BRITISH COLUMBIA MUSICIAN

Vancouver, B. C., August 4, 1923 — Official Journal of the Musicians' Union, Local 145, A. F. of M. — Vol. I., No. 4

NERVOUSNESS

ITS CAUSE AND CURE

[By WM. CHAS. DUNN]

OF ALL the difficulties which have to be overcome before a soloist can be a real success—whether it be in the vocal or instrumental world—the greatest, and to some the hardest to overcome, is nervousness, or stage fright.

This is particularly true of a band soloist. The vocalist is not so great a sufferer in this respect, for the simple reason that he or she has only to produce the already memorized song through the vocal organs. The band soloist has to produce his tones with the lips and tongue working in conjunction with his valves, which in turn must be operated by his fingers, and unless he tongues and fingers perfectly in unison, the result is more or less of a failure, and when a man is nervous, it is a very difficult thing to get this combination working together.

The first thing to be considered is—Why this nervousness? A man may be note perfect, he may have played his solo over and over again, hundreds of times until he plays it in his dreams, and then, when he finally comes on to the concert platform, he undergoes a complete change, his self-confidence vanishes, his ability is completely nullified by his arch enemy—Nervousness.

WHY IS NERVOUSNESS?

The reason why, perhaps, varies with the individual, but generally speaking it is "fear of his audience" in the first place. Could he know beforehand that any mistakes he might make would be unnoticed by anyone in that audience he would make no mistakes, for his nervousness would be absent, and so the first and most common reason why is Fear.

Of course, there are many other reasons for nervousness than the above general one; some are physical, others are imaginative and some lack of ability.

If a man is not physically fit, no matter what his ability may be, he is not able to exercise it to its fullest extent. This is true in any department of life, and especially true of a musician.

Soloists in a travelling concert band labor under very serious disabilities, and need to be and are absolute masters of themselves and their profession. The strain of travellnig, sometmes every day and night, and having no settled home, and but short periods of quietness, is a strain on any man's nervous system, and the wonder is that so many of them last as long as they do.

AFRAID OF HIMSELF

The second reason why is really part of the first reason. He is nervous because he is "afraid of himself"—afraid he will miss the high note at the end of a cadenza, or that his fingering and tonguing will slip a cog somewhere. He knows his weak spots in every piece, and as he approaches these spots in his solo, he begins to fear his ability to handle them, and this very fear causes his downfall at these very places. Should he be fortunate and get past the first one safely, his confidence increases and the chances are he will get through the second one all right, his self-confidence ebbs and flows according to his success en route.

Unfortunately, the most difficult part of the average solo and also the most brilliant is generally to be found in the finale where the soloist is expected to put forth his best effort, and it is at this point when his strength is weakest, owing to the strain of the solo. Right here is where he needs all his confidence and ability, but quite often it is this finale which caps the climax, and when he reaches it his confidence has somewhat evaporated and he slips a few and retires from the platform humiliated. If he could only see himself as others see him, he would feel better, for while musicians may notice his mistakes probably 90 per cent. of the audience knows nothing about it unless the errors are extraordinarily obvious. He knows every note in the piece and is conscious of every little help, while his audience has most likely never heard the piece before, let alone the cadenza, and is quite oblivious to these mistakes.

STATE OF HEALTH

A man's physical condition counts largely in his success. A soloist cannot afford to neglect his health; he needs to keep in the pink of condition all the time. His success depends upon his nerve as well as his ability, and his ability to a large extent on the state of his health. Therefore, he must avoid anything which would tend to injure his nervous system. Smoking has a very injurious effect on the nervous system. Some men seem to be able to smoke for many years without it seeming to affect them very much, while others it affects very quickly, but sooner or later its pernicious results will show up and be very apparent in the person's playing. Alcoholic beverages which are highly stimulating, can be relied upon to weaken a soloist's endurance and his nerve force. In other words, his life will make an absolute failure of a promising soloist quicker than anything else in the world, for it conduces to the subject under discussion by impairing the psysical health, thereby resulting in nervousness.

EFFECTS OF NERVOUSNESS

The effects or symptoms usually present when a player is nervous need not to be enlarged upon, for most of us have had some of them, and a number of us all of them. Custom requires that our soloists shall play from memory. This is a good and worthy requirement except for the man afflicted with this nightmare of nerves, for about the first thing that happens to him is that he forgets, or more correctly speaking, his mind refuses to act, and if it were not for the mechanical habit his fingers have acquired by practice, his solo would fail before it got started. A dry mouth is often present, which the player vainly endeavors to moisten. Excess of saliva affects others, which in rapid triple tonguing, for instance, gets churned around until it seems like cotton and threatens to choke the player. Perspiration comes uninvited and without the least exertion, and numbers of other symptoms of a like nature.

THE CURE

We are not so much interested in the effects of nervousness as we are in its cause and cure. This malady, affliction, disease or whatever you please to call it, can be overcome if the sufferer will only study the cause and take the necessary steps to remove that cause or causes.

If a soloist is afraid of his audience let him take advantage of every opportunity of playing in company at home, at social gatherings where the size of his audience is small—such as club socials,etc. Let him keep at it until he wears away that nervous feeling when people are present. He will also receive more encouragement at these small affairs, and encouragement is a wonderful stimulant to the nerves. Gradually but surely he will find his weakness going, and before long he will not care what the size of the crowd is; in fact, he will soon begin to realize that the larger the audience the better he enjoys it.

The soloist who is afraid of himself needs something of the same kind of treatment. If he can school himself into an almost, as it were,

(Continued on page 8)

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OVERHEARD EN ROUTE TO BOWEN ISLAND

Three Non-unionists A. B. A. C.

"A"—That Musicians Union is a rotten affair, also their bands in the parks, judging by the way they play.

"B"—Yes, that is so. What do you think? We quoted for a job, and the union band underbid us by $75. (Shades of Capt. Vancouver—liar).

"C"—I have been given to understand that if the union cut their prices there would be double the amount of employment and work for all of us.

"B"—Possibly, but the "clique" would grab it all, and leave us in the cold.

"A"—At any rate, they are all wrong. Nobody can hold two cards—i. e., one in the Musicians Union, and a second in another—at least, the Trades and Labor Council would forbid it.

"Chorus" — Yes, the Musicians Union is a rotten affair.

Editor's Note—Moral: It is easy to cut prices if you don't deliver the goods.

