

Rachmaninoff Heard Here in Great Recital

*Famous Composer Fails to Present Best
Of His Own Works*

By WILLIAM NEWMAN

Rachmaninoff at Constitution Hall was a magnet for thousands last night. The auditorium was almost filled, the distinguished composer-pianist was well disposed in the matter of encores and the recital ran its appointed course in the happiest of atmospheres.

The greatest of contemporary composers, in the estimation of the public, Rachmaninoff is habitually and unnecessarily reticent with his own music. He has composed at least two monumental sonatas but never plays them. There are two volumes of his "Etudes Tableaux" from which he rarely quotes, two volumes of "Preludes," to which he refers occasionally, more "Etudes," untitled, and sundry small pieces and transcriptions.

DUTY TO PUBLIC

Since he has developed a highly original keyboard art which he, better than any one else—with the possible exception of Horowitz—is qualified to define and illumine, it would seem that he owes a duty to the public, the student and to his fellow-artists in which he is remiss.

Last night's audience had to be content with his lovely little G Major Prelude, and with the famous old war horse in C sharp minor and three transcriptions played as encores. Otherwise he concerned himself with the revival of a scholarly and deeply poetic page of Liszt—the Prelude after Bach's "Weeping, Complaints, Sorrows, Fears," with a sparkling revival of the Bach Italian Concerto, with standard Chopin, immature Debussy, and more of the exquisite poetry of Liszt.

RARE PERFORMANCE

Of the Chopin group, the C sharp minor Mazurka reached that rarely attained goal in which poetry, rhythmic impulse and fantasy seem to fuse and culminate. The C sharp minor Scherzo, with revisions, premeditated or otherwise, of his own, thundered and glittered and sang. The familiar A flat Impromptu was played at a pace which must have baffled the plodders, and the Nocturne in F minor displayed more of the pianistic thunders than of wistful song.

His way with the Suite Bergamasque of Debussy may have surprised any of the cult who still remain. Yet it was correct except that he began the minuet like a scherzo, thus altering a delicate moment beyond recognition. So, too, his poetic approach to the "Voices of the Woods" and "Dance of the Gnomes" may have disappointed those who expected the conventional bravourea.

But such as may have been surprised or disappointed in any detail were overruled by the thunder of applause that voiced the approval of the multitude, and with that verdict there need be no quarrel. It was a great recital.



SERGEI RACHMANINOFF

COLORADANS ASK TAX SHIFT

DENVER, November 3 (I.N.S.).

Senator Ed C. Johnson and Representative Lawrence Lewis, members of Colorado's delegation to Congress, today made it known they would fight for revision of the present excess profits tax law when Congress reconvenes, November 15.

Johnson said:

"This present law needs to be amended drastically. It has worked in exact reverse to what was intended."

Lewis said:

"I voted against the bill in its present form, as I felt the undistributed profits tax would be detrimental to recovery for reasons since very plain."

10 School Clubs In Stunt Night

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Nov. 3.

Ten clubs of George Washington High School will present skits at the annual school stunt night, to be held at 8:15 o'clock Friday.