AMONG NEW YORK PIANO WORKERS

Milton Cheek, of Danquard School, Celebrates Anniversary, Thos. Danquard Retires, A. Dalrymple Completes His 27th Year with Estey; Henry Behning Rests.

No institution in the piano industry has proven of greater benefit to the trade, as a whole, and made the scientific upkeep of the player piano possible, as the Danquard Player Action School, at 609 West 51st street, New York. At no cost for tuition, hundreds of pupils from almost every state in the Union and from remote parts of the world, have been trained to meet the difficulties that confront every player-repair man, and are made familiar with practically every player action made.

The class just graduated, and the pupils who have received diplomas during the year, by their extremely high averages, reflect the greatest credit on Milton Cheek, who on July 1 completed his first year as head of this institution. In honor of this event, and of his birthday, which was a few days previous, the students and a number of friends prepared a surprise for him, in the nature of a luncheon and reception. After the close of the lunch, Miss Violet Wallack, of his office staff, presented to him, in behalf of his class and staff, a very handsome leather desk set. Miss Wallack was in a great measure responsible for the inception and successful culmination of the party. After the presentation, tables were cleared away, and a jazz band made music for the merrymakers. The young ladies in the advertising department of the Kohler Industries willingly sacrificed themselves as partners to Mr. Cheek's class.

Mr. Cheek is a thoroughly practical player expert, having studied the various mechanisms in the leading factories of the country, and possesses that rare faculty of being able to impart his knowledge in a thoroughly lucid manner to his pupils, and to send them out, thoroughly equipped to meet the vexatious problems that confront player experts. Every graduate is given a diploma after passing a rigid examination by a board of player experts, which is now recognized among the trade as the insignia of his being a master engineer of player mechanics.

Recent graduates were George Kirsten, Ridgefield, N. J.; Ernest Horning, Baltimore, Md.; A. C. Lamphere, Boise, Idaho, and John T. Ricks, New York City. Some of the alumni of this school came from Australia, Switzerland and Canada.

Thos. Danquard Retires.

Thomas Danquard, for many years one of the vice-presidents and head of the experimental department of the Auto-Pneumatic Action Co., has severed his connection with the Kohler Industries, and will take a well-earned vacation. Mr. Danquard is one of the few remaining pioneers of the player industry, entering it when it was still in its earliest infancy, and has left his mark behind him as the inventor of many of the great improvements in player mechanics which have materially aided in bringing the player to its present state of perfection.

Due to his quiet and unassuming ways, Mr. Danquard never forced himself into fame as have others, but to those that have had the privilege of knowing him, his strong personality and great knowledge of applied mechanics has always been impressive. Many years ago, realizing the importance of having thoroughly trained player repair men throughout the country, he founded the player school bearing his name, giving free tuition to those who cared to pursue this branch of study.

Few on Vacation.

In spite of the warm weather, comparatively few of the piano trade are absenting themselves from their desks, and as a rule, vacations are being taken on the installment plan. The many vexatious problems confronting the trade as a whole are in a great measure responsible for this condition, particularly the railroad situation, involving the embargo on outgoing products and the delay in receiving raw and manufactured material.

The scarcity and advancing cost of veneers and all other woods is causing grave concern and will surely have its effect on the cost of production in a marked degree. The felt and hardware conditions are but little better, although there is more stability to the market and in a few cases a reduction in prices.

The spot cash terms prevalent for the past two years are being modified somewhat by some of the local piano manufacturers, and dealers are now being given thirty days, and in a few cases, ninety days.

Jacob Bros.' Enlargement.

Jacob Bros. are feeling proud of the new addition to their big factory on West 39th street, which is nearing completion. The enormous growth of their business has necessitated frequent enlargements, but now they hope to have sufficient room for several years to come, but those who know their progressive spirit feel that they will quickly outgrow the present addition, and will some day need the whole block.

27 Years Estey Ambassador.

If not the dean of the New York contingent of piano travelers, an honor which belongs to Frederick Lohr, of Hardman, Peck & Co., A. Dalrymple, who has just completed twenty-seven years of Estey service, is a close second. Mr. Dalrymple is a native of New Jersey, having been born in 1868. In 1893 he became associated with the old firm of Estey & Saxe, who were the distributors for the Estey Organ Co. for the central states, and in a short time demonstrated his wonderful ability as a road salesman. At that time their headquarters was 5 East 14th street, then the center of the wholesale and retail piano trade.

When the Estey Piano Co. was formed as a separate institution, Mr. Dalrymple elected to follow the piano rather than the organ selling end, and in a short time became known to the trade from coast to coast, and by his geniality and prepossessing manner, has won a large following who desire to be classed as his personal friends rather than mere customers. Mr. Dalrymple is preparing his fall campaign, and in spite of the adverse business conditions, believes he will have a record year.

Henry Behning Rests.

Henry Behning, of the Behning Piano Co., 134th and Southern boulevard, is enjoying a well-earned rest in the mountains. Paul Fink, who looks after the road interests of this firm, is preparing for a series of trips to nearby points. He reports an unusually active summer, and is looking toward a heavy fall and winter trade.

Big Action Demand.

The demand for piano actions is regarded by the makers of that commodity as phenomenal, and at the Staib-Abendschein factory, at Brook avenue and 135th street, Mr. Staib said they were far behind on their orders. Fortunately they had a large supply of materials on hand, and the recent embargoes and strikes have affected them but little, but while they make shipments, they cannot guarantee deliveries.