THOS. CASSON RETURNS FROM VAUDEVILLE TOUR

AN OLD FRIEND, and enthusiastic member in the person of "Tommie" Casson, has returned to town after a period of several months' absence on the vaudeville stage, with the band of the R. C. M. P. He has, in fulfilling the itinerary of his engagements, covered practically all the North American continent, having travelled as far east as Toronto and Chicago, and south as far as Tennessee and Los Angeles.

He reports that the immense wave of prosperity that has been so apparent during the past few years, shows no signs of abating. The building boom alone has overtaxed the available supply of workers, so much so, that it is a case of waiting your turn to have your contract attended to. The demand for plumbers, etc., being enormous, at abnormal rates of pay.

Musicians Prosper

Included in this general prosperity are the members of our own musical fraternity. Orchestras in picture houses and other classes of business are generally of large dimensions, ditto their salaries.

He further states that the profession in Canada by comparison in every class of musical work, lags very badly in the scale of remuneration.

Vancouver is a city now of approximately 250,000, and while we have conditions here second to none in the Dominion of Canada, yet we compare very unfavorably with any city in the United States of 60,000 population and upwards.

In view of this fact, and that the time of the year has arrived in renewing our agreements for the season of 1923-1924, it is desirable that all members should bear this in mind during the negotiations.

A FEW DON'TS FOR OUR MEMBERS

Don't forget to report your engagements.

Don't forget to pay your dues in advance.

Don't forget to try to get more men than the classified number on all engagements.

Don't play accompaniments or numbers on an entertainment programme where non-union men have the rest of the engagement.

Don't send in your correct address. Some one may find out where you are.

Don't let any one sit in or play a piece for you on your engagement.

Don't forget to report to the Business Agent any engagement or affair that is likely to be non-union.

We saw your advertisement in The B. C. Musician.

MEMBERS OF LOCAL RECEIVE HIGHEST HONORS

IT IS a great pleasure to have to record of two of our members' successes at the B. C. Musical Festival, held recently in Vancouver, with those eminent musicians, Mr. Granville Bantock and Mr. Plunkett Green, as the adjudicators.

Mr. J. D. Parkin, who won the gold medal for the best composition by professional composers, came out on top out of 19 competitors. The fact that he was the only union musician competing, makes this all the more gratifying.

The other winner was that young and very promising 'cellist, Mr. E. Mahrer. This young man is only 19 years of age, and his performance caused a mild sensation. Mr. Bantock, at the end of it, highly complimented him, and indicated that with perseverance, he should become a fine player. He also was awarded a gold medal.

The good wishes and compliments of the entire local, we are sure, will be extended to both of our successful members. It is well known there is no easy road to efficiency. It can only be obtained by painstaking and hard work.

H. E. HANSEN, violin and bow-maker, of **Copeland & Euper, 259 Hastings Street East,** (opposite Empress Theatre), is giving great satisfaction in his repairing to the string players of B. C. New shipment of strings just arrived. Phone Sey. **2358.**

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"FRED" TIBBOTT GOES TO ENGLAND

We regret to hear of the breakdown in health of A. N. Tibbott, pianist and composer. During the war he suffered rather badly from shell shock. Our esteemed member has taken a trip to England, trusting that the sea voyage and change of surroundings will help towards his recovery.

Theatrical Federation Makes Presentation to Its President

A pleasant incident took place at a special Board meeting, held to define our line of action in event of any band of the Canadian Amateur Association entering the parade on Dominion Day. At the termination of the proceedings, a marble ink stand was presented to the recording secretary, E. A. Jamieson, by Chas. E. Williams, in the name of the Vancouver Theatrical Federation.

Why Let George Do It?

If you do not attend your union meetings and the other fellow does, why kick. He is doing the best he can Why complain because George does it? Why not do it yourself?

COMPLIMENTS

—OF—

E. Couling ..... Violinist
J. H. Younghusband..Cornet
C. Gaunt .....Trombone
A. G. McLeod.....Drums
F. Parsons .....Pianist

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CORRECTION

Member E. A. Griffiths, drummer, has erroneously been listed in the membership directory as "George" Griffiths. Members will kindly note this correction.

"TEDDY" JAMIESON RESUMES DUTIES

After a very enjoyable visit to San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jamieson have returned home, and are now resident at Blenheim Court, corner of Jervis and Davie Streets.

"Teddy" informs us that the boys in San Francisco, members of Local No. 6 as well as the executive Board of that local, treated them in a manner becoming a king and his queen. President Harding's reception in Vancouver had nothing on the reception accorded our secretary and his wife at San Francisco. A large limousine was at the boat to meet the bride and groom, and they were transported to the residence of Mr. Clarence King, financial secretary of Local 6, and from then on a regular daily programme was drawn up for their entertainment, terminating with being the guests of the executive board at the Orpheum Theatre, and a banquet at Marquad's cabaret. Mr. and Mrs. Jamieson have expressed their desire that The B. C. Musician use its columns to thank Messrs. Walter Weber, president; Albert Greenbaum, secretary; Clarence King, financial secretary, of Local 6, as well as Arthur Morey, James Dewey and Mr. and Mrs. Menkie, also the executive board of Local 6, for their very wonderful hospitality. We are sure that the entire membership of Local 145 will join us in conveying to our San Francisco brothers our appreciation of the kindness shown our secretary.

Oh, yes—"Teddy" informs us that his wife is a first-class cook.

"DICK" WARD TO SPEND HOLIDAY MOTORING

Another of our best known and hard working members, in the person of Richard Ward, will be absent for two weeks from this jurisdiction, dating from Sunday, August 12. He intends utilizing them by an automobile tour.

It is strange how many proverbs are not effective when applied to music and musical persons. For instance, there is the old saying, "Self conceit leads to self destruction."—Courier.

SLEEPY ROSSINI

ROSSINI was the laziest man alive, and his eccentricity was chiefly due to that cause. He was seldom out of bed before midday; and on waking in the morning, if the day were dull and did not please him, or if he had nothing particular to do, he was quite capable of turning over on his pillow and shouting to his servant, "Call me tomorrow at the same time as today." Whereupon he would promptly go to sleep for the next twenty-four hours. He wrote a great deal of his music in bed—perhaps most of it. It was his habit to have a roll of music-paper and a pencil always lying on a table by his bedside at night, so that in the morning, without disturbing himself in the least, and while still comfortably tucked up in the bedclothes, he might undertake the composition of an opera.

