

THE ZITHER

John C. Scherer, Editor

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NO. 3

The Tenth Anniversary of the American Zither Verband

will be celebrated at the

CONVENTION OF THE United Zither Players Association of America October 11, 12, 13 and 14, 1922

HEADQUARTERS: WEST HOTEL, Minneapolis, Minn.

Come and make it a big success. If you have not as yet done so, mail in your card to our musical director, MR. A. K. FAHRNER, Box 227, Davenport, Iowa, at once and play along with the largest Zither Orchestra assembled in the United States in recent years. You can't afford to miss this wonderful treat.

REDUCED RAILROAD RATES

The railroads leading to the Twin Cities, Minneapolis and St. Paul, will have reduced fares from all parts of the country. Fare and one-third for round trip will prevail from the following points: northern Michigan, all of Wisconsin and Minnesota, North and South Dakota east of Missouri River, eastern Montana, Iowa north of Chicago and Northwestern Railroad. The rest of the country will be fare and one-half on the **certificate plan**. To explain—The certificate plan is this: Ask for a ticket **one way** to Minneapolis to the National Dairy Show, also for a certificate. When you are ready to return home present your certificate and a one-half fare ticket will be issued for the **return** trip, provided you have attended the Dairy Show. No reduced fares will be given without the certificate. Those who live within the one and one-third fare zone **need not have a certificate** but round trip ticket must be bought.

The question has been asked which is

the best road from Chicago to Minneapolis. All roads are first class, probably as good as you will find anywhere in this country. All roads make about the same time. If travelling out of Chicago by day then the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul R. R. would probably be the best to take on account of the scenery, as its roadbed runs along the Mississippi river for a great distance. The Milwaukee R. R. will have an agent at our headquarters who will have all certificates validated for you. But be sure and leave your certificate with our secretary when you register.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

On account of the National Dairy Show and other conventions gathering in the Twin Cities during the same week in which the Zither Congress will take place, hotels will be fairly crowded. In view of this it will be well to make your reservations early. We have been fortunate in securing the West Hotel for our headquarters, as it is an ideal convention hotel. Our re-

hearsals will be held there as will probably the banquet which will be on Saturday evening, October 14th. It is centrally located and only two blocks from the Lyric Theatre where the Minneapolis concert will be given. If you want us to make your reservations for you let us know what you want immediately and we will be glad to take care of it for you. Address J. C. Scherer, 423 5th St. So., Minneapolis, Minn. If you prefer to make your reservation direct, then address The West Hotel, cor. 5th St. & Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn. Rates for rooms are as follows:

Room without bath.....\$1.75 to \$2.00 per day
Room with bath.....\$2.50 to \$5.00 per day
Two persons to one room, \$1.00 extra.

THE RECEPTION COMMITTEE

will be on hand at both the Union and the Milwaukee Depots to welcome you. Look for them with their badges. They will have autos waiting to take you to the Hotel. When you are comfortably settled take your zither down to the second floor headquarters and register with the Secretary of the U. Z. P. of A. and receive your badge. After this has been attended to the rehearsals will begin. But the committee would like to have you do this. Write the Twin City Zither Club, 423 5th Street S. what date, time, and which road you are coming in on so they will expect you.

SUGGESTIONS FROM OUR MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Only about three more weeks before we shall meet again at our greatly desired festival. When you come to attend the next Zither Congress, you will be very much pleased to see how your active Arrangements Committee has prepared everything in such splendid way for you all. It is my great desire and heartfelt wish that the Twin City Congress will turn out the best of all we have had so far. Let me ask you personally to put in your strongest efforts to make it possible for you to be with us, work in harmony, show your true spirit, come well prepared and take active part in our ensembles.

If there is any one of you players who intends to come to the congress and have no parts for the ensembles as yet, kindly let me hear from you, I will gladly send the music to any one by return mail. Our program this year is an excellent, pleasing one for all; if well executed it will be a credit to our dear instrument and our organization. I said above, come well prepared, study your part thoroughly so we can perform our select compositions in the most correct manner.

