

ELDER CONSERVATORIUM.

Student Concert.

The third concert of the 1927 season, given at the Elder Hall on Monday evening, was a student concert of decided interest. The programme was widely representative, including music of past and present. Each of the 16 numbers was from the works of a different composer.

It has been proved that Australia can produce fine voices, so there is always an especial interest in listening to young vocalists, and trying to forecast the future. Miss Jean Catt's soprano told well in the scena from Sullivan's "Ivanhoe" "Rebecca's prayer," which she sang with well-balanced feeling and effect. "The willow song," from Verdi's "Otello," was admirably sung by Miss Dorothy Belcher, who has a voice of considerable power, which is yet used with admirable restraint. Her presentation was marked by expression and dramatic effect. A particularly successful vocal number was the air, "Oui, dans les Bois," from Massenet's "Manon," sung by Miss Marjorie Walsh, whose pure unforced voice told charmingly in her artistic presentation of this writing. Miss Hilda Barnes rendered with considerable dramatic feeling a group of songs by Dvorak. The first, "El, wie mein triangel," was brightly given, and the melody of "Ab die alte mitter" was well brought out. The bracket concluded with "Riege gestimmt die Saiten." Mr. Ray Piercy, who possesses a bass voice of considerable promise, sang the recitative "Yes, she flies from me still" and the air "She alone charmeth my sadness," from Gounod's "Irena."

Among the pianoforte numbers a group presented by Miss Bessie Francis, was especially good, the character of each writing being effectively brought out. "Prelude," by Scriabine, was delicately played, and in Debussy's "Clair de lune" and Glazounow's "Gavotte" Miss Francis was equally happy in her rendering, her touch being clear, crisp, and expressive. Another successful young pianist was Miss Jean Finlay, who rendered Liszt's "Concert etude in D flat," in which the melody was made to sing through the involved and elaborate passages in runs. Miss Finlay possesses both command of tone and expression. Miss Lucy Daecke played Weber's exacting "Rondo brilliant" with notable facility, her runs being happily rendered and the whole being well in keeping with the characteristics of the composer's work. Miss Helen Stratmann was heard to advantage in the "Andantino and Scherzo from Schumann's sonata, op. 22." Miss Olive Dyer gave a graceful rendering of "Moderate" and "Mouvement de minuet," two characteristic writings of Maurice Revel's.

An instrumental ensemble number was Purcell's "Golden sonata," for two violins and a piano, with its old-world interweaving of themes, which was rendered quite charmingly by Miss Katie Yoerger (Elder Scholar), Mr. Hartley Williams (Alderman Scholar), and Mr. Francis Kemp. A most exacting writing full of technical complexities, most capably presented by Miss Helen Magarey, who gave a pleasing singing tone to the quieter passages, and was successful in the more elaborate ones. A cello solo, "Tarantelle," by Squire, was rendered by Mr. Geoffrey Goldsworthy in a manner which won warm applause. A quite young violinist, Master George Hooker, won hearty and well deserved applause for his playing of Vieuxtemps's "Romance," which he rendered with a self-possession and poise that might be envied by many older performers. The accompanists for the evening were Misses Alice Meegan, Muriel Prince, and Joan Mellowship.

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ELDER CONSERVATORIUM

Long Programme by Students

The first concert of the second term was given in Elder Hall last night, Conservatorium students contributing the programme. There was a large attendance of students and friends.

Weber's piano solo, "Rondo Brilliant, Op. 62," played by Miss Lucy Daecke with sparkling technique, was the opening number. Miss Olive Dyer also played on the piano Ravel's "Moderate" and "Mouvement de Minuet," the numbers proving rather monotonous in character.

"Three Gipsy Songs" by Dvorak were sung by Miss Hilda Barnes, the most pleasing being "Songs My Mother Taught Me."

Mr. Ray Piercy was not so successful with Gounod's recit. and aria, "Yes, She Flies from me Still," and "She Alone Charmeth My Sadness," memory and intonation not being true. A very young violinist in Master George Hooker essayed Vieuxtemps' "Romance for Violin" with fair success.

Mr. Geoffrey Goldsworthy (Elder scholar) did his usual fine work on the cello with Squire's "Tarantella," and a sweet and artistic vocalist in Miss Marjorie Walsh, charmed the audience by her singing of "Oui Dans les Bois," from Massenet's "Manon." Her vocal work had only one rival, and that was Verdi's "Willow Song" from "Otello," sung by Miss Dorothy Belcher, in a dramatic soprano of much beauty.