One day after writing a beautiful duet in this manner, and almost completing it, the sheet of music unfortunately rolled off the bed and continued its dance to some distance on the floor, quite beyond the composer's reach. What was to be done? To get up and fetch it would totally disarrange the bedclothes and spoil his comfort for the rest of the morning. He resolved therefore, rather than disturb himself, to write a new duet altogether; and, having forgotten exactly how the first one went, he invented an entirely new melody for the second.

In this way the opera "Il Turco in Italia" has two duets for one situation, and singers can always choose the one they like best.—Musical Progress.

Here is a bet: What orchestra in this man's town that can produce 10 per cent. of its members who wear three labels; that has 5 per cent. who wear five labels. Kick in with their names and they will be duly enrolled.

We saw your advertisement in The B. C. Musician.

Sister Blanche (just returning from Sunday School)—"Say, mamma, how long will it be before our little baby can talk?"

Mother—"About a year or so."

Blanche—"My, that's funny; the Sunday school teacher just told us that Job cursed the day he was born."

A Union Is What You Make It

Some men imagine that a union comes out of the sky, and that it is made to order. This is a fallacy which only active participation in union affairs can destroy. Why not be an active member, instead of a knocker?

PATRONIZE THE MEN WHO MAKE THIS PAPER POSSIBLE, OUR ADVERTISERS.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA MUSICIAN

Editor.....Ernest C. Miller
Managing Editor.....Edward Jamieson
Advertising Manager.....Fred Fletcher

Managing Committee — Executive Board of Local 145, A. F. of M.

Published monthly at the office of Local 145, A. F. of M., 991 Nelson Street, Vancouver, B. C.
Phone: Seymour 7568

"Let us co-operate and move forward hand in hand rather than split up into factions and starve our souls on dogmatic differences."
—HUBERT.

CONGRATULATIONS to our young member, W. E. Johnson, who wrote the article on "Loyalty" last issue. The Seattle Musicland has thought so highly of it that the article was reproduced in that paper on its front page, and an editorial was written earnestly asking the members to carefully read it and take its lessons to heart.

Our staff would not be surprised if that article is not quoted in many other union journals, as The B. C. Musician now has a wide circulation throughout North America and the Old Land.

His reference to that type of disloyalty connected with apathy is very pertinent. Only recently the T. & L. held a carnival at the Recreation Grounds in order to raise funds to build offices for its executive. Our organizer endeavored to sell tickets for that affair, but could only dispose of seven, and those were mostly taken by our officials.

The consequence of this apathy is the fact that a loss of over $3000.00 has been incurred, and of that amount almost $800 is due to our own musicians, whose services were engaged there.

This bill has to be met and has given the delegates serious thought as to the ways and means of funding it. Eventually it may be decided to assess us all, so it is obvious that if all of the members of the Labor fraternity had lived up to the spirit of member W. E. Johnson's article, and given their whole-hearted support, no matter how small, today we would have had a surplus instead of a deficit, and our own members by now, would have been reimbursed for their services.

ONCE again the modern "Rip Van Winkle" of this city, i. e., the Sons of England Band, have carried off the Orange parade of July 12.

The president of this union sent a strongly-worded letter to that Lodge, pointing out that only recently this union permitted their charity performance to go ahead without demanding any drastic guarantees at the Empress Theatre, which we might have rightfully asked on account of preceding defaulting companies in our endeavor to maintain a spirit of amity and concord between us. That Orange enterprise has cost us by default another $20.25.

We think we deserve a certain amount of reciprocity, and that friendship should not be so one-sided. To have given their parade again to a band that has been so deliberately willing to lend its services for the purpose of procuring "open shop conditions," and is on the "unfair list" of the Trades and Labor Council, must be an offense to organized labor throughout the city, and to many Orangemen who are unionists themselves.

IT IS gratifying to us that Local 145 is being pointed to as an example of progress.

Certain dissatisfaction is evident in Seattle over the lukewarm attendance at their monthly meetings. Only recently a serious action of the Board came up for approval or otherwise, and the total number present were 22 of whom 12 were members of the very Board of Directors whose action was under question.

A correspondent of the Musicland, Seattle, took the matter up, and proposes a revision of the system of dues, based on the Vancouver principle. He, however, makes the mistake when he says our dues are so much, and for non-attendance a member is subject to a fine of 50 cents.

We do not fine our members for absence. Our system is a sliding scale. If a member attends all three meetings in a quarter, the dues are $2, or attends two meetings, the dues are $2.50, or attends one meeting, the dues are $3, or does not attend any, $3.50. Leave of absence is only granted on bona fide excuses. Again, if a member desires not to attend meetings, and obtain a rebate, he or she can do so by paying $12 at the beginning of any quarter, which will carry them to the corresponding quarter of the following year. Any assessments for death, etc., must be paid in addition, when called for.

IMPETUOSITY and strong-headedness is something that may be carried too far, and give the person concerned on account of his lack of self-control, a not very happy time. Here is an example: Wilfred Rutley, one-time member of this local, was called upon under the mandatory powers granted the Board of 1922 to play at the concert given by this Association for its "Benevolent Fund" at the Orpheum, on Dec. 17 last.

He, with others, absented himself, and was cited to appear before the union in open session to explain. Again he absented himself, and the local, in his absence, passed a vote of censure on him which, considering the circumstances of the case, was a very mild sentence, as it is possible for members of the A. F. of M. for infractions of the laws to be fined up to a maximum of $5000.00.

Added to this censure was a fine of $2 for the infraction of Article XX, Section I. He refused to pay the fine, consequently, after a time limit was placed on him to do so, and which he failed to take advantage of, the Board had no other course but to expel him.

It has now probably dawned upon him that he has practically cut himself off from association with his professional brothers of half of this continent in the profession of music.

He has since placed his case in the hands of a solicitor, maintaining that he was wrongfully expelled. The president and the secretary met those who represented him, and pointed out the whole circumstances of the case; and that he (W. Rutley), if dissatisfied with the ruling of the local, had the opportunity of appeal to the higher courts of the A. F. of M., and had neglected to do so.

Mr. Wilfred Rutley undertook, as all members do, a solemn obligation to adhere to the constitution and bylaws of the Federation and Local 145, and in a spirit of defiance which may be the result of stubbornness, or his mistaken idea of principle, rendered himself liable to be disciplined.

