Westminster Choir to Spoleto

The Westminster Choir is going to Italy and at the personal invitation of Gian Carlo Menotti. Pictured on the cover of this issue of the Newsletter is the village of Spoleto which will be the new summer home of the choir and its conductor, Dr. Joseph Flummerfelt.

Last summer Dr. Flummerfelt was chorus master for all festival events at the annual Spoleto Festival. At the conclusion of the Festival, Mr. Menotti, who founded the multi-arts showcase, asked Westminster's new director of choral activities to become permanent conductor of the Festival. The Westminster Choir was subsequently invited to become chorus-in-residence at the summer festival.

The Piazz del Duomo where many of the public concerts are held during the Spoleto Festival.

This is a great honor for the Choir College, and gives the Choir an international platform that can only enhance its reputation.

The following brief article about Spoleto and the Festival was extracted from one written by Mr. Menotti himself.

Founded three centuries before Christ, the city of Spoleto is located in central Italy, a “region full of hills and history.” Shelly once wrote, “I think it is the most romantic city I have seen.” But among all the beauties of this charming city, the two sights that stirred Gian Carlo Menotti’s excitement for making it the home of his long dreamed of festival were the 17th century Caio Melisso, a miniature jewel box of a theatre, and a larger opera house which, although built 100 years ago, is still the town’s “new theatre.”

Reasons

Menotti had two reasons for founding his Festival of the Two Worlds: he wanted to make music once again an essential element of the community rather than “an obligatory afterdinner cordial for the well-to-do;” and he wished to convince his skeptical countrymen that America possessed a rich and diverse culture of its own.

So it was that on June 5, 1958 this lively festival, that has attracted thousands to a sleepy little town in Umbria for its ambitious program of opera, ballet, film, drama, poetry reading, art exhibits and concerts, was born.

And it is to the excitement of this international showcase, now simply called the Spoleto Festival because it plays host to artists from so many countries, that the Westminster Choir and its conductor have been invited.

Spoleto

“Narrow, cobbled streets still invite the visitor along a walking tour past Etruscan ruins, Romanesque churches, medieval shops on Renaissance palazzi, opening at every turn on unexpected marvels—a Roman amphitheater, a tiny shaded courtyard watched over by a gargoyle fountain, and the sun washed expanse of the Piazza del Duomo, a cathedral square which, for sheer drama, rivals its more famous counterparts in Venice and Siena.”

As Mr. Menotti himself has put it, “The Festival, like a fireworks display, must be experienced firsthand. And should you need a pretext, there could be no better one than the Festival’s own raison d’etre: for the joy of it!” One further reason might be mentioned: The Westminster Choir.

Two join WCC staff

William Petz became director of student services in October, replacing Thomas McElhinney who resigned to pursue doctoral studies at Temple University. Mr. Petz was born in Red Hook, N.Y., and holds an A.B. in religion and psychology from Hope College, Holland, Michigan, and a master of divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary. Married and the father of two children, Mr. Petz was the pastor of the Griggstown Reformed Church, Princeton, before coming to Westminster. In his leisure time Mr. Petz enjoys football and swimming. He also has an avid interest in photography.

Bill Petz

Thomas Biebl came to Westminster this fall as an instructor in music theory after completing a master’s degree at Indiana University. Mr. Biebl also holds a bachelor of fine arts degree from Ohio University. His master’s paper was an analysis of the counterpoint in one of Mahler’s symphonies, and one of his hobbies is reducing orchestral scores, clarifying them as much as possible, but still maintaining the complete textures.

Photo credits: John Ross, cover, pg. 2; Ed Taylor, pg. 2, 5; Ken Smith, pg. 3; Van Buren Colley, pg. 11.
Westminster Choir tour acclaimed

"Nothing said in praise of Roger Wagner and the Westminster Choir could be extravagant in any way. The combination must approach the epitome of choral music." This quote from the Milwaukee Sentinel sums up quickly the success of the recent Westminster Choir tour. Robert Jones, assistant to the president, who was tour manager, quipped on his return, "They'll be quoting that review around here for years and years." And why not. The tour was a tremendous success and a satisfying experience for the 37 students who made up the touring group.

