

### RACHMANINOFF SCORES BRILLIANT SUCCESS

#### Capacity Audience G greets Famous Pianist's Renditions

Works Of Noted Composers On  
Program Presented at Rogers  
Auditorium

Rachmaninoff came, played, and completely captured Newport at the Art Association's concert in the Rogers High School auditorium, Wednesday evening. The audience, which almost completely filled the hall, greeted the famous pianist's renditions with thunderous applause. It called him back again and again and he responded with several encores.

The program carried the names of Handel, Chopin, Mendelssohn, Liszt, and Liszt. It is easy to say this but when it comes to saying how their compositions were played, words seem to fail. Things usually said of other artists seem quite out of place here. Scales well played are fine, but seldom indeed are such scales heard, as these were. Every note was a pearl, and they came in whirlwinds of speed and left one breathless and amazed at their perfection and beauty. Every note in the noble instrument seemed to have chance to be heard. The melodies rang out with trumpetlike clearness, while subdued tones of perfectly shaded graceful harmonies were sustained, and yet were kept well in the background. At one time, two distinct melodies were played, over such, subdued tones and one solo was softer than the other. Every shade of soft tones and every degree of power were blended with a wonderful mastery of the capabilities of the instrument, making a constantly varying foundation of each selection, like clouds of summer passing over the sun.

All were familiar with the tune of the Merry Blacksmith, composed by the old master Handel. Many never heard such variations as this artist added to the melody. The applause showed how it was liked.

The Chopin group included familiar strains. The selections were an "Impromptu" in which wonderful scales were heard; "Scherzo" which opened with a crash, and there was off at great speed; a "Nocturne" which introduced a long diminuendo, carried to a point where the ear could hardly catch the soft notes; a "Mazurka" which had an intriguing, catchy rhythm; and the familiar "Valse" which as soft as gentleephyra, but was made up of rapid runs. For an encore, the favorite "Ballade in A Flat" brought a veritable ovation.

After the intermission, Rachmaninoff played three of his own works. First was his "Scherzo" from Mendelssohn's "Midsummer Night's Dream". At first, it was delicate, like the stuff of which dreams are made, later, it was more vigorous. It was well liked as the applause showed. Then the artist's own "Prelude" and "Etude-tableau" followed. The latter is stirring, and the solo in the baritone register.

The last was a varied group by Liszt. The first (Nocturne) was more melodious, with effective shading. Next was the "Valse Impromptu" which pleased. "Voices of the Wood" opened in delicate mood, and had a whole jubilee of birds in glad songs. Last came the popular "Pompato" with strong, military tones which diminished like receding thunder. There was a remarkable passage on the upper part of the piano. This brought a recall, followed by two encores—his own, a sharp minor "Prelude", and Rimsky-Korsakov's "Flight of the Bumble Bee", a marvel of delicate speed.

It was said that Rachmaninoff would not meet admirers after the concert, but a line of girls found him quite ready to see them, and even to autograph their programs.

The ushers were Mrs. Augustin C. Trice, Mrs. H. Hayward Staples, Halpin and the Misses Helen Carey, Elvira McCormack, Elizabeth Ware, Barbara Boyle, Flossie Wicks, Thomas Nelson and Beth A. Light.



SEIRGI RACHMANINOFF

CAPTAIN ROWLAND ESTED