

# Piano Suffices for Rachmaninoff

## No Words and No Smiles, but Hearers Pleased

All that Sergei Rachmaninoff had to say here Friday night he said through his piano.

The tall, sad-visaged Russian was on the stage at the municipal auditorium for 90 minutes, but he spoke not one word.

He played through the scheduled program. That was what the audience of approximately 1,500 had come to hear. The audience liked his playing and demonstrated the feeling with generous applause. Rachmaninoff asked no questions; he made no explanations. He interpreted the applause to mean desire for another number and he played it—his famous "C Sharp Minor Prelude."

There was more applause. Rachmaninoff played two more numbers. He rose then, and with a gesture which no one in the audience failed to understand, closed the keyboard cover, bowed his stiff bow once more and strode off the stage in the halting gait which the long tails of his coat seemed to accentuate.

### WORDS NOT EXPECTED

The piano had spoken to the full satisfaction of this audience. The applause was evidence that more music would have been appreciated, but it was also evidence that everyone understood the 67-year-old veteran of the world's concert stages even though he had spoken not a single word.

Some in the audience averred there was never a semblance of a smile as the man made his entrances and his bows. Others—who had attended Rachmaninoff concerts before—declared that the Hastings audience was favored by much more than a smile. They recalled that Rachmaninoff often refuses to play beyond his scheduled program. That many audiences have considered themselves fortunate to hear one encore. The people from Hastings and fully two score other cities and towns of Nebraska, Kansas and Colorado heard three encores.

### GLANCE BROUGHT SILENCE

If the three encores were evidence of Rachmaninoff's kindly feeling toward an audience in one of the "small towns" of the current tour, they were also evidence that there was not so much of coldness as of expediency in the sharp looks drawn by the rattling of seats when late comers found their places. One glance from the man at the keyboard was more effective than the caution signals of a dozen ushers.

Rachmaninoff was brought to Hastings through the efforts of the Hastings College department of music and the Hastings Daily Tribune.

## Favors Prison for Three

### Pelley So Testifies Regarding LaFollette Lewis and Dickstein

WASHINGTON, (AP) — William Dudley Pelley, head of the Silver Shirt Legion, testified today that he favors life imprisonment for Senator Robert M. LaFollette.



into internal dispute over questioning of Silver Shirt leader, Pelley remains nonchalant as shown here.

Wisconsin progressive; John L. Lewis, C. I. O. head; and Representative Samuel Dickstein, New York democrat.

Pelley told the house committee investigating un-American activities that he had advocated this action while being questioned by Representative Voorhis (D-Calif.), committee member.

The line of questioning brought a clap of gavel pounding from Representative Starnes (D-Ala) acting chairman, who said he was not going to let the committee serve as a "sounding board" for loose charges against leading Americans.

Voorhis questioned Pelley about some of his writings, including an article advocating that LaFollette, Lewis and Dickstein be tried by a jury of Silver Shirt members and given life imprisonment.

## Appoint Council for Merit System

LINCOLN, (AP) — Three state departments appointed a 7-member merit system council today to direct a civil service program for nearly 1,000 state employees.

The council was named under