

OTTERBEIN TOWERS



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No. 6

OTTERBEIN ADMITTED TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF MUSIC

Dr. Daniel Harris Gives Complimentary Recital

At the annual meeting of the National Association of Schools of Music held in Minneapolis on December 30 and 31, Otterbein College was elected to associate membership in this organization which is the foremost accrediting agency in the field of music.

Alumni and friends of the College who are acquainted with the music program and who have had the rare opportunity of not only listening to the programs of the various musical organizations, but also of participating in their work, will be happy to know of the distinction which comes to Otterbein.

In Professor Grabill's report on the Minneapolis meeting we find the following paragraph in description of the final acceptance of our college into the association: "At 9:30 a.m. Tuesday I entered the ballroom, where I found

the convention hall laid out in real senatorial style, with tables arranged in semi-circles before the desk of the presiding officer's position, with large placards announcing the name of each school, whose membership had been approved, together with the year of entrance. You can imagine my feelings when I discovered the card labeled 'Otterbein College' and under that name the figures '41'."

In celebration of this achievement, a complimentary concert was given in the College Chapel on Monday evening, February 16. The guest artist was Dr. Daniel Harris, graduate of Otterbein, member of the Metropolitan Opera Company, and assistant director of voice at Oberlin College. Assisting Doctor Harris

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CHURCH COLLEGE

I like small colleges that nestle
In quiet little towns,
And seem to offer something more
Than credits, caps and gowns.

I like small classes filled with
friends
Who have a smile for me.
I don't like profs who know me as
Row thirty-one, seat three.

I hate to meet a former prof's
Unrecognizing stare;
I like the kind who know your
name,
Your hopes, your love affair.

I like small-college profs, who
teach
Like wise, inspired crusaders;
Who take the time to read your
themes,
And don't hire student graders.

I like small schools, who strive
to learn,
Years later, where you are;
Yes, even though you've never been
A campus queen or star.

A mammoth institution holds
Within its office space,
Along with proof of my degree,
A photo of my face.

The most they know about me is
My city, birth, and class.
I like my old church college best;
She doesn't think en masse.

She'll gayly cheer each grad's
career
With faith that's optimistic;
To her a former student is
No musty old statistic.



The friends I met at Heidelberg
Passed not like ships at night;
They send me lengthy letters still,
Though I forget to write.

I like small colleges that nestle
In quiet little towns,
And offer students something more
more

Than credits, caps and gowns.

—HARRIET RUKENBROD,
Heidelberg, ex'31.

(Reprinted from The Heidelberg College
Alumni Bulletin.)

"Homecoming in Review"

For those of you who were not able to be here for Winter Homecoming we are including a few brief lines on the events that took place at that time.

As usual there was much "to-do" when "Varsity O" member Bill Holford escorted the senior girl secretly elected by that organization from the stands to the throne of the Winter Princess on the basketball floor. This year's "Varsity O" choice was Mary Lou Healy of Delaware. Her attendants were Almena Innerst of Dayton and Ruth Cook of Ashtabula. Mary Lou is an Arbutus, while Almena and Ruth are both members of Talisman sorority. A striking thing about the court was that the three girls are all brunettes.

During the intermission between the halves of the basketball game an impressive dedication service was held at which time Doctor Howe and Mr. Homer B. Kline,

President of the Board of Trustees, dedicated a flag and a plaque to the Otterbein boys who are now serving in the armed forces. The plaque holds the names of all the boys in the service while the flag has a star for each boy. Both are to be placed in the Administration Building as a symbol of the trust that Otterbein places in her boys. Others taking part in the service were Wayne Barr who spoke for the student body and Fred Nicholle who represented the army fellows. Following the dedication, Professor Spessard led the entire assembly in the national anthem.

After the game with Denison, the royal court members were guests of honor at the "Basket-Ball" dance held by the "Varsity O" at the Westerville Armory.

The only class which had an official reunion at this Homecoming was the class of 1937. Ron Lane, prexy, called a class meeting at "Willies" on Saturday, February 7 at 5:30 to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Class. Twenty-one members and five guests were present. Bill Steck was toastmaster, Paul Jones presided at the piano while John Shumaker sang "Waitin' at the Gate for Katie" and "Lulu's Back in Town." Prexy Lane announced a balance of \$10 in the class treasury. It was agreed to contribute this to the Steinway Piano Fund.

With this Homecoming past, we turn our thoughts to May Day when we hope many more of you will return to greet again your friends and classmates in a great day of reunion.

