

Debate Over Jazz Music In Connecticut Church

NORWALK, Conn. (UPI) — A real cool Mass played by a hot jazz combo in a Protestant Episcopal church set off a debate today on whether it is proper to mix the Bible with the blues.

A 20th Century Folk Mass, composed mainly in ragtime by an English clergyman, was played by a progressive jazz ensemble made up of a pianist, drummer, saxophonist and bass player Sunday at a Communion Mass at St. Paul's Church in the heart of this community.

For nearly 90 minutes the rafters of the English Gothic church rang with the strains of foxtrots, beguines, blues and improvised versions of popular tunes. A record standing-room-only congregation joined in some of the singing and swayed and tapped to catchy rhythms.

Vestry Is Divided
Priests in traditional vestments stood before a candle-light altar and sang their regular chants with incense wafting about them. But much of the other ancient liturgy had been set to a jazz beat and the organ was silent while the combo played, often as accompaniment to the synopses of the saint and the robed choir.

The Mass received a mixed reception from the record crowd of more than 500 persons who jammed a church usually attended by half that many.

The 12-man vestry appeared to be sharply divided both on the merits of the music and the propriety of syncretizing a service. Several vestrymen indicated displeasure over bringing jazz into the church, and said the matter would be discussed at their next monthly meeting.

An usher said he thought the Mass was marvelous.

Official Observers Present
Officials of the National Council of Churches and the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church attended the service.

as "observers." They were all for jazz in church, but they agreed that this Mass was not up to their idea of American jazz standards. They thought the music was "corny."

Pianist Russ Martino, leader of the combo, director of the Stamford, Conn., High School band and organist in his own Roman Catholic church, said he did not care much for the music composed by Father Geoffrey Beaumont, but that it was the only jazz Mass available.

The Rt. Rev. Walter Henry Gray, Protestant Episcopal bishop of Connecticut, maintained an official silence about the presentation.

"I know nothing about it," he said at his Hartford headquarters. "The music of a parish is under the direction of the rector. I have no comment to make."

Tunes Disguised
The Rev. Anthony P. Treasure, rector of the church, used the jazz Mass as the theme for his sermon, stressing that religion is part of every phase of life. He said he also hoped to show young people that religion is not "fuddy-duddy" or out of date.

As the worshippers arrived, the combo, which had finished appearing at a night club only a few hours before, played a progressive jazz improvisation of "I'll Remember April."

"There's a Witness in God's Mercy" was followed by "Bernie's Tune." After the "Agnus Dei" came "Lower Come Back to Me" and a few blues songs. The rector's blessing brought a spontaneous rendition of "It's Almost Like Being in Love."

The pop tunes apparently were so well disguised they were not recognized by most listeners. Many voiced surprise when they learned what they had heard played in church.

"Gloria" In Foxtrot
In the actual Mass, the "Alleluia" was sung in a definite ragtime. The "Kyrie" and "Agnus Dei" and several hymns were in foxtrot time. A bold jazz melody dominated the "Creed," "Sanctus," and "Our Father."

The Lord's Prayer was played in ragtime while the congregation knelt in prayer. Some worshippers said the jazz made them feel less reverent than usual. Others felt no difference.

Mrs. Leonard Holmes, of Hampton, Conn., and her husband got up at 4:30 to drive here to listen to the music.

"I thought it was perfectly beautiful," she said. "You have modern architecture in churches. If that isn't an anachronism, this would not be, either."

Society punishes rebels; nature kills them.

Exhibit By Senior Citizens April 10

The senior citizens exhibit, April 11 and 12 at the Allen county memorial coliseum, will open registration from 1 to 5 p. m. and 7 to 9 p. m. on April 10, and 9 to 11 a. m. on April 11.

Exhibit hours will be 1 to 5 p. m. and 7 to 9 p. m. on both days with no admission charge. Mrs. Helen Sweet, commissioner of the Fort Wayne board of park commission, will give the welcoming address.

On Saturday from 4 to 5 p. m. a special program will include a square dance by the Jefferson Center Widow and Widowers club, round dancing by the Bloomingdale Oldsters club, singing by the McCullough Retired Men's club, and a 10-minute version of a typical club meeting by the LaGrange county Senior Citizens club and the McCullough Senior Citizens club. All music will be provided by the Echo Valley Boys.

This part of the program was arranged by the annual conference of the Governor's committee on Aging, which will be in progress at another part of the Coliseum.

