

Minutes of meeting of Music Division, June 22, 1960

Mr. Nowak announced that the subject of plagiarism will be brought up for discussion next term; the faculty will be getting a circular about it from the FEPC.

The following note addressed to the Music Division, c/o Nowak, was received from Howard Nemerov:

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Re: Symbols of blessedness and/or divinity

At 1330 hours, this date, in company with Miss Lucienne Davidson (who will confirm my statement), I observed a large white circular cloud, shaped (allowing for perspective) something like a spiritualized and attenuated doughnut, with far more hole than rim, poised exactly, though at a cockeyed slant, over Jennings Hall.

Is this significant? Clearly Schonbeck, or whoever is responsible, intended the cloud for a halo.

Now a decent satisfaction in accomplishment is one thing, but pride, spiritual pride, quite another. It is earnestly suggested that any future haloes, nimbuses, or glories, be so placed in the heavens as to refer to the whole college, and not merely to the conservatory of music.

It was voted to make this a permanent part of the music archives by including it in these minutes. The original ms. was delivered into the hands of Mr. Brant who had expressed a wish to preserve it.

Mr. Nowak said that a woman from Rutland was desirous of getting in touch with a harp teacher for her daughter. It was thought that Albany was the nearest and most likely place to look for one. Mr. Schonbeck took the matter in hand.

Mr. Nowak announced the installation in the upper hall at Jennings of a display cabinet which the art division had abandoned. It now contains musical and other memorabilia tastefully arranged by the curator, Mr. Schonbeck. (Among the more unusual items was a pair of horn-rimmed glasses--obviously thought to be at one time worn by Beethoven--but a student claimed them, and while we were glad to join loser and lost, it somewhat ruined the surrealist effect so masterfully achieved by the curator.)

Sabbaticals for the next two years were once more checked and found correct.

Mr. Finckel announced that Maggie Foley will replace him next term.

Mr. Nowak said that Mr. Schonbeck's present apartment in Jennings has already been assigned as a dwelling space and it would therefore not be possible to use it for a faculty lounge as had been suggested by the music faculty. There will be an extra practice studio next year, as Kay Jibben is leaving, and her room has not been assigned for living. Mr. Nowak said that Miss Stewart is aware of our need for extra space and is giving thought to finding us another room for a studio.

Mr. Nowak said it had been hard to supply rooms for all the people who will be here on campus this summer, but it had been worked out that the upper floor of Jennings would be used by Mr. Fraundlich and his group for practice purposes; the high school music teachers will use the downstairs floor, and possibly two small rooms on the upper floor.

Jennifer Creel's tentative plan for advanced work in music was approved.

The application of Abbie Aurel for a tutorial in Introductory Swedish with Mr. DeGray was rejected because it would not be possible on the present basis to spare him from his regular music teaching, although it was admitted that such a tutorial might have educational value to her.

Miss Pernel suggested that a policy should be established regarding the senior projects in composition, namely that such student-composers should not have people outside campus to perform; it is too hard to get everyone together for rehearsals. It would also help, she said, not to allow such big works because it takes the time of too many students. There should be some plan whereby the burden is more evenly distributed. Mr. Brant said that although he likes to encourage conducting by the students, their conducting puts a greater burden on the student performers as more rehearsals seem to be necessary. He thought the faculty should decide just how many rehearsals a performance should have and not let the student conductors decide it. Mr. DeGray thought it might be well for a student in her junior year to write a piece which would be performed the following year as part of her senior project, but Mr. Boepple thought this would not be practicable. It was decided that Miss Pernel and Mr. Brant would get together early next term and talk this matter over. Mr. DeGray, in further regard to this problem, said we have too few people of the caliber necessary to play all the compositions we are able to turn out. He asked if there was not some way of having more performers, and recommended that we get more string players into the student body, even if we have to pay them to come.

Mr. Schonbeck said that Mary Conheim has been having too many demands on her for her flute playing. This brought up a discussion on the tendency to get a student over-involved in certain areas because we do not know the whole background of the student's activity or abilities or limitations. It should be the concern of all the faculty to get to know the real status of the students we deal with.

It was agreed that early each term the faculty should be informed what the student composers are planning to write. All the division members should then plan the program at an early division meeting.

Mr. Nowak said that the music faculty had been asked for advice on music and music books to be purchased for the village library from a fund established in the name of Franz Lorenz. Among the suggestions made was that there should be concerts given at the library (music might be unused on the shelves of the library unless concerts could be given in which such music could be used). It was thought that a good idea was to encourage an annual or semi-annual concert, charging admission, this to be in conjunction with the music material bought from the fund. Mr. DeGray thought we should find out just what music, if any, the village library now has so that we could have more intelligent suggestions to offer. It was decided to have a committee consisting of Mr. Boepple, Mr. Brant and Mr. Schonbeck (Mr. Boepple to be chairman) work this out and come up with suggestions.

The rest of the meeting was given over to averaging grades for students in Music I, II and III.

Mr. Boepple was elected secretary for the ensuing year.

Lionel Nowak, Secretary

*total am. T. raised "19.10  
be used for purchase of music  
books & any other items  
which (impr.)  
should decide  
upon*