

# 300 Voices Rehearse For Christmas Concert

## ELIJAH, DIRECTED BY KIRKPATRICK, SET FOR DEC. 13

Lincoln, College Music Clubs Devote Full Program To Holy Season.

For the 41st time the university will offer to the people of the state a program dedicated in full to the Christmas season. More than 300 voices under the baton of Director Howard Kirkpatrick, accompanied by the Nebraska Symphony, will be united to sing Mendelssohn's "Elijah" in the coliseum next Sunday evening.

In times past, under the untiring efforts of Carrie Belle Raymond, Handel's "Messiah" reached the Christmas story to each succeeding class. Occasionally, another standard work was substituted for Handel's oratorio, but rarely so.

With the thought that Lincoln audiences and visitors from outlying communities might appreciate a change in the music, Howard Kirkpatrick, director of the school of music and conductor of the Choral union, announced the presentation of Mendelssohn's "Elijah" last year. His choice in this oratorio met with an enthusiastic response and as a result one of the largest audiences ever to hear a Christmas program here turned out for this concert a year ago.

### Famous Bass Takes Lead.

Again Mr. Kirkpatrick will present Mendelssohn's masterpiece, and all advance indications point to another record breaking attendance. As another point of interest concerning this year's rendition of the "Elijah," the university is bringing to Lincoln one of the outstanding "singing bass voices in America." Herbert Gould, who has appeared in major musical productions in many of the principal cities of the United States and has performed more than 60 roles in grand and light opera, besides appearing as soloist with the Philadelphia, New York, and Chicago symphony orchestras, will take the part of Elijah next Sunday.

He will be supported by equally well known and capable artists, including Meribah Moore, brilliant soprano, who is on the faculty of the University of Kansas school of music. The contralto-lead will be sung by Mary Peik Shockey, Lincoln artist, who has appeared in concerts throughout the state, and the tenor role by Parvin Witte, another Lincoln artist who already has won the plaudits of local audiences in past oratorio productions.

### 175 Choristers of City Campus.

One hundred and seventy-five voices in the Choral union come from the city campus alone, another 75 from the Ag college. The remaining choristers are among church choirs and musical organizations here. The Grieg male choir, one of the better well known ensembles in Lincoln, will sing as a unit, Mr. Kirkpatrick announced.

A tremendous amount of work is necessary before such a program can be given, it is pointed out. The university section of the mass ensemble began work on the "Elijah" with the start of the semester. The student group rehearses as a unit; the vocalists from over the city rehearse independently of the students, while the University of Nebraska Symphony, which group will furnish this year's accompaniment, likewise has its own practice periods. To secure the unity and co-ordination necessary for a successful mass presentation all three sections will hold a final "dress rehearsal" Saturday evening, the night before the program. The Coliseum will be decorated appropriately and the singers will be seated on their new stage platform.

Recognized as one of the great oratorios of all times, the "Elijah" music is thoroly in keeping with

### To Direct 300 Voices in Mendelssohn's 'Elijah'



—From The Lincoln Journal. PROF. HOWARD KIRKPATRICK

the Christmas spirit. For those less familiar with its narratives a summary of its highlights may prove of interest.

### Elijah Comforted.

It was on Aug. 20th that this great production was first heard at the town hall, Birmingham, Mendelssohn himself conducting. The despairing phrases of the overtures lead into the cry of a wailing people, "Help Lord, the harvest is over, the summer days are gone." The music proceeds and we find Elijah by the brook after having been comforted by the strains sung by a double quartet, "He shall give his angels charge over thee." The prophet is summoned to the house of a widow, the raising of whose son is depicted in tender accents which find their fitting response in the chorus, "Blessed are the men who fear him." The sacrifice follows, Elijah's prayer in the softer harmonies of "cast thy burden upon the Lord," the descent of the fire and the consequent recognition of the true God. This scene reaches a mighty climax with the destruction of the prophets of Baal.

### Rain Brings Salvation.

The orchestra then portrays the rising of a little cloud, the bursting storm which brings rain and salvation to the famine stricken people who unite in the chorus, "Thanks be to God."

The second part includes the soprano, "I am He, that comforteth" and the chorus "Be not afraid." The people are incited against Elijah whose prayers have saved them. There is the beautiful trio, "Lift Thine Eyes," and the chorus which follows. Sadness overcomes Elijah. Then follows the aria "O Rest in the Lord," and the scene which tells how the Holy One of Israel revealed himself in the still small voice. The action is increased with the musical portrayal of the "Chariot of Fire and horses of fire" in which the man of God is taken to receive his reward. The tenor soloist will sing "Then shall the Righteous shine," followed by the rendition of "And then shall your light break forth"—in which is summed up the lesson of hope, peace and joy, the theme song of every Christmas.

### Ag Christmas Dinner to Honor Chancellor, Dean

Chancellor and Mrs. E. A. Burnett and Dean and Mrs. W. W. Burr of Ag college, will be honored by the Ag Cafeteria Boarding club Tuesday evening at a Christmas dinner to be served at the home ec building on the Ag campus.

Josephine McCulley, home ec senior, has general charge of the arrangements. The banquet service class has charge of the dinner.

