leinsdorf will be liaison with the orchestra and its problems.

with Menotti's "Amahl" and the Night Visitors" a Christmas feature, as usual.

Today's Quotation — Harry Belafonte "A general complaint with any so-called serious artist is the lack of sanity that exists in American music—specifically in the popular field." (Copyright 1957, General Features Corp.)

Two Balanchine Ballets Show Contrasting Styles

New York, Dec. 21—Life these days for George Balanchine, whose New York City Ballet has been having one of its most successful seasons in history, is just one premiere after another. However, as the premieres have been followed in turn by one good notice after another, Balanchine is enjoying the glow that comes to any good creator after good creation.

How many ballets he has created in his 53 years probably Balanchine himself couldn't recount. But it is doubtful that he has ever in a single season stood sponsor



GEORGE BALANCHINE

for two as different as his premieres of this one: "Square Dance" is an adaptation of American folk-dance patterns performed to music of Vivaldi and Corelli (in a fit that is surprisingly neat) while an authentic country "call" stands by to do his act, and "Agon," a summation of abstract dance matched to the witty but intricate score that is the latest to be heard from Igor Stravinsky.

Famous Teachers Vast as is the difference between them, they have one element in common to Balanchine's best work—a keen sense of the motor resources of the human body and the pleasure that comes to its user when it is well used. Russian-born, and a dancer by training, he early came under the influence of Michel Fokine, whose great conceptions range from "Sylphides" to "Paganini."

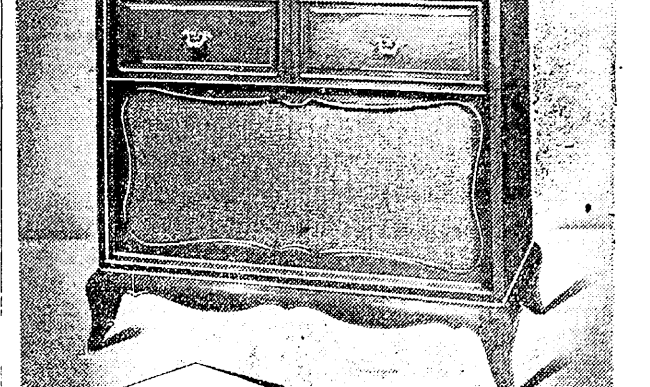
Along the way he absorbed the influence of Serge Diaghilev, whose name will always be synonymous with the golden days of Nijinsky and Karavina, in which Europe (and America) had their first taste of the authentic Russian ballet. Prophetically enough, a Balanchine ballet ("Concurrence") was included on the very first program of the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo when that company came to New York in 1933 and touched off the interest in ballet which has since flared into a nationwide enthusiasm.

This has expressed itself in many forms, but some of the most valuable have been associated with the happy fact that Balanchine decided to make his home in America in the early '30s. He has since reared a generation of dancers attuned to his leading motive of vitalizing the

Urban renewal is how federal assistance supplements local community programs to eliminate slums and protect the community against the further spread of blight.

Housing Act The urban renewal program was created under the Housing Act of 1954 recommended by President Eisenhower to improve and conserve neighborhoods.

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