# Musical Festival Association

## Hon. President

DR. L. W. SHAW

Once again it is my privilege to assist, through the medium of the press, in bringing to the attention of the people of the province generally the great work that has been done and still is being done by the Musical Festival Association.

The word "culture" is difficult to define. In attempting a definition some of us would undoubtedly include activities which others might omit. I am sure, however, that all would include music and indeed place it near the head of the list. Will we not agree then that in encouraging participation in musical activities and indeed in making possible such participation the Musical Festival Association and those associated with it have extended greatly the culture of both young and old in this our Island Province.

The development of the culture of any people must, of course, begin with the children. The Atlantic School Broadcast Manual for the present school year has in its introduction to the series of broadcasts entitled, Junior School Music the following paragraph which is worthy of note:

"Singing beautiful songs prepares children by the best possible means for an intelligent understanding of the compositions of the great masters. It is most important that young children develop musical sincerity, and experience growing joy in music."

The Association has encouraged and assisted in the teaching of music in our schools. The progress made in this field alone has been remarkable. The interest on the part of adults, too, has been most encouraging and undoubtedly that will increase as the young people now in schools in which music has a definite place take their places as full grown citizens of their communities.

The many activities of the Association have their culmination each year in the festival of music. This event should, of course, be patronized and encouraged by all, but we should never forget the immense amount of planning, preparation and hum-drum work going on throughout the entire year. The Musical Festival Association needs the active interest and support of everyone if it is to continue to make its contribution to the cultural life of Prince Edward Island.

L. W. SHAW,
Deputy Minister and
Director of Education.

## Musical Festival Association

Honorary President — Dr. L. W. Shaw, Charlottetown.
President — Dr. G. D. Steel, Charlottetown.
Vice-President (Prince) — Mr. Frank Cameron, Summerside.
Vice-President (Queens) — Mrs. J. P. Lantz, Charlottetown.
Vice-President (Kings) — Mrs. Keir Clark, Montague.
Secretary — Mrs. Edwin Cook, Parkdale.
Assistant Secretary — Mr. Malcolm MacKenzie, Charlottetown.
Recording Secretary — Mrs. M. F. Rodd, Parkdale.
Treasurer — Mrs. Warren Burns, Parkdale.
Past President — Lt. Col. L. T. Lowther, Charlottetown.

**Conveners of Committees:**

Syllabus — Mrs. J. L. B. Anderson, Charlottetown.
Choral Reading — Mrs. Arthur Roper, Charlottetown.
Dance — Mrs. Gordon MacMillan, Cornwall.
Music — Miss Dorothy Cullen, Charlottetown.
Scholarship — Mrs. Fred Nash, Charlottetown.
Membership — (Provincial) Mrs. Lorne Callbeck, Charlottetown; (Prince) Mr. Allison MacLean, Summerside; (Queens) Mrs. F. M. Cannon, Charlottetown; (Kings) Mrs. Archibald Hume, Montague.
Publicity — Mrs. Preston Beck, Central Royalty.
Field — Mrs. J. A. Lawson, Charlottetown.
Hall — Mrs. R. J. Rupert, Charlottetown.
Tickets — Mrs. Gordon Rodd, N. Milton; Mrs. J. A. Martin, Charlottetown, (Co-conveners).
Awards — Mrs. J. L. Curran, Charlottetown.
Stage — Mrs. W. R. Aitken, Charlottetown.
Platform Secretaries — Mrs. Leonard MacDonald, Charlottetown.
Allotment — Miss Mary Donahoe, Charlottetown.
Programme — Mrs. Gordon White, Charlottetown.
Programme-Finance — Mrs. John Mustard, East Rayalty.
Concert — Mr. Derrill MacGuigan, Charlottetown.
Reception & Refreshment — Mrs. L. T. Lowther, Charlottetown.
Nominating — Mrs. J. A. Rodd, Milton.

**PUBLICITY**

Mrs. Preston Beck, C. Royalty.
Mrs. Earl Foster, E. Royalty.
Miss Alice Fraser, Ch'town.
Miss Kay Sutherland, Ch'town.
Mrs. Preston Campbell, Ch'town.
Mrs. Ralph Beck, Montague.
Mrs. Chas Linkletter, Summerside.

## Adjudicator

Gifford Mitchell, B.A., Mus. Bac., is Chief Superintendent of School Music for the Protestant School Board of Montreal and is also Conductor of famous Elgar Choir, Montreal.

