TALBOTT FESTIVALS

Only a little more than a month has passed since the actual work of organizing leadership and scheduling of festivals was begun. At that time the Committee was apprehensive because it felt it had been delayed by circumstances and was at least a month late with this activity. It is pleasing and refreshing to report that now eleven festivals are "roofed over" and five more have the "foundation poured". You will remember that nine festivals was the total accomplishment last year.

Here is a listing of the areas in which plans are being made, with name and address of the coordinator:

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA - Alex Gould, 5304 Callister Ave., Sacramento 19, Calif.
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA - Richard Alford, 1st Methodist Church, Glendale, Calif.
DALLAS - FT. WORTH, TEXAS - David McCormick, Highland Park Methodist Church, Dallas, Texas
SOUTH TEXAS - John Mizell, Travis Park Methodist Church, San Antonio, Texas
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA - Bob Page, 1st Methodist Church, Montgomery, Ala.
OKLAHOMA - Marvin Reecher, Boston Avenue Methodist Church, Tulsa, Okla.
KANSAS - Bill Guthrie, Country Club Christian Church, Kansas City, Mo.
MICHIGAN & NORTHWEST OHIO - Ben Lehn, First Park Congregational Church East Park Place and Liberty Street, Grand Rapids 2, Michigan.
NORTHEAST OHIO - Elwin Haskin, 3650 Woodridge Rd., Cleveland Heights 21, Ohio.
NEW YORK STATE - John Clough, 1st Baptist Church, Syracuse, N. Y.

Other locations with good possibilities are Washington, D. C., Florida, N. Carolina, Tennessee and Northern Illinois.

If you are working or residing in any of the festival areas, why not contact the coordinator at once and investigate the possibility of participation in the festival. Don't wait to be asked - offer. Your individual participation in the chorus would be most welcome if you are not working with an adult choir. Come and sing! In the case of those in areas where there is no coordinator yet appointed, write to Cecil Lapo, St. Luke's Methodist Church, 15th & N. Harvey, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma for information.

If you are directing a music program in an area geographically isolated from other Westminster people, have you thought of putting on a festival using the resources of your own situation? The program can be adapted easily for smaller groups. Why not write about this possibility to the aforementioned Cecil Lapo. We feel that we will accomplish the goal set for this year, i.e. more than twenty festivals. Why not be a participant rather than a spectator?

Current Westminster News

Westminster Choir has completed its concert tour of Korea, and moved on to other points in the Orient. Morale, slightly lowered at having to receive a last round of immunization shots on the West Coast, was considerably raised upon learning they were to make the trip from San Francisco not by military transport, but on first-class accommodations of the Pan-American Company. We'll furnish a full report upon their return.

First recital of the year was that of Raymond Harris and Kenneth Landis, playing baroque and contemporary organ works.

Edward Wojtkowski, now a student at WCC, was music director for a most unusual "Reformation Vespers" service at the Princeton University Chapel on November 4. The service Bulletin was beautifully printed on extra large paper, with lines from Auden on the cover. An historical explanation of the service was inside, followed by the service program. The congregation sang Martin Luther's "Te Deum Laudamus" from a photostatic insert provided with the program.

The Chapel Choir, under Mr. Hedgpeth, concertized in Hackensack, N. J. on November 14.

The Graduate Choir performed Bach ("Jesu, meine Freude") and Handel (Judas Maccabaeus), on November 6.

Our most able spy infiltrated the Princeton University area to hear the Harvard and Princeton University Glee Clubs in concert, and reported

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EDITOR'S PLEDGE

Your editor was amazed, upon returning to Princeton in August of this year after a two years’ absence, to find Westminster alumni so closely organized. It’s a new, strong, compact organization - firmly and efficiently grounded. We hope you "in the field" can sense this new unity and purposefulness. It is quickly apparent to us here at Alumni Headquarters that the former students of Westminster are eager for such organization; it is apparent in the warm letters received, from the comments made (praising, criticizing, suggesting), and from the support given the fund-raising campaign. Surprising - just to count the number of donors who actually thanked us for the opportunity of giving!

The Newsletter is still suffering from the pangs of being newly-born, and is still undergoing organizational agonies. We hope it is evident, however, if even only from the material appearance, that progress has been made. We are trying to put out an attractive, interesting Newsletter. It is to be attractive and interesting to you; it’s your magazine. It is our intention to make you want to be interested in what other Alumni - your friends - are doing. The Newsletter is your outlet for saying what you want to say, whether it be about social activities, church music, programs, WCC plans, personal needs, festivals, friends, foes, or concerts. Or, if any of you new brides come up with a reasonably novel, new (and reasonably good) recipe for baked beans, we might publish that, too!