Our local stands adamant on a point of principle as well. If they did otherwise, disintegration would soon be the result. It is as well for all of us to remember this case, and conscientiously live up to our bylaws, and maintain a firm discipline throughout the membership.

NOTICE

General Meeting

SUNDAY, AUG. 12, 1923, in the Moose Hall, Homer Street, at 10 a.m.

AGENDA

1. Further consideration of the report of your committee revising by-laws.
2. Any other business.

FURTHER COMPLIMENTS TO B. C. MUSICIAN

(From the Overture, Los Angeles, July 15, 1923)

We are in receipt of Vol. 1, No. 1 of The British Columbia Musician, the official journal of Local 145, A. F. of M., Vancouver, B. C., a bright, snappy and interesting journal which we will look forward to with expectant shears. It is evident Local 145 chose with discretion its editorial staff whom we welcome to the fold with sympathetic congratulations.

(From the Musical and Theatrical News, San Francisco, July 1, 1923)

The latest organ of a Musicians' Local to reach us is The British Columbia Musician, which is the official journal of Local 145 of Vancouver, B. C. The first copies of this journal have come to our desk, and they are splendid specimens of the printer's art from a mechanical standpoint. The paper is excellently edited, and the reading matter is of great interest, not only to the members of the Local, but to all union musicians. The staff of the journal comprises Ernest C. Miller, editor; Edward Jamieson, managing editor, and Fred Fletcher, advertising manager. It is gratifying to the editor of the M. and T. News to note that so many locals are following our example and issuing their own journals. San Francisco was the first in the field with their own local paper, and we feel that we have blazed the trail for others to follow. We know that the efforts of Local 145 in the field of local journalism will be of great benefit to their members, and wish them all possible success.

FRANK MULGREW BACK HOME

Frank Mulgrew, recently located in Seattle during the past few months, has returned to the city, and intends resuming his musical business here.

SECRETARY'S MONTHLY REPORT

Transfer withdrawn: D. H. Pierce, J. S. Pearce.

Transfer Issued: W. E. McLellan, Mrs. E. Sephton.

New Members: F. H. Quinn, Eugene R. Mahrer, 'cello; M. T. Abra, banjo and sax.

Exempt: Fred Tibbott, Constance I. Denman, D. L. Denman.

Resigned: C. J. Cridland, C. J. Littlewood.

Transfer Annulled: H. Skuce.

Travelling Members: J. H. Kennedy, 802.

EDWARD JAMIESON, Secretary.

ORGANIZATION NOTES

THERE is a good field for our less experienced dance orchestra men, in "No Man's Land"—that is to say, Fraser Valley, as far as Abbotsford, Chillwack, Mission, Port Haney, etc., to get in some good work this coming winter's dance season. There are at least 75 dance halls of various sizes that can employ from two to a five-piece orchestra in the valley. Get busy, boys. Don't complain if you are not getting your share of the work going on. Remember the union does not function for the sole purpose of finding jobs for its members. One has to try and create their own work. Young and less experienced members will do well to remember this, and form your own little orchestras among yourselves and work up.

Dance Prices

Dance orchestras can enter Westminster jurisdiction without hindrance from that local. Those availing themselves of this opportunity must have their cards fully paid up with them, as the sergeant-at-arms may demand scrutiny. All prices for dances in Westminster jurisdiction are in Class "B," Vancouver price list.

Prices for dance work in the unorganized territory, Fraser Valley, shall be based upon Westminster prices as a minimum

Report Irregularities

Members will do a good turn to the Union and themselves by promptly reporting any irregularities they know to be going on, report to be made to the sergeant-at-arms. Remember, your confidence will be well placed, and the informant's name will be kept secret.

The San Francisco Locals are having their share of troubles with the "made while you wait musician brand." The recording secretary, who has returned from his visit to that city, while on his honeymoon, informs us. The growth of the semi-amateur element as the result of the policy of certain teachers, which combines the sale of an instrument and a certified number of lessons, has been such that the "Frisco" local is seriously considering the prohibition of teaching by their members to any but union men and women.

ANOTHER EUPERISM

The easiest way to a man's heart is by good cooking, and the easiest way to a woman's heart is when you get a "bum" meal, eat it without "yapping."

Overheard at a recent aluminum shower.

MINUTES OF UNION AND EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS

Special Board Meeting June 30, 1923

Officers all present.

Called to order at 12:10 p.m.

President Miller in the chair.

Member P. Dugnid makes application for a price on the Trades and Labor carnival at Recreation Park. Upon motion, price for seven days, three hours per day is placed at $35 per man; leader double.

The president explains that this special meeting was called to consider the condition of July 1 parade, under the auspices of the Sons of Canada and the G. W. V. A. It was brought to the attention of the union that the Sons of England band had been engaged to play along with the G. W. V. A. band. Upon motion, the Board authorizes that if the Sons of England band play on the parade, no bands of this union shall participate.

Further negotiations regarding the account owing our members at the English Bay pavilion, was reported. The president and financial secretary having interviewed Capt. Marsden. Upon motion, the Board accepts the report, and resolves to abide by its previous agreement.

Upon motion, the president and secretary was authorized to interview the secretary of the Trades and Labor Council relative to the condition of the Canadian Amateur Bands Association being antagonistic to organized labor.

Adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting July 5, 1923

Officers absent, Jamieson and Newton.

Called to order 10:40 a.m.

President Miller in the chair.

Sergeant-at-Arms reported on the National Theatre, the Craigie and Gentlemen's Orchestra, and Wigwam Inn and Old Orchard Park, were received, and on motion accepted.

On motion, the National Theatre is passed on to the Theatrical Federation for settlement.

On motion, the Craigie and Gentlemen's Orchestras, the Wigwam Inn and Old Orchard Park were ordered placed on the unfair list of the Trades and Labor Council.

Regarding the military band stand at English Bay, on motion, the Military Bands Committee is asked to give their intentions for operating the band stand for this summer.

Permanent excuse from member G. B. McLennan was granted.

On motion, member Viggo Benn was censored for allowing doubling in the orchestra at Alexandra Pavilion, without permission.

Upon motion, the transfer of Geo. F. Dewey, clarinet, Local 474, is accepted. Also Robt. Craig, clarinet and double bass, Local 501.

Upon motion, the account of Mrs. E. Sephton is adjusted during her sickness.