## Adjudicator

FRANK WHARRAM

Frank Wharram is a well-known member of the piano faculty of the Royal Conservatory of Music of Toronto, where he has taken an active part in faculty and student organizations in addition to his teaching duties. For many years he has been one of the busiest members of the Conservatory Board of Examiners, having examined in many centres throughout the Dominion. In addition to being a successful teacher, he is also a popular lecturer on matters pertaining to music teaching, and examinations, and has also done a considerable amount of Festival adjudication. Mr. Warram is organist and choirmaster at the Church of the Transfiguration in Toronto and leader of the Manufacturers Life glee club.

## Scholarships

The wholehearted response of our former contributors to the scholarship fund of the 1955 Festival has been most encouraging to the Committee. It is indeed heartening to feel, that we have the support of the people of Prince Edward Island in our effort to improve our musical culture.

Last year the preliminaries of several classes of our Syllabus were held in Summerside and this year there will be even more preliminaries held there, as well as a large number of finals. Under these conditions one can readily see the necessity of changing the method of awarding our scholarships. There will be fewer awarded this season, but those competitors who win a scholarship may well feel that their effort and study has been worth while.

Mrs. Frank Cameron is the Communities Convener for Prince County, and Mrs. Beecher Hickox for Kings County. Both these ladies will be pleased to receive your donations.

The Festival is a provincial effort and your support is not only greatly appreciated by the Association, but an encouragement to the competitors. A full list of contributions will be published as soon as completed.

Constance C. Nash, Convener.

## Concerts

This year, as on other years, the climax of the Musical Festival will be the concerts which will be presented to the public at the closing of the festival. Fortunate indeed are those who lead their classes, make an honour mark of eighty or more and appear as the stars of the Festival at one of the concerts.

The number of participants in the various classes have increased to such an extent in the past few years, that it has been found necessary to acquire the services of four adjudicators and to have certain classes adjudicated in Summerside. All these things cost extra money and the Musical Festival Association depends, a great deal, on the proceeds of the final concerts to pay many of the expenses.

We know that this year the public, without whose help the carrying on of the Musical Festival would be impossible, will again co-operate with the Association by attending both the competitions and the final concerts which will present the stars of the festival.

DERRILL MacGUIGAN
Convener of Concert Committee.

## A Message From Prince County

The Prince Edward Island Music Festival Executive is now planning its tenth festival. It has expanded so during the past years both in its development and in the cultural life of the Province that county preliminary competitions are now permanently in their plans. Last year in Summerside there was held the first preliminary competition in conjunction with the Provincial Music Festival Week. This year more classes will be added and finals will be adjudicated here. It is hoped that this will encourage many more competitors from the schools of this county. This has entailed much additional work on the part of the executive and the active help and support of many more people of the area. The Prince County committee appreciates this support. I hope that the people of the county will continue to give the annual Provincial Music Festival their full co-operation in every way.

G. FRANKLIN CAMERON,
Vice-President (Prince)

## President

DR. G. D. STEEL

In this full page advertisement issued annually, the Prince Edward Island Musical Festival Association seeks to put before the public information regarding the work of the Association and to solicit the support of the public for the Festival to be held in Summerside and in Charlottetown during the closing days of April and the first week in May.

The Festival this year will be the tenth of these Annual Competitive Festivals held by our Association. We are happy this year to associate our Decennial Celebration with the City of Charlottetown's Centennial Celebration, and as an expression of our good will we have had printed on the cover of our syllabus and will have on the cover of our Programmes the words "Honoring Charlottetown's Centennial". These competitive festivals afford an opportunity for our people young and old to measure their attainment or progress against the attainment or progress of others who overcome the same difficulties, and to receive the judgment and suggestions of experienced and qualified outside adjudicators. The Festivals give to the pupils of our schools these same advantages as they compete against the pupils from schools operating under similiar circumstances. Further they serve to encourage us all as we check the peformances given by contestants of today against the performance at our first festival in 1946.

Let no one think the Festival movement on Prince Edward Island is an isolated development. Similar festivals have been held in the old world for many years, and the work of their successors may be heard from time to time as it is brought to us by radio. In Canada competitive Festivals have been held for some forty years, and are more popular today than ever before.

Last year our Provincial Festival was held both in Summerside and Charlottetown, with most finals in the various classes being held in Charlottetown. The same plan with some modifications and some extensions will be followed again this year. This new departure, perhaps, emphasizes the provincial nature of our Festival.

