

Personalities In Music

Daniel Gregory Mason, A.S.C.A.P.

HEREDITY PLAYS ITS PART



By Daniel I. McNamara

DR. Daniel Gregory Mason, ASCAP, MacDowell Professor of Music in Columbia University, exemplifies in his musical career the traditions of a New England family long representative of the musical aristocracy of America. Dr. Lowell Mason, his grandfather, was composer of "Nearer, My God, to Thee" and sponsor at his own expense of the first music course in an American public school in Boston in 1838.

His father, Henry Mason, was a brilliant pianist and founder of a great piano and organ manufactory. His uncle, Dr. William Mason, was distinguished as both composer and author and fellow artist of Theodore Thomas in the Mason-Thomas quartet of instrumentalists. He himself is a prolific composer of music in larger forms and the author of more than a dozen books on music and musicians.

Dr. Mason's activity in literature is the result of an incident of his scholastic life in Harvard, class of 1895. Specializing in music with Dr. John Knowles Paine, he was stricken with a form of writer's cramp that interrupted his work at the piano for two years. In the interval he turned to literature and developed his literary style.

On leaving Harvard, Dr. Mason continued his music with George W. Chadwick and Percy Goetschius in Boston, then joined the composer, Vincent D'Indy in France. Returning from Europe he became noted for his lecture recitals on musical appreciation. One of his first educational posts was with Dr. Frank Damrosch in the New York Institute of Music. Later he helped organize the first adult classes on

music for the New York Board of Education.

In 1909 he joined the faculty at Columbia. He has achieved worldwide prestige as composer, teacher, lecturer and essayist and has become one of the most influential members of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. His works have been played by symphony orchestras under Stokowski, Gabilowitch, Stock, Stransky and other famous conductors. His piano compositions are favored by Josef Hofmann, John Powell and Percy Grainger. His "A Lincoln Symphony," played for the first time by the New York Philharmonic Symphony under John Barbirolli, November 17, 1937, at Carnegie Hall, was outstanding.

Dr. Mason is frankly a romantic among musicians. To him the supreme thing in music is the expression in forms of plastic beauty of simple, spontaneous, straightforward emotions. Like his illustrious predecessor at Columbia, whose name is given to the chair of music, Dr. Mason holds with MacDowell that there is a definite kinship of the fine arts. His coordination of music with other cultural activities of the University has been a factor in expanding Columbia's musical prestige.

(Music Features & Photo Syndicate)

MRS. BLACKMAN HOME
Mrs. A. W. Blackman has return-

ed from Los Angeles where she received medical attention.

Many Graduated From University

(Nevada State Journal)

The 1937-38 collegiate year of the University of Nevada drew to a close Monday when hundreds of Reno residents and visitors packed the school gymnasium for annual Commencement exercises.

Receiving degrees were 155 senior students, four graduate students and eight normal school graduates, one of the largest classes in the history of the university.

Climax of the ceremony came when Dr. Walter E. Clark, president of the university, was awarded an honorary degree of doctor of laws. He was proposed for the degree by Silas E. Ross, regent chairman, and the degree presented by Acting President Maxwell Adams.

Principal speaker of the day was Dr. H. F. Swartz, president of the Pacific School of Religion.

"Eternal conflict is the price of liberty," Swartz said in speaking of modern government theories and contrasting the American ideals with foreign practices.

"No system of solving the problems of labor and capital is worth the effort if it does not preserve the ideals for which man has worked these thousands of years, that the laborer is worthy of his hire.

"No mess of pottage is big enough for which to sell out our freedom of conscience — our birthright."

The exercises in the flower-decked gymnasium opened with a processional by the University-Community Orchestra. Two numbers by the University Singers and invocation by Rev. F. Carl Schmidt followed. Winners of scholarships and honors for the year were announced, and the civic oath administered by Dr. Clark. Benediction by Reverend J. W. Runyan terminated the program. Alice Sauer, arts and science student from Carson City, won the gold medal as the senior with the highest four-year record. She made an average of 1.30 for 130 units of classwork.

