

December 10, 1943

*The*  
**INLANDER**  
DECEMBER 10, 1943    Volume 9, Number 17



**“... And The Night Was Filled  
With The Song of Children ...”**

*Without benefit of sound, the camera has captured something of the universal appeal of the famed Inland Children's Chorus in this photograph taken of two Chorus members during a recent rehearsal for the Chorus' annual appearance with the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra on December 16th and 17th.*

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Courtesy of Shirley Whiting

# Inland Children's Chorus to Make Annual Appearance with the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra on Dec. 16th and 17th

**Repeat Concert On Friday,  
December 17th, Is A Tribute  
To The Universal Appeal Of  
Inland's Unique And Beloved  
Musical Organization**

The annual appearance of the Inland Children's Chorus with the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra has become one of Dayton's holiday traditions.

This year, in recognition of the universal appeal of our famous Children's Chorus, the Philharmonic Orchestra Board has announced a repeat performance on December 17, so that Daytonians who are unable to secure accommodations for the first concert on Thursday, December 16, may attend the second performance.

Both concerts will be held in Memorial Hall beginning at 8:30, and ticket headquarters for the special concerts have been set up at the Philharmonic offices in the Biltmore Hotel.

The Dayton Philharmonic Concert is the first in another busy season for the Chorus, which has become recognized as one of the most unique and beloved musical organizations in existence.

Our Children's Chorus has been acclaimed for its choice of really good music, and the blending of their fresh young voices in traditional Christmas Carols, has been

a highlight of Dayton's holiday season ever since the Chorus was first founded by Colonel Wallace S. Whittaker in 1936.

Under the direction of Richard Westbrook, who has trained the Chorus since its inception—and with its beautiful staging by Mr.

Raymond Sovey, the Inland Children's Chorus is indeed an inspiration—both to the people of Inland and to the entire community.





# Socially Speaking

Appointment of Mrs. Clunet Sawtelle as chairman of arrangements for the annual Christmas concert given by the Dayton Philharmonic orchestra in conjunction with the Inland Children's chorus was announced Thursday by Mrs. Richard H. Grant Jr., chairman of hospitality for the Philharmonic Orchestra board.

The Inland Children's chorus will make its seventh annual appearance with the Dayton Philharmonic orchestra Thursday evening, Dec. 16, at Memorial hall. To accommodate the many newcomers who were disappointed last year because of lack of space, a repeat performance is being planned this year for Friday night, Dec. 17.

Founded and maintained by the Inland Manufacturing division of General Motors, this unusual choral organization is composed of children whose parents are employes of the sponsor. Trained by Richard Westbrook, it has earned recognition as one of the outstanding children's musical organizations of the country.

Ticket headquarters for the special concert will be set up under Mrs. Sawtelle's direction at the Philharmonic offices in the Biltmore hotel.

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Mrs. Richard H. Grant, jr., chairman of hospitality for the Dayton Philharmonic orchestra, has announced the appointment of Mrs. Clunet Sawtelle as chairman of arrangements for the special Christmas concert to be given Friday evening, Dec. 17, by the Dayton Philharmonic orchestra and the Inland Children's chorus.

Because this concert, being given for the seventh year, has such an appeal to children and because so many had to be disappointed last year for lack of space, the concert is being repeated this year for the general public. Trained by Richard Westbrook, the Inland Children's chorus has earned recognition as one of the outstanding children's musical organizations of the country.

A special ticket committee will be selected by Mrs. Sawtelle to work at Philharmonic headquarters in the Biltmore hotel in contacting newcomers who may wish to give their children this special musical treat.

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## MUSIC AND ART NOTES

### Inland Children's Chorus To Give 2 Performances

**T**RADITIONAL Christmas concert, featuring the Inland Children's chorus, under the direction of Richard Westbrook, with the Dayton Philharmonic orchestra, will be given twice this week—Thursday and Friday evenings—at Memorial hall. This will be the seventh annual appearance with the orchestra by the chorus which is comprised of 100 children.

Founded and maintained by the Inland Manufacturing Division of General Motors Corp., this choral organization is made up of children whose parents are employes of the sponsor.

Under the direction of Westbrook the group has earned recognition as one of the outstanding children's musical organizations in the country.

