

The Feis Ceoil is announced for the week commencing May 6, 1912.

On November 15, the Dublin Orchestral Society gave the fourth concert for the year in the Gaiety Theatre. Dr. Esposito conducted a programme that included Beethoven's 'Eroica' Symphony, and the final scene from 'Die Walküre.' The Society will have a considerable debt to meet at the close of the season, and the committee have asked for donations towards paying it off.

Mr. John Larchet has started a series of popular orchestral concerts on Saturday evenings in the Abbey Theatre; they have, so far, been well attended.

EDINBURGH.

At the first of Messrs. Paterson's orchestral concerts, given in the M'Ewan Hall on November 13, Mr. Mlynarski conducted excellent performances of Beethoven's 'Leonora' Overture No. 3, Georg Schumann's 'Lebensfreude' Overture, and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4, in F minor. The soloist was M. Pablo Casals, who delighted the audience in Haydn's Violoncello concerto.

At the second concert, on November 20, the programme included Berlioz's 'Carnaval Romain' Overture, and Raff's 'Im Walde' Symphony. M. Mischa Elman was the soloist, and his performance of the solo part in Max Bruch's Violin concerto in G minor created much enthusiasm.

The first of the present series of Concerts for Young People, given under the auspices of the Edinburgh Musical Education Society, was held in the Queen's Hall on November 3. The programme comprised violin solos, pianoforte solos, and songs, and the performers were Miss Copeland, violinist, Mr. Appleyard, pianist, and Mr. Alfred Young, vocalist. Professor Niecks prefaced each number with historical and explanatory remarks, and the concert was greatly appreciated by the juvenile audience.

Under the direction of Professor Niecks the first of the present season's series of historical concerts was given in the University music class-room on November 8. The programme was devoted to compositions by J. S. Bach for string orchestra, with and without flute, violin, and pianoforte solo, and comprised the 'Brandenburg' Concerto in D major, No. 5, with flute, violin and cembalo solo; Cembalo concerto in D minor; Suite in B minor, with flute solo; and the Concerto in D minor for two violins and orchestra. The string band was drawn mainly from the Scottish Orchestra. Mr. Henri Verbrugghen acted as conductor and violinist.

Among other concerts given recently have been vocal recitals by Miss Jean Waterston; Miss Margaret Kennedy, who was assisted by Miss P. K. Fraser, pianist, and Mrs. Tobias Matthay, reciter; violin recital by Mr. George A. Vincent; violin and pianoforte recital by Miss Theo. Hunter and Miss Mabel Barrons; pianoforte recitals by Miss Edith Walton and by Mr. E. B. Appleyard.

GLASGOW.

On October 23, the Bach Choir opened their sixth season with a chamber concert, under the direction of Mr. R. Finnie McEwen. The programme comprised the Sonata in B minor, for violin and pianoforte (excellently played by Miss Bessie Spence and Mr. J. A. Fuller Maitland), the Concerto in C major for three pianofortes and strings (Mrs. Younger, Messrs. Finnie McEwen and Fuller Maitland, pianists), and the solo cantata, 'It is enough,' for baritone, with oboe, strings, and continuo (Mr. Robert Burnett, vocalist). An interesting and educative feature of the concert was Mr. Fuller Maitland's introductory remarks bearing on the pieces forming the programme. The Ysaye-Pugno recital, on November 3, will be memorable for the remarkable rendering of the 'Kreutzer' Sonata and Mozart's Sonata in D major. M. G. Ysaye took part with his father and M. Pugno in a sonata by Handel, and Mr. J. MacLagan Blair contributed some vocal solos. Mr. Benno Moiseiwitsch, a pianist of great gifts, made an excellent impression on his first appearance before a Glasgow audience on November 6. The opening concert of the Choral and Orchestral Union took place on November 14, when the Scottish Orchestra, under Mr. Emil Mlynarski, made a brilliant appearance. The soloist of the evening was M. Pablo Casals, who gave an ideal performance of

Haydn's Violoncello concerto in D. In this and in some solos M. Casals's playing evoked great enthusiasm. The Symphony was Tchaikovsky's No. 4, in F minor, which received a fine interpretation from Mr. Mlynarski. A novelty on the programme was Georg Schumann's richly-scored overture, 'Lebensfreude.'

