

OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

By Rozilda.

Isidor Goodman Returns Home.

CHILDHOOD PROMISES FULLFILLED.

Isidor Goodman, the young Cape Town pianist, whom most people here will remember as a child of outstanding talent and extraordinary promise, returned to this country on the Ceramic last Thursday morning, having been away for seven years.

The child has now grown into a charming and elegant young man of twenty and the playing which delighted and amazed his hearers some thirteen years ago has developed into an interpretative power and a technique quite unusual in so young a man.

Inherited Talent.

Isidor Goodman has inherited his musical ability from both his parents. His father, the late Mr. Goodman, is still remembered in Cape Town as an excellent violinist. He was a member of the old Dorshei Zionist Orchestra, which was in existence some twenty years ago.



ISIDOR GOODMAN.

(By kind permission of Piccadilly Illustrated).

Present-day Zionists recall with pleasure the fine quality of that little Orchestra, and the enthusiasm of its members. Founded by a Mr. Sterner, and conducted by Mr. Kasherager, the Orchestra was an institution which many Zionists would like to see revived to-day. Isidor's mother, now Mrs. Guttwoch, was also a member of this Orchestra. She is an able pianist. Isidor declares with great pride that he owes all his technique to his father, whilst his strictest and most trusted critic is his mother. "I always submit my performance to her before every concert," he says. "If we don't agree we compromise."

Childhood Days.

I remember Isidor as I saw him for the first time, a tiny curly-headed child of three, who sat with rapt attention and evident enjoy-

ment listening to his mother playing through an entire Beethoven Sonata.

"At two years old," says his mother, "he could play from ear nursery rhymes with one finger. His constant plea at that time was 'another tune, Mummy.' When he was four years old I had taught him his notes, and he could play from music." When he was six he was presented with a bursary and attended the College of Music. Adolph Hallis, the well-known pianist, taught him. Isidor recalls how Hallis made him work.

"At the first lesson he gave me a study and the following lesson I was expected to know it by heart. In the third lesson he would ask me to transpose it into any key."

After a time Mrs. Lardner became his teacher.

When he was eight years old he brought the house down when, under the conductorship of Theo Wendt,

he played a Mozart Concerto with the Cape Town Orchestra.

At Cape Town's first Eisteddfod he won a gold medal.

Royal College of Music.

When he was thirteen years old his mother took him to London and enrolled him as a pupil at the Royal College of Music. He was unable to enter for any bursary on account of his extreme youth. When he was sixteen, however, he won a Royal College scholarship, which was open to the whole of the British Isles for the best musician on any instrument. The ages ranged from sixteen to nineteen years in the case of boys and from sixteen to twenty in the case of girls. This scholarship was tenable for three years, and included music fees and part maintenance. He studied for five years and then made his London debut in March,

1928, at the Grotrian Hall. He recalls every item of that first concert programme. He played amongst other things the Brahms' Handel Variations, a Chopin Sonata and the Bach-Liszt Organ Prelude and Fugue in A Minor. He remembers being very nervous until he got to the piano, and then he forgot all about his audience. For a first performance he had a wonderful house. "There were even people standing at the back," he says exultingly. He had a very good press after that concert. The London Times spoke of his "full-blooded virtuosity," and the Morning Post said: "Mr. Isidor Goodman, a very young pianist, made one of the most promising first appearances at the Grotrian Hall on Thursday night last that I have been lucky enough to attend for a long time past. . . . For rhythm, clarity and power, his interpretation seemed to me beyond praise. Mr. Goodman is the genuine article. . . ."

The Observer referred to his complete competence and his extraordinary assurance. "It was a remarkable recital and a highly finished performance." The Telegraph particularly mentioned the "unfailingly fine singing tone" of his playing.

Only Nine Weeks in Cape Town.

He played with a few orchestras round the coast of England, and at Manchester and a few other towns. At the house of Lady Beecham he gave a recital with Betsy de la Porte. He went on the Continent and played at various towns in Italy and at Berlin. He taught at the Royal College of Music for a short time and then was offered a professorship at the Sidney Conservatoire of Music, which he has accepted.

He is on his way to Australia now and is only making a short nine weeks' stay in Cape Town. During this time he will give a recital at the City Hall, the details of which will be announced later. He will play with the Cape Town Orchestra some time in October, when he will render the Liszt E Flat Concerto, which has not been heard in Cape Town for many years. At his concert on the 22nd he will play the Dance des Harpies, a composition written by Gideon Fagan, the young South African conductor and composer now in London, and dedicated to Isidor Goodman.

If there is time and if the Jewish festivals allow, he will also play in Johannesburg, Durban and Pietermaritzburg.

A Loss to South Africa.

Isidor Goodman is delighted to be back home again. He has been longing to see his home town for many months. It is a great pity both for his sake and for ours that his stay here should be so short. It seems a matter for much regret that a brilliant young pianist who was born here, who received his early training here, and whose inspiration has been South Africa, should be allowed to accept a post elsewhere and to devote the fruits of his studies and the gifts of his talent to another dominion. His departure will mean a real loss to South Africa.

ROZILDA.

The Attack on Ukrainian Jewish Colony.

LEADERS SENTENCED TO DEATH.

Moscow, 2nd September.

Yefim Dergal and Ivan Tsherbat, the leaders of the attack carried out last month on the Jewish Colony No. 3, in the district of Zaperozhie, in the Ukraine, have been sentenced to death. Dergal's brothers, Ivan and Yefvsei Dergal, have been sentenced to eight years and five years' imprisonment respectively, and deportation. The Regional Chief of Police, Chaplinin, and his assistant, Brisitskin, have been sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment each and the Chairman of the Regional Soviet, Nikolai Poltanski, has been sentenced to one year's imprisonment. The three officials were found guilty of having failed to take action to prevent the excesses.

About 300 peasants from the neighbourhood, who packed the small court-house, heard the sentences being handed down. The trial brought it out that the prisoners had systematically terrorised the Jewish colonists of the district for the past two years, and taking advantage of the complete indifference of the local authorities, they had finally attempted to carry out a regular pogrom.

Later. Tefim Dergal has escaped from prison, where he was sent to await the carrying out of the death sentence.

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