Other features of the conference will include exhibits on weaving by the Shuttcraft Guild of Fort Wayne; leather work by Mrs. Pearl Farrell, of Fort Wayne; pencil sketching by Mr. W. W. White, of Fort Wayne; linoleum block printing by Mr. Burt Barnes, of Fort Wayne, and rug making by the Allen county home.

Invitations have been mailed to more than 300 exhibitors to attend the exhibit which will follow the exhibit.

Funeral Home Plans Parking Facilities

As part of an expansion program, Zwick funeral home will add more parking facilities adjacent to their parlors when the building now being torn down is removed.

Formerly owned by Mrs. Ada Lower, the building, located at 516 N. Second street, is presently owned by Zwick's.

Rites Held Today For Boy Infant

Sarah Boyd, granddaughter of Mrs. Edith Bailey, of Decatur route 6, died at 2:30 p. m. Sunday in Anderson St. John's hospital. The daughter of Charles and Wanda Bailey Boyd, she lived only one and a half hours.

Other survivors, besides the parents and grandmother, are a sister, Linda Marie, at home; paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. James L. Boyd, Portland. Grave-side services were held today in Decatur cemetery, the Rev. Billy Springfield officiating.

Utility Appraisers Prepare Final Report

The three appraisers for the city electric utility met at the home of Eli Graber in Berne this morning to type up their final report on the appraisal, and expected to present it late this afternoon.

The appraisers, Guy Shoemaker, of Largo, Fla., Robert Long, of near Geneva, and Graber, motorized to Indianapolis and discussed the matter with the public service commission Thursday. They have looked at the matter from all sides before typing up their report. The three expected to meet at 1 p. m. at Graber's, and discuss the final report before bringing it to the circuit court room in Decatur.

Former Decatur Man Is Taken By Death

Orza L. Burgener, 68, former Decatur resident, who had lived in Fort Wayne for the past 40 years, died Friday night at the home of a son, Lloyd W. Burgener, Baltimore, Md., where he had been visiting. A retired International Harvester Co. employee, he was a member of the First Evangelical United Brethren church.

Other survivors are his wife, Mabel L.; another son, Dale O. of Fort Wayne, and five grandchildren. Services will be held at 3 p. m. Tuesday at the D. O. McComb & Sons funeral home, with burial in Lindenwood cemetery.

C. C. Membership Drive Opens Today

The Decatur Chamber of Commerce opened its 1959 membership drive today with a breakfast for the team captains at the Youth and Community Center. President George Auer gave a brief "pep" talk to the 50 members present, telling them that the goal is 250 members.

All participating members will display a "Make Decatur Greater" sign in their windows or offices. Larry Anspaugh, drive chairman, told the captains that their team members should report results by Wednesday. The concerted drive will close at the end of this week.

Tickets On Sale For Boy Scout Circus

Tickets for the Boy Scout circus which will be held at the Allen county war memorial coliseum, Saturday, April 25, are available and may be purchased from den mothers, according to Norman Guard, cubmaster of Cub Pack 3063.

Tickets may be purchased from the following den mothers: Mrs. Eugene Loshe, Mrs. Marvin Beery, Mrs. Adrian Burke, Mrs. Bill Lose, Mrs. Ivan Howard, Mrs. Don Kos, Mrs. Bob Reynolds, Mrs. Clarence Morgan, Mrs. Jim Helm and Mrs. Nelson Doty.

Price of admission is \$1 for adults, and 50 cents for children.

April 15 Deadline For Income Taxes

"It's later than you think"—only a few days left to file your Federal income tax return for 1958.

The friendly reminder coming out of Washington, D.C. from U.S. internal revenue commissioner Dana Latham, according to Sterling M. Dietrich, district director at Indianapolis, who said: "Commissioner Latham has requested me to inform all Indiana taxpayers who have not filed yet of the services we can provide to help them get their returns in before the April 15 deadline."

The most convenient service, Dietrich said, is the telephone assistance service especially designed for those taxpayers who find it difficult to visit the district office.

"Taxpayers who have started their returns and are puzzled by a problem or two, should call us at A-7426, Fort Wayne, between the hours of 8 a. m. and 4:45 p. m. on Monday through Friday and we will be glad to help them," Dietrich said.

"Then, if they still need help, they should visit our office at 336 P.O. Bldg. between the hours of 8 a. m. to 4:45 p. m. on Mondays."

Dietrich reminded taxpayers that most of them may now use the simple punch-card form 1040A, designed for the first time to cover incomes up to \$10,000 a year consisting of wages reported on the tax-withholding Form W-2 and not more than \$200 in dividends, interest, and wages not subject to withholding.

