

## G. G. FOSTER'S PICTURE EMBELLISHES NEWSPAPER

Unusual Appearance of Features of Prominent Piano Man Adds to Interest of Story.

An irrepressible young man of the reporting staff of the New York Evening Journal disregarded the modesty of George Gale Foster during the musical activities in New York last week and printed a cut of the president of the American Piano Co., with a snappy story. Mr. Foster's name is familiar in print in daily papers and trade journals, but items in which he figures are invariably printed without the furnishing halftone of his face. In the cut in the New York paper many piano dealers visiting the city saw for the first time what Mr. Foster looks like. With the picture the following appeared:

President of the American Piano Company, George Gale Foster is head of one of the greatest piano producing companies in the United States. The company was formed about ten years ago and includes the musical activities of the Chickering Company, the oldest in America; the Knabe, together with the Foster Armstrong Company of Rochester, which embraces such well known makes as Haines Bros., Marshall & Wendell, Franklin, and several others.

Mr. Foster is largely responsible for the organization of the company. He has been in the piano business all his life and is one of the best known men in the piano trade in this country. Under the management of C. Alfred Wagner the company's combined interests have grown with exceptional rapidity.

The company controls the Ampico Reproducing Piano, which is regarded by musicians and artists as being one of the marvels of the age in the reproduction of music.

The musical activities of the American Piano Company include free concerts given all over the country with the greatest artists, at which an artistic and scientific demonstration of the perfection

of the Ampico has received the acclaim of music lovers and critics. These concerts have been given not only in the form of recitals with the great pianists, but appearances with great orchestras, the New York Philharmonic, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the New York Symphony Orchestra, and several others.

Another feature of the musical activity of the company is the educational literature which is published by them and distributed free.

### A CHASE-HACKLEY SOUVENIR.

Whenever the Chase-Hackley Piano Company, of Muskegon, Mich., and Chicago, do anything it is sure to be well done. That applies to the dainty and useful souvenir, in the form of a desk-pad case, which some old friends of the famous industry have recently received. The Chase-Hackley monogram on the art-brass cases is the only suggestion of advertising, and the supply of extra pads insures prolonged usefulness of the souvenir. Chase Bros. and Hackley pianos and players were never before in such demand as now and the remarkable Chase Bros. reproducing piano is a distinct artistic triumph.

### BALDWIN OFFICERS CORRECTION.

In the issue of February 5, a Presto item told of The Baldwin Piano Company election of officers. Among the officers were mentioned C. M. Robertson and Lucien Wilson. The latter was an obvious proofreader's error, and, furthermore, Mr. Robertson is not connected any more with The Baldwin Piano Company, in any official capacity, and the names of the two officers, therefore, should have read as follows: Lucien Wulsin, treasurer; Thomas De Serisy, secretary.

### CHUTE & BUTLER PLANS.

Late word from Manager R. M. Bouslog, of the Chute & Butler Co., of Peru, Ind., says that "we are arranging to move into another building and expect to be manufacturing pianos within the very near future."

## JUDE RICE DIES AT DALLAS, A VICTIM OF PNEUMONIA

Well Known Piano Man, Brother of I. N. Rice, Will Be Mourned by Many.

Julian H. Rice, known to his friends as "Jude" Rice, of Davenport, Iowa, died at 3 o'clock Thursday afternoon, last week, in Dallas, Texas, of pneumonia, after a short illness. The funeral was held Sunday afternoon at his home in Davenport, Iowa.

Mr. Rice, who recently reached his 63d birthday, was a brother of I. N. Rice, piano traveler and manufacturers' agent known from coast to coast. I. N. Rice has been living in California this winter. Mrs. J. H. Fahrney of Chicago, a daughter of I. N. Rice, was one of those who attended the funeral. Another person who attended the funeral was Charles La Follette, a brother-in-law of the dead man and a cousin of Robert La Follette, the Wisconsin statesman. Charles La Follette is connected with the United States railway management in Chicago.

Julian H. Rice was born in Osceola, Iowa. His first experience in the piano business was with his brother, I. N. Rice, in the Rice-Hinze Company in Chicago. Later he was with his brother, I. N., in the Schaeffer Piano Company, the good will and patents of which were bought later by T. E. Dougherty. Next Julian H. Rice was with the Schiller Piano Company of Oregon, Ill., as wholesale representative. About 1902 he started a branch for the Schiller Piano Company in Davenport, Iowa, of which he became part owner and manager. In this position he sold many Schillers and honey-combed the state of Iowa with J. Bauer & Co. pianos for years.

Mr. Rice leaves his widow, Laura Rice, and a daughter, Mrs. Dr. Ralph Guy, at whose home in Dallas he died.

A. J. McFatter's piano house, Lafayette, Ind., formerly located on Jefferson street, was moved last week to the Rosenfield building.



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