

Heritage of the March

Volume 71-J. Pecsi-E. Stolc
Foeller's Illinois State Alums and Friends
George Foeller-Director



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SIDE 1

MARCHES OF JOSEF PECSI

Friedensfanfaren—Fanfares of Peace
Einzug der Turner—Entry of the Athletes
Unter der Siegesflagge—Under the Flag of Victory
Pro Patria—For country
→ *Mit Vereinter Kraft*—With united strength
Unbekannte Helden—Unknown Heroes
Pandur—

MARCH OF EMIL STOLC

Waffenbruder—Brother in Arms

SIDE 2

MARCHES OF EMIL STOLC

80er Regiment
Petersburger
Unsere Kinder—Our Children
Viktoria—Led by our favorite directress, Nancy Schiavitti
→ *Fur's Vaterland*—For the Fatherland—Led by sous chef
Bruce Hammitt
Ausser Dienst—Retired
Soldatengruss—Greeting to the Soldiers—Led by unter maestro
Danny Bolin
Dolomitengruss—Greeting to the Dolomite (mountains)
Freiwilligen—The Volunteers

Joseph Pecsí-Prichystal (1874-1958)

Joseph Prichystal was born on March 3, 1874, in the Moravian hamlet of Biskupice (Biskupitz). As a youth interested in music he was initially tutored by the local organist, and later studied trombone and string bass with Leos Janacek in Bruno (Brnn). Next he went to Vienna where he completed orchestral studies while staying with relatives. Since Prichystal had always been fascinated with band music, he volunteered for the army and joined the band of the 2nd Regiment in Vienna in 1892. As a young NCO he next joined the Hungarian 61st Regiment under bandmaster Sommer in 1895. When this regiment left Vienna he transferred to the 3rd Tyrolean Imperial Rifles in 1899 in order to remain in the capital. At this time the regimental bandmaster was Rudolf Achleitner, a composer of well known marches. Finally in 1901 Prichystal joined the Infantry Regiment Carl I, King of Rumania, No. 6, which was to remain his parent unit until the collapse of the Empire. Once again he served under the baton of bandmaster Sommer and later under Dr. Czernin. He moved to Budapest with the regiment in 1905, and in that same year he was promoted to Regimental Drum Major. This was a position of considerable responsibility as, in reality, he acted as the assistant bandmaster; the assignment was always given to the most capable NCO.

Finally the position of regimental bandmaster became vacant in 1907 and Prichystal was employed by the officers of the regiment in that capacity. At that time Budapest was the home garrison of seven regimental bands, and the competition between them demanded performances of the highest quality. Thus Prichystal had ample opportunity to demonstrate his musical abilities; consequently, many compositions stem from this period. He also served as an adjudicator on the board which selected marches for the Landwehr (German militia), and made friends with many famous composers of the period, including Lehar and Fucik. Among his own compositions Prichystal's favorite was the symphonic poem "The Danube Legend."

Shortly before World War I, the regiment deployed to Neusatz (Novy Sad) while the reserve battalion and the band were stationed in Pecs (Fünfkirchen). Prichystal became a Hungarian citizen there and adopted the name Pecsí (meaning "from Pecs"). During the war he and his band were very active and staged many concerts, mainly featuring the music of Richard Wagner. At that time Wagner's music was still partially banished from official programs in the Empire as a result of his activities during the 1848 uprisings in Germany. When the Empire collapsed the Serbians took Novy Sad and Pecsí returned to Budapest.

Pecsí formed a mounted cavalry band during the Communist period in Hungary in 1919, but then Horthy drove out the Communists and established the Honved (the national Hungarian Army). Richard Fricsay, Sr., organized the band service of the Honved and bandmasters now held the rank of full officer rather than being employed by regimental officers as in the days of the Empire. Pecsí served as Staff Bandmaster, with the rank of Major, of the 5th Regiment at

Sopron until 1926 when he handed the position over to his son. After his retirement he was musically active as bandmaster and conductor of the State Railways Band and Orchestra respectively; he served in this position until 1954. He was also a fervent advocate of the Hungarian youth music movement. Pecsí died Nov. 27, 1958.

Biography by Werner Probst

Emil Stolc

Emil Stolc (shtolts) was born October 28, 1888 at Chorusice (near Melnik) and died July 1, 1940 at Novy Vestec (near Stara Boleslav). He followed closely in the footsteps of his father, who was a musician performing in the popular music area as well as teaching music. Though he attended the Prague Conservatory from 1903-1905, enrolled as a student in the organ department, he did not complete his studies there. From 1905 to 1908 he was a fluegelhorn player in the military band at Kutna Hora, and from 1908-1912 he was the bandmaster at Brandys nad Labem. In 1912 he began publishing his own compositions in Prague-Smichov, where he was the bandmaster of the Sokol* Band till 1918. From 1928 till 1933 he was bandmaster of the National Guard 1 in Prague. Deafness overcame him at age 45. It has been claimed that he wrote more than 1000 compositions, including marches, dances, easy overtures and Czech popular songs.

