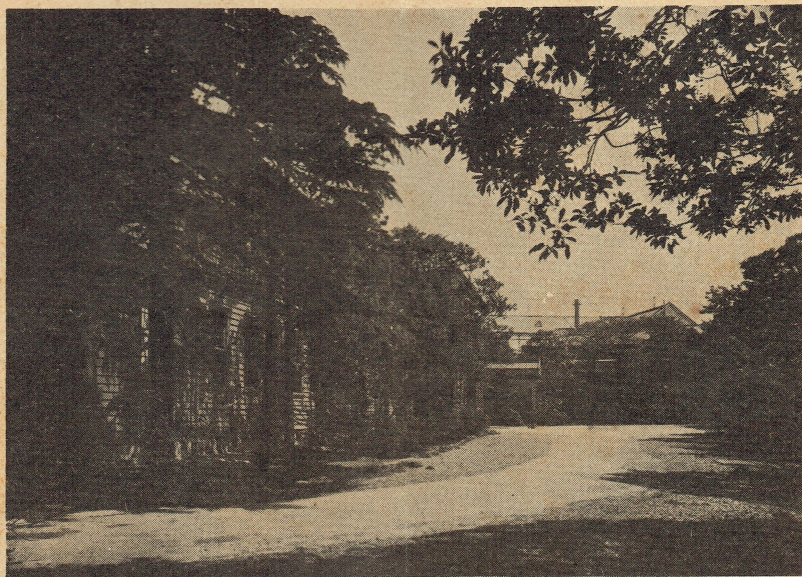
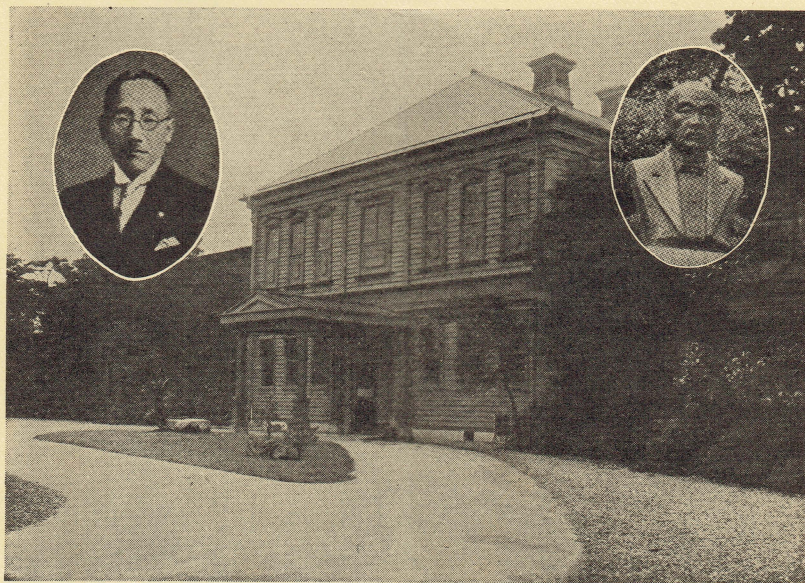


Brief Description
of
The Tokyo Academy of Music,
Tokyo, Japan.



The Foreground.

Brief Description
of
The Tokyo Academy of Music.



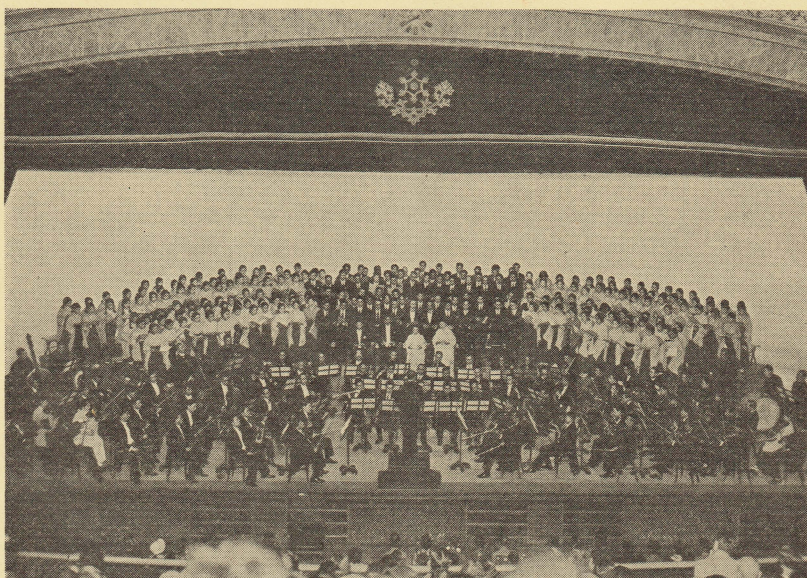
The Porch.

Dr. Kazu Norisugi,
The Present Director.

The Late Dr. Shuji Izawa,
The First Director.

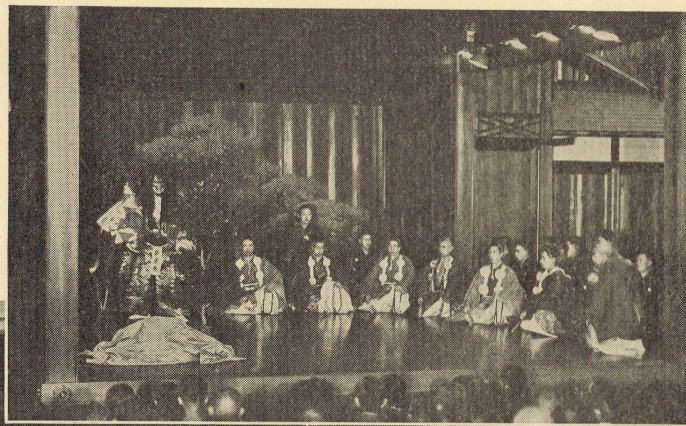


The Detached School.

