

It Was The Same Old Story; The Audience Was Appreciative But—

Malcolm Miller had the satisfaction Wednesday night of bringing to Knoxville music lovers the third of the world's four greatest pianists within a year. Previously he had brought de Pachmann and Hoffman. The satisfaction of this praiseworthy vanity cost Miller some money—he lost over \$200—but he had become so accustomed to having "small but appreciative audiences" that he was not at all surprised when he found the Lyric less than half filled Wednesday night to hear Serge Rachmaninoff.

Miller takes his losses in the most philosophical way. When asked by a reporter Wednesday morning how the seats were going, he laughed and said he hadn't inquired, "because it might cause me to worry if I found out." Then Wednesday night he purposely came to the theater late, "so that I wouldn't have to look at the small audience. The crowd was small but—you see how conveniently I fall back on the old phrase. Of course, most of Knoxville's sincere lovers of music were present, and that's consolation enough."

Martinelli Coming

Miller has one more concert booked for this season — Martinelli, Metropolitan grand opera star, for May 4. The Heifetz concert, March 11, has been cancelled.

If there was in Wednesday night's audience a person who fell in love with Rachmaninoff because of his marvelous playing, and that person had dramatically stabbed himself to death in the midst of the concert, the newspapers could have attributed the suicide to "unrequited love." For if there was ever a case of one-sided love, it was on exhibition at the Lyric Wednesday night. The audience went wild over the great pianist; Rachmaninoff bowed stiffly and barely smiled—just as he always does, according to those who had heard him before.

When the pianist's fingers touched a key, a sound went up like thunder. And when his hand and hands pounced upon the keys, the roar was terrific. Except for the last number on the program, Spanish Rhapsodie, and two charming waltzes he offered as encores, the program was all heavy—and thoroly appreciated.

The melodious Beethoven and Liszt numbers seemed his favorites. His rendition of the Bach

suite impressed one with the idea that he was not at his best, that the score was not to his liking. But he seemed to seep himself in the beauty of the other compositions and drew from them a pure strain of melody seldom achieved by other artists. Of course, the playing of probably his best known work, the "Prelude in F sharp Minor" was superb.

The house was the smallest Rachmaninoff has played in since he became known to the world as a great artist.—J. T. M.

Retail Grocers Supper Tonight

Members of the Retail Grocers' Association and their families will meet at the Civic Bldg for supper Thursday at 8 p. m., according to announcement by C. B. Imbrie, secretary.

Following the supper officers will be elected for 1925.

Music will be furnished by a quartet and there will also be several solos and other musical numbers.

W. V. Newman is chairman of entertainment and W. W. Rhea is chairman of arrangements.

All active and associate members of the organization are invited.

WASH PAINT BRUSHES

Wash paint brushes in kerosene or turpentine and then in soap and water when you have finished using them. Do not let the paint dry in the brush.

Wood alcohol is excellent for cleaning piano keys.