

The Phonograph in the Home

By A. C. Farquharson

Music is not merely entertainment. It is a tonic, a vital medicine, essential to the well-being of every home.

There are few people who have not experienced this phase of music's influence. Overwhelmed by troubles and difficulties of life, oppressed by financial losses, worried over unsuccessful business transactions, sorrowful over the loss of a friend, disgusted and sick at heart generally, who, when thus distressed, hearing the strains of some sweet melody, has not felt in his heart peace, consolation and renewed hope?

Not many years ago human invention came to our rescue when it placed at our disposal the gramophone—the music and voice reproducing instrument, stimulating or soothing us according to our needs.

But the gramophone goes farther than just the provision of needed music to stimulate or soothe. It is the greatest single agency in educating us to know and learn the best in music, the greatest of all God-given gifts.

The gramophone itself is useless without the record. Take a record up and examine it. You notice minute lines travelling around and around the surface of the disc. The lines mean nothing; but in between these lines are small indentations, small indeed, but representing the thrilling notes of a soprano, the profound voice of a basso, or it may be the melodious strains of some world-famed orchestra. The record lies dormant until placed on the revolving disc of the gramophone, but while dormant it still contains the living music which can be brought into being any time you may so desire. Records are crowded with precious memories for the individual, recalling some great occasion perhaps at Grand Opera, bringing back some loved one's voice, or opening anew the personal memories of some noted musician, and when the music flows from the instrument the memory pictures cherished in the past are once more brought clearly before us.

Music is a blessing bestowed upon us by the great composers. For ages their works have given delight to the hearts of millions and will still continue to lavish their charm upon millions more in the centuries to come. There are many compositions that are especially suited to bring pleasure, happiness and peace when most needed.

We cannot all journey to hear famous artists render the works of the great masters, but by means of the gramophone and gramophone record, these artists are brought into your own home to entertain you and give their best—their best because they know they are entertaining millions all over the world by means of the record, and this world contains many critics.

The child on the mother's knee listens attentively to the martial strains of some great band and will ask for more. Youth will clap its hands and request an encore. The aged, knowing the world's pleasure and pain, will enjoy the replaying of some simple old-fashioned air dear to their hearts. Music is a requisite of time and eternity. Music is essential in the home.

The educational value of the gramophone cannot be over estimated not only in our home but in our schools. Children can be easily taught to recognize the works of the great masters, to distinguish the playing of the various instruments. Pupils enter into the various physical culture exercises with greater zest, when they are accompanied by music rendered by well-known and world-renowned musical organizations.

Factories are daily recognizing the value of the gramophone in their work-rooms, finding that their employees render greater and better service when allowed to listen to and appreciate good music, which relaxes the nervous tension, under which the present day workers labor.

But to return to the home. The gramophone is not alone for the person of means to possess and enjoy. There are instruments to suit every home, from the humble table instrument to

the cabinet showing the highest art of the skilled workman. All render the best to the circle of hearers.

The jolly dance, the gay song, the old-fashioned and best beloved hymns, all are played and sung well, whether your instrument be large or small.

The isolated farmer in some pioneer district, the lonely rancher or trapper who lives away from the haunts of men, to them the gramophone is indeed a boon. It renders its best not only in secular music, but also in the glories of Divine Service. The solemn strains of the organ, the swelling voices of the church choir, and the preaching of the Gospel, are brought within reach. And comforting it must truly be in their humble and lonely homes.

In short the gramophone is the most willing, most versatile, most satisfactory and best entertainer and comforter you are privileged to be able to obtain.

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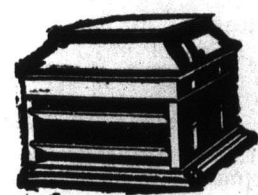
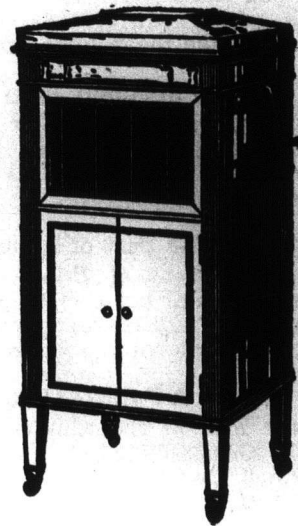
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