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A MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR LOVERS OF POPULAR MUSIC

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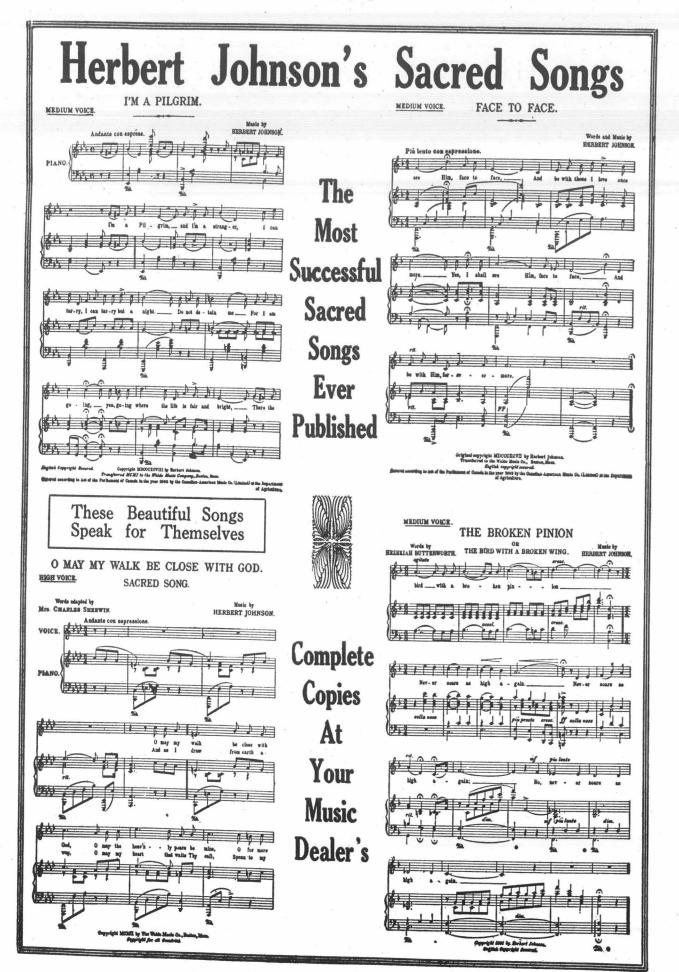
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Volume IV

April, 1920

Number 4

Lesson and Tuition Recording

A Simple, Accurate, Rapid Method of Notating These Important Items in Piano Studio Bookkeeping

By Edward R. Winn



is at least one pianist, more often several pianists, now conducting individually owned popular, schools and studios, teaching ragtime piano playing.

over night — the director is sooner or later literally swamped in a vortex of clerical detail.

Increased bookkeeping facilities and equipment are immediately required to notate that most important of commercial factors — cash receipts — and to record other required items. Now, very few pianists have had the necessary accounting experience or training to understand and quickly provide for proper recording in the emergency of sudden or too rapid expansion. Also, the exigencies of the situation do not permit time to study and solve the problem.

There are many possible means and variations for handling this necessary work, of course, but for practicability with compactness, simplicity and accuracy with speed, and all without the duplication of a single operation, the clerical detail system here given is suggested for adoption and can be recommended as based upon knowledge born of personal experience. Although primarily designed for schools having three or more pianos installed, it is nevertheless just as suitable for one or two-piano schools, and probably more necessary or of greater practical value in the latter case because of the restricted assistance

While originally formulated and compiled for exclusive use in the Winn Schools of Popular Music, in its operation this system has no connection with or bearing on any method or system of piano or other instruction. Furthermore, its prindes could be and very likely are being applied in various other fields of office routine.

It is the writer's earnest wish that the ideas here presented may prove helpful in lightening the load of not a few progressive piano teachers and assistants in making their hours of application contribute to at least greater commercial, if not artistic,

The clerical equipment consists of Tuition Receipt (original and duplicate), Teacher's Daily Report and Pupil's Record Card printed in special forms to meet individual requirements, signals (strips of colored celluloid) to indicate day, but not time, of pupil's lesson appointment, and "active" and "inactive' card filing cabinets with alphabetical guides.

N EVERY principal city, and in nearly every city, town and village of any size or importance, there half-hour may be added if desired, but experience proves that its use is theoretical rather than practical, because of the pronow conducting individually owned popular music portionately large number of cancellations and the usual tardiness, elements which cannot be provided against. A strict schedule is a positive handicap to the school, because it reserves the teacher for a pupil who may never come.

However, for pupils who demand a fixed time and are regular in attendance a definite lesson appointment should be given

and reserved.

Fundamentally, the operation of the clerical system is as follows: Issue Tuition Receipt for every transaction, giving pupil original and retaining duplicate; copy the data onto Teacher's Daily Report and then copy it onto Pupil's Record Card — Receipt to Report, to Card.

Operation of Tuition Receipt

The first receipt issued to a pupil must include the name and address in full, legibly written or "printed."

On receiving any money for tuition, books, sheet music or other purpose, issue a receipt, carefully notating the one or

In case of a pupil paying a deposit on tuition without taking a lesson, issue a receipt, marking it "Deposit—No Lesson Taken," in space reserved for "Remarks."

On completion of a lesson for which the tuition has been paid in full, issue a receipt, marking it "Lesson - Paid," in space reserved for "Remarks.

In case of a pupil taking a lesson without making a payment on tuition balance due, issue a receipt, marking it "Lesson Taken—No Payment Made," in space reserved for "Remarks." One or more items may be included on a single receipt. For

example: Tuition, \$2; Book, \$1; Sheet Music, 10c. Mark on each tuition receipt Pupil's Record Card Number,

initials of person (instructor) having given lesson and initials

Operation of Teacher's Daily Report

of person issuing receipt (secretary).