Your editor pledges to do everything possible to turn out a creditable Newsletter. Once a footing is gained, once a spot of sure ground is secured, that will be the foundation for further improvement. There are many handicaps. But we choose to overlook them. To overcome them, if you please!

MRS. LEE RECOMMENDS

For those of you interested in vocal literature, THE SINGER’S REPERTOIRE by Berton Coffin (Scarecrow Press, New Brunswick, N. J.) is a wonderful new book. Of the approximately 100,000 song titles existent today, this volume classifies 7,500 of that number. The purpose, as stated in the foreword, is "an effort to aid all singers and teachers of singing in their repertoire problems." There are 752 lists for the nine voice classifications (coloratura, lyric, dramatic, and mezzo sopranos, contralto, lyric and dramatic tenor, baritone, and bass). The language divisions are American, British, French, German, Italian, Russian, Scandinavian, and Spanish. Typical indexes are entitled recital openers and closers; atmospheric, dramatic, humorous, and folk songs; songs employing agile singing, rapid enunciation, sustained singing; song cycles; songs for special days and occasions.

In the past, vocalists have depended on Kagen’s Music for the Voice, but that is now out-of-print. One important feature the new book lacks is that of a complete and all-inclusive alphabetical index of titles, and unlike Kagen, it does not give the composer’s dates nor full name, and it lacks the very helpful "remarks". The price is sixteen dollars - but you do get a lot for your money, and the printing and paper are excellent, with a sturdy bluish-gray buckram binding stamped in gold. And, after all - Christmas isn’t very far off.

* Diane Martindell Lee is Librarian, WCC.
NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

Harold Finkbeiner, Jr. ('54) has a four-part chorus in Allison-James junior High School (Santa Fe, N. M.). He writes that the Spanish people with whom he works mature faster than the Anglos, making the 4-part chorus much more feasible. He is preparing a general concert program, a special Christmas concert, and a cantata "The Christmas Story" by Petzold, in which he will use his church Crusader Choir, the Allison Choir, and strings. He adds parenthetically that he would recommend this cantata to all who love good music; it is easy to do as well as being beautiful; published by Concordia. As though the above 3 programs weren't enough, Harold is working on "The Meistersinger" which he plans to do as the school's operetta next spring. He is abridging it because of its length, and re-arranging the music so that it will be singable for junior high youngsters. He traveled from Santa Fe to El Paso under great hardship (no sleep for 36 hours) to hear Westminster Choir and comments "But it was worth it" with underscores. The Allison-James school is operated by the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church.

Ross Stover ('55), is conductor of the A Cappella Choir of George Fox College, Newberg, Oregon. The choir toured Oregon, Washington, and Idaho last spring, presenting 16 concerts in 10 days. During 1955, the choir presented 38 concerts and covered over 2,000 miles. 1957's spring concert tour will cover about 3,000 miles into California to visit some of the Friends Churches which support the Quaker-founded George Fox College. The tour will last 16 days, with 18 concerts planned so far. An oratorio choir has been added to the curriculum this year, and Ross has organized a male chorus and a chapel choir. Besides the choir work, he also teaches private voice, conducting, and some theory. He enjoys it immensely.

E. William Litzenberg sent us an impressive church bulletin on the occasion of "A Service of Dedication to the Glory of God Through the Ministry of Music". Eight choirs were so dedicated at this service. News of this sort is particularly heartening, for it exemplifies so perfectly the fulfillment of the purpose of Westminster. Bill is with the First Presbyterian Church in Danville, Virginia. His choirs (total membership over 132) include Cherub, Echo, Shepherd, Hughes School, Pioneer, Chapel, and Adult Choirs. It was announced in the bulletin that the Cherub Choir was wearing new robes for the first time.

L. Campbell Bunting ('49) and Carla Bunting ('46) are in Amarillo, Texas, at the First Presbyterian Church. They followed Anna and Arnold Leverenz into their (the Buntins') present position, which consists of 8 choirs and an English Hand Bell Group. A Choir Mothers Guild and a group of accompanists and assistant directors have been organized. The Assistant Conductors and Accompanists will be sent by the Church to the Vocal Camp and Professional School at Westminster, in payment for their services. The Buntins had the Drs. Williamson and the Westminster Choir at their home in October, and some of the group conducted a Choral Clinic for Mr. Bunting's Westminster Chorale, Chancel Choir, and guests. Their home is at 3605 Memory Lane, and they are "most cordial to visitors from Westminster".

