

CITY OF EDINBURGH

The Education Committee

IN CO-OPERATION WITH

Edinburgh Concerts for Children Committee

LECTURE - CONCERT

"An Introduction to the Orchestra"

IN THE

USHER HALL, EDINBURGH

Saturday, 22nd January 1944

at 11 a.m.

LECTURER - HERBERT WISEMAN

The illustrations will be played by

The Reid Symphony Orchestra

CONDUCTOR—PROFESSOR SIDNEY NEWMAN

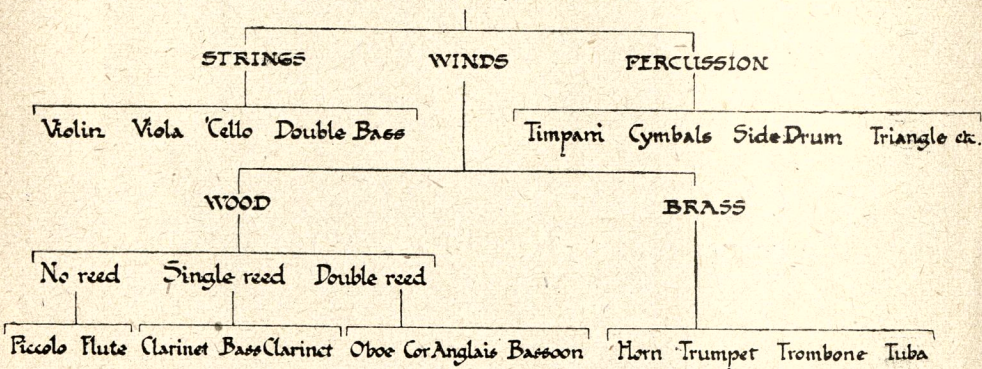
Leader of the Orchestra—Dr JOHN FAIRBAIRN

PROGRAMME

THE programme of to-day's Concert is designed to give the listeners some idea of the tone-colours of the various instruments of the orchestra, and to show how these sound when played separately and in combination with others.

The following diagram will give some idea of the three main groups of instruments which together make up an orchestra—

THE ORCHESTRA



God Save the King.

1. PRELUDE: "Carmen" Bizet
(1838-1875)

THIS has been chosen as the opening item of to-day's programme because (a) it gives you an opportunity of hearing the sound of the full orchestra; (b) it is brilliant and jolly; and (c) it is short. Carmen was a gipsy cigarette-maker who lived in Seville. Her story is told in a novel by Prosper Mérimée and in an opera by Bizet. This prelude paints a wonderful picture of sunshine and excitement. The middle tune is that of a song sung by a Toreador.



HANDEL.

2. MINUET Boccherini
(1743-1805)

THE most important instruments in the orchestra are the strings (look at the diagram on the opposite page). A "Minuet" was a graceful dance and this one is written for the strings alone.

3. PIZZICATO (from "Sylvia") Delibes
(1836-1891)

"PIZZICATO" is an Italian word meaning "plucked"—and when it is written by a composer at the beginning of a piece of music, the players lay down their bows and twang the strings with their fingers. In the middle section of this item, a flute and a clarinet join in. Can you tell which is heard first?

4. "Entrance of the Queen of Sheba" Handel
(from "Solomon") (1685-1759)

IN this piece you will hear the oboes along with the strings. Listen hard and try to remember their tone-colour.



MOZART (AGED 7).

5. OVERTURE : "The Magic Flute" *Mozart*
(1756-1791)

THIS overture gives you another chance of hearing the full orchestra. Listen to the lovely things which Mozart gives to the wood-winds and to the solemn chords for the brasses. The work is mainly in the form of a "fugue"—a word which scares some people but would not do so if they would only realise that every fugue is built on a small fragment of a tune called the subject. This is the subject of this fugue. Sing it until you know it and then listen for every appearance it makes.



WAGNER.



6. INTRODUCTION to Act III.: "Lohengrin"
Wagner
 (1813-1883)

THIS is happy music as befits the bustling preparation for a great wedding. It is being played to-day so that you may hear the loud tones of the heavy brasses when they are playing this tune.



7. MILITARY MARCH : "Pomp and Circum-
stance No. 4" *Elgar*
(1857-1934)

SIR EDWARD ELGAR, one of the greatest of British composers, wrote six military marches at the time of the Coronation of King Edward VII. Recently A. P. Herbert fitted words to this one and you probably know it as "The Song of Liberty." Will you please sing the chorus along with the orchestra?



ELGAR.

Do not leave your programme in the hall.—Take it home with you, read the notes, look at the diagram, try to remember the tones of the different instruments, show your folks the pictures and sing them some of the tunes you have heard.