MUSICAL MOMENTS

Chamber music performed at Fellowship House

By ADAH K. JENKINS

Those who attended a recent "Open House" at the Baltimore Fellowship had the rare opportunity of hearing chamber music performed in its natural setting, a homelike room.

Thru the good offices of Philip Spencer, a Baltimorean now residing in Philadelphia, a string quartet that plays mainly for pleasure shared their music with Fellowshippers and their friends.

Miss Ruth Fegley, director of the House, introduced the players; Hidetaro Suzuki, of Japan, violinist and student at Curtis Conservatory; Naomi Lesnar, of Baltimore, violist; Celia Sucgang, violinist from the Phillipines, and Janet Rayburn, from South Dakota, 'cellist. The latter three are from the Peabody Conservatory.

As Mrs. Lesnar explained the quartet plays frequently and enjoys themselves much as the jazz enthusiasts do a "jam session." They often play at the home of Mr. Spencer's parents.

* * *

THE DELIGHTFUL informality of the evening at Fellowship House was enhanced as the players stopped between movements of the quartet to consult on matters of tempo or interpretation of a special passage.

During the evening a pianist-friend of the quartet members, joined the group in playing a movement from a Mozart Piano Quartet.

At the "refreshment break" musicians and audience mingled, chatting about the music and things in general. According to Miss Fegeley we may expect another such enjoyable evening with these musicians at Fellowship House.

The evening called to mind a similiar group in Baltimore over thirty years ago when the Lachner String Trio and Quartet flourished. Sessions were held in the home of the late W. Llewellyn Wilson, who played 'cello, along with Luther Mitchell and William Carter, also 'Cellists, Morris Davage, violist, Miss Ahia Jackson, T. Henderson Kerr and the late Dr. Peck, violinists.

HOWARD UNIVERSITY Choir, conducted by Dean Warner Lawson, gave a concert of religious music at Morgan State College, under the auspices of the Religion in Life Week Committee, Rev. Howard Cornish, chairman.

Prof. Herman Schwarz closed his tenure as Minister of Music at Grace Presbyterian Church Sunday, Nov. 9, The Rev. Robt. T. Newbold, pastor and the members of the church praised him highly for "his period of service which was most notable because of his genuine cooperativeness, insatiable desire for excellence and drive."

He left Baltimore this week for Spain where he and Mrs. Schwarz will make their home.

Miss Mary Fowlkes, one of Professor Schwarz' most promising pupils and at present a student at Howard University, will succeed her teacher at the church.

* * *

"STANDING ROOM ONLY"

was the sign out again for the second of the current series of "Magic of Music" concerts given by the Women's Association of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra in cooperation with the Enoch Pratt Free Library at the Walbrook Branch.

Following a brief introduction by Mrs. Harry R. Christopher, president of the Association and Mrs. Florence Hyde, branch librarian, John Melick, as M.C. presented the Symphony Brass Quintet.

The programmed numbers included not only arrangements for a quintet, but also duets, trios and quartets. The compositions ranged from early Italian church music, such as the "Canzoni" by Giovanni Gabrieli to contemporary works by David Uber and Hindemith.

Mrs. Henry Granger, and Dr. Labov Keefer, co-chairmen of the program committee of the Women's Association, spoke briefly, acknowledging the cooperation of the Music Performers Trust Fund of the Recording Industries and the Baltimore Musical Union, local 40, A.F. of M.

Announcement was made of the next concert in The Magic of Music Series, which will take place Monday, January 19 at 8:15 p.m. in the new Hamilton Branch of the Pratt Library, Harford Road and Glenmore Avenue.

The Dorubeto String Quartet, under the direction of Dorothy Gennusa, violinist and assisted by Ignatius Gennusa will play, featuring the Brahms Quinict for clarinet and strings.

Mrs. Hyde, Mesdames Robt. Ward, Anna Kantor and your writer were hostesses at the "refreshment hour," which followed the concert.

* * *

CALENDAR: Friday, Dec. 12 at 8:30 p.m. at Douglass High School, the Winter Concert by the Baltimore City Orchestra and Chorus. "Fantasia," a composition by conductor, James O. Jones, will be featured.

The orchestra will play also "Finalndia," "Minuet in G" and selections from Victor Herbert. The Chorus, directed by Almira Miller is presenting "Jesu Bambino," "Rise Up Shepherd" and other seasonable music.

The soloist, Joan M. Distance soprano, is programming "Love is the Wind" and "I Wonder as I Walk." The concert is free to the public.

CONFERENCE FIGURES — The recent Music Critics Association's annual Conference and Workshop was held in Pittsburgh and among other figures it attracted this foursome. Left to right: Richard Wangerin, manager of the Louisville, Ky., Orchestra; Walter A. Hansen, columnist, Fort Wayne News Sentinel; Mrs. Adah K. Jenkins, music critic, Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN; Mrs. John D. Agnew, music critic, Fort Wayne News Sentinel.

