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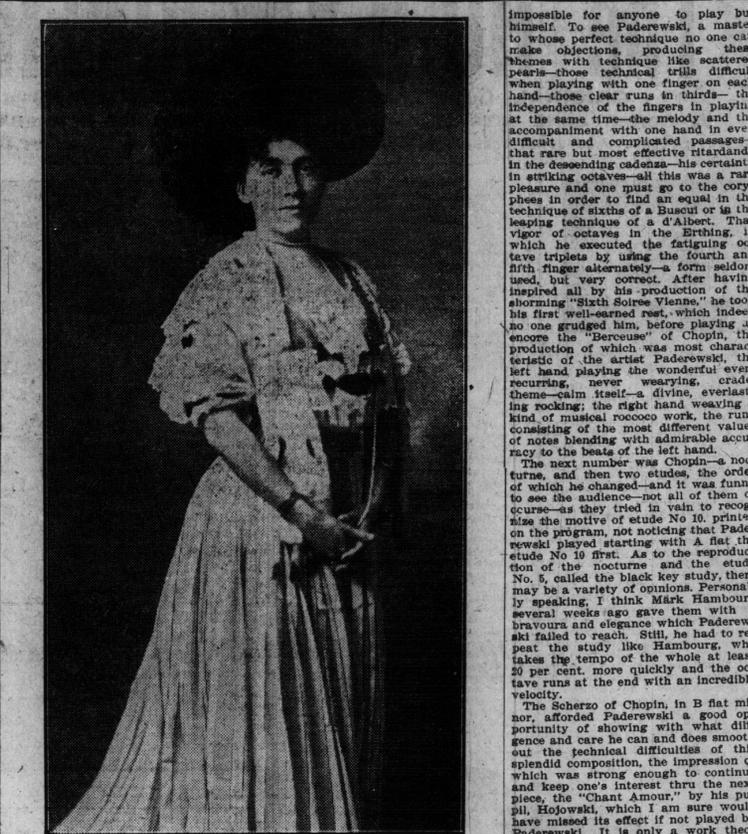
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An Interesting Sketch of the Phenomenal Success of One of Canada's Foremost Vocalists and Vocal Teachers.

It is with a good deal of pleasure that we are able to present to our readers the photograph of Miss E. Ethel Sheppard, who as a soprano vocalist stands in a foremost place among this country's most cultured and most successful singers, possessing a voice of remarkable sweetness and strength and of wonderful compass, over which she has perfect control, combining with this an attractive personality and artistic style, marks her as one of the most captivating singers in this country.

The success of Miss Sheppard can safely be attributed to the innate ability which she possesses and which was evident in the days of her childhood. Indeed, as a child of five or six, she gave evidence of having exceptional musical ability, and was even at that early age destined to fill the place which she now so ably occupies. Her father was a man of rare musical talent, possessing the genius of a fully trained, their powers would prove permanent, but which are too often made to display them at the very time when they should be carefully nurtured.

At the age of 15 Miss Sheppard found herself at the Toronto Conservatory of Music, where she was under the tuition of Dr. Edward Fisher and Signor D'Auria, where with all the enthusiasm of youth she applied herself to the study of her art, and within a few years had not only taken a brilliant course in all her subjects, but on the night of her graduation was given the honor



Miss Ethel Sheppard, a distinguished Canadian singer.

of being placed upon the faculty of the Conservatory, where but a few years previously she had been admitted as a junior pupil, but this honor was not the only one which she had received. She had also taken the gold medal in vocal work, and these in the most difficult subjects of the curriculum. Besides accomplishing this extraordinary and exceptional achievement, Miss Sheppard had during her course held some of the most prominent church soloist positions in Toronto, as well as devoting herself to other exacting professional duties.

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We next hear of Miss Sheppard in New York, studying under the foremost masters in that city, studying with Ocas Saenger and other noted teachers, but the enthusiasm of youth was still strong, and from New York to Paris and London was not beyond the ambition of one who had accomplished so much, and so, in the following year the renowned Frank King Clark had her as his most devoted pupil, and the world-famous DeRose as his favored scholar. Thus we see that the girl who won honors in Toronto could demand recognition in the world's greatest musical centre. Thus, indeed, is a worthy accomplishment gained thru and by that indomitable spirit which has always characterized her efforts and which has brought her to the distinct place which she now holds in Canadian musical life.

Miss Sheppard has again taken up her home in Toronto and is meeting with the same brilliant success that she has always been able to command, and it is a credit to the Toronto Conservatory of Music that it knows how to appreciate those who do honor to their alma mater. Besides being on the faculty of the Conservatory, Miss Sheppard is musical instructor at Westbourn Ladies' College and also at Hamilton's leading ladies' college, Kingsthorpe.

left to posterity a splendid and dominant school of virtuosi, which continues in immortalizing his colossal personality. I fear that Paderewski, for lack of a christian name, will not succeed in keeping such virtuosos in the concert repertoire. Besides being on his own compositions would not be advisable, because a composer knows best how to reproduce his own feelings; and how to produce that it was a very effective piece.

But, as to his reproduction of Beethoven, a few words may be said: Sonorous and powerful, but which is not one of the most effective works of this great of all masters, and that it is a merit for Paderewski to bring to the end of the second piece and left behind the last number, a thing that is possible only during the pauses because the doors of the hall are closed during the numbers—unfortunately not a custom in all music halls. About seventy per cent. of the audience consisted of ladies in contrast to the audiences of the continental countries of high musical standard, where the ladies are in the majority only in the dress circle, or in the higher-priced seats.

In the best seats we saw the four hundred who can save themselves during the day in order to enjoy the evening with full strength and to be "an incurant" at next day's afternoon tea. As for the people who pay only one dollar—the most patient of them succeed in getting a seat after standing for hours in a long line on feet tired and more or less sore. In the gallery appeared whole boarding schools of young girls, the lady piano teacher sitting beside the old spinster whose enthusiasm has found in art and its representation a grateful field of devotion after having vainly tried in practical life. And Paderewski seems to be acquainted with his peculiar technical faculty. This was an agreeable change from the usual Bach fugue introduction which, played nowadays, only averages a dull and uninteresting performance to a well-educated musician. The composition of his own, which showed mastery, wrought-out themes, closely adapted to his peculiar technical faculty. This was an agreeable change from the usual Bach fugue introduction which, played nowadays, only averages a dull and uninteresting performance to a well-educated musician. The composition of his own, which showed mastery, wrought-out themes, closely adapted to his peculiar technical faculty.

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The Harry Rich Concert Bureau reports an exceptionally good season in concert work. Mr. Rich states that he has been able to give most of his artists a very busy fall; in fact, he has been at times unable to supply all the talent requested. The bureau, on account of its high-class talent, is probably one of the best in Ontario, and will doubtless be in great demand during the coming winter season.

The choir of the Church of the Ascension gave a very successful service on

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