It is of great importance to observe every musical sign, such as p., f., sfz., <, >, retards, legato, staccato, rests and the different tempos. Every player should be well familiar with his (or her) part, being able to follow the leader with ease. A very important factor is to produce a clear tone on your instrument. You all know to have good success it takes a lot of faithful work, we need every one's help, two or three members can never make a satisfactory congress of this kind alone. In union is

strength. Again we invite you all to come to our festival, do your share and be a real booster. Let us show our dear friends of the "Twin City Zither Club" the faithful workers in Minneapolis and St. Paul, that we all appreciate their splendid cooperation to the fullest extent. With heartiest greetings to you all in Gut Klang, I am,

Yours respectfully,

A. K. FAHRNER,
Musical Director,
Box 227, Davenport, Ia.

AN APPEAL TO THE ZITHER PLAYERS OF AMERICA!

In the United States there are at the present time about 100,000 zither players. In 1892 when the old league, The North Amerikanischer Zither Verband existed, of which the writer was president, New York City alone had more than 20,000 zither players and 198 zither clubs. Today there are about four clubs left.

What is the reason and what is wrong with the American zither players? Every other organization has gained since then and how is it that the zither players have failed to progress?

The question is not difficult to answer. Instead of joining a good live organization like the United Zither Players of America, they stay by themselves and don't know what is going on in the zither world. They don't know anything about the new modern music that is published daily and consequently have to play the old pieces over and over again. I have met players whom I have not seen for fifteen long years and when I asked them to play something for me they played the same pieces they have played for the past twenty years, and it certainly is no wonder when such a player finally loses interest in the instrument and gives it up altogether.

Another thing that may hinder the progress of the players is that the modern compositions have the bass and accompaniment written in the proper way, the bass key, and most of the players may think they are not able to learn it. I have not had a single pupil that needed more than two hours to do so.

If it is not too difficult for a child of six years learning to play the piano, to read the bass key, why should not a zither player be able to do the same thing? Nobody can tell me that he could not do so, if he has interest enough.

Why do all great composers for zither write in the bass key and why are the publishers beginning to refuse to print compositions with the bass and accompaniment written in the treble? Because they have studied the matter thoroughly and have found that the only thing to do is to write music correctly so it may stand the test, and is it not worth while spending a few hours in learning the bass key, when you have a chance to get and study the best compositions written for the zither?

To get our paper, "The Zither," hereafter you must become a member of our league. To print such a paper, the cost of which is very high, we must have enough patrons to make it pay, and this is only possible with the cooperation of a large number of zither players. The paper can and will be much improved as soon as we find that the interest in it is growing.

All kinds of questions may be asked, to be answered by the Editor of the same; all new music will be listed and commented thereon. Clubs and soloists may send in their programs

and articles for publication and there are many other things to be written about.

Therefore, send in your application as soon as possible, help the good cause along and you will never regret it. If possible attend the next or any other convention our association will have, hear all the good players and find out what you have lost by not joining the league many years ago. You certainly will hear more good zither music in a few days than you have heard since you started playing.

Not less than five zither journals are published at the present time in Germany alone, should it, therefore, not be possible to have at least one in the grand United States? It is up to you, dear zither players, to do it and the sooner you will awaken from your long sleep the better it will be for you and our just cause, for the zither is one of the sweetest instruments ever made and it is our sacred duty to keep it alive.

Hoping my few words may appeal to you and help to make you a better zither player, I remain

Yours sincerely,

HENRY WORMSBACHER,
President, U. Z. P. of America.

NEWS NOTES

Mr. and Mrs. Emil Geist, of St. Paul, returned from their European trip safe and sound. No doubt Mr. Geist will have something to tell regarding his trip during the convention.

Among those who expect to be present at the congress are our former secretary and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar J. Jelinek, both of whom are members of the U. Z. P. of A. and some of our best boosters. They are to be congratulated, for a Jelinek has been added by the stork this spring. It's a boy. We hope he will grow up to be a fine zither player.

The Twin City Zither Club had its annual outing on Sunday, August 6th, at the summer home of their director at Lake Independence about 20 miles out of Minneapolis. Fine weather, good eats and a program of outdoor contests combined to make a fine day of it for everyone present.

It is refreshing to receive letters such as we have from Miss Veronica Gebhard and Madame J. Chincholle, both of Denver, Colo. They are rather modest regarding their ability to play on the zither, but the Denver players are very ambitious and wish to advance in the art of zither playing. They are anxious to have someone settle down in their city who is an able teacher and a leader. At the present time Denver has a group of five players who are rehearsing every Wednesday evening at the home of Miss Gebhard. We have a list of seventeen players residing in Denver. With a good leader, players in that section would be greatly encouraged and no doubt be a real Western Zither center. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Grohe, of Washington visited them at one of their rehearsals and told them something of the work the Zither Players Association is trying to do.