The Saturday Popular Orchestral Concerts were resumed on November 18, before an audience of very encouraging dimensions. The programme, cast generally on popular lines, included Beethoven's seventh Symphony and the overture to 'Oberon.' Madame Blanche Marchesi was solo vocalist, and her contributions to the programme afforded the audience much pleasure. The only other events to be recorded this month are recitals by two local vocalists, Miss Boyd Steven and Mr. Thorpe Davie, and the inaugural recital by Mr. J. E. Hodgson on the fine organ recently erected by Messrs. Norman & Beard in Lansdowne Church.

The choral societies of the district are busy with their programmes. The organizers of the successful Competitive Festival held recently are arranging a similar event to take place in the spring.

LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT.

The second concert of the Philharmonic Society, on October 24, is memorable as the occasion of the first visit to Liverpool of M. Rachmaninoff. His acceptance of the Society's invitation roused anticipations which were pleasurably realised. The gifted Russian composer appeared as solo pianist in his third Pianoforte concerto, Op. 30 (in which the orchestra was directed by Mr. S. Speelman), and as conductor of his second Symphony, Op. 27. These important works were new to Liverpool, and both made a highly favourable impression, especially the Concerto, as played by its composer. It is on the highest plane of virtuoso music, and full of interest in its themes and developments. Miss Mignon Nevada's brilliant vocalisation in Rossini's 'Una voce poco fa' created a furor. The choir, conducted by Mr. Branscombe, were heard in three of Carl Flitner's arrangements for chorus and orchestra of Schubert's pianoforte valse.

Sir Frederic Cowen's new work, 'The Veil,' received an impressive performance at the third Philharmonic Concert on November 7. In his powerful setting of Robert Buchanan's poem, which offers few lyrical opportunities, the composer has adopted a new style. He has assimilated the best elements of modern music in his writing for the solo voices, chorus, and orchestra, and shows astonishing elasticity of technique and method. 'The Veil' is undoubtedly a work of great distinction, and the composer, who conducted the performance, received a flattering and friendly recall. The vocal principals included Madame Agnes Nicholls, Madame Kirkby Lunn, Miss Dilys Jones, Mr. Maurice D'Oisly, Mr. G. N. Barnett, and Mr. Herbert Brown.

At the second Akeroyd Symphony Orchestra concert on October 31, three contrasted examples of Rhapsodies were played, viz., German's delightful 'Welsh Rhapsody,' Sir C. V. Stanford's elegiac Irish Rhapsody, 'The Lament for the Sons of Ossian,' and the Somerset Rhapsody (MS.) by Gustav von Holst. Mlle. Yvonne Astruc, a gifted violinist, was heard in Mendelssohn's Violin concerto, and the vocalist was Mr. Harry Reynolds, a baritone who sang well.

The genius of Mr. Harry Evans as a conductor, and the responsive powers of the Welsh Choral Union, were congenially employed on October 18 in a splendid performance of Elgar's 'King Olaf.' This comparatively early masterpiece had been happily chosen, and was apparently as interesting to an engrossed audience as it was unmistakably enjoyable to the performers. With Miss Edith Evans, Mr. Lloyd Chandos, and Mr. David Brazell as vocal principals, the solos were excellently sung, and in the choral music, the Welsh Choral Union exhibited the qualities of tone, vigour, attack, and expression which always characterize their singing. Under the leadership of Mr. Akeroyd, the orchestral part, which is such an essential feature of the work in emphasising the subtle and suggestive use of the *leit motif* principle, was excellently played. The second part of the programme included the 'William Tell' Overture, and Edward German's Coronation March and Thanksgiving Hymn, heard for the first time here.