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PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

What should be our plan for the first year after our revival? There are three ways in which we can prove our ability for team work and individual initiative: (a) To make contact with all possible guitar organisations; (b) To enlarge our musical library by at least thirty per cent; and (c) To make our Christmas Party an outstanding social success. **LET ENTHUSIASM BE OUR PREDOMINANT SPIRIT. LET MUTUAL ENJOYMENT BE THE SWEET FRUIT OF OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS.** **B. PEROTT**

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The meeting on July 18th was again held at 39 Thurloe Place, by kind permission of Mr. Adrian Van der Horst. Several important decisions were made. It was unanimously agreed that Mlle. Alice de Belleruche be nominated as Vice-President of the Society. This was proposed by Dr. Perott and seconded by Mr. Bream. Further, Mr. O. Morton Lawrence was appointed Welsh Representative of the Society. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Appleby for 15 solos of the Pratten Editions. Mr. Perott Junior notified the Society that in view of his present work he would not be able to give any time to the Library. The Secretary has sent Mr. Perott a letter thanking him for his active interest in the past and his very great help with the Library, also as assistant treasurer. The meeting elected Mr. Bream as Librarian and Mrs. Edwards as Assistant Librarian. We are greatly indebted to both Mr. Bream and Mrs. Edwards for coming forward to help the Library. They have already begun sorting and indexing the music. Several members have repaired music.

Monsieur Boulanger, the Vice-President of our sister Society "Les Amis de la Guitare" of Paris, gave a short history of his Society, which was founded on Feb. 3rd 1939, and although dormant under German occupation, did not stop altogether. It met under the directorship of Mons. Verdier, at whose house meetings were held in spite of countless hardships. The Society is fortunate in having Ida Presti among its active members. Our programme was as follows:-

Mr. Zarfes with his son in a duet "Gavotte" by Bach, and also "Conversation Piece" by Carulli. Mrs. Edwards gave her first performance and did extremely well in a Minuet by Robert de Visée and 16th Century Bourree. (I do wish others would come forward and follow her example.) Mr. Middleton gave us a serenade which had the added interest of being his own composition. Madame E. Saurat again delighted us with a Sarabande by Bach. Major Koevoets, a guest from Holland, spontaneously took up a guitar and played "Minuette" by Carcassi and then sang some Dutch soldiers' songs, of which he first gave an amusing explanation. Senor Mantas then delighted us with a typical Spanish solo, later joined by his wife who sings flamenco songs and Fandangillos so well. Senor Bowen sang in his lively style "Jota Aragonesa" and "Guajira Cubana". Mr. Bream and Julian played duets by Scarlatti and Carulli. Interspersed by tea this was a most pleasant afternoon.

On August 18th we again met but I am not going to say that each of our meetings is more successful than the previous one. This one was very 'sticky' to begin with. Everyone was late including the Secretary. No one wanted to play. The aftermath of VJ Day was very noticeable - everybody suffering from all sorts of surfeit; in our youngest member it was apparently ice cream! However a talk by Dr. Perott soon set us thinking about the guitar, and fingers reached out for instruments. Mr. Moy Thomas began serenading our hostess in his charming way. With his guitar slung round his shoulders, he waltzed round the room. This soon set us going. Julian Bream played a study by Carulli, a Waltz by Carcassi and a short piece by Cesar Frank. After tea, which is always such a successful item, Mr. Mantas came and was soon giving us some lively items, later he was joined by his wife with her lovely songs, and her brother who gave his first public performance, having not long taken up the instrument. At this meeting it was also decided that we should correspond with various countries where there was a special interest in the guitar. Our correspondents are:- for Portugal, Mr. J. Kruggs, for Spain, Mr. P. Sansalvadore, for Argentine and S. America, Mr. A. Atkinson. This meeting was again held at Mr. A. Van der Horst. It was decided to hold a CHRISTMAS PARTY which will give us something to work for. It may be of interest that I have heard on fairly good authority that Senor Segovia is well and playing in S. America; this is from someone who saw his sister in Paris recently.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

The place of the next two meetings will be at Mr. Van der Horst, 39 Thurloe Place, S.W. 7. The flat is above the Cafe de Venice, a few doors from South Kensington Underground Station.

Dates of Meetings. September 15th and October 20th at 3 p.m.

(Miss) J. Vollers.

(Hon. Sec.)

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

At our meeting on July 21st I was appointed Librarian of the Society, with Mrs. Edwards as Assistant Librarian. In accordance with the agreed procedure we are now re-arranging the Library, so please bear with us patiently until the work of re-classification and labelling is concluded.

In future the list will be alphabetically arranged by the initial letter of the composer's surname. There will be exceptions to this, but they will be clearly indicated. The new system is this:- A member may apply for, up to, SIX separate titles. These will be sent if available, and they must be returned within one month. This period may be extended on application at the discretion of the Librarian. All music must be returned in the condition as received. Index labels are not to be removed.

With the acquisition of the Library of the late Mr. William Smith considerable expansion has taken place. We shall be pleased to accept any pieces for which you have no further use. If sent now, we can include them in the new list. We hope to announce very soon the date of the refunctioning of the P.S.G. LIBRARY.

THERE IS STILL MUSIC TO BE RETURNED. PLEASE DON'T FAIL US!

H.G. Bream

(Hon. Librarian)

EDITORIAL NOTES

If you play the guitar at a concert, or get an article or letter about the guitar published, please let the Editor know.

RADIO. During one week in July the B.B.C. gave us Segovia records, Gwenn Knight in original music for guitar and flute, and Geoffrey Sisley's guitar accompaniment to the balalaika. Olga Coehlo was also again heard recently. Thank you B.B.C. - MORE PLEASE!

OBITUARY. We regretfully announce the passing of Ross W. Kitch, of Toronto, Canada. A keen guitarist with a fine collection of music and records.

Ashton Jeffree of Cobham (formerly of Worthing). A grand 'old-timer' and pupil of Ernest Shand. Many guitarists, including the Editor, owe much to his kindly help and instruction.

Our sincere condolences to the widow and daughter of each of these lovers of the guitar.

THE AMERICAN GUITAR SOCIETY under the inspiring leadership of its Secretary, Vahdah Olcott Bickford, continues to present concerts of guitar music in California U.S.A. These splendid programmes are a great inducement to emigrate! Congratulations and best wishes - A.G.S.! Mr. Bertram Atkins of Toronto sends his regards to P.S.G. friends.

"La Romantika Gitaro" is the title of an article by the Editor in "Esperanto Internacia", the official gazette of the International Esperanto League.

On September 23rd the Editor is to give an address on "The Guitar" at Bayshill Adult School, Cheltenham.

Greetings to the many guitarist friends who have visited Cheltenham during the summer and also to those members whom the Editor has not had the pleasure of meeting - yet -.

According to the press a thief who stole a radio set left a guitar in its place! - Rather a kindly hint, wasn't it?

Geromimo Villarino is gaining great popularity in U.S.A. for his flamenco playing and singing of Spanish songs. We understand that he played for the exciting dancing of Carmen Amaya in recent films.

Will members please send any news of the guitar to the Hon. Editor:-

Wilfrid M. Appleby, 47 Clarence Street, Cheltenham, Glos.