

MAHLER: UNKNOWN GENIUS Card of Thanks

Although I accomplished little or nothing last summer in the way of shortening the long list of books I've always wanted to read by reading some of them, my summer was not completely lost. Among other things I discovered Gustav Mahler. This man had not been completely unknown to me. I remember hearing the late conductor, Bruno Walter, in a radio interview several years ago, telling of the good old days in Vienna when he knew Brahms and Mahler. When Walter discussed Mahler, his old teacher, he would become ecstatic. The usually unemotional — Walter was full of enthusiasm and admiration for Mahler. This remained in my mind and I decided to investigate this composer and his music.

his music is programatic. But unlike Strauss who copied and suggested natural sounds, Mahler copied abstract thought, and this is one reason why he is often difficult to interpret.

Mahler wrote his best works in the song and symphonic forms, although he didn't always separate these two forms. His song cycles are usually heavily orchestrated, while his symphonies sometimes include Lieder as complete movements. An example of the former is his KINDERTOTEN-LIEDER, a cycle of profound sadness on the theme of the death of a child. An example of the latter is the FOURTH SYMPHONY in G, whose last movement completes a child's vision of paradise with a joyous song.

Like Wagner and the late Romantics Mahler demanded an orchestra of enormous size, but instead of allowing the various voices in the orchestra to become lost in the sound of the whole, as they had done, he preferred to delineate carefully between each voice. This innovation was carried on into what we call Modern Music. Besides this, Mahler believed that a symphony should be a musical potpourri, that it should contain something of everything. So, a listener may be jarred when a glorious march suddenly gives tune to a naive country dance. This effect accounts for the seeming unevenness of many of his symphonies.

Much of his great work is marked by a great technical mastery, the result of his intensive study of range of European musical tradition, and by a shattering emotional power, the result partly of his pervading symbolism. Some of the recurring symbols in his symphonies are; the Laenler dance representing the trivial pleasures of life; the gloomy funeral March which drowns out the song with beating drums; the convulsion in the orchestra resembling a sudden anxiety which destroys blissful thoughts; and the trumpet call arousing the dead.

The executive of the Liberal Club extend a sincere thank you to S.D.U.S.U. President Dave Morton and his council for their vote of confidence re the use of the coffee-shop for Oct. 6. It also wishes to thank Jim Davis for his co-operation.

The executive especially thanks the six members who aided in advertising and decorating. They were; Paul Hickey, Liz Lawler, Leo Broderick, Winnie McCordle, John Delaney, and Josie Kickham. Your hard work and zeal were very much appreciated.

—The Executive

The almost infinite variety to be found in his music is often accounted for by the conflicts within his whole personality make-up. For example, there were the conflicts of Czech birth vs Austrian citizenship, Jewish background versus Austrian, Christian conformity, sophistication versus recurring naivety, love for the occidental versus love for the Oriental.

It was the latter love which gave birth to the work which is considered his masterpiece. DAS LIED VON DER ERDE, THE SONG OF THE EARTH, is an interpretation of several poets of the T'ang dynasty of China. It is a farewell to the world not a fond farewell, but a 'bitter renunciation' of the world and everything worldly. Mahler's music matches the intense pessimism of the words. It is somber and dark, but occasionally lightened with touches of remarkable bright oriental colours.

It can be said truly that Gustav Mahler is one of the most misunderstood of musicians. This is so primarily because of the complexity of his life and works, but also, I think because of the general lack of acquaintance with him. I hope that sometime during this year our Music Appreciation Club will give us a chance to become better acquainted with him.

- Leonard St. John

CAMPUS LIBERALS ACTIVE

The campus Liberal Club has swung into action this year under the leadership of President Dave Mullally. On October 6th the club organized a rally at the Coffee Shop entitled "Meet the Candidates." The purpose of the event was to give the students an opportunity to meet those men representing the Liberal Party on P.E.I. and in addition to acquaint everyone with the policies of the party and the issues of the election.

The night began when the candidates were piped into the Coffee Shop sporting red carnations, a gift to them from the club. Chairman for the night was Dave Mullally. Ken McInnis, senior arts student from Souris introduced Mr. John Mullally, candidate for King's County. The young candidate and former student of S.D.U. spoke of his days at S.D.U. and gave his views on politicians and on national unity.

The next speaker was candidate Mr. B.B. Jones who was introduced by Kathleen MacDonald, senior arts student. Mr. Jones explained that he was the agriculture man on the Liberal team for Queen's County and as such he spoke to students on the problems of rural living and improvements which needed to be made on the agriculture scene on P.E.I.

The former Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys

Hon. J. Watson McNaught emphasized the tremendous importance of having a responsible majority government for Canada. He felt the need now was not only pressing because there was little time for administration of the actual business of government but more over and more important because the present opposition was not a responsible one. Mr. McNaught was introduced by sophomore science student Bob Hickey.

A second alumni of St. Dunstan's also took up the call of the Liberal party. Noted as a distinguished member of the academic community, candidate Dr. Mark R. MacGuigan received unanimous applause from faculty and students. The theme of his speech was education. He spoke on the educational problems inherited from our constitution, the Bladen commission and the Liberal party's policy in regard to federal aid for education. Miss Barbara Johnson, President of the P.W.C. Students' Council introduced Mr. MacGuigan.

Following the speeches there was a question period. The political spirit invigorated throughout the shop and nearly all the issues were brought up at the same time. Coffee was provided and everyone met the men informally after the questions.

Such an event was the first

EXAMS

Mid-terms will hit us soon. These, as so many of us know, are lovely little things, beloved by all, embraced by all, and flunked by quite a few. There is a tenderness of memory involved in the writing of these exams, a sweetness of recall, a stimulating challenge to start studying so that you might have something, 80 per cent of which you will forget for your exam.

O tempora! o mores!

of its kind held in the Coffee Shop. Although there was some doubt as to whether a political rally should take place there, the club proved that this could be done successfully.

On Oct. 16th Dave Mullally's Liberals left the campus by motorcade to meet the Prime Minister L.B. Pearson at the Charlottetown Airport. The enthusiasm was immense. With flags, posters and confetti the group looked like politics is fun after all. The action policy of the campus Liberals seems to pay off.

In the near future a model parliament will be held as a joint project of both Liberal and Conservative clubs. This, of course, will be a major undertaking with plenty of study involved but as their slogan goes, "College Liberals get things done!"

THIS
WAS
FRESHMAN
WEEK



BUT
IT'S

EVERYBODY'S

YEAR!