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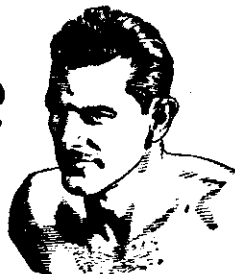
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BY

OSCAR GRAHAM PEEKE, C.S.B., of Kansas City, Missouri, U.S.A.

Member of the Board of Lectureship of The Mother Church,
The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Mass., U.S.A.

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ALL ARE WELCOME

RETURN SEASON

IN this article, BESSIE POLLARD discusses in outline a symphonic work which will be presented by the National Orchestra at the first concert of the return season in Wellington. The soloist at this concert, the Russian-American pianist, Aleksandr Helmann, will be heard in a performance of Rachmaninoff's Concerto for Piano and Orchestra No. 3 in D Minor, Op. 30 (discussed in "The Listener" issue of September 30.)

"Leonora No. 3" Overture (Beethoven)

"LEONORA No. 3" was one of several overtures composed by Beethoven for use with his only opera, *Fidelio*. For the first performance at Vienna on November 20, 1805, the overture now known as "Leonora No. 2" was played. When the opera was presented in a revised form on March 29, 1806, "Leonora No. 3" (a remodelled form of No. 2) was used. In 1814, for yet a third version, Beethoven composed a new overture in E Major (the one generally used now to precede performances of the opera) called "Fidelio."

"Leonora No. 3" begins with a short introduction, in which, after a descending passage for woodwind, horns and strings, the clarinets (bar 9) give out the opening phrase of "Florestan's Air" from the second act of the Opera—



The melody of the *Allegro* is announced, very softly, by strings in bar 37—



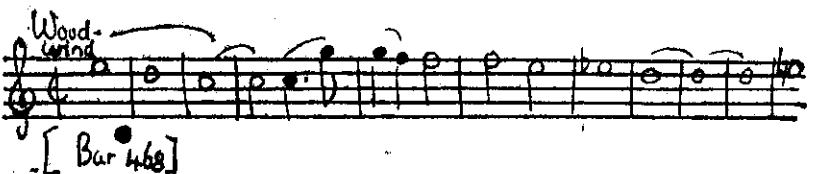
The second theme of the Overture proper is heard in bar 121, given out by flute reinforced by first violins an octave lower—



The working-out section alternates a motif derived from the second theme with strong outbursts from the full orchestra. At the climax the famous trumpet call is heard "on the stage," as the composer directs—



The restatement section is followed by the jubilant coda (bar 460) in the course of which we hear this "flash-back" to "Florestan's Air" from woodwind—



"Leonora Overture No. 3," Op. 72a by Beethoven, will be presented at the first Wellington concert of the National Orchestra, conducted by Andersen Tyrer, on Saturday, October 22.

N.Z. LISTENER, OCTOBER 21, 1949.