Re arrears of member G. N. McGurk, on motion, H. Slatter to be notified of same, and to act in accordance.

On motion, the resignation of member W. E. Pearce is accepted.

On motion, the following bills were ordered paid:

G. N. W. Telegraph Co., $2.48; B. C. Federationist, $2.60; Cowan & Brookhouse, $1.33; F. Fletcher, sergeant-at-arms, expenses, $6.60.

President Miller reported the death of Marie and Edna Bryant's mother, and a floral wreath sent to the house. On motion, his action was endorsed and that a letter of condolence be sent to them.

Pres. Miller reported that owing to the weather conditions and the lack of patronage to the Carnival of the Trades and Labor Council, that he had given them a special concession to reduce the Band from 12 to 6 pieces for the rest of the engagement. On motion, his action was sustained.

Re L. R. Spray, ten days further was given to him to adjust his case with the Board, on notice that it would be brought before the regular meeting.

On motion, the request of West Gilland to double at the Lodge Cafe from Monday, July 9th, was granted.

Adjourned at 12.45 p.m.

Regular Union Meeting, July 8, 1923

Officers absent, Edward Jamieson, W. R. Davies.

Called to order at 10:05 a.m.

President Miller in the chair.

Upon motion, minutes of last regular union meeting and special meeting of June 24, were adopted as printed in B. C. Musician.

Upon motion, all Board minutes were adopted as printed, with the exception of those of the meeting of June 21, which were also adopted, with the exception of that item referring to the case of member L. R. Spray.

Upon motion, member L. R. Spray is allowed to retain the $5.00 in question.

Resolved that Craigie's Orchestra, Gentlemen's Orchestra and Wigwam Inn be placed upon the unfair list, and application be made to have Trades and Labor Council do likewise.

Applications for membership: Oscar Lund, violinist, who is not a British subject, is, upon motion, accepted, provided he places his signature to necessary form agreeing to become a naturalized citizen.

Application of Eugene Vadelbonneur and Edgar P. L'Herault are, upon motion, held until next meeting.

Communication from President J. N. Weber are, upon motion, received and filed.

Report of Trades and Labor Committee is received and ordered filed.

Report of Theatrical Federation is read and filed.

Treasurer's report showing balance in bank on all accounts at $1265.50. Upon motion, filed for reference.

Emergency committee report adopted.

Organizer's report adopted.

Financial secretary reports showing balance in current general account at $312.41 is, upon motion, received and filed.

Trades and Labor referendum on constitution amendment—Local votes in negative, 473 against 1.

Upon motion, regular order of business is suspended to act upon notice of motion re caretaker of Local headquarters.

Motion: "That the caretaker of the Musicians' Local be elected annually with the list of officers." Motion is lost.

Price List

Section 34, intermissions, amended to read: Three fifteen-minute intermissions.

Sec. 35 amended to read that any engagement taking place between the hours of 9 to 12 p.m., class A, $6.00, and Class B, $5.00; 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44 as recommended by committee; 45 as recommended; 46 as recommended, with exception of postponement clause, which was deleted; Section 47, amended to read time of engagement to be from 12 until 6:30 p.m., price $7.00 per day, leader double. Sections 48, 49 and 50 as recommended. Section 8 is amended to include additional clause, namely, 8E. All engagements taken outside this local's jurisdiction where members pass through jurisdiction of Local 654, New Westminster, may be contracted for at New Westminster price, plus transportation.

Upon motion, the committee's report is adopted as amended, same to become effective September 1, 1923.

Death Benefit Fund

Upon motion, the following laws were adopted and ordered to become in effect at 1 p.m., July 8, 1923.

Article XI.

Sec. 1. A Death Benefit Fund shall be maintained by the assessment of $2.00 per member at the time of each death among the membership.

Sec. 2. On the death of a musician in good standing, who was a full member for a period of not less than one year, immediately prior to his or her decease, and whose admission fee has been fully paid at least three months prior to his or her decease, (a sum equal to the proceeds of one assessment of $2.00 on each member of the local, but not exceeding $1000.00) less any indebtedness due from the deceased to the local, shall be appropriated to defray the funeral expenses, or to be paid to the designated beneficiaries. In the event of the deceased member having failed to name a beneficiary, the Board of Directors shall have full power to apply a reasonably sufficient sum to funeral expenses or to pay the full sum to or for the benefit of such heir or heirs as it may determine.

Sec. 3. Each member of the Local shall immediately name, in writing, his or her beneficiary on a form to be supplied by the recording secretary.

Sec. 4. A travelling or transfer member, in order to participate in the benefits of the fund, must have been a full member of this local for at least six months, and in good standing in this local for at least three months immediately preceding his or her death.

Sec. 5. New or transfer members shall be entitled to immediate participation in the death benefit fund, provided they submit to medical examination, at their own expense, which shall be subject to the satisfaction of the Board of Directors. In the event of their acceptance by the Board, they shall then be liable for all death assessments which may be levied.

Sec. 6. Members not participating in the benefits of this fund shall, in no case, be assessed for the same.

Sec. 7. All full members in good standing on the date of the passing of

(Continued next page)

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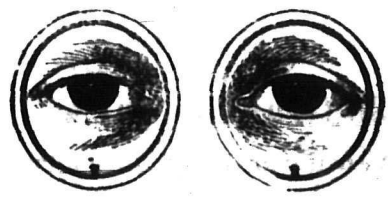

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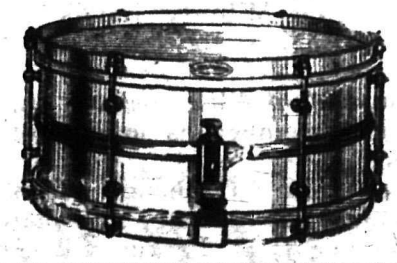

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MINUTES OF UNION AND EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS

(Continued from page 5)

these bylaws, shall be considered eligible for the benefits of this fund.

Sec. 8. The proceeds of all death assessments shall be banked in a separate account, and in no case shall any portion of the amount ever be applied for any purpose other than death benefits, without the consent of three-fourths of the entire membership of the local. In order to gain the above consent of three-fourths of the membership, a ballot must be mailed to each and every member residing either within or beyond the jurisdiction of this local, and a period of two months must elapse before a final count of such ballots may be taken.

Sec. 9. The Board shall pay $500 to or for the beneficiaries as soon as conveniently possible following a death, but the said Board shall have the right to withhold payment of the balance, without incurring any interest charges, for a period of three months if they deem such action advisable.

