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## Young Entertainers

### DUNEDIN SUCCESS

(Continued from page 10.)

Theatre, but Burns Hall and the Concert Chamber also in order to complete its syllabus on time. Each year since the Town Hall was opened a grand finale has been staged there. The society's festival has become definitely part of the life of the city.

Moreover, a hall-mark has been set on the activities of the society by its recognition in London by the Trinity College of Music, which now annually sends highly-qualified men to adjudicate during the festival.

The first of the Trinity College judges was Mr. Adolph Mann, who came out in the society's thirty-fifth year (1936) to adjudicate in the grand choral opera aria and chief pianoforte sections. Mr. Mann was enthusiastic over the standard of work, and sent glowing reports to London. That year the grand choral contest for a prize of £100 attracted the best choirs from all over the South Island and packed the Town Hall with a capacity audience of 3000.

Mr. Mann's enthusiasm encouraged Trinity College, when application was made by the society last year for a judge of the vocal music, to send Mr. Anderson Tyrer. He proved most helpful, and said the standard at Dunedin equalled that at major festivals in England.

And so this year there are two judges coming from London. Dr. James Lyon and Dr. Edgar Ford will adjudicate in the vocal and instrumental sections.

ONE thing that the society appreciates as an important factor in its growth is the support given it by business men. Year after year valuable money prizes, cups, shields and other trophies are awarded by generous firms. One of the most coveted trophies is the Moller Trophy, an exquisitely-fashioned solid silver miniature grand piano, valued at £100, donated by Mr. E. T. Moller for competition in the chief pianoforte solo. This year Mr. Moller has donated a special shield for competition in a new section—the verse-speaking choir.

In active assistance, something of a record has been set up by the secretary, Mr. E. S. Wilson. Although one of the busiest men in Dunedin, he has managed to carry out his duties as secretary of the society for over 30 years.

ADDED to the workers behind scenes are dozens of other names which have helped to set the Dunedin society on firm foundations. What of the competitors themselves who have gone on from festival honours to win new laurels? How many would have gone as far had they not taken part in competitions is a moot point: the fact remains they became known to the public at the outset through their performances on the competition stage.

First there is Ernest McKinlay, whose voice is well known to most radio listeners. Warwick Braithwaite became a pianist and orchestral conductor in England; Vera Moore gave fine performances on the piano in London and the English provinces; Stella Murray was successful as a contralto in Eng-