PLAYS PIANO FOR 15 HOURS.

A dispatch from London, England, says that Arthur Kemp, a pianist at a Corydon motion picture theater, recently played the piano at the house for 15 hours without stopping, by way of getting himself in trim for an effort he is soon to make to break the record of 82 hours' continuous piano playing made in New York. When seen after his 15-hour effort he had his forearms tightly bandaged, which he said was to keep the blood from running down into his fingers. The piano keys were sprayed with methylated oil to prevent his finger-tips from cracking, and his face was bathed at intervals with eau de cologne. He was surrounded with little dolls, flowers and teddy bear mascots to distract his mind; otherwise, he explained, he would go crazy. "I won the championship in 1917," he said, "by playing 66 hours at Toronto."

PERSONAL NOTES.

E. M. Prinz, of Milwaukee, traveler for the M. Schulz Company, was at the M. Schulz headquarters in Chicago for a day or two this week.

F. P. Bassett, vice-president of the M. Schulz Company, Chicago, must now be at Estes Park, Colo. He left Chicago on June 24 in his auto, accompanied by his eldest two sons, intending to drive through. Mrs. Bassett and the younger two sons went by train.

H. Freed, for some time past sales manager for the Ryan Music Company, at Ryan, Oklahoma, is now connected with the A. J. Crafts Piano Co., of Richmond, Va.

W. H. COLLINS STARTS FISHING.

W. H. Collins, manager of the retail piano department of Lyon & Healy, Chicago, starts on his vacation today, Saturday. He intends to go to Green Lake, Wis., where he has spent his midsummer vacations for several years. It was at Green Lake that Mr. Collins caught a 14-pound pickerel last year. He thinks he saw one weighing about 15 pounds last year, and it is his desire to land the larger one this time.

KILLED BY SWITCH ENGINE.

Casabianca M. Thomas, age 50, a designer employed at the plant of the Starr Piano Company, of Richmond, Ind., was killed by a Chesapeake & Ohio switch engine in the yards of the piano company. Thomas attempted to cross the tracks, and evidently did not see the approaching engine.

The Greenfest Company, Peekskill, N. Y., has secured the agency for the Sonora Phonograph. They have three machines on exhibition in their show window.

Q R S BASEBALL TEAM NOW HEADS LEAGUE

Music Roll Makers of Great Chicago Plant Have Great Incentive to Excel.

The accompanying picture shows the Q R S baseball team on their new grounds adjoining the Chicago Q R S factory at South Kedzie avenue and West Forty-eighth place.

There is perhaps no better diamond in Chicago, and with plenty of room for a home run without any fence in the way.

The Q R S team now heads in the Industrial League in their zone.

TUNERS PLAN EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN ON PIANO CARE

Indianapolis Division of the N. A. P. T. Make Purposes of the Organization Clear.

A campaign to educate the public in proper care of pianos and playerpianos has been started by the Indianapolis division of the National Association of Piano Tuners.

This organization, according to a statement by its officers, is primarily an educational body, and not a labor union. While its purpose is to better conditions for its members, it plans to increase their wages only by increasing the demand for services of piano tuners by educating the public in the need for proper care of the instruments by competent and skilled workers. The association is not affiliated with any labor unions, and has adopted a friendly attitude toward all piano tuners, whether or not they are connected with the association or any other organization.

The Indianapolis division, which was organized in April with twenty members, now has enrollment of thirty. Any member of the trade may make application for membership, the officers announce, and on passing an examination designed to protect employers from incompetent workers, will be admitted to the organization. The officers are D. H. Craft, president; O. F. Poarch, vice-president; M. K. Uehlien, recording secretary; B. Pike, treasurer, and William E. Medcalf, corresponding secretary. Regular meetings are held the second and fourth Mondays of each month.

WHEN PLAYER PIANO BARS BAD ATTACK OF ENNUI

Picturing a Common Occurrence at All Seasons, Troy, N. Y., Advertiser Suggests a Remedy.

The Foster Piano Co., Troy, N. Y., in its newspaper advertising this week creates a picture in type of the pleasures possible to owners of a playerpiano: A wet evening with young people cooped up in the house. Telephone rings and somebody calls: "Come on over! Dancing! And we've got cake and fudge 'n' everything. Bring Brother Bob along." And you put on your rain coat and go, and when you get there, they have the furniture cleared away and somebody is playing wonderful dance music on the playerpiano—isn't it a "grand and glorious feeling?"

It is a good lead for the suggestion: "A Marshall & Wendell playerpiano in your home attracts friends and good times just as a magnet attracts needles. For the young people, it supplies dance music and popular songs; for the older generation, it voices the beloved old heart songs or classical selections; to the children, it is a magic treasure filled with enchantment. The remarkable mechanism of the Marshall & Wendell gives you the actual playing of famous pianists as if they were personally seated at the keyboard, and its rich, golden tone thrills you with its beauty. Perfect for hand playing and unequalled as a playerpiano for all standard music rolls.

H. D. Hewitt, wholesale representative of the M. Schulz Company, has returned to Chicago from a successful trip to Texas.

BUY EBE PLAY R PIANOS—2469 Third Av., New York

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