Carl A. Duevel, secretary of the U. Z. P. of A. was married last June. Congratulations. If Carl had his way he no doubt would have the convention postponed because he does so hate to leave home.

NOTICE OF MEETING AND PROPOSED CHANGES IN REGULATIONS

This is to notify all members that the sixth annual convention of the United Zither Players Association of America will be held in Minneapolis, Minn., October 11-14, at which time the following changes in the code of regulations proposed by J. C. Scherer are to be considered and acted upon at our regular business meeting:

(Filed by J. C. Scherer, Minneapolis, Minn., Sept. 11th, 1922.)

ARTICLE XI

Dues

Repeal Article XI, and enact a new Article to read as follows:

The annual dues of the Association shall be Two Dollars (\$2.00) for active members, and Two Dollars (\$2.00) for associate members. Said dues shall be payable annually in advance on the first day of January of each year. Dues for new members joining during the calendar year shall be pro-rated monthly on the yearly basis of \$2.00 dating from the time of acceptance of application, provided, however, that the minimum for any part of the calendar year shall be One Dollar (\$1.00).

(Signed)

HENRY WORMSBACHER, President,
United Zither Players Assn. of America.

CONCERT PROGRAM, OCT. 12 AND 13

Part One

1. Festmarsch, "Heil Siegfried" J. B. Bauer
Ensemble
2. Solo for Violoncello
(a) Sarabonde LeClair
(b) Allegro Appassionato Saint Saens
Miss Hilda Hinrichs
3. Reverie, "Waldesrauschen" Joh. Pugh
Members of Davenport Zither Club
4. Vocal Solo To Be Selected
Mrs. M. R. Krader
5. Fantasie, "A Beautiful Spring Morning"
Jos. Hausteim

Halbchor

Part Two

6. Overture, "A Hearty Welcome"
H. Wormsbacher
Ensemble
7. Solo for Violoncello
Polonaise de Concert Popper
Miss Hilda Hinrichs
8. Vocal Solo To Be Selected
Mrs. M. R. Krader
9. Solo for Zither, Gedankenflug Hausteim
Mr. J. C. Scherer
10. Notturmo, C Major P. Spiegelberg
Ensemble

WHAT EXCUSE HAVE YOU?

Minneapolis is located in almost the center between the east and the west. Players are coming from as far east as the states of Ohio, Pennsylvania and even New York State will be represented by a delegation of four or five. The fares have been reduced as noted elsewhere in these columns, to fare and one-half to these distant points. This, of course, is a help but when rates of fare and one-third have been made for the round-trip to neighboring states, when the convention is almost at your doors, what excuse then have you when you do not attend? It is safe to say that the future of the Zither will depend on the attendance at this

next congress. Already it promises to be as well attended as any convention we have held since we were organized. Keep this in mind, we want you at this congress whether you are a beginner or an expert or possibly just an average player. You are not required to play just because you are attending the convention. There is nothing that will boost your enthusiasm so high as mixing with other players and listening to the large zither orchestra and the program which is to be rendered. You will get in touch with players from all over the country. Everyone can learn something at these gatherings except those who think they know it all and we hope there are none such in our ranks. Usually the conventions have lasted three days but the time has been all too short as the first two days are usually taken up with rehearsals in preparation for the concert. In a four-day congress more time can be given to the social features which have had to be neglected somewhat in the past on account of lack of time. The weather during the month of October is of the finest, usually of the Indian summer variety. However, it would be best to be prepared for cool weather.

Play along if you can but do not stay away if you cannot play well enough. If you are a member of our association you ought to attend and will find a hearty welcome, but if you are not as yet a member, do not hesitate on account of it because we want members and non-members, for that is the only way we can prosper and grow. Be sure to register with the secretary of the U. Z. P. of A. at the convention.

THE HAUSTEIN FUND

Many whom we had counted on to surely do their part in so worthy a cause as this, have evidently forgotten to contribute in spite of good intentions to do so. This Fund will be held open until convention time when we hope that the full amount of \$200.00 will be realized. Send your contribution to the Twin City Zither Club, 423 5th St. So., Minneapolis, Minn. It will be credited in addition to names and amounts given below.

