

School of English Church Music

QUARTERLY NEWS SHEET

Edited by a Committee appointed by the CHURCH MUSIC SOCIETY and issued from the office of the SCHOOL OF ENGLISH CHURCH MUSIC, COLLEGE OF ST. NICOLAS, ELMSTEAD LANE, CHISLEHURST, KENT.

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THE PRESENT POSITION OF THE SCHOOL.

Since the formal opening of the College on July 3rd a good deal of progress has been made ; many visitors have been to the College, and a certain number of students have taken short courses—some of them from overseas. One of our students, Mr. Stanley Bulley, left us in July to take up the important duties of Director of the Music at the new Cathedral at Victoria, British Columbia (having been sent to the College by the Cathedral authorities for a preliminary period of training).

The three Scholarships have now been awarded ; the Archbishop's Scholarship (which includes the duty of playing the organ at Lambeth Palace Chapel) to Mr. J. H. Long ; the Lady Mary Trefusis Scholarship to Mr. Francis Holmes ; the St. Nicolas Scholarship to Mr. John Raynor. All three scholars are also studying at the Royal College of Music.

In two directions the position of the School is causing great anxiety to the Council. The first is in the disappointing result of the many appeals for funds. It was hoped, for instance, that, after the opening ceremony and the eloquent appeal for support by His Grace the President to the 600 guests who were entertained, there would be a considerable addition to the number of those giving tangible expression to their goodwill. It is obvious that an institution like this cannot be self-supporting for many years, but evidently it is not sufficiently realized that *unless adequate support is forthcoming now, it cannot go on at all*. Considering the hundreds—one might say thousands—who have expressed their good will and interest in the scheme, it is surely not too much to expect that the comparatively small sum required to put the foundation on a firm basis will be secured. The affiliation of choirs continues slowly but steadily, and it seems unlikely that this source of revenue will be sufficient to insure the continuance of the School without considerable outside support. So a very earnest appeal must be made to every one of our readers to try and influence those of their acquaintance who have the means to come to our aid.

The other direction in which we are meeting with some disappointment is in the number of applications for admission as permanent students. The reason for this is, no doubt, partly that the financial outlook for professional Church organists is so poor that few young men will turn to such a career ; in fact there is a serious shortage, and we have considerable difficulty in finding suitable candidates for the numerous posts where our advice is asked. Yet if Church Music is to be maintained Choirmasters must be found ; and it is evidently necessary to look for fresh sources from which a suitable supply may be recruited. Many Churches can be and are efficiently served by those who are engaged in business during the week ; but their difficulty is to get training and experience. These can both be gained at the College, and it is felt that an important part of our work is to help such men. There must be hundreds of young men who are in business in London and are living in lodgings, who at very little additional cost, if any, could live in the delightful surroundings of the College, and, while carrying on their regular work, could acquire just the practical experience and training that would fit them not only to augment their income with a certain amount of "pocket money," but to give valuable service to the Church in a direction where it is greatly needed. May we then ask our readers to put any such young men with whom they are acquainted in touch with us ?

COLLEGE OF ST. NICOLAS.

Arrangements for Winter Term, 1929.

LECTURES, Etc.

Mondays	5.0 p.m.	"Plain-song, theoretical and practical." Miss J. M. Forbes Close.
	*9.0 p.m.	Practice Class for public speaking and reading. The Warden.

Tuesdays	5.0 p.m.	"The Musical requirements of the Prayer Book." Rev. G. H. Salter (Chaplain).
Wednesdays	9.0 p.m.	"Practical requirements of the parish Church organist." Mr. Harvey Grace.
Thursdays	5.0 p.m.	"History of Church Music." The Warden.
Saturdays	*11.0 a.m.	Junior Singing Class, Bickley Hall School.
	*11.30 a.m.	Senior Singing Class, Bickley Hall School.

*Non-resident students can be admitted to these classes by special arrangement only. All the other lectures are open to non-resident as well as resident students.

SERVICES IN THE COLLEGE CHAPEL.

The "rota" is planned to exemplify different types of services and their musical treatment. (A) signifies Anglican music; (P.S.) Plain song.

Mondays	7.30 a.m.	Prime (New Prayer Book) (A)
	7.0 p.m.	Evensong (P.S.)
Tuesdays	7.30 a.m.	Matins (P.S.)
	7.0 p.m.	Evensong (A) (Village Church type)
Wednesdays	7.30 a.m.	Matins (A) (Village Church type)
		No Choral Evensong
	10.0 p.m.	Compline (New Prayer Book)
Thursdays	7.30 a.m.	Holy Communion (alternately (A) and (P.S.))
	7.0 p.m.	Evensong (A) (Cathedral type)
Fridays	7.30 a.m.	Prime and Litany (P.S.)
	7.0 p.m.	Evensong (P.S.)
Saturdays	7.30 a.m.	Matins (A) (Town Church type)
	7.0 p.m.	Evensong (A) (Town Church type)

SUNDAYS AT ST. SEPULCHRE'S CHURCH, HOLBORN VIADUCT, LONDON:

	10.30 a.m.	Matins
	11.0 a.m.	Holy Communion
	6.0 p.m.	Evensong

Members of the public are admitted to all services, and students are admitted to choir-practices, one hour before each weekday Evensong.

On rare occasions when the Choir is singing elsewhere the above arrangements have to be altered.

For further particulars and scale of fees apply to the Secretary, at the College.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING — GUILD OF ST. NICOLAS.

The Annual General Meeting of the School of English Church Music will be held on Tuesday, December 10th, at St. Sepulchre's Church, Holborn Viaduct.

On the same day it is proposed to inaugurate the Guild of St. Nicolas, in accordance with the proposals outlined in the last number of the Quarterly News-Sheet. The suggested programme is as follows:—

3 p.m. Meeting of representatives of affiliated choirs and others who wish to belong to the Guild. The purpose of the Guild will be explained, members will be enrolled, a representative to serve on the Council of the S.E.C.M. will be elected, and the Guild Office will be sung for the first time.

After this there will be an opportunity for discussing details of organization and the various ways in which the School can help affiliated choirs.

5 p.m. Annual General Meeting of the School of English Church Music.

8 p.m. United Service sung by members of affiliated choirs at which His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, President of the School, has consented to preach.

With regard to the Guild of St. Nicolas: its main purpose is to form a spiritual and material link between those who, while trying to further the aims of the School, are at present working in comparative isolation. The details of the scheme remain to be settled, and at this stage it is only possible to say that membership will be open (without any additional subscription) to all members of affiliated choirs and members and associates of the School of English Church Music, and will not be open to anyone else.

Full particulars, together with the formal notice of the Annual General Meeting, will be circulated in due course to all concerned.