This increased Death Benefit Fund shall be in effect and operate as from regular meeting in July.

Upon motion, the Price List Committee is accorded a hearty vote of thanks for its efforts.

Member A. Fraser appeals from the decision of the executive board in fining him $5.00 at the meeting of May 31, 1923.

Upon motion, appeal is sustained, and member let off with a censure.

Adjourned at 1 p.m.

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Regular Board Meeting, July 12. 1923

Officer absent, Edward Jamieson.
Called to order at 10:35 a.m.
President Miller in the chair.

Sergeant-at-arms report is upon motion accepted and filed.

On motion a letter to Mr. C. Cornfield is authorized along the lines as suggested by the Sergeant-at-Arms.

Letter from Military Bands Committee was upon motion filed.

Following members are excused from last regular meeting: J. T. Richardson, A. H. Nachbar, F. Whittemore, Miss C. I. Moor, A. Gobert, A. Dickson, D. Walker, W. H. Lee, H. A. Copley, H. MacDonald, F. C. Spray, M. Morgan, G. J. McQueen, E. C. Trumbell, Mrs. Edward Jamieson.

Letter received from member J. D. Sudbury is considered and upon motion he is cited to appear at the next Board meeting.

Letter from T. and L. Council asking for places of business where union goods can be bought is ordered filed.

Letter from Minister of Labor at Ottawa re B. C. Musician ordered filed.

Decision of Board of June 21st re L. R. Spray was, upon motion, reconsidered and rescinded.

A letter addressed to T. and L. Council re placing Gentleman & Craigie Orchestras and Wigwam Inn was upon motion endorsed.

Upon motion following bills were ordered paid: Clarke & Stuart, 65c; Wm. Ralph, $8.50; F. Fletcher, Sergeant-at-Arms, $31.30.

Member E. Cox presented his claim for Band engagement at Recreation Park under the auspices of the T. and L. Council, and upon motion President and Secretary were authorized to present same to T. and L. Council.

Application of C. H. Davies for reinstatement was upon motion deferred until further information could be obtained.

Application of member A. Donaghy to double on his engagement at Alexandra Pavilion was upon motion granted.

Adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting July 19, 1923.

Officer absent, Edward Jamieson.
Called to order at 10:40 a.m.
President Miller in the chair.

Sergeant-at-Arms report is received and adopted.

It seems that member T. Andrews had employed a non-union member of this local before he had made application to join and that member, J. D. McKinnon was given two weeks' notice. The Board therefore directs the Secretary to cite members Andrews and McKinnon to appear at the next Board meeting.

Members excused from last regular meeting: S. Peebles and Mrs. G. Hartman.

Member R. A. R. Pearce, transfer member, is allowed until August 1st to remit full initiation fee.

The Gyro Orchestra makes application to play at the banquet of the Druggist Association. The request is for one number only as a programme item. Upon motion permission is granted.

Application is made for a price for community singing, duration one hour. Price set at $3.00 per man.

Secretary reads letter addressed to Mr. C. Cornfield, bandmaster of the 7th Battalion Band. Upon motion approved.

Letter from Military Bands Committee re English Bay enclosure ordered filed.

Application of Chas. Gaunt, Jr., as conditional member, is upon motion accepted.

Letter from Orpheum Theatre management containing information that member J. D. Parkin will carry on as leader for the present without contract was upon motion filed.

SPECIAL NOTICE

THE Harbor Navigation Co., having disassociated itself with the Wigwam Inn management, is now fair to this union, and members are permitted to render service. This company operates Old Orchard Park.

Transfer of L. McMahon is upon motion acepted. Instrument violin.

Bills ordered paid: Cowan, Brookhouse Ltd., account B. C. Musician, $79.40; Cowan Brookhouse Ltd., account Steward Report, $17.51; F. Fletcher, Sergeant-at-Arms, $3.55.

Further communication was received from Moose Jaw Local in regard to indebtedness of our member A. C. Guild, and as a result member Guild is given thirty days to remit or expulsion would be the order.

Letter from Mailers' Union No. 39 referred to General Meeting.

The following price is set for sightseeing car engagement, two hours: $5 per man, leader $1 extra, minimum number of nights per week, three.

Letter from Seattle Union Record, ordered filed.

Adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Regular Board meeting, July 27, 1923

Officer absent, Chas. H. Williams.
Called to order at 10:30 a.m.
President Miller in the chair.

Upon motion, the secretary is authorized to secure sketches of "Musicians' Union House Card," same to be as submitted to the Board, and be 4x8 in. in dimension.

Sergeant-at-arms report is received and filed.

President reports having visited Mr. Scott, manager of Avenue Theatre, with a view to collecting on promissory note issued by that gentleman. Mr. Scott informs that he is unable to meet same at this time, but assures that he will do so at the earliest possible convenience.

Canadian Amateur Bands Association Defunct

President reports having seen Secretary Bengough, of the Trades and Labor Council, in regard to the Canadian Amateur Band Association, and on account of pressure of other business, the Trades and Labor Council is unable to assist us at this time, but assures that it will be quite willing to do so at a later date. In the meantime we understand that the Canadian Amateur Bands Association has become defunct, in so far as this city is concerned, and therefore the Board decides not to proceed further until some new life is shown by the association.

Secretary reads his communication to A. C. Guild, notifying the member that if he does not meet obligation to Moose Jaw Local by the 19th of Aug., he will be suspended. Upon motion, letter endorsed.

President reports having obligated Oscar Lund, violinist. The applicant being unable to appear at regular meeting or Board meeting. Upon motion, action of president endorsed.

Upon motion, member Gobert is excused from meeting.

Upon motion, the Board sets price for pianist alone at English Bay vaudeville show at $4 for one hour service.

Secretary reads president's communication to Woodwards Ltd., in regard to employing non-union music, also reply from that firm. Upon motion, letters are referred to general meeting.

Upon motion, president's letter to Orange order, protesting against that lodge employing the Sons of England band, is endorsed.

Upon motion, application of Louis D. Hickman, violin and viola, is accepted, and he is obligated in the presence of the Board.

Account with Cowan & Brookhouse in the amount of $89.09, for membership directory, is ordered paid.

Upon motion, the sergeant-at-arms is directed to call at each theatre and other place of amusement, advising leaders to submit Steward Reports regularly.

