

The March King in Lansing

October 13, 1919

SOUSA WILL GIVE VARIED PROGRAM

Will Give a Number of His Own
Compositions at the Concert Monday
Night

Lieut. John Philip Sousa with his band will present a varied program at the concert which will be given Monday night at Prudden auditorium. Mr. Sousa will be assisted by Miss Mary Baker, soprano, Miss Florence Hardman, violinist, and Frank Simon cornetist.

The program will consist of several of Mr. Sousa's own compositions. One that will be of especial interest is "The Golden Star" composed by Mr. Sousa and dedicated to Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt. "Composed in memory of the brave who gave their lives that liberty shall not perish." To balance up the program Lieut. Sousa will give some of his popular marches such as "The Stars and Stripes Forever," "The Washington Post March," "El Capitan" and others.

The program follows:

1. Overture, "Mignon" -- Thomas
2. Cornet Solo, "Willow Echoes" (new) -- Simon
3. Suite, "Impressions at the Movies"-- Sousa
 - (a) "The Jazz Bandit in Action"
 - (b) "The Crafty Villain and the Timid Maid"
 - (c) "Balance All and Swing Partners"
4. Aria, "Thou Brilliant Bird"

David Mysoll's song from the Pearl of Brazil,

Miss Mary Baker (flute obligato Louis P. Fritze)

5. Memorial, "The Golden Star" -- Sousa.

Dedicated to Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt. Composed in memory of the brave who gave their lives that Liberty shall not perish.

Interval

6. A Mixture, "Showing Off Before Company" (new) -- Sousa

7. (a) Valze Lante " Kisses" (new) -- Zamecnik

(b) March, "Bullets and Bayonets" (new) -- Sousa

8. Violin Solo, "Concerto" -- Viextemps

9. Satarelle, "The Bohemian" (new) --

Extra numbers: El Capitan, Manhattan Beach, Washington Post, High School Cadets, Semper Fidelis, When the Boys Come Sailing Home, Stars and Stripes Forever, Royal Vagabond and others.

The State Journal
(Lansing, MI)
October 11, 1919

SOUSA IS POPULAR

COMPOSER OF MUSIC

It is Said That His Marches Are Recognized Criterion in All Countries

Probably no composer in the world today has a popularity equal to that of Lieut. John Philip Sousa. This is due to two factors -- his marches are the recognized criterion in all parts of the civilized world, and his personality has endeared him to the people at large. He has been rightly called the "Pulse of the Nation." March tunes, though rated by some as not the highest form of art, have nevertheless a function peculiarly all their own. Sousa's marches have founded a school and have revolutionized martial music, for they possess merit of distinct individuality as well as supreme architectural qualities. Moreover, they have an additional value inherent in themselves -- that of instilling courage into the soldiers and furnishing inspirations that will make them rush into battle and face death gladly. Sousa has been able to express in these marches the entire scope of military psychology which no other composer has ever done, consequently everyone must instinctively feel only gratitude to the homage for this remarkable man.

In his concert here at Prudden auditorium, Monday night, October 13 Sousa will give a program replete with classic and artistic gems, with many of his famous marches interspersed to arouse and enthuse the most undemonstrative dispositions.

The State Journal
(Lansing, MI)
October 12, 1919

March King Proves Right to Title at Auditorium Concert

John Philip Sousa, "the march king," proved his right to that title Monday night at Prudden auditorium, for with his band he played those numbers that never grow old, such as "The Stars and Stripes Forever," "El Capitan," and in a manner that only Sousa can play them.

The band played other compositions just as well as they did the marches. They played overtures with the ease and finish of trained musicians. Or they played accompaniments for the singer, or the violinist. It was all done without any flourish or seeming effort of the band or Mr. Sousa in his directing.

It was what might be termed a "homey" concert. The members of the band seem to enter into the spirit of the evening and enjoyed the concert as much as the audience.

The program itself was varied. The opening number was an overture, "Mignon" by Thomas. This number required real artistry to interpret, but Sousa with the ease of the master director, brought out all of the fine tones and delicate shadings in a manner that held the audience in absolute silence. The fact that the band of 60 musicians played so that the tones were so softened that one almost had to listen to catch them was one of the features of the work of the band.

"The Golden Star" Feature

One number that was especially well done and impressive was "The Golden Star," composed by Mr. Sousa and dedicated to Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt. It had a suggestion of solemnity and grandeur and one felt something of the glory of sacrifice. Interwoven in the theme was the bugle call "taps," played by the cornet section in such a manner that it died softly and sweetly away in the distance while the rest of the band played a wonderfully beautiful accompaniment. It was "taps" for thousands of other sons who have given their lives in the cause of human liberty.

One of the novel numbers of the evening was "Showing Off Before Company," written by Mr. Sousa. It was programmed "A Mixture." The entire band left the stage of the auditorium. Then they played "Keep the Home Fires Burning" off stage. The various sections of the band such as the clarinets, the cornets, the tuba, etc., returned by sections and played part of the number by itself. Included in this was "How Dry I Am," "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here," "Home, Sweet Home," and many others.

Novelty Number

"Impressions at the Movies," included the "Jazz Band in Action" and "The Crafty Villain and the Timid Maid." In this the voice of the villain in the drums and in the tubas could be heard shouting to the timid maid. But she was afraid and answered with the cornet, flutes, and clarinets. Then the final number of the music was "Balance All and Swing Your Partners." The feet could be heard pounding on the floor while the audience likewise swung their feet and kept time to the music.

Miss Mary Baker, soprano, sang "Thou Brilliant Bird" in a manner that greatly pleased the audience. The band accompanied the singer in such a manner as to bring out her tones to the best possible advantage. For her encore Miss Baker sang "Robin, Robin, Sing Me a Song." Miss Florence Hardman proved herself a real artist with the violin. She played a Concerto by Viextemps.

One of the features of the evening was the cornet solo given by Frank Simon. He played "Willow Echoes," written by himself. His tones were clear and sweet, both in heavier passages and the softer ones. For an encore Mr. Simon played "Underneath Thy Window." This was one of the gems of the evening.

The concert was one of the best that has been presented from a musical standpoint in Lansing for some time and deserved a larger audience.

The State Journal
(Lansing, MI)
October 14, 1919