For the chorus' share of the program, the group will sing a cappella Vittorio's Ave Maria and three French folk songs. With the orchestra they will sing Tchaikowsky's Waltz of the Flowers. A group of three Christmas carols will make up the final group. It is expected that the highlight of the program will be the singing of Silent Night, Holy Night, as encore, with the lights of the auditorium turned down low and only the blue candles of the



RICHARD WESTBROCK

snowy Christmas trees glowing from the stage.

Orchestral portion of the program will be led by Paul Katz, with the opening work the Vieuxtemps Concerto No. 4, featuring as soloist, Sigmund Effron, concert master. The orchestra will also play the overture to Tchaikowsky's Romeo and Juliet.

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Dayton, O., Sunday, Dec. 12, 1943.

## Yule Concert To Be Staged

The Inland Children's chorus and the Dayton Philharmonic orchestra will present their annual Christmas concert Thursday evening at Memorial hall. Paul Katz, conductor of the orchestra, will do most of the directing. However, for one or two selections Richard Westbrook, conductor of the chorus, will take the baton.

The Inland Children's chorus is made up of sons and daughters of Inland employes. The chorus is ably trained and admirably drilled. The girls wear long full-skirted powder-blue gowns. The boys are attired in Eton suits. All march onto the silver-gray and tiered platform in precise and well-trained manner. They hold their song books before them as they sing.

The platform on which they appear is ornamented with silvered trees and just as the choristers take position blue lights flash on. As a rule lighting effects are stunning. All in all the singing of Christmas music and the presentation of a suitable program by the orchestra constitutes a concert which is invested with Christmas spirit.

This concert is included in the Dayton Philharmonic series. Single admissions may be purchased of Miriam Rosenthal whose offices are located at the Biltmore hotel.

## Inland Children's Chorus To Sing Again Friday Night

BY BETTY A. DIETZ

Any doubts about the Christmas season's arrival were dispelled Thursday night when the Inland Children's chorus, under the direction of Richard Westbrook, made its annual appearance with the Philharmonic orchestra. The concert, splendid in color and staging and the beauty of the children's voices, is to be repeated Friday at Memorial hall.

An auspicious opening for the program was the performance of the Vieuxtemps Concerto for Violin in D minor which featured as soloist, Sigmund Effron, concertmaster of the orchestra which is directed by Paul Katz. The violinist, making his debut here as a solo artist, proved his ability from the first few phrases which demanded a smooth, singing, legato tone against the somber background of the orchestra. With a manner unassuming yet confident and sure, he demonstrated his mastery of the work. He liked particularly his handling of the rhythms in the moderato and marziale sections. The Vieuxtemps was a fine choice, a gracious work for an able musician such as Effron to make his first appearance. Second orchestral work of the evening was the lush overture at Romeo and Juliet by Tchaikowski.

Warm appreciation greeted the children's chorus for which the frosty white and blue of the Christmas trees, massed at the sides of the platform, made a perfect setting. Again the young singers displayed the precision, pure tone coloring and discipline which is proof of their training.

With the orchestra, the chorus sang the fugue-like intricacies of Pergolesi's Glory to God in the Highest. Then, under the direction

of Westbrook, they sang three happy folk carols, from France, Czechoslovakia and Russia. In these, particularly, the freshness of the voices, their seemingly effortless diction, their enthusiasm was a joy to the listener. In this a cappella work, it was almost as if the children and their conductor were one, the coordination was so complete. In the second half of the program the chorus sang with the orchestra, as they did in the Waltz of the Flowers by Tchaikowsky which served to bring their first group to a close. The Virgin's Slumber song, Hark the Herald Angels Sing and Adeste Fideles were the beloved carols chosen for the 100-voiced chorus' second appearance.

A moment of sheer loveliness was the exquisite a cappella singing of Silent Night, Holy Night under the direction of Westbrook. It was as if peace had come again to the world for a brief instant.

## Famous Nun Is First American Ever Canonized

CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—(P)—Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini, internationally famous nun and often called the "Apostle of the Italian Immigrant," who died in Chicago 26 years ago, will become the first American ever canonized a saint by the Catholic church.

A Swiss telegraph agency dispatch from Vatican City last night said the congregation of sacred rites had decided upon canonization of the Italian-born, naturalized American citizen, who founded the institute of the Missionary Sisters

## Chorus, Orchestra Give Christmas Concert

By MERAB EBERLE

The Inland Children's chorus and the Dayton Philharmonic orchestra gave their annual Christmas concert last night at Memorial hall. It will be repeated tonight and is of such quality as should attract a capacity audience.