The Denison, Ohio Chronicle described the performance there as "An utterly delightful—no, superb— evening . . ."

Though conducted by Roger Wagner, the Choir was trained by Dr. Flummerfelt, director of choral activities. From Milwaukee, the Choir sent a letter thanking him for his excellent work.

"The Westminster Choir takes great pride in announcing our success on this Great Lakes tour. The accompanying review (from the Milwaukee Sentinel) demonstrates the degree of professionalism which we have achieved."

"It is in the prestigious day that we honor the person who has molded the choir with the degree of excellence the critics acclaim.

"We thank you Dr. Flummerfelt for the musical and personal beauty which you have inspired in us."

The Sentinel review concluded, "Unlike most choirs, professional or otherwise, Wagner's young ensemble is blessed with substantial soloists. Most noteworthy of the four showcased were soprano Jill Moyer (sophomore from North Canton, Ohio) in Wilbur Chenoweth's 'Vocalise' and bass-baritone David Kline (junior from Hopewell, New Jersey) in the chanty 'Rio Grande' and the folk song 'Cindy'"

Soloists were time and time again noted in the reviews. The Green Bay Press-Gazette: "Vocalist Jill Moyer was impressive in 'Vocalise.' Bass Archie McKenzie (sophomore from Prospect Park, Pennsylvania) did a stunning version of 'Shenandoah' and David Koch (junior from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) took a delightful turn in the spotlight with 'Cindy'." The Denison Chronicle: "One of the best numbers had no words at all. It was 'Vocalise' by Chenoweth. Jill Moyer's talented soprano voice took the wide range of tones with 'ahs', backed up by the 17 males singing 'oos' and 'ums,' created a highly pleasurable number."

The choir, of course, received much well-deserved acclaim.

From the Sentinel: "The vocal quality of the ensemble was evident at the outset in the Palestrina motet 'Alma Redemptus Mater,' in which the chorus developed an almost flute-like organ tone. In the second half the Debussy chansons were exquisitely sung.

From The Spirit: "The talented singers put depth and feeling into every piece they touched. The audience asked for, and got, encores at the end of both halves of the program, and seemed happy with everything the Westminster Group did. The talented singers and their prestigious conductor are an easy group to like."

From the Sentinel: "...a brilliant performance of Sweelinck's 'Hodie Christus Natus Est.'"

From the Chronicle: "The near-perfect diction displayed the extent to which college students with good voices can be trained under masterful direction. No one voice stood out (in the ensemble). The chorus was equally good at fortissimos as it was at pianissimos. It is not often that such a polished group will be heard in this area."
Roger Wagner knows his metier

Roger Wagner is sometimes criticized because he programs music for every taste—from Gregorian to folksongs and spirituals—and for injecting humorous program notes from the podium. However, audiences respond well to this rapport and several of Dr. Wagner's asides were mentioned in the concert reviews. "In this song (Passereau's Il est bel et bon) a woman was pointing out the good qualities a 16th century husband should possess. He does housework, he feeds the chickens and he never beats me." He introduced Go Down, Moses as "the most up-to-date spiritual going, making mention as it does of Israel being in Egypt land." This side of Wagner's personality won over the Choir as they traveled together through the "heartland" of our country.

Born in LePuy, France, of American parents, Wagner received his early musical training as a soprano soloist in the choir at the Cathedral in Dijon where his father was choral director-organist. After coming to the United States in 1921, when he was seven, he took an intense interest in piano. So intense in fact, that when still a child he had a piano constructed with organ pedals so that he could play Bach fugues.

But with the growing interest in music, there was a conflicting, but strong, desire to become a priest. This desire became dominant and he entered the Franciscan Seminary at Santa Barbara, California. But, finding the atmosphere and discipline to be not as strict as he wanted, he left and went to Clerician Seminary in Compton, where he received a good grounding in Greek and Latin.