Enter on teacher's daily report the required data as given on tuition receipt issued. Example: Pupil's record card number,

Continued on page 5

FORSTER'S BIG 3

A Triumvirate of Triumphs

Famous Exponents of Popular Music By Axel W. Christensen

No. 2 ALEXANDER PANTAGES

ALEXANDER PANTAGES

N SEARCHING my memory for a fit subject for the second of this series, my mind intuitively traveled to the field of vaudeville for inspiration.

Music is of paramount importance in every theatre, and no many thin fact was then done Mr. Partners. This is Nothing would be more natural than this, because it is in the vaudeville field where are found all the biggest and best singers and players of popular music — vaudeville to them is the highest rung on the ladder of success. Turning then to vaudeville for inspiration, my thought next turned instinctively to the Pantages Vaudeville Circuit as the most fertile field from which to pick my subject, knowing from experience that music predominates on all the Pantages bills.

With the general field determined upon, and the particular localization definitely decided, the next point to come up for

consideration was the special "subject" — which of the many artists on the Pantages Circuit should I write about? After some little deliberation the thought suddenly struck me — why not Alexander Pantages himself? Indirectly, the greatest "exponent" of them all when it comes to popular music! Not that Alexander Pantages personally comes out on the stage to sing any songs or to play any piano numbers, for he does not, but through his gigantic chain of theatres (covering the field in most of the United States and in nearly all of populated Canada) this man has made it possible for more people to play and sing before the publie than has any other man on earth.

If asked to give a good defini-tion of popular music, I would quickly reply: "The kind of music that one hears on the Pantages Vaudeville Circuit!" Now this does not mean that you hear only ragtime and jazz in the Pantages theatres. There is heard classical music as well, but it is that form of the classical which is just as popular with audiences as is the latest swinging, pepful tune from rag-land.

Mr. Pantages personally directs the management of every theatre

on the entire circuit, and reviews every act himself at his Los enough to hear her sing, and in this I was partly right because Angeles theatre. He has personal knowledge of every act that he did not get away from the crowd. When presently he moved these acts — even to the names of the persons in them and how much each individual act costs him to produce it.

Some ultra-conservative, prosaic, emotionless managers (those who appreciate no music other than that produced by the clinking of silver coins in the box office) might say that Mr. Pantages spoils many musical acts by paying too much money

I will play you in San Diego next week" was his sense of business, but that is not true. He simply will go farther than anyone else to procure and sign-up a good musical act for his circuit, while his innate love of music, combined with his

It began to look as though an audience would be hard to get, but after a moment he came over to me. His greeting was cordial, his handshake ready and firm, and our business was quickly and agreeably completed. He then turned to a young woman who, it developed, had an appointment to sing for him and to "show her act." I figured that Mr. Pantages would never be able to get away

toward the elevator with the young woman he simply invited the crowd to come along, and on the way down into the theatre talked business with this one and that one.

In the half darkened theatre the girl sang for him, and went through her regular vaudeville routine. When she had finwhole comment, yet all who heard knew that it meant playing the entire circuit for the fortunate young woman.

It is hard to convince some managers that a pianist who can command a big vaudeville salary should have something better



theatre while some animal act was monopolizing the stage space. But Mr. Pantages is "different," as several years ago he became self-convinced of the vital fact that good pianists need good pianos. It was this conviction, which culminated in his present thoughtfulness for the artist in providing a full grand piano in every theatre on the Circuit, that gives him his prestige and assures his audiences a full-one-hundred-per-cent value of the artist's

I can remember when there was no Pantages Circuit; can remember, to), when his Circuit was young - when it required a lot of money to pay railroad fares to the first stand, at Calgary, Alberta, Canada. I also have read how Mr. Pantages came to this country, a poor boy from a foreign land who lacked everything in the matter of that education which we believe to be so absolutely essential for even ordinary success. watched him surely and steadily progress to his present position as head of a great vaudeville circuit, where he stands as the biggest financial success in the vaudeville show-business.

I can admire the head, heart and soul of the Pantages Vaudeville Circuit for his wonderful achievement as a great manager, but deeper than admiration is the heart feeling towards the man, kindled by the knowledge of what he has accomplished for popular music through the supreme love of music that reigns in his soul. It is this accomplishment which (and again "inof Popular Music."

name, lesson number, lesson-receipt number, teacher's initials and amount received for tuition, books or sheet music.

Charge all lessons scheduled for the day (indicated by colored signals on pupil's record cards filed in "active" cabinet) as having been given, "missed" or "excused."

Note on back of teacher's daily report any pupil "making up" a "missed" lesson as follows: Mary Smith made up lesson missed January 2.

Operation of Pupil's Record Cards

Write out or "print" pupil's name and address in full when making out pupil's record card, giving proper care as to legibility.

File all cards in strict alphabetical order. Place only "active" cards in "active" cabinet.

A card becomes "active" upon any payment of tuition.

"Inactive" cards must be filed in cabinet labeled "Inactive

Verbally assign pupil a stated lesson-day and time, marking the card accordingly, but actually schedule lesson appointment by day only, indicating this by colored signal as follows: Monday, blue; Tuesday, red; Wednesday, green; Thursday, yellow; Friday, lavender; Saturday, orange; special, pink. Any directly") has made Alexander Pantages the "Greatest Exponent" list of different colors or shades may be substituted for those

3 REAL HITS FROM THE GOLDEN WEST, 30C. POSTPAID. CATALOG SALLY (SHAME ON YOU) BY LOUIS WESLYN & SALLY (SHAME ON YOU) BY LOUIS WESLYN & SALLY (SHAME ON YOU) BY LOUIS WESLYN & BOW-WOW GREAT One-Step COMEDY HIT ADDITIONAL AND OTHER SECTION OF THE SE

Every "active" card must carry one of the above signals and be charged accordingly.

Notate on cards the required data as entered on teacher's daily report, checking report to indicate that this has been done. When notating card for first lesson taken, enter in space reserved for last lesson the date of expiration of course.