VIEING FOR HONORS as "Miss Social Security" are the charming young women of the Social Security Division, Baltimore, who are participating in the contest being held by the Avalon Fleature Club. The winner will be crowned at the club's cabaret party on the 29th, in the Coliseum. Left to right, bottom row, are Misses Verna Day, Shirley Payne and Esther Williams; top row: left to right: Misses Helen Tucker and Joyce Barrett.

JACK LORD and Royal Dano, as two outlaws, hold Gary Cooper at bay in "Man of the West," now playing at the Met Theatre through United Artists release. Picture is in color and CinemaScope.

$545 from grocery

Approximately $545 was stolen from a food market in the 1300 block W. Lafayette Ave., Tuesday shortly, before 10 a.m. Wolfe Luft, 35, the proprietor, told police an unidentified man entered the store, pointed at him, and demanded the money.

There's more pleasure in giving (as in receiving) Schenley Elegance in the Heirloom Decanter

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CATONSVILLE NOTES

Board of Tri-State Elks to meet in Catonsville

By SAMUEL TORSELL

The executive board of the Tri State of Maryland, Delaware and Washington, D. C., will meet Sunday Nov. 3 at Crescent Lodge Elks Home, 2 p.m.

The Men's Chorus of Grace A.M.E. Church will sing Sunday at Hopkins Chapel Church, Howard County.

A Christmas pageant, "The Star and the Stable," will be presented tonight (Friday), at the Grace AME Church. It will be sponsored by the junior choir.

The Rev. and Mrs. C. C. Brown, the Rev. Donald Allen, the Rev. Oscar Christmas, the Rev. Mrs. Ida Torsell, the Rev. Mrs. Flora Terrell, Mrs. Clara King and Ruth Hunter, attended the AME Conference in Chesteriown, Md. last week.

* * *

MRS. IRENE GAINES, 12 Shipley Ave., is received donations for the Society of Mentally Retarded Children.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Torsell spent Thanksgiving visiting her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Oden Williams, in Newark, N. J.

Mrs. Ozno Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Greene, mrs. Edna Lewis and James Bennett Jr., motored to Brooklyn, N.Y. last Sunday to visit Mrs. Lewis' sister, who is a patient at Queene Hospital.

Mrs. Mary Foreman is a patient at the Frederick City Hospital. She is the mother of Mrs. Mabel Harris, Milton, Pearl, Lester and Wade Foreman.

Harold Bond underwent an operation last week at Hopkins Hospital.

CATONSVILLE, 1932

William Rideout Jr. and Miss Mariah Taylor became "Mr. and Mrs." She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Taylor of Elkridge, Md.

The Rev. Saunders, assisted by the Rev. E. T. Addison, officiated at the ceremony.

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Hurricane 'Hamp' storms Baltimore

By BAKER E. MORTEN

The city didn't prepare for a hurricane this week, but then came Lionel Hampton.

Stomping, clapping, grunting, perspiring and wailing, Hampton and his 16-piece aggregation fired the emotional furnaces of a Lucky Number Club audience Tuesday night, taking Baltimore by storm.

Long after the accolades faded, the amens could still be heard. Hamp drew a solid two-minute ovation at one point.

He gave them what they wanted — "Flying Home," "Hamp's Boogie Woogie," "How High the Moon" and "Midnight Sun." Then he gave them his patented showmanship ability.

In return, they gave him their hearts, and you could have bought fun that night for about two cents a pound.

The great showman that he is, Hamp even injected something in the modern jazz idiom in his music, from a subliminal approach.

THEN HE danced off the stage to say he has a proposal from Columbia to make a movie, but is yet undecided about it.

"I've got backers willing to put up any amount of money to produce the film," Hamp smiled, adding:

"My mind's not made up yet. I want to trace the history of jazz from the African tom-tom era to the present day in the movie.

"Columbia has given me a great deal of latitude in the project, in fact, I can bring in my own stars and write my own story," he said.

Hamp said his tours abroad, especially to the Middle East, have been in search of material for the story as well as to entertain.

He said his next tour slated for March, 1959 will be promoted by a syndicate that sponsors auto races.

He added:

"Premier Charles De Gaulle of France is connected with the tour. It's one of his private enterprises."

* * *

HAMP DEALT in generalities when talking of jazz. He said all jazz comprised experiments in music, then declared:

"They eat it up overseas, especially the jazz of colored artists. They study books on jazz overseas just like we study books on classics in America."

Hamp said jazz tours in some parts of Europe attract as many as 20,000 people a performance.

While in Israel on a recent tour, Hamp composed the "King David Suite," which he says, will soon be recorded for 34 minutes by a 100 - piece orchestra.

Perspiring freely during the brief interview, Hamp attributed much success in jazz to the European flair for the art.

* * *

THE MULTI-talented artist, who plays many instruments as well as his vibraharps, said he's been in music ever since he plunked pots and pans in his mother's Louisville, Ky. kitchen as a boy.

He said he's going into the toy business shortly, manufacturing toy vibes with his name inscribed on them.

Asked to quote a figure in reference to his money-making ability, Hamp said his band is one of the highest paid in the country. He termed his jazz tours abroad a "big-grossing thing."

Jazz shows on television are a big medium in exposing the art, Hamp feels. He said more shows on jazz are due to come soon.