While at Clerician, however, and after much internal struggle, he definitely decided to make a career for himself in music. As he later stated, "My life without music would have meant very little."

After leaving seminary, he briefly attended Fairfax, California high school. But shortly before graduation he returned to France where he enrolled in the College of Montmorency which is attached to the Sorbonne. There he studied mostly French literature, but also had the opportunity to study with Marcel Dupré, whom he remembers as "very expensive. This period provided a good fundamental grounding in Gregorian chant, Renaissance music and Bach."

His study was abruptly ended when he was drafted into the Fifteenth Artillery Regiment of the French army. After his discharge in 1937 he returned to the U.S. where he took numerous jobs to make ends meet—if in fact they did meet: he had a nightclub act in which he imitated personalities at the piano; he worked as a dancer for Paramount Pictures; he was a singer for MGM; and for ten years he was organist-choir director at a Catholic church in Los Angeles. It was while working at this church, where he directed a boychoir of all Mexican children, that he decided to build his own professional choral group.

As a result of this decision, he took an exam with the Bureau of Music in Los Angeles, and was subsequently appointed supervisor of all youth choirs in the Music Bureau, and within a short time had built 30 choirs in the L.A. area, all of which he tried to conduct himself. But, finding this impossible, he picked the 12 best singers from these choirs and formed a madrigal ensemble. They rehearsed in an unheated room of the church where Wagner was organist-director, learned hundreds of madrigals each year and sang a half hour each week over KFI, the NBC affiliate in Los Angeles. As these children matured they formed the nucleus of the City of Los Angeles Concert Chorale which was sponsored by the Los Angeles Bureau of Music and gave its first performance in 1945.

The name Roger Wagner Chorale was adopted in 1947, and its first recording, Palestrina's Pope Marcellus Mass, received an award from the Saturday Review of Literature and The New York Times as the best a cappella recording of 1952. Robert Shaw in a letter to Mr. Wagner stated that the recording was the "greatest thing I have ever heard." Wagner was on his way, and much of the rest is well-known history: European and world tours, cultural exchange programs, appearances with major orchestras and over 30 recordings.

All during the period when he was building the Chorale, Mr. Wagner was involved in numerous other musical activities: choral director for both the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Hollywood Bowl, head of choral music at Marymount College and Flintridge Sacred Heart Academy and music director for the NBC television series "I Married Joan." He was also doing research and graduate work at both UCLA and USC. After completing most of his doctoral studies at these two institutions, the University of Montreal, Canada, persuaded him to receive a doctorate from them in absentia; the title of his dissertation is "The Masses of Josquin des Pres."

Building a professional chorale of his own was a compulsive drive for Dr. Wagner—"It was a necessity, the most important thing in the world." As would be expected, his musical standards are high and he picks his singers as much for their ability to read music as to sing. He is an advocate of fixed "do," having been taught this system as a child in France. "Fifty per cent of contemporary music is not readable by movable 'do.'" He feels that "One attracts people by doing great music." And that you attract the most intelligent, discriminating people by having conviction, by being a first-class musician, and in his words "knowing your metier", that is, knowing your trade or profession. In a recent interview he indicated that, from the standpoint of performance ability, choral music is too often taught by amateurs, but the fact that Westminster is bringing professionals onto campus is the most convincing evidence to potential students that its emphasis is rightly on professionalism.
The weekend that found people in most Eastern areas, staying away from churches in droves because of the weather, and that saw the "Jets" splash around in Boston's Patriot Stadium, cleared dramatically to welcome the Class Agents back to Westminster Choir College for a busy two-day session in which they caught up on the affairs of the College today. This was the first of several annual meetings which make October a very busy time in Princeton. The following week, beginning Monday thru Wednesday at noon, found the Executive Committee here and, of course, the Trustees had their Fall Meeting on the afternoon of the 20th. Then it was time for the Parents to take over, and on the weekend of November 5-7 well over one hundred visited our campus and shared a busy schedule that included a presentation of Menotti's Telephone, formal concerts, e.g., Westminster Choir, students, and those singing waiters—it was quite a time.