Notate a "Deposit — No Lesson Taken" on some part of card other than the space reserved for date of lesson.

Charge all non-attendance on teacher's daily report as 'missed,' except that which has been specifically excused by notice one week or more in advance, as required, and notate on card.

On notating second consecutive "missed" lesson, remove card from "active" cabinet and file in "inactive" cabinet. Any lesson or lessons "excused" by notice as required must be immediately notated in full detail on pupil's record card,

and a full statement made on back of teacher's daily report. On notating second consecutive "excused" lesson, remove card from "active" cabinet and file in "inactive" cabinet.

Every "active" card as scheduled for each day — "special" not included — must be notated as having a lesson (duplicate tuition receipt will indicate lesson) "missed" or "excused," and so entered on teacher's daily report.

"Special" cards are those which indicate that the pupil does not desire any stated day or time for lesson and are to be removed from "active" cabinet and filed in "inactive" cabinet if pupil has not taken lesson in a period of two weeks. Check up on "special" cards every Saturday.

On completion of the course return original card to general mailing list.

As far as facility will permit, the pupil is to be assigned the same teacher (or her or his substitute) each lesson.

General Directions

Pupils are to be given their "turn" for lesson in the order in which they arrive. However, they may wait for a certain instructor without forfeiting their "turn."

The duration of a lesson is to be not less than twenty minutes nor more than thirty minutes.

Point out mistakes very sparingly and do not habitually criticise technical or other pianistic faults of the pupil. Sincere encouragement is your best tool.

Make friends of your pupils and cultivate their confidence and respect. To become a successful teacher you must take a genuine interest in their progress.

End and "sweeten" the lesson by playing that part of the song assigned for study — employing a straight, "swing" style, with little or no embellishment. It is very poor teaching to instruct a pupil in a simple, thin style, and then "show off" by demonstrating the number with concert brilliancy. To the struggling student nothing could be more discouraging.

The average of cancellations is one-third of the total number of weekly appointments. Therefore, accept and schedule four pupils to the hour for each piano in the school equipment.

Tact, judgment and common-sense will aid in making a prompt decision when an unusual situation presents itself. A safe policy would be, "the pupil is always right."

VILLIAM FERRUCCI is director of a Winn School of Popular Music at 817 Chapel Street in New Haven, Conn., which this year is enjoying its best season ever. He guarantees to teach ragtime in from twelve to twenty lessons, and to prove that an exceptionally apt pupil can do even better than that, Mr. Ferrucci has sent us the photograph of Miss Daisy Ordazzo of Allington, Conn. Daisy, who is but fifteen years old, is able to play the latest popular songs and music after taking only ten lessons. Aside from denoting unusual ability on the part of the pupil, this rapid progress speaks volumes for the skill of Pupils recently enrolled by Mr. Ferrucci

include: Miss I. R. Frankel, Mr. A. Anderson, Mrs. R. M. Murray, Miss Florence Poole, Miss Jennie Aiello, Miss E. C. Armstrong, Mrs. H. Daly, Miss B. G. Routh, Miss L. Kling, Miss A. B. Curtis,



WILLIAM FERRUCCI

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Miss E. Word, Mrs. M. Landow, Miss D.

Ferrie, Miss A. Gohsler, Mr. L. Catalano,

MORAL: USE YOUR OWN HEAD

THE advance guard of progress in-

variably encounters - and also

Mr. B. Floyd and Mr. J. J. McLeod.

and advisers (even the "music wise") at the possibility of turning out even passable piano players in anything like the number of lessons claimed by the promoters of ragtime. The experience of Basil Sadler - owner of the Sadler-Winn studios at 323 North Howard Street, Baltimore, Md., is typical. In a recent interview with Mr. Sadler he said:

JACOB A. METZ — MAE THORSCHMIDT

"When I began teaching Popular Music and Ragtime Piano Playing in Balti- the simplified and practical method more my friends, including those in the which is used in its own school course. profession, shook their heads in sympathy A commission is offered by the school on and said, 'it will hurt your standing in every book sold by teachers to their pupils. the city as a teacher and musician, and, Music, method and mazuma, is a pleasing furthermore, nobody can teach anyone to trio to sing in every sale. play the piano in such a short time.' Undaunted by all these opinions so graciously offered I went ahead, opened a studio and began teaching the Winn Method. 'Young in syncopation, but make and arrange

"That was seven years ago. Then by all processes for all people. sight," and it is a test of one's faith in his own opinion when he is brought face to came a new surprise for my good friendsface with the discouraging advice of short- my leasing of the second floor of a buildsighted friends. One of the obstacles, ing in the very heart of the theatrical larity in Chicago, where it was composed, with which pioneer teachers of popular and business district of the city, at 323 is to be given big boosting by Jack Robmusic have to contend in their various North Howard Street, over Setchell's bins - general manager for Richmond, communities, is the incredulity of friends Song Shop and an ideal location. The the New York publisher.

new studio is now running to capacity with three teachers, and I unhesitatingly make the statement that the business is still in its infancy. I have something new 'up my sleeve' for the development of the Popular Music and Ragtime Piano Playing Schools proposition. It may be interesting to know that this one branch now takes care of more than two hundred pupils a week.'

Associated with Mr. Sadler in the studios are Harry Y. Carter, Jr., who is a composer and arranger, and a teacher of the saxophone, cornet, ukulele and guitar; and Will Lowe - known as the "Banjo Wizard" - who teaches the banjo, mandolin, violin and banjo-mandolin.



KATHERINE B. McLAUGHLIN

The American Ragtime Piano School at 1214 Rosedale Avenue, Chicago, publishes

Warner C. Williams & Co. of Indianapolis, Indiana, not only publish waltzes overcomes — the jibes and jeers America' took to the idea at a jump, and of persons possessing remarkable "hind- I soon became very successful as a teacher. besides making plates and printing music

"La Veeda," which is fast gaining popu-

...WINN WINNOWINGS... Tomornous and the contract of the contract of

STUDIO STROLLINGS

AUSTIN CROMBIE, JR., of 1426 President Street, Brooklyn, N. Y., played the piano in a jazz orchestra for a year and a half at the Brooklyn Navy Yard Home Club for Soldiers, before entering the service himself. After becoming a "gob" he was official pianist at the various camp dances and entertainments.

