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A Series of Talks On Music

By Prof. C.C. Laughler, Mus. Bac. Sarnia, Ont.

VII.—CHAMBER MUSIC

The term "Chamber Music" may be said to be any music suitable to be performed privately, in a room or small concert hall, orchestra music or opera.

Chamber music includes many varieties of compositions. It is one of the branches of music which is at all most vigorously alive, consisting mainly of such combinations and varieties as solos, duets, trios, quartets of strings and wind instruments, also songs, glees, piano or solo and duets.

The earliest instrumental Chamber music of which anything certain is known, was that composed for the set of viol's by such composers as Dowland, born 1562, who was a famous lute player of London, England. Dowland composed music for the six instruments comprising the Chest of Viols.

John Jenkins is said to be the first musician who specialized in instrumental compositions. He wrote fanciful little pieces of the Chamber music class for viols and the organ.

Chamber concerts are still very much in vogue. The Chamber band consists of musicians who play only Chamber music adapted for such performances as given in private or small halls.

The modern compositions of the Chamber music class from the duet to the octette, are usually written in sonata form for several instruments in concert with this added distinction that each instrument will play an individual part, not a mere part to complete the harmony.

Chamber music originated during the middle ages to add to the pleasure and entertainment of the banquets; but not until the violin became a prominent instrument did Chamber music take a definite form.

One of the first to compose Chamber music in a definite form was

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Sammartini, born 1705 (Milan). He produced over a thousand works among which was much Chamber music. He is known also as the teacher of Gluck and was the predecessor of Haydn in the department of this class of music.

Haydn's mother had set her heart on making him a priest, but through the persuasion of his father and others interested, overcame her objections. Haydn's life, as many another of our great musicians, was a life of up and down. When he was eight years of age Reutter of St. Stephen's Cathedral, Vienna, who was searching for boy singers, was so pleased with Haydn's voice and ability that he at once took him to Vienna. At seventeen Haydn found himself on the street, no home, no money, and in shabbiest of clothes. A friend took him in until he could rent his own attic.

Haydn's great aim in life was to become a really great musician. A publisher, living in the same town loaned him some volumes of music, these Haydn read and re-read, also copied and analyzed them all and at twenty-three years of age his great opportunity came. Earl Bon Furburg invited Haydn to his country house. Haydn found there the usual country house orchestra, consisting of a few strings, a couple of horns and oboes. Haydn saw his opportunity and made use of it, and applied his knowledge to the miniature orchestra. For this organization he wrote his great string quartets, and other important Chamber music. From this time on Haydn was able to compose his music without interruption.

Haydn started life as the son of a poor peasant and for years struggled against poverty and won, becoming a rich man and devoted himself to his work.

Father or Papa Haydn as he was affectionately addressed by younger contemporaries, was the father of the sonata form and of modern instrumental music and musical humor, but he was most happy in his compositions for quartettes and Chamber music.

The Sea Cow

The sea cow is not a cow at all, but only a distant cousin of the whale, that lives in the waters around the coast of Florida and in the warm waters of parts of the world. He is one of the strangest creatures in the world today. He gets his name sea cow, from his manner of grazing in herds on the grass on the bottom of lakes and ponds. As far as anybody knows, he lives entirely on vegetables, as his teeth are like those of a cow and are fitted only for biting and chewing grass. His general shape is that of a fish; but he is not a fish, as he cannot stay all the time under water, but must come up every little while to breathe. He has no scales, like most fish, but his body is covered with a thick, leathery hide that does not fit him and wrinkles terribly. His eyes are small and set deep in his head and have no more expression than a couple of sleeve buttons. His upper lip is what is known as a cleft lip—this is, it is split in two, like a rabbit's, and hangs down on each side like a pocket. Right where his neck should be are two flippers that remind one of a pair of rubber mittens. These are his paddles for swimming, and he also uses them as hands in pulling grass and stuffing it in his mouth. His body ends in a broad, whale-like tail that does not stand edge-wise in the water, but lies out flat. He is not pretty; but he seems to have a very easy time, with nothing to do but float around in the tepid water, eat awhile, and then go to sleep. He is one of the laziest-looking animals you ever saw, and when he moves at all it appears to take every ounce of strength that he has. He is one of those big, fat, good-natured beings that never get in a hurry, and he never shows anything to irritate his temper. He has all the time about him plenty to eat, and never has to paddle around in; so he ought to be contented and happy. As he takes so little exercise and eats so constantly, it is