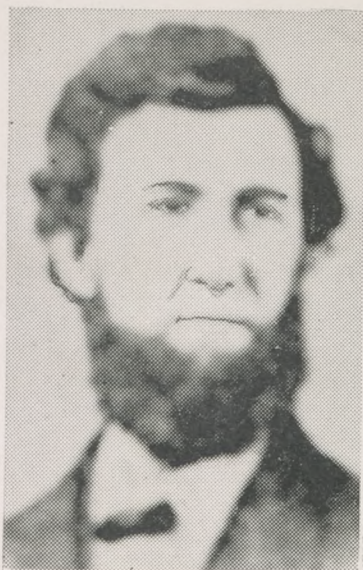
HANDY MEMORIAL ANNIV

Radio Stations, Magazines, Schools to P

The year 1942 brings something of particular significance to the graduates of Otterbein. March 16, 1942, will be the 75th anniversary of the death of a famous Otterbein graduate who preceded them as a student at Otterbein. He was a composer, and now, after three-quarters of a century, two of his songs are known and sung, not only by music lovers from the College, but throughout the United States and across the seas.

The man in question is Benjamin R. Hanby who, in 1856, while an obscure sophomore at Otterbein College, wrote the old favorite, history-making song "Darling Nelly Gray." It skyrocketed to unprecedented popularity. Sweep-

ing over the nation and around the world, it was translated into foreign tongues, sold into the millions of copies, sold more copies than any previous song except one, became the "Uncle Tom's Cabin of Song" and "The Campfire Song of the Union Army" and was described by the Literary Digest as "One of eight American songs that have survived for more than two generations and are still favorites." Last summer it was officially designated as "Ohio's Folk Song" and sung by a chorus of 300 voices at the State Fair. In his column in "The Cleveland Press" of Nov. 25, 1941, Norman Siegal, radio editor, said that this song was "one of the most famous American folk songs



ERSARY TO BE MARCH 16th

participate in Observance of Anniversary

of all time" and "an American music classic."

Not long ago it was discovered that Hanby was the composer of the famous child's Christmas song originally entitled "Santa Claus" but now more popularly known as "Up on the Housetop." Though sung by the school children throughout the country its author, until recently, has been listed as unknown.

The year 1942 brings two significant anniversaries . . . the 75th anniversary of Hanby's death and the 100th anniversary of the death of the slave Joseph Selby whose death-bed story was the inspiration of the song "Darling Nelly Gray."

In tribute to Hanby the year 1942 will be widely observed as a Three-quarters of a Century Anniversary through the radio, newspapers, magazines, schools and music circles. In celebration of the anniversary, the song "Darling Nelly Gray" will be used in radio broadcasts as follows:

WSPD—Toledo, Ohio, Monday, March 16.

WGAR—Cleveland, Ohio, Monday, March 16.

WHIO—Dayton, Ohio, Monday, March 16—11:45 a.m. to 12:00.

Kraft Music Hall, Bing Crosby, NBC—Thursday, March 12, 10:00 p.m.

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ALUMNITEMS

●ex'44 Reverend and Mrs. J. N. Boyer, of Westerville, announced the engagement of their daughter, Doris, to Mr. Richard Fields of Sharon, Pa., at a tea given at the Boyer home on January 17. No definite date has been set for the wedding.

●'42 At a dessert bridge on January 30 at the home of her parents in Findlay, announcement was made of the engagement and approaching marriage of Miss Ruthanna Shuck, who is a senior at Otterbein, to Corporal J. Richard Robertson, now stationed at Ft. Belvoir, Virginia.

●'38 A recent letter from Isabella Rushworth Mason tells us that she is now a dyed-in-the-wool southerner living in Miami Springs, Florida.

●'37 Announcement was recently made of the engagement and approaching marriage of Sara Kathryn Kelser to Mr. L. William Steck, instructor in political science at Otterbein. The couple have chosen April 5 as their wedding day.

●'37 Roy M. Shoaf will graduate from Princeton Theological Seminary on May 19.

●'37 Margaret Roush has accepted the position of Executive Secretary of the Harrison County Girl Scout Council with headquarters at Clarksburg, West Virginia. She completed her professional scout course at Dallas, Texas, in September, and is now living at the Y.W.C.A. Girls' Home in Clarksburg.

●'33 John R. Shively was one of 165 first lieutenants in the marine corps reserve to be promoted to the temporary grade of captain on January 29.

●'10 F. G. Ketner, secretary-treasurer of the Columbus Producers Commission Association, was recently re-elected president of the Ohio Swine Breeders and Feeders Association.

●'07 We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Rev. Frank A. Risley, pastor of the Walkerton, Indiana, United Brethren Church, who died on January 7 following a heart attack. Reverend Risley is survived by his wife, Mrs. Elta Ankeny Risley, '09.

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The National Barn Dance, NBC Red network Saturday, March 21, 9:00 p.m.

U. S. Naval Academy Band, Mutual, Mon., Mar. 16, 2:30 p.m.

Articles on Hanby and his work will be found in the following educational publications:

March issue of the *Journal of Arkansas Education*; *School Review* (New Mexico Educational Association); *Kansas Teacher*; *Texas Outlook*.