During his roamings Austin came across the "Winn Method," and as it looked pretty good to him, he says the first thing he did upon being mustered out was to enroll in the Winn-Vincent school in his home town. Having previous knowledge of the piano his progress was rapid, and he is now doing orchestral work all over Long Island at minstrel shows and country club functions.

COB A. METZ of 22 Hillcrest Avenue, Jamaica, L. I., became so enthusiastic over his success as a pupil of Miss Mae Thorschmidt, a Winn Method teacher in the Ridgewood section of New York City, that he got "all dolled up" and had his picture taken -not alone, either — then sent it to the Winn headquarters with the following apprecia-

"Your method of teaching modern piano playing has been of wonderful benefit to me. After only fifteen lessons under the direction of Miss Mae Thor-



J. AUSTIN CROMBIE, Jr.

schmidt of the Ridgewood branch, Winn school, I am able to play all the latest ragtime and popular compositions cor

"I heartily endorse and recommend the Winn Method as the very best way played by professional pianists, and adof learning popular music, as you hear it vise everybody to learn to play it in this Clifford Hughes of Central Falls.

easy, interesting way. I also wish to state that before I started at the school I did not know one note or key from an-

"You may publish my letter wherever you wish, so that others who are ambitious to learn may profit by my success."

ISS KATHERINE B. Mc-LAUGHLIN, who conducts a studio in Room 405 in the Caesar Misch Building, 51 Empire Street, Providence, R. I., and another in Pawtucket, is doing capacity business as a teacher of popular music and ragtime piano playing, and has a waiting list of friends anxious to get into the game. The music she is using for teaching purposes just now inusing for teaching purposes just now includes "What Could Be Sweeter;" "His Majesty, the American;" "Oh, What a Pal was Mary;" "I'll Be Happy When the Preacher Makes You Mine;" "Freckles;" "Tell Me;" "I'll Wait for You;" "Apple-jack Rag," and "Bingo Rag"

Recent enrolments include the Misses Mae Smith, Mary Donnelly, Sadie Strand, Mae A. Healey, Belle Feingold, Winnifred King, Lena Fallon, Mae Martin, Nora Prendergast and Helena Curran of Providence; Katharine Moore, Madaline Strom, Esther Tillman, Lena Whalley, Evelyn Simpson, Edith Benson, Elizabeth Ward, Katharine Collins and Gertrude Bradshaw of Pawtucket; Katharine Reagan, Celia Tetrault and Veronica Carney of Central Falls; Dora Marcel of Valley Falls and Helen Austin of Lonsdale;



From Chicago

E OBTAINED some publicity the other day in the Chicago Herald Examiner, and it happened this way. A young lady was ushered into my office,

and I got all ready with the regular set speech that is used for hypnotizing a new pupil into making a large advance payment. In this case, however, she did most of the talking.

She was Caryl Frink, known as the "Little Girl Reporter of the Chicago know. Herald Examiner, and was searching for material for her next day's story. She aragtime teacher wanted some ideas that might be worked any day." into a story to help entertain the readers of her paper on their way down to the office in the morning; also, would I tell her some jokes which might be considered to work. as typical "stock gags" of the music busi-

I used to know a million of these "gags," but of course when I tried to think of them I couldn't—except the two she used in her story. I gave her a lot of other ideas for her write-up, but when I saw the paper the next morning I found that my ideas weren't half as good as her own, as she had used only the gags about the elephants and the one about "Milly" using the white keys. The rest of the story was the product of her own brain. Following is what she printed about us the next day:

"Syn-co-pate it, Hes-i-tate it, Ra-hag it through and through. Har-mon-ize it, Hyp-no-tize it;

I yam strong for you The ragtime professor took his long fingers from the keys and



wheeled around on the piano stool. "Yes'r," I said. "I think it's pretty."

Chicago Syncopations

By Axel W. Christensen

"Now we'll do the next part - you play it this time.

Professor Axel Christensen, the originator of "Ragtime in Twenty Lessons, jumped up from the piano stool and I sat down.

"Now, remember," cautioned the professor, "eight beats to the measure one, two, three -

"Get that tingle, Get that jingle,

Get that swing as well —" "Eight, nine, ten," counted the pro-

fessor.
"Warm and happy, Bright and snappy Ragtime rings the bell!"

"Great! You've got it!" cried the professor, clapping his long hands.
"Can I teach it now?" I wanted to

"Sure," smiled the professor. "Why,

"Honest?" I said.

"Sure," said the professor. "All right," I said. "I'm ready to go

"Let's see," mused the professor. "Young Egbert just came for his lesson; you can try him. Room D."

I gathered up my music and started for Room D, one of the little lesson rooms in the Christensen School at 20 E. Jack-

"Are you Egbert?" I asked a pale and underfed-looking young man who was sitting at the piano in room D.

"Yes'm," he admitted. "And how are you getting along with your lessons?" I asked.

"Swell!" grinned Egbert. "I can rag 'The Rock of Ages.' "Have you had lesson 10 yet?" I asked

in a businesslike tone. "The jazz smear?" asked Egbert, running through his lesson book. "That's the one I'm on.

"A'right," I said, standing over him with the lesson book. "Play 'I'll Be Your Baby Vampire, using the jazz

Egbert played the piece, slurring the notes with the left hand to make it sound like a saxophone.

"You're learning to do a lot with a piano," I said admiringly.

"A piano's a great tin can," Egbert said, reverently.

"Yes," I said. "It takes 5,000 elephants a year to make the keys. See who's at the door."

