

BOSTON SYMPHONY CONCERT DELIGHTS

Rachmaninoff, Pianist and Soloist, Shares in the Unstinted Applause.

The Boston Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Pierre Monteux, gave the first concert in its Washington series this season at the National Theater yesterday with Sergel Rachmaninoff, pianist, as soloist. The large audience was enthusiastic, and remained until the end of the long program when they recalled M. Monteux several times.

The new conductor arranged an intensely interesting program for yesterday, opening with Haydn's symphony in E flat major, "La Reine de France," followed by the soloist who played his own concerto in D minor, opus 30, No. 3; Debussy's prelude, "L'Après midi d'un Faune," and a suite for orchestra, opus 3, by Georges Enesco. The symphony was played with charming delicacy and the usual perfect ensemble which has made this organization famous, although the tone of the first violins could have been improved upon in the symphony.

The Enesco suite is an unusual composition, written, through the first three movements, in simple harmonies. In the first movement, for strings and kettledrum, the strings played in unison almost throughout, making an effect of simplicity and great beauty.

Mr. Rachmaninoff was at his best, showing no coldness of tone as in his appearance here last season. The concerto itself is full of beauty of melody and harmonies, is very difficult and fascinating in rhythm, and has a richly orchestrated accompaniment. Mr. Rachmaninoff played with brilliant technic, smooth legato in the melodies and warmth of feeling, making the concerto a work of great beauty and color.

The audience recalled him many times. Mr. Monteux, who will be the conductor of the symphony through the season, conducted the first concert in Washington last season and by his work yesterday strengthened the splendid impression he made then.

K. B.