Death Benefit Fund

Due to some misunderstanding on the part of the membership, or at least certain numbers of them, as to the meaning of the Death Benefit Law, the Board rules that same is absolutely mandatory, and each member, unless he or she be a transfer member, is obliged to remit $1.00 assessment at this time, and the balance $1.00 next quarter. This action is taken so as to clear the minds of those who believe the law to be a voluntary one.

Upon motion, sergeant-at-arms account in the amount of $3.05 is ordered paid.

Members T. Andrews and J. D. McKinnon appeared before the Board by request on account of the affair of a Mr. Harrison, Sax., non-member of this union, who was reported to have been engaged for Cotillion Hall. After hearing the members' explanations the Board directs the sergeant-at-arms to prefer charges against member Andrews for a breach of good faith and fair dealing.

Adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting, Aug. 2, 1923

Officer absent, Vice-President Stocker.
Called to order at 10:30 a.m.
President Miller in the chair.

Upon motion, report of sergeant-at-arms is received and filed.

Member Percy Clay asks permission to "double" on his engagement at Horseshoe Bay. Upon motion, per-

(Continued next page)

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MINUTES OF UNION AND EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS

(Continued from page 6)

mission is granted, with the understanding that the member complies with the law on "doubling."

Communication from Union Label department of the A. F. of L., is referred to general meeting.

Account with the B. C. Federationist in the amount of $2.60, is ordered paid.

Account with Cowan & Brookhouse in the amount of $11.19, for death benefit cards, is ordered paid.

Upon motion, resignation of Miss Grace V. Hood is accepted.

Upon motion, the secretary is directed to inform Mrs. Hill that she must live up to the bylaws, and refrain from playing at the National Theatre whilst a non-union musician is also employed.

Bands

President reports in regard to certain statements being made that the various bandmasters were negotiating with the Military Bands committee for the purpose of putting on free concerts. Upon motion, the secretary is directed to communicate with the bandmasters and point out that this union is opposed to any free concerts, and that any negotiations on that score shall be conducted direct with the officials of the union.

Mrs. Gillespie appeared regarding misdemeanor of member L. P. Adair at the English Bay pavilion. The Board suggests that she prefer charges. This being done, the secretary is authorized to cite the member to appear at the next Board meeting.

Account of sergeant-at-arms in the amount of $3.05 is ordered paid.

Member T. Andrews, having been called before the Board to answer charges, failing to appear, is automatically fined $2, and directed to attend next Board meeting.

Adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

EDWARD JAMIESON, Secretary.

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CON SORDINO

ONE often wonders whether or not this term was as completely understood by musical directors and "las otras musicos de la misma familiia" as the exigencies of the musical profession might demand. Its apparent lack of comprehension seems to be all the more conspicuous because of its presence rather than its absence.

Does it ever occur to an orchestra leader that real musicianly judicious use of the sordino or mute would improve their renditions beyond an estimable value? Evidently not, judging by what the writer has heard of the so-called modern orchestras.

Art is and must be based essentially in purity. This is a very broad statement, but one of truth and an irrefutable one at that. The purest tones of an instrument are never and can never be produced with the use of any auxiliary mechanical contrivance. Take for instance, the trumpet. With the grandeus or tone and color, dynamic strength and actual emotional possibilities, the artist composer, through the conductor's interpretation can convey a message by its medium impossible through any other coloring extant. To those familiar with the immortal work, the Pathetic or Sixth Symphony of Tschaikowsky might I not draw the attention to the tremendous first climax in the last movement of the strings in unison against the syncopated accompaniment of the brass and wood wind. What, of all the factors entering into this climax, seems to lift one off one's feet into another realm of wistful sadness, sympathetic appreciation of Russia's sorrows and make one feel the terrible mournfulness of Tschaikowsky ever pleading—but the magnificent fire of the trumpets, however, CAN YOU IMAGINE SUCH EMOTIONS CON SORDINA? Bah! Or to dessertate further, what would the strings sound continuously muted? It bears somewhat a similar analogy to the average theatre organist who believes in constant use of the tremulant.

In discussing the matter with trumpeters, the writer has been informed that the leader insists upon such atrocious and abominable use of the mute. It's about time to call a halt to such forms of musical prostitution. Today the public are almost totally ignorant of real trumpet tone. because of such practices. Let's abolish such quackery.

There are many arguments against such abuse and by far the most important is from the player's standpoint himself. Pure tone production is only accomplished when the waves are permitted to be started and progress absolutely untrammelled in their flight. The placing of any muting device in a bell immediately has a tendency to flatten the tone which naturally causes increased forced pressure to produce tone in tune and eventually ends in a totally ruined embouchure. A trumpet player after years of such playing, becomes immune and impervious to good tone, and actually cannot produce it.

In certain dramatic or coloring effects, judicious use of the sordino is perfectly in order, because the matter of absolute tonality is subserved for effect. But constant abuse of this peculiar quality of the instrument palls upon the nerves of the hearers and causes what might be termed a nervous reception of the sound waves emitted. The layman public may not be able to tell you scientifically why the music acts as an emotional stimulant but a scientist musician could easily explain it. The pure, big round tone, by virtue of its inherent properties, inculcates peace, harmony, brilliance without bombast, fire without rasp.

If I personally were to discover a trumpeter using a mute where the peculiar characteristics of the number did not call for or require it, I would instantly dismiss him for such unethical breach of good musicianly judgment. Despite the fact that so many popular orchestrations call for trumpet con sordino, we do not set rules down nor found principles upon mediocrites and the sincerity of purpose of such arrangers can be disputed substantially by refusing to employ such a magnificent instrument to such base purposes.

There are always to be found certain musicians, as Wagner in his time found them, who will sacrifice everything to the God of Mammon. One connot hope to revolutionize human nature over night nor to convince those pecunarily or ignorantly inclined of the wrong paths they are pursuing, but one CAN hold them up to such ridicule that good sincere musicians reward their prostitutions with scorn and derision. Like Wagner, my ideal, if my writings will elevate the art which is my passion and my life, regardless of their personal consequences, I will continue to pen them. Not in the spirit of egotism nor jaded conceit, but rather with a pure desire, based upon intelligent, constructive criticism to bring these erring ones to see their errors. Sufficiente para ahora.

HENRY FRANCIS PARKS.

