

Book Reviews

Edited by Richard Colwell

Symposium in Music Education: A Festschrift for Charles Leonhard. Edited by Richard Colwell. Urbana: University of Illinois, 1982. 329 pages.

A *Festschrift* in music education? Certainly, why not?

A literary tribute to Charles Leonhard? Who could be more deserving?

A symposium to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the doctoral program in music education at the University of Illinois? What could be more appropriate?

In April 1981, 110 of the 169 doctoral alumni returned to the Illinois campus for a symposium in music education marking the 30th year of the program. The symposium was dedicated to Duane A. Branigan, director of the School of Music from 1950 to 1971, and the proceedings were recorded in this *Festschrift* for Charles Leonhard, who has been the driving force behind the remarkably successful program at Illinois. Although he has received superb assistance in recent years from Richard Colwell and others, no one familiar with music education at Illinois can fail to recognize that it was largely the musicianship, scholarship, good judgment, and unrelenting common sense of this genial patriarch that has made the program what it is today.

The symposium surveyed the present state of music education and offered some thoughts concerning its future. Eleven alumni presented papers, 10 of which are published here. The other participants took part in 13 panel discussions. Reports from 9 of these panels, consisting of or based on the written responses of the panelists

to questions posed for their consideration, are included in the *Festschrift*.

The major headings, and the authors contributing papers, include philosophy (Bennett Reimer); child development (Marilyn Pflederer Zimmerman and Linda L. Gerber); adolescence (Gretchen Hieronymus Beall); curriculum construction (Joseph A. Labuta); evaluation (Richard Colwell and John M. Cooksey); teacher education (Charles Leonhard and Eunice Boardman Meske); administration (Robert W. House); and research and change (G. David Peters). Professor Leonhard, who should have a new photograph taken, did not present a paper at the symposium but contributed one to the publication.

The authors typically survey the landscape of their topics against the background of music education, offer a brief historical review, expose a few shortcomings, suggest that we have fallen short of the expectations we earlier held for ourselves, and make suggestions concerning the future. Some of the papers are genuinely ecumenical, whereas others reflect more closely the special interests and idiosyncrasies of their authors. They are thoughtful and well conceived, although some offer little that is new. The participants on the various panels are listed, and the volume concludes with a roster of alumni present, by year of graduation. There are several editorial discrepancies and one participant, unfortunately, is omitted from the final list.

As an assessment of the current condition of selected aspects of music education, these papers provide possibly the most cogent and useful summary of recent years. The panel discussions

are less successful, perhaps inevitably. The report devoted to the graduate program and research, in particular, falls short of the mark. It is curious that a symposium held in celebration of a doctoral program has virtually nothing to say about doctoral study.

The symposium not only commemorated 30 years of effort but gave music education a massive push into its next 30 years. It was a festive event the University of Illinois was willing to share with the rest of us. Under these circumstances only the most ill-na-

tured curmudgeon would complain about the injection of a touch of institutional chauvinism into the proceedings.

We lack a tradition of *Festschriften* in music education, but the idea is an excellent one. It combines substantive contributions to our field with recognition of our distinguished colleagues. Any reader of this admirable document surely will hope that the first example will not be the last.—*Paul R. Lehman, professor of music, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.*