Stan Powell '51, Director of the Alumni Fund for this year, led the Class Agents who returned in what proved to be a concentrated program in catching up with what Westminster Choir College is doing today. It included information on the financial picture of our College, Budget for 1971-1972, and outlined the ways and means, as well as projected goals for this year's Fund. Again, there was time to relax a bit with dinner at the Nassau Inn at which time Joe Flummerfelt, Director of Choral Activities, outlined some exciting plans for the future in the area of Choral Performance and Participation. It was on this occasion, also, that President Robinson spoke, and gave a picture of Westminster Choir College Today. At the conclusion of the dinner, the entire group attended the Piano Recital by Rita Bouboulidi, Artist-in-Residence of the College for this year, at McCarter Theatre.

Thurston Dox '50, President of the Alumni Association, ushered in the Executive Committee for its annual meeting, October 18, and launched into two and a half days of Alumni Business. Special greetings were extended to the newest elected members of the Board, William Fuller '50, Malcolm Scott '49, and William Moore, Jr. '53. The Committee got off to an excellent start with a gracious dinner at the President's house on Monday evening where they had an opportunity to meet and get acquainted with each other. In addition to a full agenda that included reports from committees on Recruitment, Alumni Fund, Nominations, Alumni Week, and Class Reunions, there were general discussions on nearly every area of Alumni involvement. The group also had an opportunity to hear the Symphonic Choir as it prepared for the November performance of the "St. John Passion", as well as Westminster Choir. There was also an opportunity to meet with the Presidents of the Classes, and continue the interrelationship between Alumni and the Student Body today. It was heartening and encouraging to hear them speak with such enthusiasm and excitement about the program at the College and the Campus life today. It is my observation that our Campus is the healthiest it has been in recent years.

Students, Faculty, and Administration are involved together in just about every operation of the College, and there is much excitement about the recent Westminster Choir Tour, as well as the concerts being prepared by the Symphonic Choir.

There are encouraging signs for our College on practically every quarter. The most recent good news is the fact that the Seabrook Estate, of which we are one of the beneficiaries, is about to be settled. Mr. Seabrook died in 1964 and there have been many problems in settling his estate. Now it does seem that before many months it will take place, and we should receive a very encouraging amount of money.

The pace on Campus manages to stay brisk for all of us. It came home to me recently when I found myself leaving a note for my daughter, Beth, on the kitchen table signed, Sincerely, J. C. McKeever, instead of Dad.
1929

MRS. HILDA B. GOOD is now residing at the Charles E. Ellis School for Girls, Newtown Square, Pa. 19073.

1939

MARIAN BROCK SEE received a Master of Science Degree in Library Science at Shippensburg State College, Shippensburg, Pa.

1940

LINDA LAVON FRASER received her Master of Music Degree from Western Michigan University this past summer.

JOHN S. QUIMBY has accepted the position of Director of Music Ministry for Trinity Methodist Church, Huntsville, Alabama 35802.

1941

MARY GILKESON McCLEARY has resigned her position at Congregational Church, Naugatuck, Connecticut, for reasons of health. The McCleary's new address is Al- lerton Road, Naugatuck, Connecticut 06770.

1950

DAVID FETLER, Music Director and Conductor of the Rochester Chamber Orchestra, will conduct the recently completed Violin Concerto by his brother, Paul Fetter of Minneapolis. David is also invited to be guest conductor of the New York All-State Music Festival Orchestra on November 20, 1971, which is sponsored by the New York State School Music Association.

1952

ELIZABETH DELOACH MILLHAM gave a recital at St. Jude's Episcopal Church in Columbia, South Carolina. Elizabeth is organizer and conductor of the Aiken Choral Society, and has served as organ and harpsichord accompanist for the Augusta Choral Society.

1953

DANIEL G. NICELY recently accepted an appointment as Chairman
did they go?

DONALD LONG — Teacher, residing in the Ft. Lauderdale, Florida area.

JOHN LOWE — Teacher, Hammonton Public Schools, Hammonton, New Jersey.

