

Boychoir Concert Thrills Big Audience Here Sunday Afternoon

The eight hundred fortunate people who heard the Columbus Boychoir program in Community Hall Sunday afternoon, came away satisfied they had already received more than their money's worth for the season and there are still three more concerts to come.

To start off with, there aren't many musical offerings which can provide the real sense of musical satisfaction that a good boys' choir can bring — and this choir was good, really good.

Conducted by a highly capable director who also possessed great facility at the keyboard of the grand piano, the Columbus Boy-

choir brought to Flin Flon music
(Continued on Page Five)

Boychoir —

lovers Sunday, the kind of musical treat they cannot often have.

Donald Bryant led his group of 26 boys through a wide variety of offerings, from the antiphonal chorus of Pueri Habraeorum, to George Gershwin's "I Got Plenty of Nuttin'" from Porgy and Bess.

The versatility of the group was amazing, and the play on tone and volume, with smooth crescendos and diminuendos painted a picture in music with true artistic touch.

Tommy Dick of Pottstown, Pennsylvania, (the tall boy second from the end of the back row on the left side of the stage) was the soloist for "Angels on High" and "O Holy Night" in the Christmas group; and Royce Anderson of Princeton, New Jersey for "I Saw Three Ships." Royce was the littlest of the visiting group. (He was on the left end of the front row on the right side of the stage.)

The soloist of "Water Boy" in the Negro Spiritual group was Charles Scassero of Princeton, New Jersey. (He was the thickest boy of the group, at the end

of the back row on the left side of the stage.) Tommy Dick was soloist again in the Porgy and Bess group.

The boys underscored their versatility with their rendition of the rollicking American folk song "Tee Roo," then followed it up with "The Deaf old Woman" in which two of the boys sang and pantomimed the difficulty of the old women in hearing anything that was said about work, even though it was sung in loud voice, but heard instantly the quietly sung proposal of marriage.

There were several encores with the audience loathe to let the group go. And one of them, "The Echo Song" in which a half dozen of the boys sang the echo from the wings of the stage, was one of the high points of the program, with timing and echo tone and volume about perfect.

There were 26 boys in the group visiting Flin Flon, but there are 65 boys in the choir at Columbus Boychoir School. Minimum age of the boys who go on tour is 10 but there are younger singers at the school.

An educationist accompanies the tour and the boys get a minimum of three hours of school each day.

On their way to The Pas and Flin Flon, the group had their (U.S.) Thanksgiving dinner at Dauphin. At The Pas, the choir sang the operetta "Amahl and the Night Visitors" in a deeply touching manner.

One of the adult members was asked what he expected to see when he knew he was coming to Flin Flon. He said he was disappointed when he got here. He had expected to see log cabins and igloos "this far north."

When the boys went to their bus after the show, outside Community Hall, they took advantage of the snow to toss snowballs back and forth at each other.

In their first appearance on the stage the boys were dressed choir style in surplice and cassock and choirboy red ties.

Mrs. Dorothy Ash welcomed the group to Flin Flon, on behalf of the Flin Flon Overture Concert Series Association. She also

announced that this year's increased membership had made possible the appearance of the Boychoir here, and also had provided for a fourth concert. Last year only three concerts could be held.

An extra dividend to the listeners in yesterday's concert were the pianoforte numbers played by director Donald Bryant.

—HJ