"Dakota Staton, Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong and Dizzy Gillespie are scheduled to do some TV jazz," Hamp panted.

He said he and TV jazz producer George Norford had conversed about a jazz show, but he declined to elaborate on details. "It's a little too early to talk about it. I'll know more later," he pointed out.

* * *

WHY IS Louis Armstrong on most TV jazz shows was the next question.

"Because he's a symbol of jazz. I played with Louis when I was a 16-year-old boy," Hamp beamed.

"Louis is great and the public loves him. TV higherups get many requests for him. He's an idol," he reflected.

He hesitated when asked who was his favorite artist. Then he blurted, "that's politics."

THE PERSONNEL in Hamp's band are Wilbert Hogan, drums; Oscar Denard, piano; William Mackel, guitar; John Mixon, bass;

Eddie Williams, Arthur Hoyle, Dave Gonzales and Edward Mullins, trumpets; Andy McGee and Eddie Pazant, tenor saxophones;

Bobby Plater and Zach Zachary, alto saxophones; Lonnie Shaw, baritone saxophone; Marcus Wade, Louis Blackburn and Clarence Watson, trombones; and Pinocchio James, vocalist.

FREEDOM BUS PASSENGERS—This group of volunteer workers for the local NAACP's membership campaign have won trips on a special 'Freedom Bus' to New York City where they will visit both the NAACP's national headquarters and the legal defense department's headquarters. Seated left to right are Mesdames Rebecca Briwn, E. McMillian, Susie Murphy, Ida Russell, Eula Mae Watts, Floence Snowden, Fannie Hall and Edith Allen. Standing, same order: Henry Ayers, Mrs. Julia Stevenson, Addison Warren, Mrs. Helen Booker, Lee Persons, Johnnie Mae Thompson, Thomas Smith, Raymond A. C. Young and Mrs. Lillie M. Jackson, local NAACP president.

OLD FRIENDS MEET—The gentleman on the left is Lionel Hampton, who has kept America dancing since the days of the old Benny Goodman band. Hamp is in town this week at the Lucky Number night club with his full band. His friend is "Hot Rod" Hulbert, local raido personality, and long a frend of the jazz master.

Held for bribery

Phillip E. Leach, 20, 1100 block N. Stricker St., was held in $1,500 bail Monday at Southwestern Police Court on a charge of attempting to bribe a policeman.

Officer Edward Price said while making a routine check a driver produced registration cards other than his own and when questioned, offered him (Officer Price) money.

Officer Price testified that he asked the man to sign the bill which he did. The officer then arrested him.

Tip on fatal fire collects top cash

They were hot this past week, those newstipsters were!

And for their prompt calls to the AFRO to give us tips on stories they saw in the making, the mailman is dropping off checks to a large number of quick-on-the-draw informers.

Two checks of $5 each go to photographers, one for the picture showing School 125 children in a play let so-me and the other of a trio of Cherry Hill students who attended the Maryland Association of Future Teachers at Towson State Teachers College.

Top newstip cash of $5 went to the first caller about the fire in the 200 block E. Lanvale St. where a woman lost her life and several others escaped.

* * *

A $3 CHECK WENT to the tipster informing about the death of an undertaker.

Seven tipsters picked up checks for $2 each. Their calls gave information on the colored woman lawyer representing the defendants in the alcohol case in federal court, the man shooting himself at Monument and Bond Sts., the AME church group who escapped injury in auto crash;

The bank holdup at Clifton Ave. and Gay St., the fatal burning death of the man on Shuter St., the bus rider struck with a brick thrown by trio of boys, and the Argyle Ave. shooting.

A special $1 check was won by the gentleman who called to say he saw a hovering light in the sky and later called back to say it was just an airplane testing a new type of lights.

Other $1 checks were paid for the tips on the Thursday night fire at Morgan State College, the accident at Calvert and 21st Sts., and the accident at Morley Ave. and Division St.

* * *

EACH WEEK the AFRO sets aside $50 for newstips and another $50 for news pictures.

To win some of the tip money all any reader has to do is call MU-5-6015 and say, "I have a tip." Winners are selected on the basis of news worth, information given and the promptness of the call.

Photographers must bring their pictures to the City Desk, 628 N. Eutaw St.

Bill Alexander is overseas speaker

CIUDAD, TRUJILLO, Dominican Republic—(ANP) — Bill Alexander of Baltimore, chief of By-Line Newsreel, was guest speaker at the first meeting of the newly formed Dominican-African Cultural Association held at the University of Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic.

Composed of business and professional man, the association, headed by Dr. Rogelio Lamarche Soto was organized in Ciudad-Trujillo to head the universal struggle against racial and religious prejudice.

At the conclusion of a talk on race relations in the Western Hemisphere, the University conferred Alexander an honorary doctorate degree.

In the Dominican Republic to make three documentary films of the university, the resources and products of the country, Alexander said he was greatly impressed by the lack of racial discrimination, and the excellent facilities for education and health.

At a luncheon with Generalissimo Trujillo at the national palace, the Generalissimo extended an open invitation to any American colored students who wish to enroll in the high schools or universities of his country.

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