

£100 Music Prize Offer

The Burnside Symphony Orchestra, which is making a significant contribution to the musical life of Adelaide, will be five years old in September. To mark that occasion, and as an encouragement to Australian composers, "The Advertiser" will offer a prize of £100 for a short, original composition, to be played by the orchestra.

It will be open to any composer in any State.

Although the composition will be primarily for the Burnside Orchestra, and should be within its technical capacity, it is intended that the piece should be suitable also for any other orchestra of about that size.

If the quality sought is attained, it is hoped that the composition may enter the repertoire of orchestras in this and other States.

PLAYING TIME

A composition in the nature of a festive overture, or the like, is envisaged with a playing time of between six and 10 minutes.

The judges will be the resident conductor of the South Australian Symphony Orchestra (Mr. Henry Krips), the music critic of "The Advertiser" (Mr. John Horner) and the conductor of the Burnside Orchestra (Dr. John Black).

As a guide, intending entrants should consult or write to Dr. Black (Waite Agricultural Research Institute, Adelaide) for information about the instrumentation and the relative strength and technical ability of the various sections of the Burnside Orchestra.

The closing date for entries will be April 15.

The manuscript of the entries should not bear a name, but the composer's name and address should be written on a card and enclosed in a sealed envelope securely attached to the score.

STEADY GROWTH

Under Dr. Black, the Burnside Orchestra has grown steadily into a stable group of more than 50 players, which is fully represented in all sections.

In recent years it has given regular concerts for charity in the Burnside Town Hall under the auspices of the Burnside City Council and has impressed audiences by its standard of performance and its enthusiasm.

Except for the South Australian Symphony Orchestra, it is the only permanent full symphony orchestra in Adelaide.

In recent concerts it has done a valuable service for music lovers by performing works seldom, if ever, heard in Adelaide.

Its basis is largely amateur, but former professional musicians enjoy being with it. It has proved a valuable training ground for young players who subsequently have gone on to professional engagements.