

The Community Concerts

The Saidenburg Sinfonietta

by Carl Webber

On Friday, October 15th, a concert was given by the Saldenburg Sinfonietta in the Dalhousie Gymnasium as the first of a series of five varied concerts to be given there this year under the auspices of the Halifax Community Concert Association. The musical year thus inaugurated got off to a fairly good start: the main criticisms to be levelled against the orchestra deal not with its musicianship, but with the program it presented.

Monthly Moral

Though evesdropping is considered anything but nice or proper it can be tremendously diverting, and, at times, most enlightening. In this specific case, it was even creative . . . it prompted me to write this. The other day, while doing nothing much at the gym store, I become absorbed in the conversation taking place beside me. Two particularly confident freshmen were loudly discussing their respective conquests, and laughing in mutual scorn at the naivete of the college co-ed. Because they might be in for a nasty shock, I am softening the blow by quoting here from James Thurber's "Fables For Our Time". In "The Little Girl and the Wolf", Mr. Thurber imparts some very sound advice. Freshmen, and others: if you're smart, take heed!

"One afternoon a big wolf waited in a dark forest for a little girl to come along carrying a basket of food to her grandmother. Finally a little girl did come along and she was carrying a basket of food. 'Are you carrying that basket to your grandmother?' asked the wolf. The little girl said yes, she was. So the wolf asked her where her grandmother lived and the little girl told him and he disappeared into the wood.

When the little girl opened the door of her grandmother's house she saw that there was somebody in bed with a nightcap and nightgown on. She approached no nearer than twenty-five feet from the bed when she saw that it was not her grandmother but the wolf, for even in a nightcap and nightgown a wolf does not look any more like your grandmother than the Metro-Goldwyn lion looks like Harry Truman. So the little girl took an automatic out of her basket and shot the wolf dead."

MORAL: IT IS NOT SO EASY TO FOOL LITTLE GIRLS NOWADAYS AS IT USED TO BE.

KNOW YOUR PROFESSORS



Dean of Arts & Science

Dr. George Earle Wilson, M. A., Ph. D., was born in Perth, Ont., of Scottish parents, the oldest of eight children, who call him Earle, not George. For five years he attended Perth High School, walking three miles each way to keep in shape for Association football.

In the fall of 1908 he entered Queen's University and was graduated with an M. A., which he took without bothering about a B. A., in 1913. He took part in athletics while there, achieving great prominence in basketball and wrestling.

After Queen's he proceeded to Harvard, where he took his Ph. D., and was a Thayer Fellow and a Francis Parkman Fellow. In the fall of 1919 he entered Dalhousie, and has become as much a part of the college as the Uniform itself. He usually spends his summers travelling through the countries which his lectures deal with.

MEDICAL NEWS

Medical What Have You

In our recent interview with Dean Grant the veil hiding the proposed four year Medical Course was lifted. We quote: "We (the faculty) are not at present contemplating a four year course in Medicine here at Dalhousie." Briefly here is the proposed plan:

1. Removal from fourth year of all lecture courses and in substitution, clinics and hospital duties.

2. Completion of lecture courses in the junior years which would be accomplished by a lengthening of these years by several weeks.

The plan is now in operation but will not reach maturity until the present first year class is in fourth year. The lengthening of the year will start with this class.

Thus since we are not going to have post-graduate internships as part of the medical course we should strive even harder for PAY FOR INTERNS.

We realize that in the past issues of this column we were not entirely complimentary toward the Medical Society Executive. Such was not our intention. We simply told the truth, a thing of which no one should be afraid. The president himself admitted that the meeting we criticized was a disgrace. We shall continue to report what we see as long as this column exists. Why can't we have business-like meetings conducted on proper parliamentary procedure? ? ? ?

An interesting if somewhat confusing ball game was held between Phi Chi and Phi Rho Saturday afternoon with the latter taking a licking of 16-8 (?). An interesting sidelight in the game was that the chief umpire was changed as many times as Phi Rho changed pitchers.

Medical Society Revival

For some years the Med Society was a battle ground for the two fraternities, but today an effort is being made to give it some more constructive objective. Before the Med Society will be on its feet, it needs one hundred per cent support from the meds; if you have any criticism (constructive or destructive) bring it to the meetings.

It is the wish of the Society to make membership compulsory; the faculty have given the go-ahead sign, and the Society has taken the matter before the Students' Council, which considers the matter out of its jurisdiction and has said that it is up to the Society to do what it can itself within the limits of its own constitution.

The school is putting up a slate of officers for the National executive of CAMSI which will be presented at its annual meeting. The slate winning the vote will become the national executive, and the headquarters of the association will move to their campus.

Jim Vibert played an excellent game on the mound after replacing "side-arm" Hooper at the end of the first round. This we think was the only game we've seen where the umpire had his turn at bat.

Until next week we leave you with this thought — Don't go to a show: come to the Medical Society meetings.

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The first four pieces were eminently satisfactory: the Overture to the Marriage of Figaro is very well suited for performance by a small orchestra, as indeed, is most of Mozart, and the brass observed the necessary restraint in playing with such a small ensemble. Gluck's "Iphigenia in Aulis" was also well chosen, although at times the phrasing was a little unclear and the flute was noticeably uneven on the last chord.

Schubert's Fifth Symphony was the evening's piece de resistance and, written as it was for a small group of musicians, perhaps even more pleasing to the ear so played than when performed by a full symphony orchestra. In the first movement the violins proved a little unsure and played flat on at least two phrases, but apart from this slight lapse the performance was both charming and enjoyable.

Wagner's surprise birthday gift to his wife "A Siegfried Idyll" was next on the program. It was competently performed although again the phrasing was a little hazier at times than even an idyll permits. The French Horn player made one small "fluff" during this piece, but French Horn players are traditionally allowed one mistake per performance, so no more will be said. At the end of this piece the writer noticed the departure of Mr. Don Clark and would assuredly have followed suit were it not for the exigencies of this column, for the rest of the program was far from inviting. Our ears were assailed with something called "Mountain Whippoorwill" by Alec Templeton. A trombone solo was the most evident feature of this work and the trombonist, Mr. Erwin, is probably quite good, although it was impossible to judge by his appearance in such a trite piece of tripe.

An Oboe soloist next appeared in "The Winter's Past," a pleasant but piddling piece of music. What was said above about Mr. Erwin's ability applies equally well to the soloist here, as it does also to a performance of "Dizzy Fingers" as a clarinet showpiece which followed. Such music is no doubt suitable for vaudeville, but quite out of place in a concert hall.

The next two pieces were of the pseudo-Spanish variety and for the most part were but quaintness and castanets masquerading as music. For reasons best known to himself Mr. Saldenburg repeated Gould's "Pavane." Once was too much. That reliable old pot-boiler Strauss's Fruhling-Stimmen ended the program. This waltz sounds good even on a calliope and the orchestra played it competently.

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