Egbert answered the knock at the door and a stout determined-looking woman marched in.

美国

"Are you the ragtime teacher?" sie demanded.

"Yes," I said with pride. "Well, I'm Milly Schultze's ma. I wanna know why you on'y teach Milly on the white keys.

"Maybe Milly hasn't gotten into sharps and flats yet," I said.

"I ain't said nothin' about sharps an' flats," roared the determined woman.



"I tell you I paid a lot f'r Milly's piano an' I want she should play on all the

"Can you beat it?" I asked Eghert when Milly's ma had gone.

"What I don't get is what you said about the elephants," said Egbert, rolling up his music to go. "I don't believe it." "What?" I said. "That it takes 5,000 elephants a year to make ivory piano

"Yeh," he said, as he made for the door of the music room. "I don't think they could do it in a year."

Writing for MELODY is a pleasant occupation, and - it has its compensations. Only this morning, for instance, the mail man brought me two wonderful pictures of Anna Chandler, "Queen of Song," whose likeness appeared in last month's MELODY. The photographs she sent were both autographed. I wish I could tell you what she wrote, but just can't fight down my annoying modesty. I'll hang them in my studio, though, where I can look at them often. I'll say again that writing for MELODY has its compensations.

On a recent trip down to St. Louis to visit Ed. Mellinger, we were holding a conference in his office in the Holland Building, surrounded by the silence of the early morning hours. Most ragtime studios do not come to life until eleven o'clock in the morning, making up for this by hanging on till ten in the evening. All of a sudden there burst out the most uncanny noise I ever heard, being a mixture of Continued on page 21



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MELODY







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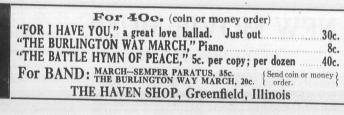
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CHICAGO SYNCOPATIONS Continued from page 8

gargling and hollering for help — I imagine a lot of drowning people make a noise like that.

"What, for the love of Mike, is that, Ed.?" said I. "Oh," said Ed., "that's just a fellow

who practices singing here every morning from nine till ten. "Tell me," I asked "what do we get for this daily punishment?'

"Oh, it's a good proposition," said Ed. hastily. "That bird coughs up a dollar a week.

I let it go at that and started to talk of something else, for I could see that Ed. figured he had put over something big in utilizing part of his studio's "dead time." Personally, however, I think it is the hardest earned money I ever heard of.

Last summer, while riding around the country with me, as previously related in these pages, Bernard Brin, the snappy jazz-time man of Seattle, put one over. Under a guise of fun and amusement he offered me two-bits for the exclusive agency of the Hawaiian Islands. In the same spirit of buffoonery I sold it to him, and the money changed hands. Now comes a man with real serious intentions regarding opening a school of ragtime in Honolulu, who wants the exclusive agency. (Dear competitors, pardon me for holding back his name and address until the deal is closed.)

I had started right in to write this man that nothing would delight me more than to arrange to let him the exclusive agency for my product in Honolulu and the Hawaiian Islands (with the East Indies thrown in free for good measure, together with a part of Japan), when the thought struck me that I was already "sewed up" on the territory. There passed through my mind a mental picture of Bernard Brin sitting across the table cloth from me among the red ants and sandwiches, at some camping point on that never-to-beforgotten ragtime tour last summer, and "Axel, here's your two-bits. Now I own the Hawaiian Islands.

The fellow that the old testament tells as about, who way back in those ancient times sold his birthright for a mess of pottage, had nothing on me. I am sure Marquette University. his birthright was not worth as much as the Islands entailed in my transaction, and I know the pottage he got in exchange would be worth more than a quarter if he put the same deal across today.

The upshot of the thing was that I had to swallow my pride and write Bernard Brin the facts, enclosing with my letter a hope for leniency. Back comes a letter from which I quote the following: "I'll make you a counter proposition. I shall be pleased to sell you the Islands back for fifty cents (\$.50). I will be making one hundred per cent on my investment, and will consider that a good stroke of busi-

What could I do? I just had to settle. Nevertheless, in the language of Wall Street, that's the time I was made to pay "through the nose."

OTHER SYNCOPATED NOTES

From Milwaukee, Wisconsin

THE Milwaukee School has just settled in new quarters, where we are using about twice as much room as before. We consider ourselves lucky in securing a central location on the principal street and in a studio building. The Christensen school has larger quarters than any other school in the building, and we anticipate a steady increase in busi-

Miss Viola Burnquist received quite a hand, when she played for an entertainment at the Milwaukee Athletic Association a few evenings ago. It is needless to say that she is connected with this school, being one of the teachers. Miss "Vi" gets out among 'em, too, doing quite a lot of social centre work when she has the time.

Miss Rossman has the distinction of turning out one of the best young players in the school—a little girl eleven years old, Viola Clements. This little lady plays any of the popular songs, and has her small girl friends wild over her playing, as well as some of the older folks.

Mr. Butscher has just enrolled with our school, having finished ten lessons at the Los Angeles school. He stepped right in in this mental picture Bernie said to me: on his work here where he left off there, and says he can't tell that he missed a lesson as our teaching system is so uniform in all the schools. Mr. Butscher is a first-class ragtime pianist, as well as a good lawyer. He is taking Law at the

> Ruth Leichtfuss has recently become one of our leading teachers. She has studied music for eight years, and is a graduate from one of Wisconsin's prin

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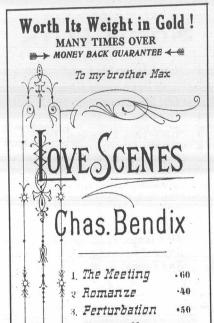
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DESCRIPTIVE SYNOPSIS

WHEN the soul is moved by Love's Awakening, it is as if some enchanting voice had spoken within with more power than words can e'er convey. It thrills through every nerve and passes to the heart like some dissolving strain of Sweet Music. This may be said of SCENE FIRST wherein is portrayed "The Meeting at the Ball," and where the enchanting Waltz so delightfully pictures the fascinating charms of Love. Its captivating grace, and dreamy Love Melody ever floating before the mind, alluring the lovers on and on throughout the mazes of the dance.

