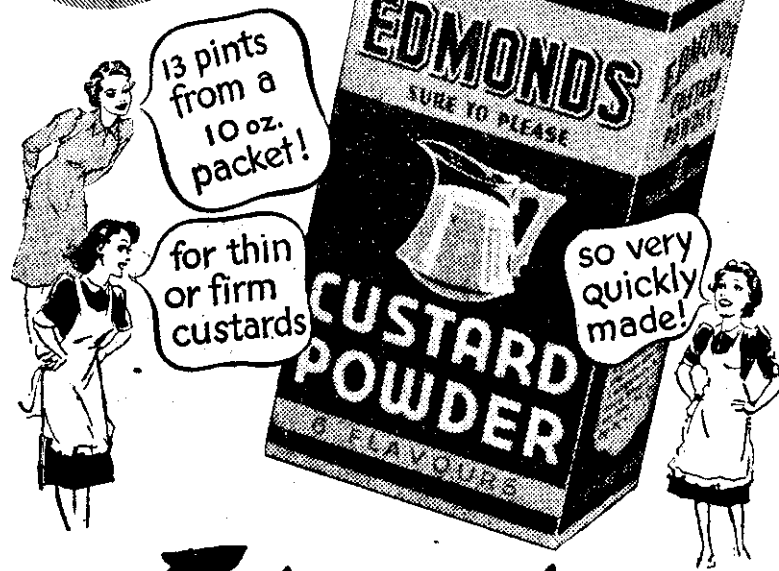


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AUCKLAND FESTIVAL

THIS is the last of three articles written for "The Listener" by
BESSIE POLLARD, each discussing in outline an important sym-
phonic work to be heard during the Auckland season of the National
Orchestra.

(3) Symphony No. 5 in E Minor, Op. 95 ("From the New World") Dvorak

FROM 1892-95 Dvorak taught composition at the National Conservatory in New
York and the *New World* Symphony was one of the creative results of this
American visit. Although some of its themes may have been influenced by Negro
or American folk tunes, the general character of the music is essentially that of a
simple-hearted Czech, homesick for his native land.

Three notebooks were used by Dvorak in the creation of the Symphony. In the
first of these he noted "Morning, December 19, 1892"; fuller sketches began on
January 10, 1893, the slow movement being then subtitled *Legenda*. The *Scherzo*
was finished by January 31 and the *Finale* by May 25. A large part of the scoring
was done at Spillville, Iowa, where there was a colony of his Bohemian fellow
countrymen. The premiere took place at a concert of the Philharmonic Society of
New York on the afternoon of Friday, December 15, 1893.

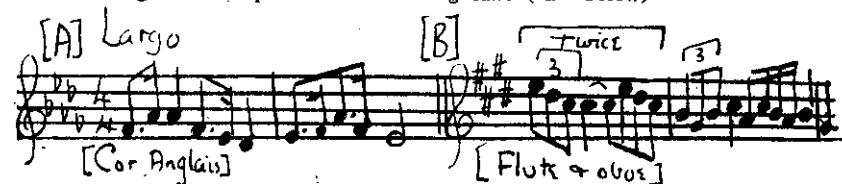
The first movement begins with a 23-bar introduction (Adagio)—then the
main theme of the *Allegro molto* is heard from the horn ("A" below); another
melody of which much is made in the working-out section is given out by flute
and oboe ("B" below)—



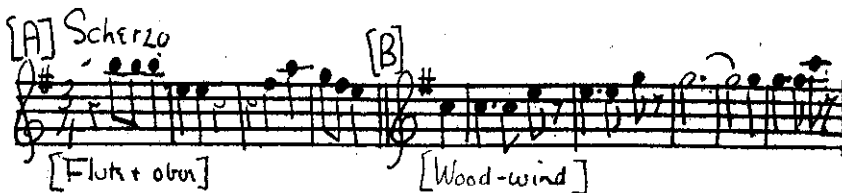
The second subject—said to be derived from the Negro spiritual *Swing Low
Sweet Chariot*, is announced by flute, and then taken over by strings—



The slow movement—*Largo*—opens with a 4-bar majestic introduction, then
we hear the famous main theme from the cor anglais ("A" below). Later woodwind
instruments give out a plaintive undulating tune ("B" below)—



The *Scherzo* (*molto vivace*), decidedly Slavic in character, again has a 4-bar
introduction, followed by a piquant first section ("A" below). The middle part
("B" below) has a delightful melody in the manner of a peasant dance—



The *Finale* (*Allegro con fuoco*) is full of strength and splendour; during its
course we hear echoes from the preceding movements. "A" and "B" below give two
of the *Finale's* main themes—



Dvorak's *Symphony No. 5 in E Minor, Op. 95 ("FROM THE NEW
WORLD")* will be presented at the second Auckland concert of the National
Orchestra, conducted by Andersen Tyrer, this Thursday, August 18.

N.Z. LISTENER, AUGUST 19, 1949,