Mozart's "Requiem" was performed in May 1956 by Chester L. Cable, Jr. ('54) at the First Methodist Church, McAllen, Texas. "Chet" reports that his church has an excellent background of good music, and the "Requiem" was done in Latin. He was fortunate in having John Mizell ('51) and Wilson Wade ('51) nearby to do the tenor and bass solos. And of course Betty Cable (Betty McDaniel, '52) did the soprano solos. "Chet" had an article published in the Diapason in September, on the topic of Ministers of Music.

Beverly J. Mercer ('53), former WCC faculty member, is now at Wayland Baptist College, Plainview, Texas. She is an instructor in voice and theory and conductor of the Chapel Choir. She has done considerable solo work, both at the college and away, since coming to Plainview in September.

William E. Steward ('54) is head of Wayland Baptist College's Fine Arts Department. He is conducting the "Messiah" on December 9th in Plainview ("Bev" Mercer, alto soloist).

Marshall Gordon ('53) is at the San Jacinto Methodist Church in Amarillo, Texas.

Jack Quimby ('40) is at the Beverly United Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, Pa. He has nine choirs which, according to the publication sent us, are meeting each week in rehearsal. His Ministry of Music has established two music scholarships for the Chapel Choir, providing room, board, and tuition for two members to attend the Vocal Camp at Westminster.

Dr. Earl Evans ('30), one of our busiest alumni, has found time somehow to arrange for a 37 day European excursion (47 days by ship), for August 1957. He and his wife will personally escort fellow tourists through 6 European countries.

Louise C. Titcomb ('32) was business delegate to the Mu Phi Ep silon national convention in Rochester, N. Y., this summer. She was also an official delegate to the AGO convention in N. Y. in June. While in New York State, she visited her former churches in Ithaca and Auburn.

A brief note from Bob Emery ('52), at Grace Methodist, Natroma Heights, Pa.

Richard J. Fairbanks ('54) is Minister of Music at the First Methodist Church, Altus, Oklahoma.

Wedding Bells Rang For
Margaret Alice Ludwig and Mark Wallace
Nena McCray Williams and William Leo Hulslander
Julia Grace Brechbill and Ralph A. Wallsten
Margaret Compton and Melvin Gardner Wetherson
Muriel Dunlap and Zane Long
Shirley Weil and Robert Sollinger
A MESSAGE TO THE ALUMNI FUND STAFF
(Continued from page 2)

It is earnestly hoped that the Association may be encouraged both to stimulate the support of our Alumni and also to enlist an increasing number of friends who may share with them the joy of aiding the College in its wide and widening service for Christ and His Church.

With congratulations and best wishes, I am,
Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

To date the total contributions received by the Fund amount to $766.19. This indicates we have a long "hall" ahead, if our intention of completely furnishing the new dormitory is to be realized.

NEWLY APPOINTED CLASS AGENTS

Jean Knowlton ('43), Frank Hunter ('50), and Betty Jane Morse ('44) have become Class Agents for their respective classes during the past month. This completes our list of Class Agents.

ANNUAL ALUMNI WEEK

It has been suggested that Annual Alumni Week, previously held in Princeton at the time of the Talbott Festivals, be changed next year to the week after Easter. More information will follow, when details are more fully developed.

Missing Persons Department

We were happy to get some responses to our plea in last month's NEWSLETTER for addresses of missing Alumni. Here's a new list. If you know the whereabouts of any of these people, please pass this vital information on to us:

Compton, Elizabeth '42
Cunningham, Mrs. Frank '37
(formerly Frances Hall)
Darras, Mrs. Sam P. '44
Dunkelberger, Mrs. J. '35
Eastman, Lois '42
Fleschman, Mrs. Nell ?

CURRENT NEWS
(Continued from page 1)

that they were "worse than any Westminster Choir EVER!"

Our on-campus reporter says that the Elvis Presley Club there is unusually active this year.

Calvin March, one-time student, now very busy in the metropolitan Eastern music scene (including the Metropolitan Opera House), presented a voice recital in the WCC Chapel November 13.

Westminster will sing Handel's "Messiah" in New York under Leonard Bernstein on December 27, 28, and 30. The December 30 performance will be broadcast. A recording will also be made.

New Arrivals Department

Elizabeth Ann, June 11, to Mr. and Mrs. Harold R. Lytle (Elizabeth Ann Merkle - '54)
O. David Roberts, III, in July, to Mr. and Mrs. O. David Roberts (Mary Ann Jones, '53)
Cary Lee, July 8, to Mr. ('54) and Mrs. (Betty McDaniel, '52) Chester L. Cable

Friedel, Mrs. Ralph E. '48
(formerly Jenny Ruth Reed)
Lutton, Robert C. ?
Lyon, Mrs. Marie '38
Stoddard, Mrs. Harold E. ?

Entered as Second Class Mail at the Post Office, Princeton, N. J.