Mr. Fred Reizele, Chicago, Ill.	\$ 1.00
Mr. G. F. Seeman, Altoona, Pa.	4.00
Mr. H. Worsmbacher, Cleveland, Ohio ..	2.00
Mr. Gus. Scharfhausen, Apopka, Fla.	2.00
Mrs. Ed. Arhelger, Globe, Ariz.	2.00
Mrs. A. Dove Asch, Murray, Neb.	1.00
Mrs. E. P. Stein, New Braunfels, Texas. .	5.00
Mr. F. C. Meyer, St. Louis, Mo.	1.00
Mr. G. F. Meier, Ventura, Cal f.	1.00
Mr. Otto Grashberger, Mpls., Minn.	2.00
Miss Cora Lawrence, Minneapolis, Minn. .	2.00
Mrs. Robt. Wellisch, St. Paul.	5.00
Mr. Fred L. Hermann, Mpls., Minn.	2.00
Mr. Andrew Hauptman, Mpls., Minn.	2.00
Mr. Anton Knittelfelder, Mpls., Minn.	2.00
Mr. Herman Bock, St. Paul, Minn.	2.00
Mr. J. C. Scherer, Mpls., Minn.	5.00
Mr. Ralph Scherer, Mpls., Minn.	2.00
Mr. Carl A. Duevel, Mpls., Minn.	3.00
Mrs. Charlotte Ball, Mpls., Minn.	2.00
Mr. Wm. Kranz, Little Rock, Ark.	2.00
Mr. Emil Geist, St. Paul, Minn.	5.00
Mr. G. A. Haack, Minneapolis.	1.00
Total	\$56.00

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Considerable effort was made to secure as complete a list of zither players as was possible to make up. "The Zither" paper was mailed

out under one cent postage to save expense of postage. Return postage was guaranteed so that we would be advised when a player was not at the given address anymore. One hundred and twenty-five envelopes were returned when our first issue was sent out. The Postoffice Department furnished no new addresses of any of these which were returned. Naturally we could not send the second issue out to any of these. When the second issue was mailed about 100 more were returned with no change of address given. As a consequence a good many may feel that they have been overlooked or neglected. Of course we would like to correct such an impression because we are quite anxious to reach every player possible. Therefore, we would like to make the request that you kindly notify us of any player who has not received "The Zither," giving us his correct address. We will see to it that each will receive every number so far printed. Or if you contemplate moving, please notify us, giving us your new address.

TENTATIVE FOUR DAY CONVENTION PROGRAM, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11 to SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, INCL.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11th—

9:00 A. M. Arrival and Reception of Delegates.

10:00 A. M. Rehearsal.

1:30 P. M. Meeting of Board of Trustees.

2:30 P. M. Rehearsal and Meeting.

7:30 P. M. Rehearsal.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12th—

9:30 A. M. Rehearsal.

8:15 P. M. 1st Concert at Lyric Theatre (Mpls.)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13th—

9:30 A. M. Rehearsal.

8:15 P. M. 2nd Concert at Deutches Haus (St. Paul)

10 P. M. Informal Reception and Lunch at the Home of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Geist, St. Paul.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14th—

9:30 A. M. Business Meeting and Election.

11:00 A. M. Meeting of Board of Trustees.

2:00 P. M. Auto Ride.

6:30 P. M. Banquet at West Hotel with Informal Program.

CONCERT HALLS

After experiencing considerable difficulty, our committee was finally successful in securing the Lyric Theatre for the Minneapolis Concert and the "Deutches Haus" for the St. Paul Concert. The Lyric is not a new theatre but it is ideally located and has good acoustics. The "Deutches Haus" is a new building and is excellently suited for our purpose. It is patronized almost entirely by German-Americans.

Zither, du bist gleich der Sonne
Voll von Leben, Licht und Pracht
Du bringst Freud Genuss und Wonne
Klingst so suess und auch mit Macht
F-eunde macht euch auf doch Alle
O welch, Shuld Ihr habt veruebt
Dass man wenig hoe'v tom Schalle
Ihr so selten spielt und uebt
Nun es muss bald anders werden
Auf! Ihr Zitherfreunde doch
Klingt hinein ins Weh der Erden
Lasst die Zither leben hoch!

Pastor E. Lehrer, Quincy, Wash.