Runners-up for the coveted honor were Russell McDonald and Jessie McClure of Reno, tied with 1.32, and Margaret Jensen, Gardnerville, with 1.33.

Thirteen seniors attained an average of more than 1.60 for the last year of their courses in at least 30 units of work and made the honor roll.

They were Alice Sauer, Carson City, Mrs. Irma Loforth, Carson City, Guy Patterson, Sacramento, Eugene Grutt, Reno, Felton Hickman, Preston, Melva Lauritzen, Fernley, Milton Steinheimer, Reno, Patricia Turner, Sparks, Robert Miller, Pittsburgh, Cal., Elizabeth Best, Fallon; Charles Doherty, Ely; J. John Burgess, Melones, Cal.; Edward Pine, Hawthorne.

Clarence Heckethorn of Las Vegas was chosen as the first winner of the \$50 Nevada State Press Association scholarship in journalism, established this year by the publishers' organization.

Martha Ann Holcomb of Reno won the Mayre Williams Butler scholarship in mathematics, with Betty Nelson of Reno as alternate. The Mrs. Carl Otto Herz award of \$50 in electrical engineering went to Gotfred Hoffman of Reno.

Mildred Woodward of Jiggs received the Lewis D. Folsom scholarship of \$100 for a "worthy student

Death Valley Season Closes

With the advent of May 1st, the official closing date for the principal hotels in the Valley, and with the coming of warmer weather, business activity began to slow down very appreciably during the past week. During the week, Stovepipe Wells Hotel and Furnace Creek Inn, were turned topsy-turvy, by the management and employes, in placing furniture and fixtures in shape to go through the summer season 'till official opening date — Nov. 1. Most of the employes of these hostilities have departed, with only care-takers left to watch for maurauders and to prevent fires. Furnace Creek Camp, however, is still operating with a sprinkling of tourist-guests, and will probably close up around May 20th. Manager and Mrs. Mrs. Clyde Erskine are still at their posts, but will leave during the latter part of May for a few week's recreation at the southern beach resorts; they will then proceed to their northern home, Livingston, Montana.

of good scholarship." Mary Stott of Eureka was selected as alternate. The similar award of the women's faculty Ella S. Stubbs memorial went to Harold White of Reno, with Ernest Rodriguez of Reno as alternate.

Norman Smith of Winnemucca was chosen as the junior recipient of one of the two Charles Elmer Clough \$80 scholarships for excellence in engineering, with Verill Walker of Carlin as alternate. The sophomore a ward of \$80 went to Curtis Thomas of Pioche, with Mark Nesbitt of Reno as alternate.

The \$100 premedical and pre-nursing scholarship was given to Mary Boylan of Reno, with another Renoite, Peter Jensen, selected as alternate.

A \$300 prize for excellence in English, taken from the Azro E. Cheney fund, was awarded to Ross Ashley of Reno. R. Burwell Holmes of Susanville won the William S. Lunsford scholarship in journalism of \$75.

The three James Ward German scholarships of \$100 each in forensics were donated to Homer Herz and Francis Breen of Reno, as junior recipients, and to Robert Joy of Reno as a sophomore recipient. \$250 Raymond Spencer scholarship in electrical engineering. Betty Kornmeyer of Reno won the Vern Henry award of \$50.

The Armanko senior library prize of \$100 worth of books went to Clyde Beck of Reno. The Albert Senior public service prize of \$25 was given to Winifred Hiltonen of Goldfield. Mrs. Edith Holmes of Reno was granted the French medal for excellence in French language courses. Beck also won the Carl Shurz award of an edition of Goethe's works for the senior excelling in German courses. Robert Leaver of Reno was named as the honor graduate of the year of the university R.O.T.C.

TIRES and TUBES

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To Fit Most All Cars
and Trucks

ED. BAGGETT'S PLACE
Three Miles Out of Las Vegas
on Salt Lake Highway