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At the Library

Sweet Sounds From The Cellar

By RON REEVES
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A handy area of the Santa Cruz library, tucked away in the basement and often overlooked, is the music department where nearly 2500 phonograph records are waiting to be borrowed.

The records, of which about 950 are high fidelity long-play discs, cover a wide range of music, from the great symphonic works of the masters to the latest Broadway shows, and from folk singers to recitations of Shakespeare and stories for the children.

Not only that, but there are nearly 2000 books about music, musicians and composers, and an additional 2500 musical scores stacked on the shelves.

Overseeing the department is Music Librarian Phyllis Wademan who has directed its growth for the past 14 years. She said the department was established in 1938 through a gift of music books once owned by the noted Santa Cruz piano teacher, Otto Kunitz. Kunitz willed his books to his cousin, Miss Stella Finkeldey, also a Santa Cruz music teacher, and she in turn willed them to the library.

From here it has developed and continues to grow, swaying with the trends of contemporary music lovers, although the collection definitely shies away from jazzy pops music which comes and goes rapidly.

The music section has many purposes. For the person who is developing his own collection, the records are available for screening to determine which should be purchased. For music students selections may be studied without the expense of buying the records. Some people borrow records and transfer the music to their own tapes. For the general public, music may be chosen simply for an entertaining evening at home.

"Most of the records are borrowed for pleasure," Mrs. Wademan said. However, she noted that more and more Cabrillo and San Jose State college students are borrowing



BROWSING through records racks at Santa Cruz library are Mrs. Phyllis Wademan, left, music librarian, and another library employe, Mrs. William Savidge. Approximately 2500 records, covering a wide range of music, are available for loan from the library as well as many books on music and musical scores.

for homework in music appreciation or other music courses. Because the records are fragile, the long-play type may be taken home only by people who are out of high school. Anyone may borrow the older 78 rpm records and all may listen to records in the music room.

There is a charge of 25 cents per loan, with the money going into a fund to purchase additional records and to replace those which have worn out or have been broken.

Mrs. Wademan makes the choice of new selections, often influenced by requests of her patrons. As background for her job, she earned Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees in music from the College of the Pacific, now the University of the Pacific at Stockton, and was a high school choral, orchestral and instrumental music teacher.

Mrs. Wademan explained that demands for records and scores varies drastically. It increases in the winter when evenings are long and goes down in the summer when most people are spending their time on outdoor activities.

The San Francisco Opera season brings a run on record-

ings, scores, and librettos of the operas being offered, and when an artist hits the national or international spotlight, there is a demand for his latest recordings. The same holds true for Broadway show.

"It all depends on the current thing," she said.

She said she feels the basement location is holding back a greater use of the department. For one thing, you don't walk past it unless you happen to be on the way to the mens' room. Also, flights of stairs discourage older would-be patrons.

The department is worth browsing through and is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Tuesday evening from 6 to 9 p.m.

Dinner-Theater Comedy Will Open April 21

Reservations are being taken for the farce comedy, "Boy Meets Girl," which opens Tuesday, April 21, at the Santa Cruz dinner-theater.

, a production of
odo Players of San
spoof of Hollywood

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