SCENE SECOND is "The Wooing," in which we have a Romance wherein Love's pure emotions, with all its fond and tender glances, its hopes and longings, now find their utterance, and in most charming manner tell their tale.

SCENE THIRD is one of "Perturbation," for alast the course of true love never did run smooth, however strong the affection or intense the passion! Here we find our lovers are highly agitated. They quarrel! Emphasis takes the place of gentleness! The scene is graphic, and although, towards the end, the storm is abating, and a PLRADING is perceived, yet peace has not fully calmed the troubled waters.

Happlly, however, a RECONCILIATION takes place as pictured in SCENE FURTH where Love again asserts its

Happily, however, a RECONCILIATION takes place as pictured in SCENE FOURTH where Love again asserts its sway. Here in accents sweet and tender the Lover now sings a charming Barcarolle, and with renewed ardor pours forth the affections of his heart. Here the light guitar, as it were, plays accompaniment to a beseeching melody. All is forging, and forgotten. The Lovers are fully reconciled.

And now the DENOUEMENT. This is finely portrayed in

And now the DENOUMENT. This is likely portrayed in SCENE FIFTH where merry Wedding Bells peal forth the finale to our little Romance. Here a Wedding March is heard in grand proportions throughout the entire scene. In this wonderful pouring forth of sound are perceived congratulations, and all the joys of the nuptial festivities. It is a grand and fitting close to the whole. But hark! At the end are heard once more those dreamy strains of the opening waltz; in these Sweet Memories the scene now dies away.

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cipal music colleges. It is unnecessary to say that she is an accomplished musician in both classical and ragtime music. She also has been associated with one of the large classical music schools in the city as a teacher, but somehow or other finds she has a leaning towards the ragtime, and says there is so much fun in teaching ragtime that she is getting really tired of classical. Do you blame her? If her classical instructor should read this item — "Good night" Ruth!

One of the young women employees of the Chain Belt Company, who has recently enrolled at our school, after only five lessons played a few pieces while the other girls were having their lunch at the plant a few days ago. They immediately wanted to know where she was taking lessons — as if it were necessary to ask! We now have enrolled ten young ladies from the same plant. — S. A. Thomas.

From Louisville, Kentucky

TARRY T. MYERS has been added to the roster of Forrest Thompson's school. Mr. Myers needs no introduction as a pianist, composer and arranger of note, as he wrote one of the hits in the Frederick Bowers show. He is a wonderful all-round musician. As an example of his versatility — Thompson played several numbers on the piano, which Myers followed on the xylophone in a style that would lead one to believe he made his living by playing that instru-

Just to further test his ability as a musician, Thompson tried Myers out on the French horn, with himself (Thompson) playing the clarinet. Not satisfied with the harmony they were producing, however, Harry proceeded to play the piano with one hand while contin the horn with the other. The two were so good, that a chap who was passing the studio stopped in to ask how much it would cost to have those three fellows play for a dance.

Rubinstein's "Melody" Was a wonderful thing,
But Jacobs' MELODY
Is far better, By Jing! — F. T.

eight-year-old daughter singing and danc-

ing for the amusement of her grandmother, who is about 80 years of age, and how the aged lady enjoys seeing the little tot do the shimmie. The father warned the little girl never to do the shimmie dance again, but with rather a disappointed look the child replied: "Why, daddy, grandmother doesn't like it at all if you leave the shimmie out!" This goes to show that they're never too old to like it.

The Forrest Thompson-Christensen school was given a lot of publicity recently in one of our leading papers, inasmuch as the paper has a three-column cartoon headed "Jazz, Goddess of 'Razz,' Snares Louisville!" The ragtime school is pictured with a sign, "Ragtime Taught While You Wait." Inside, a jazz band is in full sway, with notes dancing all around on the floor, and just outside the door "High Art" is pictured with the "Sonata in F" in its hand and shouting "Kamerad." C. M. Coe is the artist, and he sure has the right idea. If ragtime is only a passing fancy it certainly is taking a long time to pass, having been about twenty years in passing, and so far the end of the parade is nowhere near in sight.

Recently, quite a commotion was created on Fourth Avenue when a man, who was looking up at our sign "Ragtime in 20 Lessons" fell into a coal-hole on the sidewalk. When the police questioned him he said that he just "fell for ragtime."

Robert Niles is going to Detroit, where he will continue his ragtime lessons with Hattie Smith. He's an industrious pupil, and we know that Miss Smith will be proud to have him.

Charles Scales is a good name for a musician, and he is doing finely with his

Miss Evelyn Crady has been ill with the "flu," but is now recovered.

Ruth Roye, comedienne of syncopation, jazzed her way into the hearts of the thousands who heard her at Keith's "Mary Anderson" Theatre recently.

One of our lady pupils tells about her ight-year-old daughter singing and dance Zack Taylor is certainly an apt pupil, and is witty, too. When he enrolled I asked him if he were named after Camp

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Zachery Taylor. He replied: "No, the camp was named after me. You see the Billboard' I see many old-time profescamp is only three years old, while I am— sional friends of my 'vaudevilling' days well, I'm old enough to learn ragtime." of 1906, when we played in 'The Book-J. Forrest Thompson.

From Elgin, Ill.

James O'Beirne is a new pupil who thinks no one is too old to take up ragtime, and Jack says "right-o" to Jimmie's

Many of our pupils say they can hardly wait to come for a new lesson, because ragtime is so fascinating. P. S. So are some of our pupils.

Esther Schaeffer and Florence Werle are doing finely at the ragtime key-board, i. e., the piano.

