

PIANIST WALKED THROUGH URBANA

Rachmaninoff Man of Simple Tastes; Ate Dinner in Room

By CARLETON SMITH

Sergei Rachmaninoff arrived in Urbana yesterday at 4 o'clock. He declined the use of several cars which had been waiting for him and walked to his room at the Urbana-Lincoln hotel. The pianist had his supper sent to his room and spent the entire evening until the time for his concert practicing on a piano, which was provided him.

Mr. Rachmaninoff remarked that he would like to have every thing as simple as possible. This is the wish of a very ordinary man, for he is a home-lover and he will travel over 500 miles to eat Thanksgiving dinner with his family.

He came to this country poverty-stricken; everything he possessed had been confiscated. The Russian even had to give a concert in Switzerland to obtain money to go farther.

He has spent much study in learning about automobiles, and is a very capable driver, being partial to a Pierce-Arrow. Mr. Rachmaninoff is interested in moving pictures and saw Harold Lloyd in "Safety Last" at a Berlin theatre this summer. He also enjoys high class vaudeville and was very much taken with "Blossom Time," a production which interested him very much and of which he heartily approves. The American organ as found in theatres is an instrument Rachmaninoff is anxious to study. He enjoys Paul Whiteman and his orchestra, especially these performers on the drums and saxophones, whom he says are clever.