LARRY LYDON — Teacher, Hilltop School, Mendham, New Jersey.

WILLIAM McGUIFFIN — Residing in Biltmore, North Carolina.


JUEL MADSON — Teacher, Raritan Junior High School, Raritan, New Jersey.

JAMES MATZ — Teacher, Christ Lutheran Church, residing in the Gilbertsville, Pennsylvania area.

BILLIE MEZZO — Teacher, Mountainside, New Jersey.

IDA NORRIS — Residing in Belmar, New Jersey.

RICHARD OLDER — Teacher, Junior High School, Berkeley Heights, New Jersey.

ANNA PACKARD — Residing in the Woburn, Massachusetts area.

SUE PAGE — Teacher, in the Phoenix, Arizona area.

CORDELIA PARKS — Teacher, Tenafly Public Schools, Tenafly, New Jersey.

ALBERT PENDLETON — Teacher, Cedar Ridge High School, Matawan, New Jersey and Director of Jamesburg Baptist Church, Jamesburg, New Jersey.

MARGARET PETERS — Assistant Director, First Presbyterian Church, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

DONNA PLASKET — Teacher, Governor Livingston Regional High School, New Jersey.

DIANA WHITTIER REICHSTETTER — Teacher, and residing in the Narragansett, Rhode Island area.

ANNA PACKARD — Teacher, High School, Berkeley Heights, New Jersey.

ELEANOR DURANT GOMOLINSKI — Received her Master's Degree in Music Education from the American University, August 1970.

PHIL KAHLER's correct address is 87 Morris Avenue, Athens, Ohio 45701. In addition to his work with the Boy Scouts of America, Phil is Director of the Children's Choir at the First United Methodist Church of Athens.

HENRY E. BEUTTEL manages to stay involved in church music, although he became a pilot with Eastern Airlines in 1966. His address is 19920 Bel Aire Drive, Miami, Florida 33157.

ROBERT IVEY is the new President of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers.

POLLYANNA TRIBOUILLE SCHOEDER sang Samuel Barber’s "Knoxville, Summer 1915" for soprano and orchestra, with the Guatemala National Symphony, in a special concert dedicated to American Independence. Pollyanna lives in Fairfax, Virginia, is a student of Todd Duncan, and for the past six years has performed in the Washington area in solo recitals, school concerts and has appeared also in the concert series at the Pan American Union.

DAVID YOLTON is newly elected President of the Del-Val Amway Distributors Association and conducts the Lavendar Mailbox, a 50 member vocal-instrumental group. They recently performed for 6,000 people in Philadelphia's Convention Hall. Wife, SHIRLEE MANLOVE '58, keeps busy with the Touring Bell Choir of Jenkintown United Methodist Church which is also under David's direction, as is the Hospital Music Program in Philadelphia.

RUTH KAY WALKER — Teacher, Stuart Country Day School, Princeton, New Jersey.

RICHARD WALLACE — Working Organist-Choir Director, Lutheran Church of Our Savior, Rego Park, New York, residing in the Queens Village, New York area.

STEPHEN WOOD — Teacher, Haverling Central School, Bath, New York.
Melissa Temple, born August 11, 1971. They reside at 510 Shellbank Road, Muncie, Indiana 47304.

1960
JEAN BAYLOR SOUTH announces the birth of James Baylor, who was born on August 13, 1971.

1961
VERNON L. BOUSHELL has received his Ph.D. Degree in Music Education from the University of Southern Mississippi. His dissertation title was “Development of An Applied Arts Program of Instruction at the University of Southern Mississippi”.

HERBERT FOWLER has accepted the position of Organist-Director at Derry Presbyterian Church in Hershey, Pennsylvania.

1962
TOM MILLS and ANDREA '63 announce the birth of a son, Kery Michael.

STANLEY and JANE HERWIG SCHEER announce the birth of Kristen Elizabeth, July 3, 1971. They can be reached at Box 594, Misenheimer, North Carolina 28109.