One of the chief entertainers for the Crescent Club's annual event, held at the Unity Club house, was our friend Jack. Mr. Elberink played several selections in his own individual manner, and after some few recalls gave the boys a half-hour of jazz, which was just what they wanted.

Irma Lamphere and her brother want to take saxophone lessons when we have the time to give them. Irma is a former Elberink pupil and a booster.

Mrs. Ben Nickleson, a former pupil who has been very ill, is slowly recovering her

Jack says: "In looking over 'The ing Agent's Son' under the name of 'Jack Le Vere.' My old pal is now married, and the act is now known as 'Le Vere and Palmer.' Both are noted for beautiful voices, and whenever they play in or near Chicago run out to the studio for a chat to recall the many good times

Helen Smith called at the studio for a demonstration of ragtime means and methods. The Christensen course, which is simplicity itself, was explained as simply as possible and then demonstrated for her. It seems almost superfluous to say it, but she started her studies that very night and has sent us several new pupils. So much from a simple explanation of a simple thing.

Let your lamps lamp this list: Florence Schaeffer, Rose Wienke, Mrs. Johnson, Tony Zink and Leonard Schwartz — not the "Dolly Sisters" nor the "Greene Brothers," but new pupils of the school who are new subscribers to MELODY.

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Is it necessary, or advisable, to copyright or register manuscript before sending it to a large publisher? If a song (or other number) is a good thing, in its writer's estimation, is he "taking a chance" in sending it with no protection whatever - even to reputable publishing houses?

Do the large houses give your manuscript a fair chance? Are you just as well off in sending your

manuscript as in seeing the publisher If one publisher refuses a manuscript, is

it of any use to send it to other publishers? Beyond any shadow of doubt, the question of self-protection has mentally vexed many more writers than Mr. "Toronto," and MELODY is only too glad to be of ser- before it eventually was accepted. vice to the querist directly, and possibly hundreds of others indirectly. Concern- for a new writer to try and launch his ing the advisability of protecting any initial efforts with the smaller publishers. music manuscript by copyright, preliminary to its submittal to music pub-

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other lines. Again, some publishers object strenuously to pre-copyrighted numbers. A publisher on the very verge of accepting a manuscript may discover that it has been copyrighted, and then stop negotiations at once rather than bother with the subsequent details of reassignment of copyright.

As regards "seeing the publisher himself," there is no advantage in personally accompanying your manuscript. Many times it may be a distinct disadvantage, for publishers as a rule are too busy to give time to personal interviews regarding possible publication, while the necessarily hasty decision (if given at all) might be detrimental to the composer, Simply mail your manuscript, enclosing stamped return envelope. If it returns, submit it elsewhere and, if still further necessary, repeat the process. We recall a chap who submitted a number to thirteen publishers

It sometimes, however, is advantage Large concerns — such as Feist, Remick, Stern, Witmark, and others — are constantly on the lookout for exceptional lishers, MELODY will reply:

If you restrict your field to wellnumbers, and every manuscript submitted numbers, and every manuscript submitted established concerns, such precaution is un-receives due attention, yet the bulk of necessary. You may safely assume that their output is supplied by staff writers. the average reputable publisher is as It easily is perceived, then, that any outzealous of his reputation for square deal- side submittal must possess extraordinary The Novelty "Concert" Rag the "Jazzation" of Rachmaninoff's "Prelude" SIX BROWN BROS' BIGGEST "HIT" IN "MIDNIGHT FROLIC"

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Little Song-Shop Talks

Almost from the date of its initial issue the publisher of MELODY has been possessed with a notion which finally has progressed into a motion. This possessing notion was that one reader of a magazine would be interally has progressed into a motion. This possessing notion was that one reader of a magazine would be interacted in knowing what others are thinking about the same publication, and the progressing motion that has grown out of the notion is the carrying on of two individual columns under the same leading caption, namely, grown out of the notion is the carrying on of two individual columns is to register "Words From Others" (Little Song-Shop Talks." Under its own sub-caption one of these columns is to of these columns in turn the other will record "Words From Us About Others," one or both of the columns to appear from time to time, as space warrants or mood and matter moves. The main difference between the two columns will be that in the one concerning "Us" we shall include any slaps and slams as well as the boosts and booms, while in the one wherein we talk about "Others"—well, Mr. Reader, what would you say?—Ed.

Words From Others About Us

ECEIVED the sample copy MELODY. Am so pleased with fine offer concerning old issues of the magazine. Please find enclosed the amount to put in the "Column" an ad for exchange. cover 10 copies. — Miss Amelia Schey, Leipsic, Ohio.

A "feed" for the stomach is good, but food for thought is better, and although the amount remitted may insure the next editorial meal of Boston "baked" (you Vellines' approval of both the magazine never can tell in these times), the "feed" does not compare with the thought-food thanks her for the openly expressed apembodied in Miss Schey's phrase — "Am probation. We are beginning to wonder for a reasonable number of words, it so pleased. In other words, it is not so much the remittance (although the maga-would not have been "Want and Ward," exchange ballot" in the "Common Colzine is forced to "eat" to live) that really wherein Miss Vellines wants to award an umn" of MELODY. counts as it is the reminder - the reminexchange. der that MELODY is fulfilling its expressed mission to please and satisfy its sub-

I subscribed to MELODY in 1918, and am delighted with the magazine. As a "movie" pianist, I wish to write you regarding the new classified department it that I cannot resist accepting the ffer concerning old issues of the maga-I heartily approve of the new column, and am quite sure it will be very much appreciated by all professional planists.— Miss Olive L. Vellines, Norfolk, Virgina.

MELODY most heartily approves Miss and the new column, and just as heartily if an appropriate name for the "Column" doesn't cost a red cent to drop a "sale or

scriber to MELODY I think Miss F. M. magazine to all my friends here, and sent

Ward's suggestion regarding the carrying of a classified ad department in the magazine will be a boon to all "movie" pianists. It is a wonderful idea, MELODY is a wonderful little magazine and I wish it all kinds of success. I find it very helpful in my "picture" work. — Miss May I. Epps, St. George, N. B.

