CURRENT WESTMINSTER AND PRINCETON NEWS

Westminster Choir, currently in India, is expected to return around the first of March. At publication time, specific news of their activities and planned itinerary was scarce. The choir will present a concert in McCarter Theater in Princeton shortly after its return.

A choir from Westminster sang in Gustav Mahler's Second Symphony with the New York Philharmonic under Bruno Walter on February 14, 15, and 17. It was the conductor's last appearance as regular guest conductor of the Philharmonic. Reviews of all segments of the performances -- particularly the choral -- were most laudatory. The Choir was back in New York the 18th, recording the symphony for Columbia Records.

Pupils of George Markey were presented in organ recital at the Chapel on February 6th.

On 3 February the Chapel Choir, under Harold Hedgepeth's direction, gave a special concert for Hungarian relief. Joe Kovacs, Westminster faculty, was violin soloist.

The Summit (New Jersey) Community Chorus, Ralph H. Burrier, Director, presented its winter concert on 20 January '57. The program consisted of excerpts from Bach's Mass in B Minor, the Schubert Mass in G, and Zoltan Kodaly's Missa Brevis. Cynthia Furr (alto), Robert Simpson (tenor), and Richard Unger (bass), all of Westminster, were soloists. Temple Painter, also of Westminster, was organist.

Week-end church directors will bring their choirs on campus the Sundays of March 3rd and 31st.

Trinity Episcopal Church, Princeton, in whose adult choir 7 Westminster alumni and present students sing, sponsored Mr. Robert Owen, of Christ Church, Bronxville, N. Y., in the dedicatory recital of Trinity's new 54 rank Aeolian Skinner, on 5 February. Harold Friedell, of St. Bartholomew's (New York) will give a lecture-recital later on in the month.

Westminster's new telephone number is Princeton 1-7000.

ALUMNI FUND NEWS

Contributions to the Alumni Fund now total $2,576.83, received from 131 individuals.
Two very practical books which were published last year should make valuable additions to any church musician's bookshelf: *The Use of Music in Christian Education* by Vivian Sharp Morsch (Westminster Press, $3.00) and *Training the Boy's Changing Voice* by Duncan McKenzie (Rutgers University Press, $3.75). Mrs. Morsch (a voice teacher, among other things) wrote her book with the expressed hope that everyone concerned with the educational program of the Christian church might find it stimulating to their thinking and planning, and helpful in achieving a more effective use of music. It "sets forth a basic philosophy of music as Christian education" -- a handbook of inspirational character, with specific directions and practical helps--"a veritable blueprint for integrating music into the whole program of Christian education." Included in the book's eighteen chapters are a study of hymns, the creation of music with instruments, the value of recordings in Christian learning, the multiple choir system and its special problems, a standard repertoire, and bibliography. Truly "a clear guide for the most unpractised and a valuable tool even for the expert." The author is presently director of Christian education at the First Presbyterian Church, Youngstown, Ohio, and holds a master's degree in sacred music with study at Union Theological Seminary and Columbia University.

Mr. McKenzie's book is the first to describe in detail the alto-tenor plan, and he balances its advantages against the many other methods which have been used. The numerous problems which confront choir and glee club directors of boys are discussed.

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NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

The Choirs of The First Presbyterian Church, Gloversville, N. Y., Clarence Getz ('49), minister of music, sponsored the Mount Union College Choir of classical, sacred, folk-songs and secular choral music. Comments: "The voices were at all times well blended"; "There was no over-predominance of any section"; "Magnificent shading of tone"; "The nearest thing to The Westminster Choir I've ever heard".

George Vassos ('52) made his bow in Cleveland as a member of The Cleveland Institute of Music voice faculty when he sang the solo part in the Psalmus Hungaricus conducted by Marcel Dick in January 16th at the Institute. (This work of Zoltan Kodaly is written for symphony orchestra, adult chorus, children's chorus, and tenor soloist). George's professional experience ranges from the Westminster Touring Choir, the American Male Chorus (with which he toured the Orient), to the Patti Page television show. The First Methodist Church of Baton Rouge (Marvin C. Genuchi-'50, Minister of Music), sponsored the Centenary Choir in concert on February 16th. Marvin's church is rapidly coming to the front as one of the foremost musical churches in the country. In line with their expansion program, three new instrumental choirs are being organized: a string choir, a brass choir, and a reed choir. Music scheduled for the Easter season include Brahms' "Requiem", Mendelssohn's "The Christus", and Maunder's "Penitence, Pardon, and Peace". The church presented a TV program on February 28th, featuring music of its choirs.

Malcolm H. Scott ('49), has left his position with the First Baptist Church, Roanoke, Virginia, to accept a position with the River Oaks Baptist Church in Houston, Texas.

