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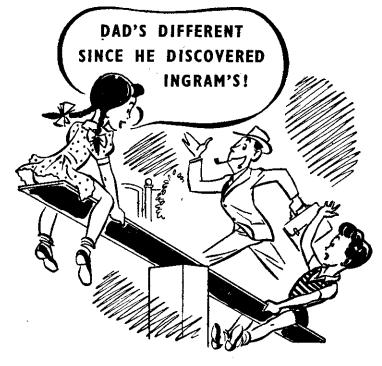
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FORM IN MUSIC

THE fourth of a series of brief articles by BESSIE POLLARD, Mus. Bac., on "Form in Music." These articles are closely related to a series of programmes on the same topic now being heard from 2YC on Friday evenings. Each of our articles is illustrated by a few bars of the music under discussion.

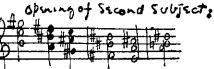
4 The Sonata

HE word Sonata merely means "sound-piece" (one to be played on an instrument) as opposed to Cantata—a piece to be sung. The Suite enshrined the

The form of the first movement of a Sonata is the seemingly anomalous one entitled "Sonata-form," or to be less confusing, "first-movement" form. Its structural scheme is made up of three broad divisions, the Exposition (the setting-out), the Development (the working-out), and the Recapitulation (repewhole potentiality of the Sonata, tion and summing up). In the exposi-

"Waldstein" Sonata: Brethoven

Opining of principal theme



First movement.

for the latter is built upon the same principle of contrast and is similarly a unified collection of pieces called movements.

early "Sonata da camera" The (Chamber Sonata) was actually a suite of dance tunes. The real precursor of the classic Sonata of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven was the dignified "Sonata da chiesa" (Church Sonata). However, the Chamber sonata contributed at least two features to the later form: (1) The "Minuet" movement, which later became the "Scherzo" in Beethoven's hands; (2) the metamorphosis of the Gigue movement into the "Rondo." Of course, actual Rondo-form is derived from another source.

Although a Sonata is usually a composition in several movements, the 500odd Sonatas of Domenico Scarlatti (the Italian contemporary of Bach and Handel) are one-movement works. J. S. Bach's instrumental Sonatas are largely three-movement works. His sons were organisers and inventors of new trends in the form; Haydn developed it further, and Mozart further still. The crowning glory came with the Sonatas of Beethoven's middle and third periods-his being mostly four-movement works.

are announced. Then follows the development where these themes are freely transformed, re-disposed, and re-combined in various keys, finally leading to the recapitulation. This is often followed by a "coda"—a sort of "musical post-script."

The second movement is slow usually, balancing the general quick speed of the opening movement. It can be cast in three-part form; theme and variations; modified first-movement form, or even a Rondo.

The third movement (if included) is a Minuet in earlier Sonatas, or a Scherzo in works of a later period.

The fourth movement may be Rondo; a Finale on the same formula as the first movement; or a combination of both-Sonata-Rondo. (Scherzo, Rondo, Theme and Variations will be discussed in detail in subsequent articles.)

Remember--a Symphony is really a Sonata for full orchestra, just as a Trio, Quartet, Quintet, Sextet, and so on are Sonatas for three, four, five or six instruments.

THE SONATA—the fourth of a series, FORM IN MUSIC—will be heard from Station 2YC at 9.30 p.m. on Friday, September 26.

WOMEN" THE TROJAN

(continued from previous page)

of war and especially conquest ever written. And it was written centuries before Christianity TOO came with its ideal

and obligation of TRAGIC pity. There must production who remembered Miss Spinney's recital. That was during the first world war. The modern spirit of the play was apparent then, but it took a second world war, with its piled-up deliberate cruelties, to make us appreciate

Poseidon's denunciation:

How are ye blind,
Ye treaders down of cities; ye that cast
Temples to desolation and lay waste
Tombs, the untrodden sanctuaries where lie
The ancient dead, yourselves so soon to die!
I found the BBC's Trojan Women in keeping with the nobility of the verse and the tragedy of the situations—so far as I listened. It was an experience one won't forget, to have these terrible Plines from the remote past so charged

with poetry and character, coming with the beauty and power of the human voice into the quiet of the fireside. What a full stage performance must be like I can only imagine. I would not choose to see it. I switched off the play early. Not having my book, I didn't know when the murder of Hector's child came in, and I wasn't going to listen to that. Frankly I couldn't face the scene, radio or stage. To me this is the most tragic of all plays. The tragedy of Hamlet and Lear is individual, but here is death or slavery for a whole community. And in this year 1947 we know that similar things happened in Christian Europe only the other day. To Gilbert Murray, the translator, the scene of the Herald's message about the child, with the parting between mother and child which follows, seems "perhaps the most absolutely heartrending in all the tragic literature of the world." I would leave out the "perhaps." This is the most unbearable of all things. —Alan Mulgan