1963
LEE DETTRA and Janet announce the arrival of their second child, Allison, on August 26, 1971.

JON O. CARLSON announces the birth of Heather Lynn born July 29 of this year. Jon has been appointed Director of Choral Activities and Chairman of the Music Department of Alaska Methodist University in Anchorage, Alaska.

1964
VAN and DONNA OAKLEAF announce the birth of Sarah Marie on June 16, 1971. They reside at 3008 Stanton Circle, Carmichael, California 95608.

1965
YOSHIO GOTOH is the new Manager of International Sales and Service for the Flying Tiger Line, Inc. This is an air freight line headquartered at Los Angeles International Airport.

1966

RONALD W. THAYER has accepted a part-time position at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Utica, New York. He continues to teach General Music and conduct the choirs at Clinton Junior High School, also in Utica.

JAMES MITCHELL is now Organist-Director of Fair Park Baptist Church, Quaker Lane at Crestwood, Alexandria, Virginia.

CHARLOTTE HAYS COMISKY and husband BOB announce the birth of their first child, Laura Louise, born July 2, 1971. Their address is 8118 Roanoke Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland 20012.

1967
RICHARD FREY has accepted the position of Organist-Choir Director at Wayne Presbyterian Church, Lancaster Avenue, Wayne, Pennsylvania.

DAVID L. PERRY has accepted a position as Minister of Music at Doylestown Presbyterian Church, Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

KAREN JOHNSON LICHTI and Richard announce the birth of William Richard, April 30, 1971. They are residing on Market Street, Benton, Pennsylvania 17814.

RUTHANN GREENWALD served as chaperon with the Burlington, North Carolina High School Choir and the Burlington Rotary Boys Choir on a three week tour of Europe, during July. In addition to visiting the major countries, she visited St. Clotilde where a special opportunity was granted to observe and visit with Jean Langlais.

1968

JUNE RAUSCHNABEL has a teaching assistantship at the University of Denver for 1971-1978. Her address is 2390 E. Asbury Avenue, Denver, Colorado 80210.

KATHLEEN RUOF DOWD has been appointed Chairman of the Music Department at the Marquis de Lafayette School in Elizabeth, New Jersey.

1969
CHERYL CLARK CREWS was married to the Rev. James Crews, August 14th. She is currently at Southern Methodist University working towards a Master's in Sacred Music. Their residence is 108 Moore Hall, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas 75222.

TERRY GOTT was married to Jacques P. H. Caroul, Saturday, September 11, in New York City.

SUSAN VAUGHN WESTLAKE was married to Robert Westlake, June 18, 1970. Sue is singing with the Syracuse Chorale while her husband, Bob, a 1969 graduate of Princeton University, attends medical school. Their address is 2104 Onondaga Creek Blvd., Apt. #4, Syracuse, New York 13207.

1970
JANET WENDLAND ADANITSCH was married to Duane Adanitsch, April 17, 1971. They reside at 5309 Riverdale Road, Apt. 118, Riverdale, Maryland 20840.

DONNA PATTON RENFROE and DOUGLAS ’70 announce the birth of Michael Douglas, January 11, 1971. Doug is now Director of Music at Faith Lutheran Church in Oxon Hill, Maryland. He also gave a vocal recital at Hartwick College, Oneonta, New York last May.

RICHARD LUDLUM is entering Ithaca College to begin the Master’s Program in Music. His new address is Hudson Heights, Apt. D-10, 125 Coddington Street, New York 14850.

JAMES METZLER has been appointed Organist-Director at the First Presbyterian Church in Hartford, Connecticut.

DEAN G. SHOFF married Velma Kay Guyer in Twin Falls, Idaho, June 9, 1970. Both Dean and Velma are currently studying for their Master's at Cincinnati University. Their address is 5509 Belmont...
Letter regarding 1971-72 Fund

The 1971-72 Alumni Fund Campaign was gotten off to a fine start with a meeting, at the College on October 11 and 12, of some seventeen representatives from among the total number of Class Agents for this year. Not only did we have good and profitable meetings together, sharing ideas concerning the new Alumni Fund Drive, but also good fellowship together with faculty, administrative staff, and students, as well as with fellow Class Agents.