## Man's Aversion to Facing Death Shown in Dr. Pound's Euphemism Collection for Speech Magazine

Strange as it seems, one of mankind's gravest problems seemingly is to avoid a straightforward mention of death and its accompanying rituals. Dr. Louise Pound of the University English faculty has just completed an assemblage of many of the 19th and 20th century euphemisms for dying, death and burial, which are interesting to read but are surprisingly absurd in their attempts to treat the subject in an indirect way.

Miss Pound has published her material in American Speech, one of the country's leading linguistic publications. As the result of her work, the belief in man's intellectual superiority is given a rude shock.

### Obituaries Lack Directness

In gathering her information she turned to sermons, obituary columns in the newspapers, books, and conversations. The sorry part of it all is that these poetic and sentimental attempts to treat lightly and gracefully on this unpopular subject may often cause greater pain and suffering to all concerned than the direct mention of the words themselves. While it must be admitted that a few of these expressions do possess a pleasing ring, the bulk of them are foolish attempts to substitute for the straightforward way of speaking.

Too often these circumlocutory expressions are as rashly chosen as the words of the rattled clergyman, who, pointing to the corpse, said, "This is only the shell—the nut is gone." A review of some of the more trite creations which Miss Pound has collected will tell the story the more forcefully.

Everyone has read at sometime or other the noble attempts of one writer who produced the overused expression "the lamp of life flickered out," or "the dew of death were upon him." Other favorite paraphrases are "the cord is broken" and "he joined the great majority," or "he has laid down his knife and fork." The dime novelist comes to mind with the mention of this classic—"clasped in the cold embrace of death." "His light is put out" is one speaker's way of easing the pains produced by the word death. Still others resorted to the paraphrase "hung up the fiddle and the bow," while authors of cowboy and Indian sagas borrowed from the Latin poet Homer this well-known expression, "bit the dust."

Interesting are the following personifications of death, as collected by Miss Pound:

- The Grim Reaper
- The Pale Horseman
- The Scythe
- The Destroying Angel
- The Grim Reaper
- The Twin Brother of Sleep
- The Arch Foe

### Poetic Sentimental Attempts.

The expression "sleep the sleep that knows no waking" has been borrowed from Sir Walter Scott's "The Lady of the Lake," while western communities have no doubt given us the metaphor "crossed over the range." The



DR. LOUISE POUND —From The Lincoln Journal.

American Indian has furnished us with his conception of life hereafter with the expression "gone to the happy hunting grounds." "The way to all flesh," "went out with the ebb," "hit the long trail," and "entered the marble orchard," are among the more interesting sentimental and poetic attempts at camouflaging.

"As a reaction against the tradition of sentiment, slang and flippancy in the mention of death enjoy a certain favor," says the Nebraska educator. "No single class is answerable for the popularity of these expressions. College students, farmers, gangsters, and playwrights have all had a part in their creation." Many of these more daring expressions from her collection are listed below:

- Winked out
- Kicked the bucket
- Petered out
- Is a goner
- Placed in cold storage
- Is pushing up the daisies
- Went pfft. (from flattening automobile tires)
- Is counting the daisy roots
- His hash is settled
- Popped off
- Snuffed out
- Is counting the worms
- Take for a ride
- Gave last poison
- Gave the works
- Gave the rap
- Rub out (a rubber is a professional killer)
- Wipe out
- Ran down
- Ran the dust
- Turned up his toes
- Placed on a shelf
- Put to bed with a shovel
- Grounded for good
- Is pushing the rivets around
- Gone home in a box
- His game is cooked
- Crunched
- He has a little garden on his stomach
- Fat on the spot
- Liquidated
- Gave the head
- Drill
- Take the back gate parade (die in prison)

Pi Lambda Theta, teachers honorary, will hold its monthly meeting Tuesday night at 7 o'clock. It will meet at 1315 F street at the home of Miss Goering.

## STEINER TO TALK ON IMMIGRATION AT CONVOCATION

(Continued from Page 1.)

won for him the friendship of several of the nation's memorable figures. This group includes none other than the elder J. P. Morgan, Andrew Carnegie, Theodore Roosevelt and the more recently publicized Harry L. Hopkins.

### Educated in Germany.

The Grinnell educator was born in Czechoslovakia and finished his education in Germany. He has gained considerable reputation as an author and lecturer and has appeared on the educational programs of many of the eastern and western universities. Among his most popular books are "From Alien to Citizen" and "On the Trail of the Immigrant." For the purpose of securing information for his studies, Dr. Steiner has travelled across the ocean in the steerage and has visited the various countries from which most of the immigrants came.

Dr. Steiner was commissioned by "Outlook" magazine some years ago to write the life story of the famous Russian author Tolstoi and had the opportunity of being with the celebrated writer on his 80th birthday.

Of interest is another of his distinctions—that after 50 years of life in America he has not yet learned to play bridge, to play golf and to drive an automobile.

His address Thursday will be open to the public.

## Kappa Phi Gives Pageant, 'Church of Youth' Today

"The Church of Youth" will be the pageant presented this afternoon by Kappa Phi, Methodist sorority, in the Grace Methodist church at 3 p. m. Taking part in the pageant will be Mary Caroline Hollman, Florence Farwell, Doris Mills, Maxine Thomas, Leona Cordrey, Maxine West, Marjory Francis, Gretchen Ashenfelter, Frances Reed, Dorothy Anderson, Marian Saddle, and Lorraine Schuck. Marjory Smith is in charge of music for the affair.

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