

Monitor - May 14

Denver Businessmen Organize *Symphony*; Concert *Scheduled*

The first concert of the Denver Businessmen's Symphony Association's newly organized Denver Community Symphony Orchestra will be presented at 8:30 p. m. Friday, May 18, at Phipps Auditorium. The orchestra will be conducted by Dr. Antonia Brico. The Trinity Methodist choir of 90 voices will participate in the program.

The orchestra was organized last October. Officers of the organization are: Dr. L. P. Minear, H president and musical director; Rollin Street, vice-president; Ed Sherman, secretary; Normand G Heald, treasurer.

The program on May 18 will feature compositions of Sibelius, Enesco, Beethoven and Mozart. Musicians Local No. 20 of the Denver Musicians Association, Michael Muro, president, and the board of directors, have granted permission for the orchestra to play a limited number of concerts.

Rehearsals are held at 8 p. m. every Thursday at the State Armory, E. 3rd Ave. and Logan St.

Dr. Brico, conductor of the orchestra, made her debut in 1930 with the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra. She made her American debut in the Hollywood Bowl the same year and conducted the Hamburg Philharmonic in 1931.

She has conducted the Warsaw Philharmonic, the Detroit Symphony and the National Symphony in Washington. In 1934 she founded the New York Woman's Symphony and has since completed two successful concert tours in Europe, where she conducted orchestras in London, Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Helsinki and Vienna.

ORCHESTRA'S DEBUT TO BE MAJOR EVENT

Music-minded residents of this area will attend in numbers the forthcoming debut of the Denver Business Men's Orchestra, Tuesday evening, May 18, in Phipps Auditorium, under the direction of Dr. Antonia Brico, internationally famed conductor who recently returned from a triumphal tour of Europe. The community takes pride in the fact that three of its members will be among the musicians who have allied themselves with this organization dedicated to the presentation of worth while music for its own sake. Members of Dr. Brico's orchestra play without remuneration and the organization is strictly non-commercial.

Riccarda Forrest, in private life the wife of James Mooney, Rio Grande chemist, is in charge of elementary school music at St. Joseph's and is organist at the 8 o'clock morning mass. An unusually able violinist, she received her training from Josephine Trott and Henry Ginsburg, both too well known here to require introduction. She subsequently studied at the National Conservatory in Paris for three years. She has appeared as solo violinist with Denver, Topeka, Kansas City, El Paso and Tucson Symphony orchestras and played as member of the Denver, under Dr. Horace E. Titreman. As radio artist, soloist, quartet player and teacher, she is in constant demand.

Edwin J. Kliaber, who has lived at 538 Kalamath street for some 20 years, was born and educated in Denver. He has taught both violin and viola for many years and as a maker of these instruments has won commendation from distinguished artists for his skill. He was formerly music critic of the Rocky Mountain News and for 16 years played with the Denver Symphony Orchestra and various string ensembles. At present, he not only functions as violist in Dr. Brico's orchestra, but devotes regular time each week to string quartet playing.

A comparative newcomer to Denver and this community is Harold C. Edwards of 507 Elati street, who is head of the instrumental music department at North High School. He came here a little less than two years ago from LaCrosse, Wis., where he had been teaching in the public schools. Mr. Edwards, a graduate of Columbia University, studied and played in orchestras on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. He was a member of the Oakland Symphony and also of the California University Orchestra, winning a conductor's contest sponsored by his Alma Mater. He is a violinist in Dr. Brico's orchestra.

Orchestra Makes Symphony Debut

By CECIL EFFINGER.

Denver Post Music Editor.

The newly organized Denver Businessmen's Symphony association presented the first concert of the Denver Community symphony Tuesday evening at Phipps auditorium. Antonia Brico conducted, and the Trinity Methodist choir appeared with the orchestra.

Existing because of the same factors which inspired the organization of similar orchestras in the larger cities around the country, this group of musicians, their conductor, and the behind-scenes personnel necessary to the staging of the concert served without remuneration.

This attitude in making music is a fine one, and that there is such a group in Denver is a good sign.

The reward for such endeavor comes in the making of music itself, and in having a good crowd to hear the music. The latter factor was gratifying, for the auditorium was nearly full. As for the playing, one expects roughness since it takes years to make an orchestra with players devoting full time to the task. There were many places where a good orchestra sound was achieved, and it was well demonstrated that creditable work can be done by the group.

In light of the natural difficulties of a first concert in these circumstances, it was a mistake to do a program which was about thirty minutes too long. "Coriolanus" of Beethoven, the G minor symphony of Mozart, and the Bach cantata No. 4 constituted the first half. In the latter the choir performed creditably. "En Saga" of Sibelius, the "Romanian Rhapsody" of Enesco, and "Kamarinskaya" by Glinka filled the last half.

There is a definite place for this orchestra in Denver.

New Orchestra Gives Concert

It was "standing room only" at Phipps Auditorium last night as the newly organized Denver Community Symphony, Dr. Antonia Brico conducting, gave its first concert.

Most of the large audience came in a friendly mood. The premood was unnecessary, however, as the symphony performed extraordinarily well for a group which is still in the process of welding.

Here, there was a jagged end; there, the crescendo Dr. Brico called for was lacking in spirit—but the minor imperfections had full compensation in the generally fine tone of the evening's work.

Beethoven Is Opener

The first half of the program was devoted to the German masters. Beethoven's overture to "Coriolanus," the opening number, abounded in contrast—the tender moments, incidentally, coming off better than the more violent.

Mozart's Symphony in G Minor possessed a sustained serenity. Only in the fourth movement, the menuetto, did a trickle of gaiety ease the mood.

Choir Gives Cantata

The Trinity Methodist Choir, midway in the first half, sang with full orchestra one of Bach's longer cantatas "Christ Lay in Death's Dark Prison."

J. G.

COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA GIVES FIRST CONCERT

A new and brilliant page in the history of this city's cultural life was written Tuesday evening when the recently organized Denver Community Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Antonia Brico, presented its initial concert in Phipps Auditorium. The packed house included many music lovers from this area as well as a notable representation among orchestra personnel.

The G Minor Symphony of Mozart and Jan Sibelius' symphonic poem, "En Saga," in which the clarinet was beautifully played by Marion John Phillips, Denver University student who lives at 714 West Eighth Avenue, displayed the orchestra's ability to meet more than satisfactorily the tests of strictly classical openness of scoring and modern complexity of harmony and instrumentation.

An acknowledged authority on Bach, Dr. Brico's reading of the cantata, "Christ Lay in the Arms of Death," in which the Trinity Methodist Church choir of 10 voices and a section of the orchestra combined forces, was all that could be desired.

A cablegram from Finland's foremost composer, Jan Sibelius, personal friend at whose invitation Dr. Brico conducted the Helsinki Symphony last season, was read to the audience. Other numbers played were the "Coriolanus" Overture, Glinka's "Kamarinskaya" and the colorful first Romanian "Rhapsody of Georges Enesco, which concludes the concert. Conductor and musicians alike played without remuneration of any kind.

Bruyn

Community Symphony Plans Concert Dec. 9

The Denver Community Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Antonia Brico, will present its first concert of the season Dec. 9 at Phipps Auditorium.

The orchestra, well received in its debut last summer, is composed of professional musicians, business men and women. Sole qualification for a seat is musical ability of sufficiently high caliber.

The concert will celebrate the 83d birthday of Jan Sibelius, a close personal friend of Dr. Brico. Featured on the program will be his violin concerto in D minor, to