

club circuit

THE CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CLUB is taking reservations for its tea which will be conducted from noon-2 p.m. Sept. 4 in the Mayflower Meeting House, 455 South Main, Plymouth. Reservations for the tea and luncheon should be made by calling Jo Cone before Aug. 28 at 477-3825. The tea includes a fashion update and a verbal uplift. There is a free nursery available at 45000 North Territorial Road, Plymouth. Nursery reservations can be made by calling Linda Belgiano at 397-2904. The group's prayer coffee will be conducted Sept. 11. Call Ms. Cone for reservations.

QUAKERTOWN CHAPTER DAR conducts its regular meeting at noon Sept. 9 in the Farmington Hills Library, 12 Mile west of Orchard Lake Road. State chairman of the DAR schools, Mrs. George A. Hyma of Bloomfield Hills will speak helping those schools. Members will be bringing used clothing in good repair for the resale shop run by the DAR school in Tammassee, N.C. Reservations for the luncheon can be made by calling Mrs. Delph at 534-1066. The DAR state conference will be Sept. 24-25 in the Sheraton-Flint Motor Inn.

FARMINGTON 45 AND UP CLUB will meet Aug. 29. The club is open to divorced, widowed or never-married persons. For information on the time and meeting place call Bea Holt at 474-9258.

THE DEARBORN/LIVONIA SIN-

GLETONS will conduct their September dinner-social with cocktails at 7 p.m. and dinner at 8 p.m. Sept. 12 in the Botsford Inn, 28000 Grand River near Eight Mile, Farmington Hills. Dinner will be followed by Scorpions speaking on the supernatural and psychic awareness. Singles between 25 and 50 years who want further information about the group, its activities and this event can write to: U.S. Singletons, Dearborn/Livonia Chapter, P.O. Box 2175 Fort Dearborn Station, Dearborn, 48123.

ALL CLUB NEWS and announcements for this column should be addressed to Club Circuit, 23851 Farmington Road, Farmington 48024 and must arrive on the Monday before publication.

Group presents magical swim

The Kendallwood Swim Club's Aqua-Stars will perform in their third annual water ballet show at 9:30 p.m., Aug. 28 in the swim club at Farmington Road between 12 and 13 Mile. Tickets are 50 cents. Proceeds will go to defray the cost of costumes and scenery. This year's show is presented by 50 performers ranging in age from 7-17-years-old. The show evolves around the characters of Walt Disney. The show is produced and directed by Susan Humphries, a 1980 graduate of Harrison High School.

BY GENE BARNES

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra came to the Meadow Brook Festival stage last weekend and area music lovers sat up and took notice.

The program of four selections from the standard repertoire reinforced the orchestra's reputation as the world's finest large ensemble. Any doubts about that were laid to rest.

Erich Leinsdorf, a veteran conductor with an established record of mediocre interpretations, nevertheless proved to be an inspired choice to lead the mammoth organization. He conducts with great economy, but always keeps things moving.

The opening number, Mozart's brilliant Overture to "The Marriage of Figaro," was crisp, and lean, a subtle, understated performance, led by a musician who was initially noted as a Mozart specialist. There were no outbursts and no explosions. Any attempts at such were carefully averted.

In the second place on the program, Brahms' Symphony No. 4, Leinsdorf maintained a faster than usual tempo and tolerated no slowdowns. While this approach may not be of optimum service to the wealth of musical material available in the work, it certainly had the distinct advantage of driving the material home under a constant, insistent beat.

AND THIS IS where the Chicago orchestra first demonstrated its awesome power, under these conditions, at the close of the first movement. Such brute strength must have made many in the audience wonder just how

mighty this orchestra must sound in a closed auditorium.

The second movement was characterized by similar qualities, but here the emphasis was on the musical ability of the strings, particularly the violins, to play with searing intensity without ever sacrificing fine tone or togetherness.

The third movement spotlighted the brass and these musicians achieved great lyrical dimensions playing against a steady string accompaniment.

The final movement, cast as a chaconne, an ancient form of variations on a simple chord progression, is difficult to perform because it is so obviously repetitive.

Leinsdorf solved the problem by blending one variation into the next and by refusing to emphasize the end of each variation, resulting in a more cohesive entity.

The low point of the evening occurred after intermission with a performance of "Le Mer (The Sea)" by Debussy. This epitome of French musical impressionism was plowed through relentlessly and ruthlessly with a minimum of sensitive expression.

Leinsdorf's single criterion for choosing a tempo seemed to be to go as fast as the music would allow. Added to that was the unbelievable lack of balance and proportion among the sections of the orchestra. It is hoped that Leinsdorf avoids doing any further disservice to such a great composer.

THE FINAL WORK was Richard Strauss' "Till Eulenspiegel's Merry Pranks." Returning to more comfortable territory, the German-Austrian repertoire, Leinsdorf turned in one of the most exciting, most humorous rend-

review

erings of this work heard in this area in recent memory.

His penchant for excessively fast tempo, so limiting in the other works on the program, was useful here because "Till" cries out for exuberance and wit. And the ability of the orchestra to



Clemence-Hamilton

Mr. and Mrs. J. Donald Clemence of Farmington announce the engagement of their daughter Adrienne to Jeff Hamilton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lorne T. Hamilton of Farmington Hills.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Farmington High School and Mercy College of Detroit, employed as a nurse in Providence Hospital. Her fiancé is a graduate of Farmington High School and Michigan State University, employed as a materials handling manager with American Hospital Supply Corp. A November wedding is planned.



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