New Ministers For N.B. Appointed

Hon. J. E. Hetherington M. P. P. of Cuddy's Queen's County has been appointed Provincial Secretary-Treasurer in Premier Foster's government and D. W. Mersereau, M. P. P. of Fredericton Junction, Sunbury County has been appointed Minister of Agriculture. Both the ministers were sworn into office by His Honor the Lieut. Governor on Friday (both having accepted office. Neither was in Fredericton when the appointment was announced.

Premier Foster said that he had no announcement to make at the present time concerning the date of the bye-elections made necessary by the appointment of the two new ministers.

Defeated Ministers to Resign

Hon. J. F. Tweedale of Arthurette, Victoria County who has succeeded by Mr. Mersereau and Hon. Robert Murray of Chatham, Northumberland County, who is succeeded by Hon. Dr. Hetherington, tendered their resignations to His Honor the Lieut. Governor on Friday.

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no wonder that he sometimes grows to be fifteen feet long and weighs several hundred pounds. His favorite home is said to be the Indian River, in Florida, where he gathers in regular herds and where he may at times be seen contentedly browsing on the tender grass that leans over the water from the banks. He cannot stand cold, and the least drop in the temperature will send him paddling away to the deep, still pools where the water is warmer. Sea cows have but one baby a year; and the little creature follows its mother wherever she goes, just as a real calf would do, until it is nearly as large as its parent.



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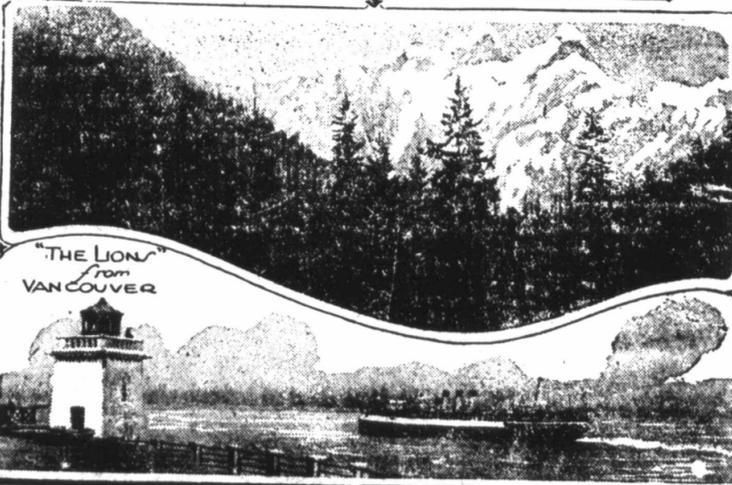
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VICTORIA AND VANCOUVER ISLAND WHERE GRASS IS ALWAYS GREEN AND GOLFERS PLAY AT CHRISTMAS



FROM VANCOUVER TO VICTORIA

Vancouver Island folk pick roses in the garden when the Christmas bells are ringing, and the golfer is never off his game, so far as being able to play is concerned, because there he can drive, approach the green and putt almost every day in the year. In the fall and during the winter the grass is rich and green, and bloom is perpetual. This is due to the warming influence of the Japan current, which is the Gulf Stream of the Pacific Ocean. Vancouver Island was named after Captain George Vancouver, of the British Navy, who discovered it in 1792, and has an estimated area of 25,000 square miles. Its towns, among them the stately Douglas fir, which towers 800 feet above the road, over which the traveler glides by automobile or by the magnificent Canadian Railway, which runs northwest through the length of the island, are magnificent beyond description, none of them being 2 or 3 feet in diameter. Along



THE EMPRESS VICTORIA

the road are many comfortable hotels and country chalets, many of them like the Inns and Inns on English country roads. Victoria, the capital of British Columbia, is a city of 70,000 with its beautiful drives, its fine harbor, its Chinese quarter, its splendid St. James Hotel, its beautiful Capitol building. Every year at least 5,000 American golfers visit golf courses in Victoria. The Victoria Golf Club houses and

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