

## RACHMANINOFF IN PIANO RECITAL

### People's Orchestra Scores in Raff's Symphony

Sergei Rachmaninoff played at Symphony Hall yesterday afternoon before a large and highly appreciative audience. The program was remarkably well balanced, alternating pieces of popular appeal with those of greater value.

His performance of his own second Sonata for the piano was especially fine. The thin and subtle melody of the second movement contrasted strangely with the robust strength of the finale, and the general effect of muted vivacity was accentuated by the abandon with which it was rendered. Although the first movement hardly measured up to the lyric beauty of the other two, its rhythmic power was nevertheless much more typical of the composer.

Sharing with the latter piece the position of honor was the seldom heard fifth Sonata of Scriabin, a much discussed piece, exhibiting the composer's "mystic chord" to very good advantage. As it demands great technical dexterity and a highly trained sense of rhythm, the interpretation it usually receives is little less than mediocre, accounting in large part for its lack of popularity.

The "Gopak" of Moussorgsky was accorded a reception so enthusiastic that it had to be repeated. Its companion piece, Tchaikowsky's Valse, opus 41, a work susceptible of treatment in the most stickily sentimental of popular styles, was performed with almost too cold an accuracy, though the audience received it enthusiastically.

As usual, Rachmaninoff was forced to give half a dozen encores.

### PEOPLE'S ORCHESTRAREVIVE RAFF'S "WALDE" SYMPHONY

The People's Symphony Orchestra, in its concert at Convention Hall yesterday afternoon, was assisted by Henry Souvaine, pianist, who played part of Tchaikowsky's concerto. Of the two chosen movements one was given by Mr Souvaine in person, and the other was a mechanical reproduction of his playing. The comparison proved the merits of the reproducing device.

Raff's "Im Walde" Symphony, the main item on the program, used to be almost as popular as his "Lenore." It has been neglected of late years, but its revival proved that it can still please audiences, whatever the critics may think of it. The only other number was Chaloff's "Tragic Overture," which pleased if one did not remember Brahms' masterpiece with the same title.

Mr Mollenhauer and the orchestra, which now numbers 70 players, gave renewed evidence of their skill.

### MASSENET'S "LA VIERGE" PRESENTED IN WORCESTER

WORCESTER, March 6.—The Societe Philharmonique tonight in Mechanic's Hall sang Messenet's "La Vierge," assisted by soloists and 47 musicians from the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Pierre Monteux of Boston, director of the orchestra and honorary member of the society, was a guest at a dinner in the Bancroft Hotel and at Assumption College where faculty and students gave him a reception.

Dr Adelard J. Harpin conducted the concert, directing a chorus of 42 adults and 100 children from St Anne's Or-