This year, as in years past, the 50-girl members of Inland chorus were attired in long-skirted gowns of powder blue. The 50 boys wore Eton suits. All stepped in fine order to their places on a silver-gray platform set against a deep blue backdrop lighted in silver.

Chorus, setting and orchestra formed a gracious picture. The orchestra was seated below and to the fore of the chorus. To either side were silvered Christmas trees pointed with blue lights.

The chorus is made up of children of employes at Inland Manufacturing company and is directed by Richard Westbrook who led the children commendably in unaccompanied selections including Victoria's "Ave Maria," and a rollicking Czechoslovakian dance song. The orchestra directed by Paul Katz accompanied the chorus in some numbers, including Tchaikowski's "Waltz of the Flowers," Reger's "The Virgin's Slumber

Song" and Reading's "Adeste Fidelis."

The audience loved the children's singing, marked the fine zest, the sober intent of the choristers; enjoyed their presentation of "Silent Night" as the singers stood in a dimmed, etherealizing light.

The orchestra contributed magnificently to last night's program. It played, first, Vieuxtemps' concerto for orchestra and violin in D minor, a composition notable for startling contrasts and lovely melodies. Sigmund Effron, concertmaster, was soloist. His playing was invested with much beauty. It was limpid and poetic as he interpreted the Adagio Religioso movement and had breadth and much of power in passages of the Finale Marziale. As an encore he appeared in, and very pleasingly indeed, Vivaldi's "Gypsy Serenade."

The orchestra played, too, Tchaikowski's "Romeo and Juliet" overture and gave the richly-textured work a forceful interpretation.

## Let Children Help Plan

## Inland Choir Praised For Presentation

We doubt if anywhere in this broad land of ours there is a more beautiful or inspiring Christmas presentation than that given each season here by the Inland children's chorus and the Dayton Philharmonic orchestra. Last night in Memorial hall the chorus of 100 children and the orchestra brought enthusiastic response from a large audience. Because of the



Westbrock

great influx of new residents, a second concert will be held tonight. It merits capacity attendance.

As in previous years, the youngsters, equally divided as to sex, marched from the side stage entrance to the stage and up on the tiered seats, the girls in their puffed-sleeve blue frocks and the boys in their Eton jacket suits. Flanking the stage at either side were whitened Christmas trees, and along the orchestra stand were whitened cedar boughs, all set aglow with hundreds of tiny blue lights, as the children marched to their places to the organ accompaniment of Mary Werner MacCash.

This year the ensemble effect of chorus and orchestra is especially attractive, for the decoration of the new proscenium and wall is now complete, and at last we have a large auditorium that, as far as stage is concerned, is a credit to the city.

This chorus, for those who may be newcomers, was organized some years ago from among children of employes of the Inland division of General Motors at the instigation of Wallace Whittaker, general manager of the company. "Whit," who is now a colonel in Uncle Sam's Army, presumably somewhere in England, gave the work his personal attention until he joined the armed forces, and under Richard Westbrook's able guidance the group is recognized as one of the most outstanding of its kind in the country. Only the difficulty of transporting so large a group has forced it to decline many invitations to sing elsewhere.

Last night the chorus opened with "Glory to God in the Highest," sung with orchestral accompaniment. Then Mr. Westbrook directed them in the compelling strains of "Ave Maria," and French, Czech and Russian folk songs, the children singing a cappella for these. Next, their clear, vibrant voices were heard in Tschaikowsky's lilting "Waltz of the Flowers."

In their second group the children sang familiar Christmas carols, "The Virgin's Slumber Song," "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing," and "Adeste Fideles," encoring with their incomparable interpretation of "Silent

Night," which seems nothing short of a yuletide benediction, especially effective this year when the world is so upset in turmoil.

For the orchestra's part of the program, Director Paul Katz turned the first number over to his concertmeister, Sigmund Efron, who played three movements of the "Concerto for Violin No. 4, D Minor," by Vieuxtemps. The selection has some lovely passages and Efron played them feelingly with a sweet-toned instrument. The third movement, calling especially for a fine mastery of technique, was exceptionally well played. For encore he played Vivaldi's "Gypsy Serenade" with exceeding warmth of tone.

The only strictly orchestral number was Tschaikowsky's melodious

overture-fantasy to "Romeo and Juliet," which aims to interpret the plot of Shakespeare's tragedy through musical moods, with richly expressive phrases for the love theme. The orchestra was in fine fettle and gave the selection nothing short of a gorgeous interpretation.—A. S. Kany.