Mr. H. Wells ("Gerry") and Mrs. (Joanne Baumgartner) Near (both '52), are doing a splendid job at the Latrobe Presbyterian Church, Latrobe, Pennsylvania, with developing existing choirs and organizing new ones in their church. They became associated with their church in October 1956. A new church building was dedicated February 17th. Eight new choirs have been started, with ambitious programs outlined for them.

Robert William Frazier ('54) is working for his Master's Degree at McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago. He has been elected Director of the McCormick Singers, a city-recognized choral group.

Melvin C. Kern ('54) handles music instruction at the Glenwood (Washington) School. This covers the first through the twelfth grades. He has a first grade rhythm band, two elementary beginning bands, singing in the five elementary rooms, and the high school band and chorus. With two English classes besides, this all amounts to seven classes a day and eleven different subjects a week. He presented a Christmas program utilizing all of the school's 200 students.

TALBOTT FESTIVALS

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used to accompany two anthems. Six or seven choirs will participate and their directors are Margaret Dow, William Gable (of the host church), James Weeks, Helen Searles Fohrhaltz, Paul Baltzer, Warren Adams and Alice Bartholomew Hebb. The states represented are Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire.

To balance the record, no festival will be held in Virginia. The festival scheduled for Montgomery, Ala. has yielded to one scheduled for Atlanta, Ga. The coordinator of the Florida area was unable to carry out the plans because of illness. Much more good news and some bad next month.

Anyone having organizational and planning problems with their choirs and programming should write Wm. W. Lemmonds ('49), Minister of Music at the Second Presbyterian Church, Kansas City, Missouri. He published a most concise, complete, and clear schedule for his 10 choirs for the coming nine months. Looks so simple--once it is put into the printer's hands and comes out a finished product!

On January 27th, the combined choirs of the Talbot Park Baptist Church, and First Baptist Church, Norfolk, Virginia, presented Mendelssohn's oratorio "St. Paul". Slater C. Mounts ('52) conducted. Mr. Mounts is Minister of Music at the Talbot Park Baptist Church. This was the first venture of the two churches together, but many more are in the planning stage. Slater has 7 active choirs and 1 honorary choir with a total membership of around 270 voices. He is approaching his 3rd year at his present position; he would like to hear from his old classmates.

Ike Linhares ('52) is organist at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Newark, N. J. He is also an Elder, the church treasurer, and a member of the Board of Trustees. Mrs. Linhares (Lorena Young-'53) is Director of Christian Education and Choir Director.

Alex Gould ('53) is contributing greatly to the musical scene in general in Sacramento, California. His production of "The Messiah" around Christmas time received much praise and much publicity. He is with the Fremont Presbyterian Church. His Sanctuary Choir (adult) concertizes a great deal outside of the church at various civic affairs. The church sponsored a Westminster Choir concert before the Choir departed for the Orient. Alex has been tenor soloist with the Sacramento Symphony Orchestra in Bruckner's "Te Deum", and served as a judge for the San Francisco Opera Auditions.

Dick and Mrs. (Eva Allen) Raub (both '55) report that they are ex-
New to Princeton's church scene is the recently-completed St. Pauls Cathedral. James L. Cannon ('53) is Minister of Music.

Weddings and New Arrivals

Shirley Sanborn ('52) became Mrs. Jack Wedge, Greene, N. Y., in June '56.
Jean Nauman ('53) was married to John T. Savage in September 1955. A son, Tommy, was born 4 October 1956. Jean has given up the position as Minister of Music at the Epworth Church (Exmore, Va.), but still sings in the soprano section of the adult choir. She also has a music studio in her home.

Joao W. Faustini ('55) married Queila B. Costa on 29 December 56, in Sao Paulo, Brazil.
Joyce Robertshaw Thomas ('54) now resides in New Haven, Conn., where her husband is getting a Master's Degree in Music (organ) at Yale. A son, Craig Carrington, was born to them on October 16th, 1956.

Mr. ('53) and Mrs. Alex Gould now have a little girl, Melanie Ann, born 19 September '56.

MRS. LEE RECOMMENDS
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rather fully, with case histories given to document the conclusions. The alto-tenor plan had its evolution in the States due to the special needs and conditions found in junior high schools. Its outstanding advantage, of course, is that it "allows the adolescent boy to sing throughout the period when his voice is changing... there is no lapse in the training of the voice, and no diminishing of the boy's interest in music because of lack of participation." Mr. McKenzie received his M.A. from Edinburgh University and for a number of years was chairman of the Music Department of Douglass College. He was director of Carl Fischer, Inc. for twelve years and managed Oxford University Press' Music Department for five. He has been associated with the public schools of Montreal and Toronto, and contributed numerous articles to music magazines.

NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE
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tremely satisfied with their position at the First Methodist Church in Mineola, Texas. They have seven choirs. An all-choir dedication service is scheduled for the last of February. After that comes a pageant of Easter in music by four of their choirs, the Talbott Festival in Dallas (May 12th) and a spring concert of sacred and secular music by three of the choirs.