

# Burnside Orchestra And Lutheran Singers

13 Sept  
1960

By JOHN HORNER

Dr. John Black, conductor of the City of Burnside Symphony Orchestra, stuck firmly to his declared policy at last night's concert in the Burnside Town Hall.

His whole programme was unhackneyed, and once again he offered a comradely hand to fellow musicians—in this case the admirable Lutheran Singers (Conductor Clemens Leske; accompanist, J a m e s Thiele).

Herold's "Zampa" overture jollied the latecomers into their seats and helped along the orchestral tuning-up. A Somerset Rhapsody of Holst, based on three English folk songs, offered much scope to soloists, but was rather hard to keep taut, with its cross-rhythms and scruff-of-the-neck counterpoint. It was well worth a hearing though, and so was Liszt's "Orpheus" tone poem, quite new to me, which followed.

Here was the grave, thoughtful Liszt that the

general public knows little of. Once again heavy calls were made on soloists and were well met.

Noted favorably for specially good moments were violinist John Perry, the leader, and clarinetist Ellen Resek; also oboist Alan Phillips, once he had extricated himself from a few early potboles. Sian Shaxson and Pamela Newton had their moments, too, harping with Grecian grace.

The Lutheran Singers, some 20 strong, gave us Bach (Cantata: "God's Time Is Best") and pre-Bach (Buxtehude's Cantata: "Lauda Zion Salvatorem").

Their singing is attractively fresh, pleasant in tone, and properly disciplined.

The well-known "God's time is best," with its frequent changes of movement and style, was very capably sung, with soloists from the choir, and a small band of instruments in support, as in the Buxtehude.

After the interval the orchestra settled down to justify its symphonic title

by tackling Mendelssohn's not-very-often-played-in - Adelaide "Scotch" symphony.

The choice was good for a largely amateur orchestra, stretching it to the full and a little beyond, and demanding long-range thinking and stamina.

Dr. Black works wonders with his material.