

Rachmaninoff Recital

BY BARBARA BEAL

Perhaps it was the contrast of personalities that lent itself to Rachmaninoff's interpretation of the two Schubert numbers on last night's program. The pianist opened the 27th annual subscription course of the Dutchess County Musical Association given in Poughkeepsie High school auditorium.

To me, the A flat minor Impromptu and the Liszt arrangement of the Trout formed the climax of a varied program which took us from 17th century Bach through Rachmaninoff himself. Mr. Rachmaninoff made the light tripping figure used throughout the Impromptu stand out in playful contrast to the romantic bass melody so characteristic of Schubert. The Trout variations, too, with their slithering, chromatic qualities were played with a real feeling for the composer's conception.

The Liszt Rhapsody No. 11 which closed the formal program, though in an utterly different vein, was equally well interpreted. Marvelous passage work, brilliant contrast of light and shade, and faultless execution of the cross-hand trills made of this number a dramatic presentation worthy of the old showman Liszt himself.

The great Appassionata sonata of Beethoven was somewhat a disappointment. Perhaps Mr. Rachmaninoff did not warm to the music until the final, Allegro ma non troppo, movement. At any rate, the third movement seemed superior to the other two. There was fuller appreciation of the tempo as well as the dynamic contrasts in which Beethoven excelled.

The same can be said of the Liszt transcription of Bach's Organ Prelude and Fugue in A minor as can be said of any such adaptation of organ music for the piano. We just miss the organ. It is impossible to keep from thinking of the grand effect of the organ when we hear the arpeggiated chords of typical organ music. The effect was somewhat redeemed, however, by good pedalling and a skillful use of accents, impossible on the organ.

The second half of the program opened with three Chopin numbers, the Nocturne in D flat major and two Mazurkas, that in A minor and that in G minor. Mr. Rachmaninoff used a nice, light touch in the clear definition of the Nocturne and in the Mazurkas, he caught that peculiar rhythm, impossible to set down in notation.

Of Mr. Rachmaninoff's own group of three compositions the first was both the best and the most definitely modern. The great jagged chords and arpeggios gave an angular effect of which the moderns seem tremendously fond. The humorous

Rose's orchestra, which played at the World's fair, will provide music for old fashioned and modern dancing.

The grange's annual roast pork supper will be served tomorrow night.

touch in this Humoresque came at the end when after loud, heavy chords it ended on a graceful sweep up the scale. Mr. Rachmaninoff also played his own Daisies, a selection in which the arpeggiated bass figure gives the effect of a field full of scattered, gently waving flowers, and Oriental Sketch, which seemed strangely lacking in oriental flavor.

The Sonetto del Petrarca A flat major by Liszt which was also played on the program seemed a rather characterless inclusion.

For encores Mr. Rachmaninoff selected three compositions definitely directed toward pleasing the public. However, it may be said, that although he must have played his own Prelude in C sharp minor at least 1,000 times before, he showed consideration for that public in doing justice to this, his most popular piece. The other encores were Hopac, a Russian dance, by Tschalkowsky and Rimsky-Korskov's Flight of the Bumblebee, executed with great dexterity.

RELES DEATH STORY FLAYED

State Witness Contradicts Official Version; Cops, Detectives Demoted

NEW YORK, Nov. 13.—Abe (Kid Twist) Reles, informer against Brooklyn's kill-for-cash ring who died in a plunge from a hotel window was buried today even as another state witness was contradicting the official version of his death.

Allie Tannenbaum testified in Kings County court that there was a guard in Reles' room every minute he slept.

Reles was killed early yesterday morning in what the authorities said was an attempt to escape from his sixth-floor room by sliding down a rude rope of wire and bedsheets.

Under cross-examination by the defense in the Louis (Lepke) Buchalter murder trial, Tannenbaum swore that police guards spent the entire night in the informers' rooms.

Police Commissioner Lewis J. Valentine announced, after demoting three detectives and two patrolmen who were on guard duty at the hotel, that his investigation of Reles' death had been concluded.

Mayor F. H. LaGuardia, however, ordered "a very thorough investigation" into the circumstances of the informer's death.

Only nine persons, including Reles' wife, Rose, attended the funeral and burial in a \$5 yellow-pine box.

The United States is the principal market for China's knit woolen gloves and mittens.