It was our privilege to hear from President Ray Robinson, the featured speaker at our dinner meeting the evening of the 11th; Business Manager, Jim Richmond; Director of Development and Alumni Affairs, Jim McKeever; and the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Arthur N. Curtiss. What we heard was both impressive and greatly encouraging, and I believe you will agree when you read the following summary of their remarks:

Firstly, in a year when most small private colleges are struggling with great difficulty to maintain at least a minimal enrollment, Westminster has this year a larger-than-projected student enrollment; Secondly, Westminster's financial picture is improved over the financial conditions of the last several years; Thirdly, the exciting musical opportunities that are being planned and projected for the students at Westminster would make any collegiate music major elsewhere nothing short of envious.

I can honestly say to you that our overall goal for the 1971-72 Alumni Fund Campaign is a very realistic one, and it CAN be attained! This is the unanimous feeling of the Class Agents who were together at this meeting, and it is our hope that you will catch some of the real enthusiasm that will doubtless be evident in their letters to you during this year. If you do, and respond accordingly, we will easily exceed this year's goal.

Stan Powell, '51
Alumni Fund Director, '71-'72
Update on the master's degree

Westminster Choir College intends to reinstitute the master's degree in 1972. This article is taken from a recent "Report to the State of New Jersey on the Proposed Reinstatement of the Master's Degree Program" which was prepared by the Graduate Committee, chaired by Dr. Peter Wright, dean of the college. It provides some insight into the nature of the new programs.

Westminster Choir College is a highly specialized professional undergraduate college of music. Its baccalaureate degrees represent the kind of individualized, professional instruction which is ordinarily considered the province of postgraduate education.

Performance is at the very core of the master's degree. Regardless of other virtues, Westminster ultimately thrives on its choral program. The institution remains committed to providing undergraduates and graduates alike with unparalleled choral training and experience. Individual graduate performance, as soloist or conductor or both, is an integral part of each degree program, and the Westminster program leans distinctly toward the professional rather than the research degree. No full-scale theses are contemplated, but all candidates will be introduced to the philosophy, tools, and techniques of musicological research, as it relates to the performance of music.

The presence of graduate students is a positive factor for the intellectual stimulation and growth of undergraduates at any campus; in a music school, particularly on the unique Westminster campus, there are still greater mutual benefits for graduate students, undergraduates, and for the college as a whole. Graduate students have opportunities to perfect their rehearsal and conducting techniques with undergraduate choirs, an ideal seldom realized at any music school and certainly not by undergraduates themselves. Apart from the intellectual contact with older students, undergraduates benefit from the performing standards to which the older students can aspire. And, the quality of the choral program, can be greatly enhanced by their musicianship and the maturity of their voices.

Degree programs leading to the M.M. degree are planned in four areas: Organ, Music Education, Choral Conducting, and Church Music. The program in organ is geared to performance on a high level of proficiency and artistry, based upon pedagogical understanding and the acquisition of knowledgeable insight into organ literature. Research into style and performance practices and a study of the organ from a functional point of view will underpin the technical and artistic foundation of the organist.

The graduate degree in Music Education is designed chiefly for the professional musician-teacher who has had practical, full-time experience in the public schools, although students may enter the program immediately after completing their undergraduate degrees.

Westminster has a unique choral tradition and emphasis as well as an established reputation for performing excellence. The professional performance experience available at the college gives the graduate student the opportunity to work under some of the most important choral and orchestral conductors in the country and thereby gain important insights into a wide variety of conducting styles.

The choral conducting major will receive intensive training in his craft and in-depth studies of choral literature. As a practicing musician, he will find that performance practices are stressed.

The graduate program in church music seeks to prepare the musician for service in the Church of the late twentieth century. In order to meet the many changing demands for sacred music, the musician must have a thorough knowledge of the history and repertoire of music of the church. He must also be prepared to meet the challenge of the present and to recon-
"Let us dedicate our new academic year to our Lord!

