

Orchestra 'has a new look'

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By NADRA PENALURICK

The Burnside Symphony Orchestra (conductor, by John Black) has become a vastly improved group of players in the past few months.

In addition, last night it had a "new look."

With the glamorous sight of two harps on the stage, an increased number of players, and a grand new platform especially provided by Burnside City Council, the orchestra put most of the former handicaps behind it and gave us one of the best amateur orchestral concerts we had heard here for a long time.

The program was lightened with two popular overtures, the Vaughan Williams "Pantasia on Greensleeves," and "Finlandia."

They were splendidly performed as a foil for the major offerings—Schubert's Sixth Symphony and a Mozart sinfonia concertante for oboe, clarinet, horn, bassoon, and orchestra.

Fine players

Led by promising violinist John Perry, this orchestra now has some very fine players.

The less experienced ones sometimes give the show away but there is such a sound backing from the majority that one felt the awkward moments could be passed over in the generally fine musical standard.

The balance too, was much more than one up on previous performances, due to a large extent to the new setting, but also owing something to steady, all-round improvement in the orchestra's awareness of such things.

54 members

With 54 players to draw upon, it can provide some stirring climaxes.

On the other hand, John Black, exercising steady control, showed us in the Schubert that the orchestra is capable also of subtle and expressive playing.

Program plans were announced for the orchestra's next concert in September, which is a significant pointer to the enthusiasm and progressive outlook existing among its members, urged on by conductor John Black.