

Full Hall For Orchestra At Burnside

By HAROLD TIDEMANN

The Burnside Town Hall was filled for the Festival of Arts concert given by the Burnside Symphony Orchestra yesterday afternoon.

It was coats off for the members of the orchestra and soloist Arnold Matters, who sang two arias with orchestral accompaniment.

The orchestra was nearly 70 strong for the Berlioz overture, "Les Francs Juges," which immediately showed a big improvement on previous performances.

The response to the demands of the enthusiastic conductor, Dr. John Black, was noticeable in attack and variation of tone.

The Mozart "Concertante and Rondo" had some neat light and shade, which was also a feature of the accompaniment for Mr. Matters's aria "Mentre ti lascio."

Mr. Matters, who will sing the title role in Verdi's opera "Falstaff" at the Theatre Royal on April 5, was in excellent voice and also sang an aria from "Prince Igor" (Borodin), "No rest, no sleep," with fine diction and expression.

The orchestra's major test was Schubert's Symphony No. 4 in C minor (the "Tragic"), in which the added strength of the strings and the increased overall quality were evident.

The Scherzo was particularly well played, and the crescendos leading to the climaxes in the last movement were quite impressive.

A repeat performance of "The Advertiser" prize-winning piece, "Still Waters" (Clifford Phillips), which was awarded to mark the orchestra's fifth anniversary last year, was sensitively played.