May we suggest that you who have known and appreciated the music program of Otterbein College avail yourself of these opportunities to become better acquainted with the work of this famous graduate who did so much in the field of music.

Marriages:

Otterbein grads who have chosen the month of "Dan Cupid" for the announcement of their marriage are Eileen Blake, ex'42, whose marriage to David Strausser of Troy, Ohio, was an event of February 28 at Mt. Gilead, Ohio; Ruth Green, '39, who became the bride of Carl F. Gombor of South Bend, Indiana, on December 28, and is living in the Lovington Arms Apartments, Fairfield, Ohio, where Mr. Gombor is a radio technician at Patterson Field; Merlin Smelker, '34, who was married to Mary Hilton Wise of Washington, D.C., on December 27; Richard Orndorff, ex'42, who was married to Mary Laverna Schick on January 24.

Births:

Newcomers to the Otterbein family whose arrivals are being announced this month are Charles William Shackson, the son of Professor and Mrs. L. L. Shackson who was born on February 9; Martha Sue Bagley, whose arrival on January 12 is being announced by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Bagley, '30; David Edward Tinnerman, whose birth on January 14 is being announced by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tinnerman, '38 (Wanda Hamilton, ex'40); Douglas Reid Knight, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Knight, '28, whose arrival was an event of September 30; and David Earl Brubaker, born on December 14 to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur E. Brubaker, '33 (Ruth Rhodes, '33.)

With the Army:

Since it is the belief of the Intelligence Division of the Government that it will be to the advantage of the enemy for us to include the addresses of our boys in the army in this publication, it will be our policy in the future to include only personal items about any of the army boys that we hear from and to give their approximate location and not the unit of the army as we have done heretofore. If those of you who wish to contact any of these fellows will send your mail to the College, we will be glad to see that it is forwarded to them.

John Smith, ex'43, was recently transferred from Fort Knox, Kentucky, to Camp Cooke, California.

Stewart Cox, '35, is at Florence, South Carolina.

Bob Waites, '41, is now a Flying Cadet and is stationed at Dorr Field, Arcadia, Florida.

Ed Arndt, ex'42, was recently transferred from Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, to MacDill Field, Tampa, Florida.

Clyde Good, ex'41, "Goodie," is another of our Flying Cadets, and is at the Visalia-Dinuba School of Aeronautics in California.

James O. Kelly, '35, writes that he has been stationed at Kessler Field, Mississippi, since January 2nd.

Ed Flash, ex'44, is really "Up in the air," being stationed with a parachute battalion at Fort Benning, Georgia.

James Carter, '39, is stationed at Fort Ord, California.

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Otterbein Towers

Otterbein College Westerville, Ohio

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GERALD RILEY, Editor
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Howard Elliott, '41, is an instructor at Camp Grant, Rockford, Illinois.

A recent letter from Kenneth Young's, '37, mother tells us that he is at Camp San Luis, California.

Bill Cover, '41, is at Camp Gordon, Augusta, Georgia.

Harold Holzworth, '39, is now Sergeant Holzworth stationed at Camp Lee, Virginia.

Bob McFeeley, ex'40, is at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Fred L. Dennis, ex'42, now has the title of Seaman First Class.

Ben Glover, '41, is at Buck Creek Camp, Marion, North Carolina.

George Curry's, ex'42, title has been changed to that of Corporal.

Fred Long, ex'42, was recently transferred to Fort Benning, Georgia, from Camp Roberts, California.

Jack Wells, ex'43, is another of the Flying Cadets and is at the Palo Alto Flying School in California.

Dwight Ashcraft, ex'42, is now stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington.

(Continued from page 1)

were the Otterbein Concert Orchestra directed by Mrs. Mabel Dunn Hopkins; and the Otterbein Concert Choir, which was appearing publicly for the first time, and which was under the direction of Professor A. R. Spessard. The closing number of the program was "Darling Nelly Gray" sung by Doctor Harris and the Concert Choir. It was an especially fitting climax for this concert of recognition since it was the first solo number sung by Doctor Harris when he toured the country with the Men's Glee Club while a student at Otterbein.

The total music program continues to grow and to offer to the student body the cultural advantage of a series of recitals and concerts similar to those which have been sponsored by the music department in previous years. During November, Hugh Hodgson, who is head of the department of fine arts in the liberal arts college of the University of Georgia was on the campus for a three-day period. On December 17, Professor Grabill rendered a program of organ music, and on January 7 a joint violin recital was presented by Mrs. Mabel Dunn Hopkins and Mr. Earl Hopkins.

The feature attraction of the Spring music season will be a Schubert festival. In addition to this festival, the glee clubs are making plans for their usual extended tours while the Concert Choir will fill engagements near home.

Alumni are urged to send items concerning their own activities and those of their friends to OTTERBEIN TOWERS, Westerville, Ohio