We give thanks to you, dear God, that in your design our college has been created and sustained for several decades. We thank you that your guidance has manifested itself in periods of need. Now you are speaking to us through the fulfillment of a dream of a new academic year, and for some of us, a new adventure in our lives.

We ask you for your guidance when we search for truth, a truth which will make us free. In this quest for truth, free us from our ignorance and make us free to learn; free us from fear and make us free to teach; free us from anxiety and make us free to love; and may this freedom be refined by discipline in order that we may grow in your knowledge.

Grant that every one of us may discover your peace in the building of the spirit of Westminster; your guidance toward excellence in daily work; your beauty in the sunshine of life; your comfort when the rains of sorrow drench the human heart; your lasting courage when defeat is easy, your love when hatred prevails, and honesty when cleverness is intriguing.

Extend your comprehensive arms of love around each student, each faculty member, and each administrator. We ask this in Christ's name. Amen."

With this simple and impressive invocation, Gerhard Grau, visiting instructor of religion, began the Opening Convocation of the 1971-72 academic year.

Held on the Quad in bright sunshine, 400 students were present to hear President Robinson's first address of the year, "A Pause to Consider Westminster's Distinctives".

Several awards and scholarships were also presented during the ceremony. Rebecca Robison Coad, class of 1971, received the Faculty Prize for the highest academic average for the 1970-71 year. Scholarships were presented to eight students for excellence in musical performance.

The Arthur Judson awards in piano went to Laurie Cohen of Rockville Center, N.Y. and Andres Liigand of Littleneck, N.Y.; the Alexander McCurdy awards in organ were presented to Karl Michael Watson of Philadelphia, Pa., Greg Funfgeld of Hicksville, N.Y., and Harold E. Pysher of Williamsport, Pa.; and the Walter Johnson awards in voice were given to Togo Watanabe from Tokyo, Japan, Charles Lewis Goings of Farmington, N.J., and Laurie Carley of Madison, Wis.

James E. Thomson, retired Chairman of the Board at Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith, who last spring gave $50,000 to the College to endow three vocal scholarships, was present at the ceremony with his wife to greet the 1971-72 winners. They are Jill Moyer, a sophomore from North Canton, Ohio, Patricia Dunkin, a junior from Metuchen, N.J., and David Page, a senior from Hialeah, Florida.

At the end of his address Dr. Robinson declared the 1971-72 year to be officially in session. This year, with 411 students enrolled for the fall semester, a reinstitution of the master's degree being planned, and a balanced budget almost an assured reality, the future of Westminster looks brighter than ever; almost as bright as the morning sun that shone on the Convocation.
Who’s Who announced

Eight Westminster students have been selected to be included in the 1970-71 edition of *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.*


These students were originally chosen by the Westminster faculty on the basis of scholarship, leadership and musicianship, and represent to the academic community the best undergraduates the Choir College has to boast.

December, January, February events

**WESTMINSTER CHOIR TOUR**

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<tr>
<td>Jan. 20</td>
<td>Clemson, S.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 21</td>
<td>Atlanta, Ga.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 23</td>
<td>Springfield, Tenn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 25</td>
<td>Raleigh, N.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 26</td>
<td>Raleigh, N.C.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CHAPEL CHOIR CONCERT**

Dec. 12, Bristol Chapel

**WESTMINSTER CHOIR CONCERT**

Feb. 18, Alexander Hall, Princeton University

**SATURDAY SEMINAR FOR CLERGY AND MUSICIANS**

Feb. 26

**FACULTY RECITALS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Artist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 14</td>
<td>Lois Laverty, soprano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 11</td>
<td>George Sanborn, piano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 8</td>
<td>Joan Monasevich, soprano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 14</td>
<td>Walter Brennan, piano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 16</td>
<td>Joan Lippincott, organ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 21</td>
<td>Georgia Markey, organ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 22</td>
<td>Diane Curry, mezzo-soprano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 29</td>
<td>Rita Bouboulidi, piano</td>
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</table>