

RACHMANINOFF GREAT IN SECOND APPEARANCE HERE

RUSSIAN PIANIST AND COM-
POSER PLAYS AT HIGH SCHOOL
IN KEYSTONE COURSE
CONCERT.

When Sergel Rachmaninoff, the noted Russian pianist and composer, played in the Central High school auditorium last evening under the management of Keystone Concert course, Scranton was given its second opportunity of hearing this wizard of the keyboard.

Rachmaninoff, not only a composer but a pianist of extraordinary ability, gave a program of Bach, Mendelssohn, Chopin, Liszt and Wagner numbers and included his own arrangement of Moussorgsky's "Hopak," in the brilliant style so characteristic of the artist.

His program opened with Bach's second English Suite of three movements, Prelude, Sarabanda and Bourree, played with consummate technique. The "Variations Serieuses" of Mendelssohn, was played here by Paderewski on his last visit, at the hands of Rachmaninoff suffered no comparisons. Chopin's Nocturne was superbly given and was followed by the Scherzo in C sharp minor. Liszt's "Funeralles," and this composer's arrangement of Schubert's "Ave Maria," "The Wanderer" and the "Rhapsodie Espagnole," mentally carried the capacity audience far into the realm of piano music.

Following came one of the pianist's own Preludes and "Hopak," which opened the floodgates of his soul, revealing deep feeling as well as poetry in his reading. Wagner's "Magic Fire Scene," the climax of the opera "Valkyrie," paraphrased for the piano by Louis Brassin, played as the closing selection was mercilessly encored. The artist responded with several extra numbers including the "Waltz in D Flat," by Chopin, and a Tschaikowsky selection, proving himself a masterful virtuoso and a sound musical of deep discernment and sincere devotion.