25

With these two letters as a "starter," there looms a suspicion that (even though wished) it would be no easy matter in the future to ward off what Miss Ward has started in the present. If it were possible for a "proposition" to be a person, and a "column" to be a candidate for election to a "common" congress of happy ideas, it is circumstantially evident that Miss Epps ("the advocate" mentioned in this issue of the "Column") and the subscribers taking advantage of the new column's first appearance would all vote the same ticket. MELODY "votes" hearty thanks to Miss Epps for her "success" wish, and returns a like wish to herself in her own line. It may not be inapropos here to state that,

I think MELODY is worth more than I am a "movie" pianist, and as a sub-fifteen cents a month to me. I show the one of my copies to a friend in Arkansas, who wrote back and told me to subscribe for her. I enclose amount to cover this subscription. As a magazine, MELODY "can't be beat," and I recommend it to everybody. — Miss Velma Barrett, Ardmore, Oklahoma.

If that is not genuine propaganda, then we don't know it from a proper gander and we are not a goose. When anything pleases, its broad boaster (recommending it to "everybody") is the biggest "booster." Sincere thanks from MELODY to Miss Barrett as a big "boomer" of the magazine.

People here are just beginning to take an interest in MELODY. I think that when they know more about the magazine it will become very popular. In small towns of course it takes a long time to find out about new books, music, etc., but I have been doing quite a lot of talking about MELODY, and am sure I can get several more subscriptions. — Miss Marguerite Sylvia, Pleasanton, California.

"By their fruits ye shall know them" is a well-tried phrase, and the "fruits" of Miss Sylvia's unsolicited and warmly appreciated efforts are subscriptions for three people, with the partial promise of "more." Simply as a town name "Pleasanton" starts a mighty pleasant thought, yet it doesn't hold a candle to the ton of pleasant thoughts that MELODY starts in the direction of Miss Sylvia. It was the great Schubert who set to song the immortal words of a greater Shakespeare that ask "Who Is Sylvia?" MELODY could answer the question.

THE COMMON COLUMN

All musicians who are subscribers to MELODY who may desire to change location or position, or who may possess music, instruments or other things common to their profession they wish to exchange with other members, to a reasonable number of words may have the privilege of this column without charge. Communications for publication must be in the hands of the publisher not later than the FIFTH of the month preceding date of issue. It must be that of the millions (more or

less) of our subscribers, the MAJORITY (all but one) are so well satisfied with their personal music goods and chattels they have no desire to buy, sell or exchange; or else it may be that only ONE (the minority) read the February issue of MELODY thoroughly, found the little tucked-in notice concerning The Common Column, and in this issue takes advantage of the magazine's offer of a little free service to its subscriber-readers. Here is someone's chance for a change by exchange or a

I will exchange a slide trombone for clarinet, or will sell the trombone outright. Trombone is plated, a fine instrument with no dents and plays in both high and low pitch: cash, \$25.00.—Nelson R.Smith, Centervillage, N. Y.

MELODY sincerely hopes that the "Common Column" is to eventually prove its name by promoting the "game" - it really is a great game, this "matching of marbles" in music or music mer-



chandise for the purpose of swapping or selling. Since the setting in type of the preceding paragraph (and almost at the moment of its going to press), that above mentioned "majority" has been decreased by one more (one practically, two theoretically), thus correspondingly increasing the "minority" - or is major and minor the other way around? One of these two heartily advocates the new column, the other advertises in it (see the "Us" side of Little Song-Shop Talks for comment on both). Here is the adver-

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Under the Soft Pedal LITTLE TUNES TUNED FROM TYPE AND TALK -----------

OPHIE TUCKER, the inimitable and (if it comes to gauging her vivacity, spontaneity and popularity by any conventional measures) the illimitable, although cosmopolitan by personal election and universal adoption, by birth and bringing-up is a BOSTONIAN. Think of it! the present "Queen of Jazz" was born right here in Boston — the home of blind back-alleys, bespectacled "bluenoses," baked beans and brown-bread, baize bags (always of bilious green) and — MELODY. Sophie — it would be too

unutterably Bostonese and "prunish" to write her as "Miss Tucker" — broke into the game in 1912 at the "Old Howard," then famous as a burlesque house, nor is the phrase "broke into" used without rhyme or reason, for that is exactly the way of it, as listen. At her debut in the Howard, and first appearance on the stage in her home haunts, she shifted for the first time from blackface to whiteface and literally "tumbled" into popularity. Furthermore, if anyone questions that word "tumbled," the proof is found in Sophie's own dictation to a Boston Sunday Herald scribe as follows:

"My most vivid recollections of this town (Boston) are connected with the Howard Back in 1912 I arrived in Boston to play an engagement at the Howard, my first appearance in this city. I was doing blackface; my trunk had not come, and I couldn't conceive how I was to go on with my performance. Then the leading lady of the burlesque show saw me crying, and with the generosity characteristic of show-people in general, and of this woman in particular, she gave me her own gown. She made up my face and sent me on the stage that way.

"It was the first time I had ever sung on the stage in my natural color, and I was so unused to wearing evening gowns that I kept making funny falls. I made a hit, and from that night to this I never have used the blackface. Everytime now that I come to Boston and pass the Howard, it stirs up memories of the time when I was working 20 hours a day to become the queen of jazz."

The Musician recently wrote editorially: "'Popular Music' is doing quite remarkable things in these days. The man who dubs himself a 'musician,' as a rule notices the 'hit' material of the day only to express scorn, and indeed it has heretofore, in the largest proportion, justly deserved scorn. But latterly there has been a change, welcome to those who are so placed that they must consider music in this country as a whole, and who are obliged to follow with some closeness its development in all lines

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