May I again thus publicly express the thanks of the Association to the Department of Education for the annual grant which makes possible the varied activities of the Association, and to those business firms and individuals who have so generously supported our Prize and Scholarship Fund. And may I again urge upon all who are interested in promoting participation in and instruction in music and of the appreciation by the parents of the advantages to their children of musical training in the schools.

We take this opportunity to commend those who, with energy and foresight, formed the Musical Festival Association and awakened this interest in music in the province.

We wish also to thank those on the various committees of the Association who, faithfully year after year, do the great amount of work necessary to carry on the Festival with its cultural benefit and enjoyment for all who attend. We in King's County are looking forward with great anticipation to the 1955 Festival. We are hoping this year to have from all over the country a larger number of entries than ever before.

May the 1955 Musical Festival be most successful and enjoyable in every way.

ANNA CLARK,
Vice-President for King's County to support the Association by becoming members and by attending the sessions of the Festival. I trust the Festival will always be your Festival.

G. D. STEEL,
President.

## Percentage Allotment

The percentage Allotment Committee of the Musical Festival Association is again prepared to give assistance to schools. It will give help to sponsors of music in schools which do not have an instructor paid by the Department of Education. It also tries to encourage more schools to participate in the Festival by helping with transportation costs, if the school is fifteen miles or more from the Festival. In cases where classes for Rhythm Bands, Dancing and Choral Reading necessitate an extra trip, help will also be given. Application should be made at once to:

MARY DONAHOE
10 McGill Terrace,
Charlotteown,
Chairman of the
Percentage Allotment Committee.

## Membership

Any citizen of Prince Edward Island who desires to help promote the work of the Music Festival Association may do so by becoming a member of the Organization. There are two ways by which one may join:

1. By being an individual member at $1.00 per year.
2. By being one in a group of five representatives appointed by an organization such as a club, choral group, church choir, or Women's Institute. The fee for the group is $5.00 per year.

In renewing group memberships, or sending in new group memberships, please be sure to send in names of your five delegates.

It is necessary that application for membership, or renewals, be received not later than March 1, 1955, in order to be printed in the 1955 programme.

Membership Tickets will be available to all members whose names are printed in the 1955 Programme. Price 50 cents. These tickets entitle the holder to admission to all Festival sessions except the final Concerts.

Hazel Callbeck,
Provincial Membership Convener

## Adjudicator

Welden Kilburn is an outstanding Canadian pianist, teacher, accompanist. He taught the famed Lois Marshall. He is a graduate of the Royal Conservatory and was also a student of Robert Schmitz. As an adjudicator and examiner he has worked in centres from coast to coast.

## Adjudicator

FRANK BLACHFORD

A brilliant student, Frank Blachford graduated from the Toronto Conservatory as a gold medalist, and from the Leipzig Conservatory after five years of study in both piano and violin, with the coveted Holbig Prize.

Returning to Toronto from abroad, Mr. Blachford became an examiner in strings and piano for the University of Toronto, before the affiliation of the Conservatory with the University. During the '30's, Mr. Blachford was well known to radio audiences as conductor and director of several commercial radio programmes, and many parts of Canada welcome him as an old friend on his trips for the Conservatory. Mr. Blachford is also an experienced teacher of piano and of instrumental music. His examining and adjudicating have taken him from coast to coast. Many of his published books on music and music education are in use in the schools and conservatories of Canada. He had the honour of being elected the first president of the Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association 1936.

## A Message From King's County

The Musical Festival is every year becoming a greater event in the life of Prince Edward Island. This is an indication of the ever increasing interest being taken by the people of the province in

## Field Committee

Music expresses itself in a variety of forms, each of which is a distinct plan, or design, and the simplest of these is the song. We believe that every child loves to sing and with this in mind the field committee of the Prince Edward Island Music Festival is working to bring school districts, in the more remote parts of the province, in contact with the aims and objects of the festival, and to show them how the Association, along with the Provincial Department of Education, is ready and willing to help supply music instruction in their school, so that they may enjoy the experience of coming to the City in Festival Week, and joining in the friendly competition with children of their own ages and grades. The competition angle should not be stressed but is necessary in order that the standard of the music be kept up. The educational advantages and pleasure which the children receive from music in the school cannot be overemphasized.

A singing child is a happy child and it is our duty as adults — whether parents, school trustees, or teachers — to bring as much brightness and happiness to our children as we possibly can.

