

S. RACHMANINOFF, FAMED PIANIST, HERE ON JAN. 30

Russian Nationalist to Appear on Philharmonic Course.

Sergei Wassilevitch Rachmaninoff, one of Russia's foremost musicians, is to appear before a Kalamazoo audience in concert the evening of Jan. 30 at Central high auditorium, the second great pianist to play here this season under the auspices of the Philharmonic Concert company. Rachmaninoff, until comparatively recent years perhaps more famed as a composer and orchestra conductor than as concert pianist, played here four years ago and was accorded a most enthusiastic welcome. Paderewski's concert was the high spot of the concert year thus far in Kalamazoo for many musicians, and it is expected Rachmaninoff will be given an equally enthusiastic reception.

STARTED EARLY

Rachmaninoff is living refutation of the saying that the infant prodigy never develops into the mature master. When he was only 4 years old the Russian revealed great musical ability and began the study of the piano under his mother, herself an accomplished musician. When he was 20 Rachmaninoff composed the piano number for which he has become famous through a freak of public fancy—the Prelude in C Minor. He himself deprecates the popularity he has been accorded through this composition, for he calls it "a pleasant little piece", and feels that other of his compositions are much more worthy of note.

As a pianist, Rachmaninoff, who has gigantic hands and unusual wrist power, is known for the strength and virility of his playing. He achieves a sustained, ringing tone which endears him to his listeners fully as much as does his sympathetic and masterly reading of the score.

FAMED AS CONDUCTOR

As a conductor he ranks high among his compatriots. His chief work with the baton done with the Moscow Private Opera and the Imperial theatre. Since the revolution, Rachmaninoff has made his home in New York. A nationalist and an aristocrat, he has found himself at variance with the political regimen in his native land, and as musical America has always received him with open arms, his adoption of the United States as his permanent home is not surprising.

Following is his complete program:

- Sonata, opus 31 No. 2..Beethoven
 - Largo
 - Allegro
 - Adagio
 - Allegretto
- (a) Polonaise, F-sharp minor... Chopin
- (b) Mazurka, A-flat major.
- (c) Nocturne, C-sharp minor
- (d) Valse, A-flat major
- (e) Scherzo, B-flat minor
- Intermission Eight Minutes**
- (a) Prelude, G-major.....Rachmaninoff
- (b) Etude Tableau, C-minor
- (a) Etude, D-flat major....Liszt
- (b) Valse Impromptu
- Islamei, Oriental Fantasy.....Rakakireff
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