

May 5/6/8, 1949




Annual Spring Festival
INLAND CHILDREN'S CHORUS

THE DAYTON ART INSTITUTE

THURSDAY, MAY 5th . . 8:00 P.M.

FRIDAY, MAY 6th . . . 8:00 P.M.

SUNDAY, MAY 8th . . 2:00 P.M.
4:00 P.M.



Annual Spring Festival by the
INLAND CHILDREN'S CHORUS

PROGRAM

- 1 INTRODUCTION Mr. J. D. O'Brien
- 2 CHORUS
- (a) "Song of Love" from "Blossom Time"
..... Sigmund Romberg
 - (b) "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes" from "Roberta"
..... Jerome Kern
 - (c) "Night and Day" from "The Gay Divorcee"
..... Cole Porter
 - (d) "The Donkey Serenade" from "The Firefly"
..... Rudolf Friml

INTERMISSION (15 minutes)

- 3 CHORUS
- (a) "Giannina Mia" from "The Firefly"
..... Rudolf Friml
 - (b) "Romance" from "The Desert Song"
..... Sigmund Romberg
 - (c) "You'll Never Walk Alone" from "Carousel"
..... Richard Rodgers

RICHARD WESTBROCK, Director

Isabel Herbst, *Pianist*
Katharine Funkhouser Moore, *Organist*

Children's Chorus Praised For 7th Annual Festival

Its selections attuned to the spirit of the season, the Inland Children's chorus delighted a large audience in the Dayton Art institute last night with its seventh annual spring festival.

Melodious selections from the pens of famous operatic composers comprised the entire program. Numbers such as Sigmund Romberg's "Song of Love" from "Blissomtime" and his "Romance" from "The Desert Song" seemed especially fitting.

And the 100 children, divided equally between boys and girls ranging in age from 8 to 16, sang everything beautifully. In fact, through all the years we have never heard this group sing with such exacting finish. Voices blended expertly and ever so often lovely sopranos were heard in solos, a trio and a quartet.

Selections From Firefly

From the extensive repertoire of Rudolf Friml were selected "The Donkey Serenade" and "Giannina Mia" from "The Firefly." Jerome Kern contributed "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes" from "Roberta" and Cole Porter "Night and Day" from "The Gay Divorcee."

But most outstanding of all was "You'll Never Walk Alone" from the Richard Rodgers operetta heard here this season, "Carousel." For encores the chorus sang its theme, song, the prayer from "Hansel and Gretel" and Brahms' "Cradle Song" in German.

Richard Westbrook has done wonders with this chorus. It is most responsive to his demands, his control in extracting fine musical qualities and a high degree



R. Westbrook

of discipline being something quite unusual. Most sympathetic accompaniments were played by Isabel Herbst at the piano and Katharine Funkhouser Moore at the organ.

J. D. O'Brien, manager of the Inland division of General Motors who has been most energetic through the years in furthering the project, explained the objective of the chorus as the program opened.

Great Hope for Nation

"It is important that children become familiar with good music," he said. "But the lessons of discipline and co-operation resulting from such choral singing leave definite impression on later years. Praising the parents for their co-operation, he remarked that "as long as people are so interested there is great hope for the nation."

The children presented a sight, the girls in their pale blue gowns and the boys in their Eton jackets and long trousers. Tiered on the stage in their usual concert fashion, the scene was enhanced by a row of many pink hydranges along the front.

The concert, primarily for employees of the Inland division and their friends, will be noon on 6 p. m. today and at 2 p. m. Sunday.—A. S. Kany.