

Burnside Orchestra's Success

By HAROLD TIDEMANN

It is refreshing to see an amateur body of 52 musicians like the Burnside Symphony Orchestra achieve the success it did at its final concert for the year in the Burnside Town Hall last night.

Making music for the love of it under the enthusiastic guidance of Dr. John Black, they are amateurs in the true sense.

Dr. Black has a clear beat and knows what he wants from his orchestra. He drew forth a wide variety of expression in the "Paris" Symphony No. 31 of the 18-year-old Mozart, revelling in the opportunities of light and shade.

Holst's Fugal Concerto for Flute, oboe and strings was a rewarding experience for soloists Robert Heckler and Alan Phillips as well as the audience.

The slightly lighter vein of the second half was suitably ushered in with Rossini's "William Tell" ballet music, followed by a charming pastorella from one of Verdi's lesser-known operas, "Joan of Arc."

Two operatic arias by mezzo-soprano Janice Hearn revealed sensitive co-operation between soloist and orchestra.

The intricate patterns of Richard Strauss's Waltzes from "Der Rosenkavalier" were followed with rhythmic precision, and the final Passacaglia on the theme of "Oranges and Lemons" (Gordon Jacob) had a strong tempo for the big clang of the bells, the mighty climax being given with a resounding flourish.

Dr. Black announced that three concerts were planned for next year.