"This convenient short card form for incomes up to \$10,000," Dietrich said, "is one of the many new things that internal revenue is doing to improve taxpayer service."

"Commissioner Latham, Dietrich said, has made improved taxpayer service one of the major goals of his administration."

"His request to us today to help Indiana taxpayers get their returns in by April 15 is part of his larger goal of courteous, fair and prompt handling of taxpayers, together with fearlessness and impartial administration of the tax laws."

Other phases of the commissioner's nation-wide program, Dietrich said are:

1. Speedier replies to taxpayers' letters in simple, down-to-earth language.
2. Further simplification of tax forms where possible.
3. More expeditious issuance of rulings in tax matters, and faster preparation of tax regulations and their immediate release to taxpayers.
4. Further improvement in tax settlement procedures.
5. Vigorous recruitment efforts to get the cream of each year's crop of college graduates as revenue agents, revenue officers, and special agents, so that taxpayers will be dealing with capable, courteous and highly intelligent personnel.
6. Improved technical training courses to prepare recruits for the specialized work they will perform and to increase the skills of personnel already in these jobs.

Dietrich added: "These and many other things are part of the commissioner's goal for all of us in IRS so we may earn maximum taxpayer respect for fairness, competence and efficiency. And all of us are going to do everything in our power to help the commissioner realize that goal."

"In the spirit of the commissioner's program, let me remind taxpayers again that April 15 is the deadline for filing their 1958 Federal income tax returns and that we are here to help anyone who needs help in getting his return made out accurately and filed on time."

Lions Zone Social Here This Evening

Lions and their wives from six area clubs will meet at the Decatur Youth and Community Center at 7 o'clock this evening for the first zone social in many years. Howard Habegger, zone chairman, announced today.

Members from Decatur, Monroe, Pleasant Mills, Berne, Geneva, and Petroleum will bring their wives to the dinner meeting, which will include no speeches, and only entertainment.

The Pleasant Mills high school quartet will sing, and music will be furnished by the Dixie-Cats. The Berne Lions club quartet will also sing. Professional entertainment will be provided by Mrs. Helen Harmon, of Marion, who will give a comic reading mocking modern advertising.

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Don Bohnke Named Assistant Manager

Robert B. Parrott, vice president of Central Soya, announced the promotion of two men today, affecting the Decatur plant. Scotty Martindill, of elevator "A" in Chicago, will assume the managership of the grain division office here, while Don Bohnke, of the grain division operation in Decatur, will become assistant manager of the grain operation at Indianapolis. Both assignments are effective today.

Bohnke started with the company in August, 1946, in the accounting department. In 1957, he was transferred to the grain division at Indianapolis. He and his wife, Virginia, will move to Indianapolis about May 1.

Present Oscars In Hollywood Tonight

HOLLYWOOD (UPI)—Tonight is Oscar night, a time for crowning Movieland's king and queen for 1958—but regardless of the winners, Ingrid Bergman, taking part in the show, will be the center of attention.

The statuesque Swede is making her first public appearance in Hollywood since departing 10 years ago for her explosive romance with Italian director Roberto Rossellini in Stromboli.

Miss Bergman will make the final, the most important, presentation of the evening—the award for the best picture of 1958.

The 31st annual Academy Award hoopla will be telecast throughout the country, affording views the opportunity of seeing more than 100 movie stars togged in their flooziest finery.

In its biggest soiree of the year, the academy is combining entertainment with the emotion-packed process of bestowing Oscars.

Masters of ceremonies Bob Hope, David Niven, Tony Randall, Sir Laurence Olivier and Jerry Lewis will introduce acts starring Bob Lancaster, Kirk Douglas, Dana Wynter, Joan Collins, Rosalind Russell and a dozen others.

"Gigi" Is Favored
Once the show begins tension will build through awards presentations until the last few minutes when the three big ones—best actor, best actress, best picture—are announced.

Most of Cinema City's citizens have already made up their minds about the winners. The power of a new-won Oscar means an additional million dollars to a picture, and sky-rocketing salary demands by winning performers.

Opinion is that "Gigi," a musical about a charming French Scamp, will carry off best picture honors. In the running are three dramas, "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," "The Defiant Ones," "Separate Tables," and a comedy, "Auntie Mame."

Susan Hayward is favored to win her first golden statuette in five tries for her role in "I Want to Live." Other nominees are Deborah Kerr (Separate Tables), Shirley MacLaine (Some Came Running), Rosalind Russell (Auntie Mame), Elizabeth Taylor (Cat on a Hot Tin Roof).

