

## RACHMANINOFF RECITAL IS ONE OF PROMINENT EVENTS OF LOCAL MUSICAL SEASON

By ANNA MARIE TENNANT

Brilliancy of tone, depth of feeling, interpretation made the piano concert given Tuesday night at Memorial hall by Sergei Rachmaninoff, famous Russian pianist, one of the outstanding events in the musical history of the city. Rachmaninoff made his first appearance in this city Tuesday night, under the auspices of the music committee of the City Federation of Women's clubs. The noted pianist-composer proved himself an artist to his finger tips, and his entire program was that of a lovely poem, each number seeming to be a bit of artistry, a perfect complement of its predecessor.

Throughout the program, which included four of Rachmaninoff's own compositions, he showed fire and action. One felt after listening to it, that the music really lived, was something more than mere notes culled from ivory and strings. The player did not hesitate to interpret the numbers in his own way. He also proved himself different from the usual run of concert artists when he dared to give a program in which there was no trace of modernism. Everything of the program of Tuesday night was of the utmost classical taste, Beethoven, Chopin, Liszt and then the pianist's own numbers, a group of four, which opened with his famous "Prelude in C Sharp Minor." This latter number has always proved a favorite with pianists and when Rachmaninoff started to play it, the audience showed its thorough approval by enthusiastic applause. Other numbers of the pianist's own compositions were: "Serenade," a lovely haunting melody; "Etude Tableaux" marked by its stately rhythm, and then the lovely "Minuet."

The hands of Rachmaninoff seemed to be possessed of magic, for they flew so rapidly over the

keyboard in the different phrasing that it was difficult to believe that they were human hands at all. He has no mannerisms, indeed one forgets him almost in listening to the exquisite melodies that he calls forth from the piano. Rachmaninoff is different from many pianists, for he takes selections familiar for years to pianists and gives them a new, a vital and livable rendition.

His program began Tuesday night with "Sonata Appassionata" in three movements by Beethoven. He played the difficult passages with a wonderful ease and a fine regard for tone color. This number allows for much expression, for at times the passages would be filled with tones as delicate as the tinkling of a silver bell and then again the hall would vibrate with the stately dignity and thunder of the chords.

The Chopin group, which showed the pianist's perfect control of pedal and splendid work of the left hand, consisted of "Fantasy," "Valse," "Nocturne," and "Polonaise." He picked the melodies from the keyboard and seemed to shower them upon his audience in a maze of harmonic beauty.

Rachmaninoff was generous with his encores, for he played "Rondo-Brilliant" (Weber), "Minuet Valse" (Chopin), "Barcarolle" (Rachmaninoff) and his own arrangement of "Labeled" (Kreutzer). The masterly program of Tuesday night will not soon be forgotten, for it was a musical feast.

As I approached the dressing room of Sergei Rachmaninoff, after the brilliant concert of Tuesday night, I saw him sitting doubled up in a chair, holding a long Russian cigarette in his hand. The first thing that flashed through my mind was the statue of "The Thinker" for the famous pianist is always just that in his piano compositions and playing.

I introduced myself as a member of the press and Rachmaninoff immediately rose to his feet. I was going to say to his tall height, for he towered far above my humble self. In more ways than one I had to look up to him and indeed I was glad to do so, for it is just such geniuses as Rachmaninoff who inspire and make the world just a little better.

He still held the long Russian cigarette and while he talked he drew a puff now and then. Rachmaninoff seems to be almost a man of silence. He speaks in broken English and yet his phrasing is such that it is not difficult to understand him, that is when he does speak. I did not see him smile nor did his audience. His face was almost sphinx like in its immobility, but his keen eyes have a way of looking straight at you with a hint of whimsicality.

Rachmaninoff did not extend his hand in greeting to any one who came back to congratulate him, nor did he utter a word. He merely bowed, a low bow, as he puffed away at his cigarette. I asked him if he preferred to play or compose and he said, "Neither. I like them both equally well and each is a distinct pleasure."

The composer-pianist is a Russian, who was forced to flee from his own country at the time of the downfall of the czar. In reply to my question, he said: "No, I never expect to return there. I shall try to give as much comfort as I can here in America with my music. My poor country, she does suffer."

"There is but one thing that a young pianist must do," said the composer, "and that is to work. That word means much, but so does his career, and I mean just that work. But then he must have the talent, or else he can do nothing. He must have the love, the feeling here," and Rachmaninoff struck his breast. "To me it is always work, and yet how much I enjoy it."

Rachmaninoff praised the acoustics of Memorial hall, saying they were among the best in any hall in which he had played. There were so many more questions that I wished to ask him, but others crowded around and then the manager appeared and spirited Rachmaninoff away.

## People—U. S. d Judge Report

"On December 29, 1910, I write to say that I have not changed my faith in the value of your remedy since the publication of the above statement was authorized, and I have no change to make in the same."  
(Signed) REV. EDMUND HESLOP,  
Wigton, Pa.

Note.—In April of this year, Rev. Heslop wrote us that at 84 years of age, he is still hale and hearty.

### Clergyman Saved

Rev. W. H. Warner, 153 E. Ridge St., Nanticoke, Pa., writes:

"My trouble was sciatica. My back was affected and took the form of lumbago. I also had neuralgia, cramps in my muscles, pressure or sharp pain on the top of my head, and nervous, dizzy spells. I had other symptoms showing my kidneys were affected, so I took Dodd's Kidney Pills. They were the means of saving my life."

### County Judge in Trouble

"I took about six boxes of Dodd's Kidney Pills for heart trouble, from which I had suffered for five years. I had dizzy spells, my eyes puffed, my breath was short and I had chills and backache. I took the pills about a year ago and have had no palpitations. Am now 63 years old, able to do lots of manual labor, am well and hearty, weigh about 200 pounds. I feel very grateful that I found Dodd's Kidney Pills."  
PHILIP MILLER, Cimmarron, Kan.

Write to any of these—all prominent, intelligent and conscientious citizens who have sent us these unsolicited letters. Get the benefit of their experience. Send self-addressed, stamped envelope with note paper for reply.

If you are not a sufferer, you can do some friend a good turn by clipping this ad and forwarding it to him. And don't wait yourself until kidney trouble attacks you. Thousands of healthy people take DODD'S Kidney Pills every year during spring and fall, as directed, simply to keep their kidneys in perfect condition at all times.  
Be sure you get the genuine DODD'S