*Sokol refers to the nationalistic physical training movement among Czechs and Slovaks, which had thousands of members, and which organized until 1948 great festivals in Prague. These festivals were internationally known.

Biography by George Foeller. Information from Miroslav Blaha.

The Band

The band that made this record is a band of predominantly Illinois State University alumni and alumnae, plus a number of other Heritage "Clansmen". Most of the band members played with the ISU band, under George Foeller's direction, when that band was making records in the Heritage Series. In fact, George and the ISU band were one of the first college bands in the U.S. to participate in the Heritage Series.

This is the 6th record of the ISU Alums and Friends. George is now in administration at the University, so it is enjoyable for him (besides being a lot of long, hard work) to be leading a band again and to be reunited with many of his former students.

The band members give up a long weekend to participate. They come together on a Thursday night to "run through" the music and to get the "feel" of playing together. By the time of this "run through" session each member has practiced many hours on his or her particular parts and is thoroughly acquainted with the music. Friday and Saturday are long days of intensive playing and recording.

In spite of the long hours in the band hall, there is time for fun and sociability. The zest, enthusiasm, and spirit which comes through their playing on this record attests to their enjoyment in being together.

Members of the 1981 Foeller's Easter Bunnies

THE VISITORS—from lands far away—
with their occupations

CORNET/TRUMPET

Keith House—Band director, Central Methodist College, Fayette, Missouri
David McKinney—1979 graduate of Central Methodist—school band director—Farmington, Missouri
Joann Schultz—High school student, Allegany, N.Y.
Mike Anderson—Undergraduate at Illinois State University.
Bill Roosa—High school band director, Allegany, N.Y.

ALTO HORN

Jay Kahn—originally from California—school band director, Tama, Iowa.

EUPHONIUM

Bob Hoe—instigator—Hyde Park, N.Y.
Sharie Huff—Undergrad at Illinois State Univ.
Keith Schmink—Undergrad at Illinois State Univ.

TUBA

Dan Bolin—High school band director, Indianapolis, Indiana
Jeff Shive—undergrad at Illinois State Univ.

PERCUSSION

Boyd Conway—30 years a U.S. Marine Bandsman, now an "Old Man"—Seabrook, Maryland.
Harry Brabec—Journeyman drummer—Ingleside, Ill.

THE HOME GUARD—All graduates of Illinois State—
Nearly all are now school band directors in the towns shown after their names.

FLUTE/PICCOLO

Chris Benson—Gridley, Ill.
Sharon Lundy—Bloomington, Ill.
Nancy Schiavitti—Oak Lawn, Ill.

CLARINET

Liz Lehnhausen—Hanna City, Ill.
Bruce Mack—Waukegan, Ill.
Frank Payton—Chicago, Ill.
Colleen Rapp—Cornell, Ill.
Sue Waldorf—Peru, Ill.

BASS CLARINET

Kathy Schultz—Pontiac, Ill.

CONTRA-BASS

Margaret Corby—Reeds Spring, Mo.

CORNET/TRUMPET

Sheila Cosmano—Fairview Heights, Ill.

TROMBONE

Calvin Anderson—Mission, S.D.
Mark Dal Pozzo—Piper City, Ill.
Dan Dietrich—Chillicothe, Ill.
Steve Scoggan—Clifton, Ill.
Mark Victor—Mt. Olive, Ill.

FRENCH HORN

Vince Cosmano—Fairview Heights, Ill.
Christine Vandre—Rockford, Ill.

BARITONE/EUPHONIUM

Rex Benson—Gridley, Ill.
Bruce Hammitt—Fairbury, Ill.

TUBA

John Cole—Streator, Ill.
Brian Frank—Arrowsmith, Ill.
Bob Ray—Danville, Ill.

PERCUSSION

Jon Gilliland—Mattoon, Ill.
Peggy Schmitz—Streator, Ill.
Wesley Russell—Pontiac, Ill.

Story of Recording Location

Bruce Hammitt is the band director of the Fairbury, Ill. High School Band. He is an ISU graduate, and close friend of George Foeller. When the Illinois State Alums and Friends Band was first getting ready to make tapes for a record, the question arose "Where shall we do the recording?" George and the University Band had made several records, each in a different location, on the campus of the Univ. and NO LOCATION WAS REALLY SUITABLE FOR RECORDING.

George asked Bruce if we could use his band room, and with the great thanks of all concerned, Bruce made arrangements that we could do so. How many places could be found available, at no expense, night and day, during Easter weekend? It has worked out wonderfully well, and we all want to thank Bruce Hammitt.

The city of Fairbury is a small rural community of 3,000 population, located about 25 miles north of Bloomington/Normal, in the central part of the state. The High School has an enrollment of 340 students, with 1/3rd of them participating in band. The marching "Tartars" field 125 members who have held the title of Class C State Champions for the past two years. The concert band of 85 members wins consistent first division ratings at contest. The pep band was selected in 1980 to play for the state basketball finals. This honor was won through the judging of an "audition tape" that was submitted in competition with tapes from 56 other bands in the state.

Instrumental instruction in the Fairbury-Cropsey School unit consists of full organization rehearsal with no small group or individual lessons given.