Pollsters Pick Niven
The scales are tipped in favor of David Niven (Separate Tables) for best actor, but competition will come from Tony Curtis and Sidney Poitier (The Defiant Ones). Paul Newman (Cat on a Hot Tin Roof) and Spencer Tracy (The Old Man and the Sea).

Favorite best supporting actor is Burl Ives (The Big Country), followed by Theodore Bikel (The Defiant Ones), Lee J. Cobb (The Brothers Karamazov), Arthur Kennedy (Some Came Running), Gig Young (Teacher's Pet).

Pollsters tabbed Wendy Hiller (Separate Tables) as frontrunner for best supporting actress. Others in the race are Peggy Cass (Auntie Mame), Martha Hyer (Some Came Running), Maureen Stapleton (Lonelyhearts) and Cara Williams (The Defiant Ones).

Nine From Area To Attend Conference

Nine young persons from the Decatur area have registered for the 26th annual youth conference, scheduled for Taylor University April 10, 11, and 12.

Karen Brandt, Decatur route 6; David, Carol, and Joyce Haggard, Decatur route 2; Bob Christner, Monroe; Sid Schwartz, Monroe; Dixie Smith, Monroe; Clayton Stuckler, Monroe, and Marilyn Stucky, Monroe, are those who intend to attend the conference. A capacity enrollment of 1,000 visiting young people between the ages of 14-23 will attend the three day religious convention.

Bridal Fashions Theme Of Pageant Sunday

Births

"Ninety three years of Bridal Fashions" will be used as the theme of the pageant to be presented at the St. John's Auditorium at Bingen, Sunday by the Decatur circuit chapter of the Valpo Guild. The performances will be presented at 3 and 8 o'clock at the auditorium.

Feature of the unique program will be three generations of bridal gowns from the Guild president's family, Mrs. Henry L. Meyer. The first generation gown will be from the year 1874 and was worn by Miss Anna Gerke for her marriage to Paul Trier. Mrs. Harvey Caston will model this gown. Miss Karen Louise Meyer will model her grandmother's gown from the year 1888. The gown was worn by Miss Louise Trier during the wedding ceremony which united her in marriage with Henry J. Meyer. The Guild president will show her own gown from her wedding in 1935.

Last minute plans for the rehearsal that was held yesterday, were taken care by the decorating committee and stage chairman. Included on the decorating committee are the Mesdames Norbert Koeneman, Robert Zwick, Paul Melcher and Walter Mueller. Mrs. Emil Scheuman and Mrs. Herman Deister are in charge of the stage work.

Mrs. Paul Wolf has been appointed in charge of the extra chair arrangements needed for the large crowd that is anticipated. Ticket sales have been brisk and guild members are already being supplied with additional tickets.

Key women in charge in each congregation consist of the Mesdames Arthur Fiedler, Ossian; Theodore Lepper, Emmanuel; Arnold Thieme, Immanuel; Robert Meyer, St. John; Wade Tyler, St. John Flat Rock; Albert Bieberich, Preble; William Boerger, St. Peter's; Rudolph Seddelmeyer, Trinity; Earl Caston and Richard Mailand, Zion Decatur; and Elmer Bultemeier, Zion Friedheim.

The public is invited to attend this pageant, which should provide unusual entertainment.

\$2,751.70 Collected In CROP Campaign

A grand total of \$2,751.70 was collected in Adams county for the Christian rural overseas program drive last fall, and turned in to the state office, Gerald L. Wilson, state director, said this morning.

Also, \$204.39 which was turned in too late for last year's drive, was credited to the 1958 drive, Wilson stated.

Reports, township by township, are as follows: Preble \$345.92; land, \$265; St. Mary's, \$20; Wash-Root \$210.50; Union, \$262.23; Kirkington, \$191.50; Monroe, \$277.30; Blue Creek, \$50.50; French \$404.40; Hartford, \$104; Wabash, \$197; Jefferson, \$5; miscellaneous, \$328.29.

MUSIC BOOSTERS MEETING
TUESDAY, 7:30 P. M.
Music Room of High School
For All Interested Persons.

Nursery Planned At Christian Church

Plans are being completed at the First Christian church to provide a nursery for children up to and including four year of age during Sunday morning services, Rev. Edward Pacha, said today.

Mothers within the church will be assisted by high school girls in attending the small children during the church services. A plea for toys, cribs and nursery equipment, was issued today, and anyone caring to donate any equipment is asked to call the church at 3-3821, or the parsonage, 4-4007.

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