

# Fritz Kreisler Leads Ovation For Rachmaninoff at Concert



## Famed Pianist Here With Symphony At Syria Mosque

By J. FRED LISSFELT

The Pittsburgh Symphony Society played the last concert of its first series last night in Syria Mosque, the next to be played the last week in December.

The concert resulted in a personal ovation for Rachmaninoff, such as we have heard only on rarest occasions in Pittsburgh, the applause being led by none other than Fritz Kreisler who watched with great concentration every move of his renowned colleague.

Rachmaninoff appeared as pianist and composer, playing his latest work, a Rhapsody on a theme of Paganini, a set of 24 variations for piano and orchestra.

On first hearing, the music seems strictly bravura in the Liszt style. There is no tedious measure, the orchestration is attractive without obscuring the piano solo, and the introduction of the "Dies Irae" as secondary theme, gives it a color all of its own. The variations are in many points ingenious enough even for this age, when men like Prokofieff are writing finger-breaking passages.

The atmosphere is macabre throughout and reminds me of the dance figures of Durer's old German woodcuts. There is no diminution in Rachmaninoff's skill at the keyboard—in every respect a memorable performance.

The orchestra played an Overture in D Minor of Handel in an Elgar arrangement, Dukas's "Sorcerer's Apprentice," and Tschalkowsky's Fourth Symphony.

Our concertmaster, Michel Gusikoff, directed, setting the tempo with a severe hand and otherwise keeping a good beat. But his genius surely lies not in directing, for he gave no evidence of his finer feeling for and analysis of the deeper significance of his scores.

theater being  
's being erected  
the Pittsburgh

entertainment field. The facade will be made  
of structural glass in bright colors, ornamented  
with terra cotta. It cost: \$100,000.

### in Braddock A Showhouse

have a modernistic front of cream,  
brown and orange structural glass  
with terra cotta ornament and  
Neon lighting. Presenting an un-  
usual interior feature, the audi-  
torium will have a steeper slope,