GEORGE METCALFE TAKES VACATION

Mr. George Metcalfe, who is taking a vacation of four weeks from the Allen Theatre, intends to spend it by touring down south through Oregon, etc. His deputy in the leadership will be "Billy" Bremner, whose fame as a spotter for football and baseball coupons is renowned among our sporting members. Oh, yes. "Bill" also plays tennis.

The musical instrument firm of **COPELAND & EUPER, 259 Hastings Street East,** (opposite Empress Theatre), has added to its force an expert organ builder, repairer and tuner in the person of **A. E. Spraggs,** who comes from a famous family of organ experts. He was for many years with Murdoch & Murdoch, of London, which has charge of most of the great cathedral organs in Great Britain and Ireland, on many of which he has operated. Player piano tuning and repairing. Phone Seymour 2358.

THE CAPITOL STAG PARTY

IF ANYONE by perchance had ventured near a certain island by the North Shore after a short railway journey on the P. G. E., they would have stumbled upon a scene similar to pre-historic times. Sh— "sh—" (sotto voce) whisper gently. There was Master Cox and Sgt.-Maj. Gorse, and truth to tell, many others, emulating the nymphs is Arcadia, prancing and sporting themselves in the briny like the elfins in "Midsummer's Night Dream," with no more clothing on than the fishes themselves; or Psyche at her bath, in the celebrated picture by Leighton. Such was the strange behavior of this happy family in the absence of their pater familias, "Jack" Hunt.

The occasion was the annual picnic of this popular orchestra, Sunday, July 29. After spending an enjoyable day, the party returned safely without mishap, except for one of the boats capsizing, and precipitating its occupants into the water. Whatever casualties there were, the sergeant-major collected them up and saw them home. When he renders his report to the major, at present hibernating at Alderwood Manor, undoubtedly it will be all's well after a bumper of a day.

WALTER WILLIAMS "GRANPA"

Just before going to press, we are informed that our financial secretary, Walter Williams, has been made the recipient of a grandson, born July 31, at the General Hospital. His daughter, Mrs. Ernest Sidwell, of Victoria, and the boy, "Walter, Jr.", are doing first class.

President Miller rules that it will be quite in order for the members to approach the financial secretary and address him a "Grand Pa Pa."

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Ring Seymour 118

DEFINITION OF MUSIC

GRANVILLE BANTOCK, who was adjudicator at the Canadian music festivals this year, gives a boy's definition of music—music is something made up of a number of baas, three bleats to a baa. It is certain that many of us have heard tenors who provided this type of music.

We saw your advertisement in The B. C. Musician.

NERVOUSNESS—ITS CAUSE AND CURE

(Continued from page 1)

"don't care kind of attitude," so much the better. He should try to make himself believe it does not matter very much if he does slip, while at the same time doing his very best, he will be surprised to find out how few slips he does make. Let him remember that his audience does not know one dundredth part as much about his solo as he himself does, and he will unconsciously improve, and if he will persist in his efforts he, too, will overcome this weakness.

Nervousness caused by a man's physical condition can generally be improved if he will only take the trouble to find out what ails him, and then eliminate the cause, no matter how much it may cost him in effort as well as other things, for success in anything cannot be achieved properly while the physical system suffers.

There yet remains the few to whom nervousness seems as natural as eating, and who, do what they will, never seem to make much headway in overcoming it. These individuals are all more or less physically weak. Nature has not endowed them with sufficient endurance to overcome, and while they may be good musicians, they cannot be relied upon to even play a cadenza alone, and they needs must content themselves with just playing in the band or orchestra.

Nervousness is a bugbear, and it looks large and horrible to most of us, but if we will boldly face it with a "never-give-up" attitude it will dissolve into thin air.

There are other reasons besides nervousness which cause failure in a soloist—only two of which I will refer to. One is "over-confidence" in one's self. This is the exception rather than the rule, but as the exception is said to prove the rule it will apply in this case, for it is a fact in some cases that a man can be so sure and confident of his ability that he becomes careless, and carelessness in a soloist is the sure forerunner of disaster. The over-confident man will learn sooner or later where his fault lies, and should count himself fortunate if he does not have a bad fall and hurt himself, because nobody has any sympathy for a self-confident man when he does capsize himself. The only other reason I will mention is "poor preparation." This is allied to over-confidence. A man thinks he can get through without attending to all details and hopes to cover up his errors by fast tonguing or other devices.

It may possibly be that for some reason or other he has not had the time to properly acquaint himself with his solo, but it is very poor policy for any soloist for any reason to appear in public without a proper preparation, and while he might get away with it sometimes, he will get tripped up by it sooner or later with more or less damage to his reputation.

Not every player is cut out to be a soloist, but the ranks of these artists would be considerably swelled were it not for the arch enemy—Nervousness.

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TEN WAYS TO KILL AN ORGANIZATION

(from Sinfonian Magazine)

1. Don't come out to meetings.
2. If you come, come late.
3. If the weather doesn't suit you, don't think of coming.
4. Find fault with the officers or members in their work.
5. Never accept any office, on the basis that it is easier to suggest than to do things.
6. Nevertheless, get dissatisfied if you are not appointed on a committee, but if you are, don't attend the committee meetings.
7. If asked by the chairman to give opinion regarding some important matter, tell him you have nothing to say, and after the meeting tell everyone how the matter ought to have been handled.
8. Do nothing more than is absolutely necessary, but when other members roll up their sleeves and willingly and unselfishly pitch in and make things hum, complain that the board is run by a clique.
9. Hold back dues as long as possible or don't pay at all.
10. Don't bother about new members. "Let George do it."

—The Councillor of De Molay.

Bargains in second-hand instruments at **COPELAND & EUPER'S, 259 Hastings Street East.** Phone Sey. 2358.

DUES

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12, IS THE LAST DAY FOR PAYMENT OF DUES BEFORE FINES AND SUSPENSION BECOME THE ORDER. MEMBERS WILL KINDLY REMIT AT LOCAL OFFICE SO AS TO SAVE INCONVENIENCE ON MEETING DAY.

DEATH BENEFIT FUND ASSESSMENT

The new law providing a sum in the amount of $1000.00 death benefit, having been placed in force last meeting necessitates your remitting $1.00 at this time, and $1.00 next quarter. Kindly enclose when forwarding dues.

W. E. WILLIAMS, Financial Secretary.

UNFAIR - - - CRAIGIE'S ORCHESTRA