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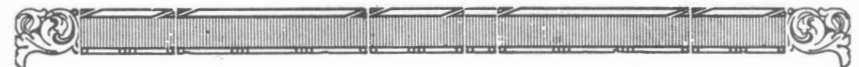
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The Violin Makers Association of British Columbia



*An organization devoted to the development
and encouragement of the art of
violin making in Canada*



The Association

The Violin Makers Association of British Columbia was formed by a group of enthusiastic craftsmen who found in this absorbing hobby a fascinating outlet for artistic temperament and creative urge.

At the outset it soon became apparent that most makers follow no scientific procedure in the construction of their instruments, other than following the authorized text books, and it was soon indicated that a more scientific approach should be assumed if violins of approved merit could be assured.

The violin in its present form became established (as such) early in the 17th century and during the following hundred years reached a state of perfection that has not since been surpassed. Such illustrious men as Amati, Stradivari and Guarneri appeared at this time and left their names imprinted on the pages of history. On the death of Guarneri the art of violin making declined. Assuredly, many good violins were still made but the peak had been passed and some people declared that the art of violin making was fast becoming a lost art.

For the last hundred years makers have been searching for the "secrets" of the Old Masters and only now when the construction of violins is being attacked on a scientific basis are we learning the methods and procedures necessary to produce a near perfect instrument.

While the desire to explore scientific methods is prevalent among its members, the association retains that spirit of friendship and goodwill which any group with a common interest should possess.

During its short existence the association has extended its boundaries throughout Europe and the United States. This is achieved by a monthly publication called the Violin Makers Journal. This interesting magazine is subscribed to by leading violin makers in North America and many in European countries. These makers, in turn, present articles outlining the different practises which they find produce good instruments. University professors also contribute their knowledge of acoustics and other sciences relevant to the art.

The Violin Makers Journal also contains material of interest to violinists and music lovers in general. The subscription is set merely at the cost of production and a sample copy may be secured by applying to the secretary of the association, who is also the editor of the Journal.

During the 1957 Pacific National Exhibition Hobby Show the association contributed a display which attracted immense interest and was successful in winning the Bronze Medal for Booth Display. This year our display will include violins from many parts of Eastern Canada and the United States. Violins, violas and cellos will compete for coveted Ribbons. This competition bids fair to become the leading violin competition in North America.

The Violin Makers Association has in mind the encouragement of the art of violin playing and believes this can best be accomplished by placing in the hands of the aspiring student a violin of comparable value to the "Old Masters," at a price he can afford to pay. The secretary is always ready to give information on this aspect. Superior instruments, for the concert artist, are also available.

Members of the association meet on the second Thursday of each month and enjoy interesting programs of an instructive and entertaining nature. Visitors and new members are always welcomed.

For further particulars and information contact the secretary, Don White, 4631 West 14th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. Telephone ALma 1523-L.