Then too, the committee offers encouragement to community singing where groups of all ages will find selections suitable to their talents, they will enjoy hearing other groups perform and will learn to judge between a well rendered chorus and one not so carefully given. Church Choirs are invited to enter to make the festival a real community project.

This week a number of copies of the syllabus have been mailed to Women's Institutes in the hope that more districts will join in making the 1955 Festival, which by the way is honoring the City of Charlottetown in its Centennial Celebrations, an outstanding one in everyway.

If you are interested, drop a line to Mrs. J. A. Lawson, Charlottetown. The field committee will be glad to help you in any way possible.

(MRS.) HELEN LAWSON
Convener.

## Secretary

MARY F. COOK

As my message to all participants in the coming Festival I would ask your fullest co-operation in completing and forwarding your entry forms. Please read the entry form carefully and be sure it is in the mail by March 1st. The Executive of the Festival Association have instructed me to return all late entries. The work of the Program Committee has grown each year and with more classes being heard in Summerside for Prince County entrants, it is essential that the work of arranging the Program for both Charlottetown and Summerside commences early in March. Please also note some changes have been made in the scale of entry fees, bringing them more in line with other Maritime Festivals.

Four Adjudicators have been engaged for the week of May 2-7.

Mr. Clifford Mitchell, Montreal, General.

Mr. Welden Kilburn, Toronto, Vocal and Choral.

Mr. Frank Blachford, Toronto, Strings — Piano — Choral.

Mr. Frank Wharram, Toronto, Piano — Choral.

Adjudicators for Choral Reading and Folk Dancing will be announced later. Major Calum MacLeod will adjudicate Highland Dancing and Piping.

MARY F. COOK,
Sec't'y, P. E. I. M.F.A.

### TORONTO SOFT HEARTED

TORONTO (CP)—Mayor Nathan Phillips said Thursday Toronto's policy on grants to charitable groups will remain the same this year. Montreal has decided to cut off 90 of its charitable, social and cultural agencies. He suggested Toronto should set an example to its citizens by being as generous as it possibly can to worthwhile organizations.

### HANDY IN PEACE

DUNMOW, England (CP)—Municipal authorities of this historic Essex district are using wartime flame-throwers to control weeds in the sewage works.

"Musical training is a more potent instrument than any other, because rhythm and harmony find their way into the inward places of the soul."

Plato — The Republic.

# The Tenth Annual Festival of Music

**Sponsored By**

# The Prince Edward Island Musical Festival Association

**WILL BE HELD IN CHARLOTTETOWN**

**April 29, 30, May 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7**

Preliminaries And Finals In Specified Classes Will Be Held In Summerside

**ENTRIES CLOSE MARCH 1**

Get A Syllabus And Mail Your Entry Before The Closing Date

This Is Your Festival - - - - Enjoy It By Participating

If You Would Like To Assist In The Work Of The Association, Join It NOW

## Folk Dancing
**April 29 and 30**

We have added new classes in classical dancing and this promises to make the Festival more interesting and the final concerts varied and enjoyable.

Since dancing has been added to the Music Festival more interest has been growing in Folk dancing, and the Highland dancing so that each year new classes have been included in the programme of the Festival.

Some form of music is found in every part of the world. This extensive territory points to a spontaneous use by all ages and every race of song, dance and instrument as means of expression, amusement and even discipline.

This wide spread combination of song with dancing, mimicry and poetry is proof of the need for it in our lives.

Folk dances go hand in hand with folk music and in both the fundamental rhythm is emphatic and regular.

The Music Festival is encouraging this expression of music and dancing in our own province.

MRS. GORDON MacMILLAN
Convener

## Choral Reading
**April 29 and 30**

Realizing the great need for self expression in the lines of men and women, we are convinced that much more should be done in the school and community to teach our children the most important art of all — expression in reading — and eventually in ordinary speech.

Ask a teen age child to read aloud—and it is with dismay that we realize how flat can sound an otherwise entertaining story or poem. Try to help, and the child is embarrassed. Everyone would laugh if they used "expression".

Singing, sewing, cooking, etc., are taught in schools — but what about the art of speech, diction, quality, change of pace, etc.?

So as a gesture toward the real goal we have Choral Reading in our Music Festival syllabus.

Let us hope that parents and teachers will do their utmost to encourage children to take advantage of this method of conveying meaning through the spoken tone — and thus get an idea of what could really be accomplished if we had proper training in voice production for our coming generations.

BARBARA M. ROPER
Convener

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