

Russian Pianist Partial to American Hair Cuts

Rachmaninoff Decidedly Unorthodox in the Matter of Tonsorial Tastes—Says U. S. to Be His Home Since Losing Property in Russia.

The presence of Sergius Rachmaninoff, who plays the piano, was evident from the harmony which emanated from a room in the Fontenelle hotel as a reporter walked down the hall.

At his knock the piano keys came to attention and a moment later a tall slender gentleman of serious mien opened the door. His hair, unlike the orthodox musician, was cropped close to his pate and he looked as human and as businesslike as a business man.

"Pushka," uttered Sergius with a slight lift of the eyebrow. And the reporter was just about to inform him that drinking was a lost personal art, when C. J. Foley, his manager informed him that "Pushka" is no relation to vodka but merely Russian for "greetings and salutations."

Rachmaninoff is a good Catholic, and goes to mass every Sunday. He is married and has two daughters, Irene, 16, who is attending school at Vassar, and Tatania, 8, who is with her mother at their home in New York. Though he speaks but little English both his daughters speak English and French fluently, as well as Russian, for they were educated in court circles in Russia.

He has been playing the piano

since he was 19 years old and for his first concert received fifty roubles, which at present values is about 10 cents. Now he gets in the neighborhood of \$2,000 for every public concert.

After Lenine had confiscated his property, valued at \$150,000, and allowed him to take \$600 and his family from the country, Rachmaninoff and his folks after a brief sojourn in Sweden and England, came to New York. This was in 1918. Since then he has made rapid progress toward the complete recuperation of his fortunes. His ambition is to make of Tatania a great pianist. He expects to make America his home and next year his only living relative, a sister in Kiev, Russia, is coming to live with him.

At this juncture, after a brief pause, Sergius reached for his "caviar" cigaret, and the reporter reached for his hat. "Goodby" said the pianist-composer—in perfect English.

Rachmaninoff will appear at the Brandeis tonight under the auspices of the Tuesday Musical club.