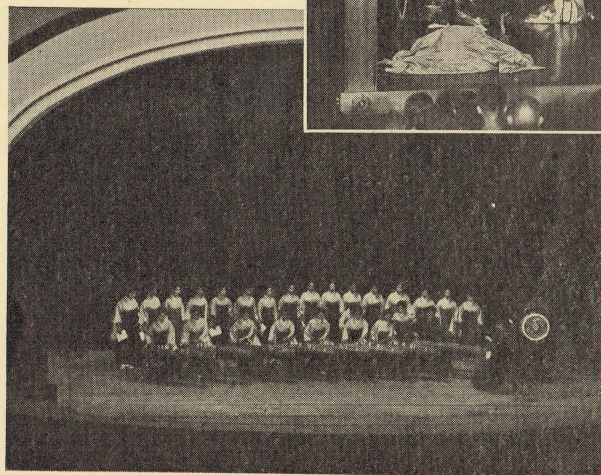


The Orchestra and the Chorus.

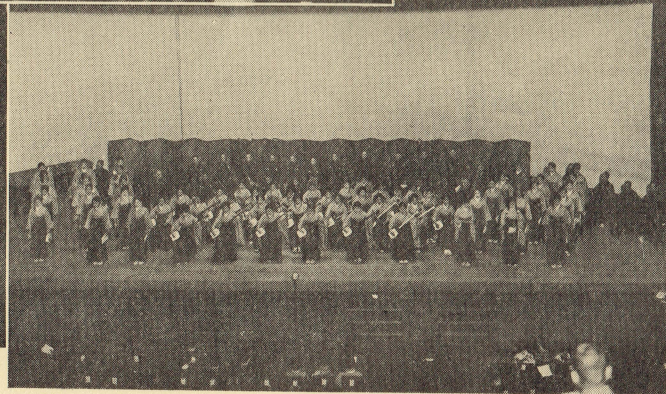
Nohjaku.



Nagauta.



Sohkyoku.



BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE TOKYO ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

1. Foreword.

IN the 12th year of Meiji (1879 A.D.) there was established in the Department of Education an Institute for Research in Music, which was destined to develop into the present Tokyo Academy of Music. Though there were many ups and downs in the history of the Academy, it has always been the centre of musical culture through its agency that Western music has permeated into the heart of Japan. It has been largely instrumental in popularizing and assimilating Western music and fostering among our compatriots a love of the creations of Western musicians. In the meantime, thoughtful people strove to preserve the best of the Japanese classical music the popularity of which unfortunately was for sometime on the wane. With the notable extension of the general interest in music, people are no longer satisfied with the mere preservation of classical music, and we have realized

the necessity of doing what lies within our power, by the evolution of new music to pave the way for the harmonization of Eastern and Western Music in the Land of the Rising Sun, where the West meets the East.

2. Courses of Study.

OUR Academy is situated in Uyeno Park, formerly the precinct of a Buddhist Temple, close to a time-honoured grove of pines, in a milieu of quiet surroundings, such as an artists loves. Here are housed the Preparatory Course lasting one year, the Principal Course consisting of the Vocalists', Instrumentalists' and Composers' Sections each lasting for three years, and on top of them we have the Postgraduate Course for two years, which gives the finishing touch to the students' musical education, admittance thereto being naturally strictly limited. Besides these courses, we have a training course for turning out school-instructors in music, lasting for three years, and also an Auditors' Course open for graduates of both the Principal Course and the Training Course, in which they can learn some of the subjects taught in the Postgraduate Course. Our Academy is the only seat of learning in Japan where co-education is carried on.

Besides the school proper at Uyenô, we have a detached school at Surugadai, Tokyo, for the convenience of juvenile lovers of music, which is within easy accessibility from any quarters of Tokyo. Here we have an Elective Course lasting from three to five years for vocalists, instrumentalists and composers, to which are admitted children attending secondary schools and those grown-up lovers of music who cannot properly spare the daytime on account of their business, instruction being given late in the afternoon or in the evening. Quite recently, there was established a Course of Japanese Music. Unfortunately, there has been too much running after things European and American; as in every other walk of life in Japan, we have copied and imitated Western Music to the detriment of our own, which has been eclipsed by Western Music. Slowly but irresistibly, we have awakened to the sense of our own value, and a new era is dawning upon Japanese Music and in future there will be a renaissance of the hitherto-much-neglected Japanese music. The Course comprises the sections of *Nagauta*, *Nohgaku*, *Sohkyoku* and *Nohgaku-hayashi*. *Nagauta* is divided into singing and playing on the *Shamisen*, a Japanese string instrument. *Nohgaku* is singing to *Noh-dance*. *Sohkyoku* is playing on *Koto*, something like the lyre. *Nohgaku-hayashi* is playing on musical instruments accompanying the

Noh-dance, such as drums, snare-drums and fifes. The Course lasts from three to five years and instruction is given late in the afternoon.

In the Preparatory Course are taught:—

Ethics, singing, piano, other instruments, theory of music, Japanese literature, foreign languages and gymnastics.

In the Vocalists' Section of the Principal Course are taught:—

Ethics, singing, theory of music, history of music, Japanese literature, foreign languages and gymnastics.

In the Instrumentalists' and the Composers' Sections instrumental music and orchestral music are taught over and above the preceding subjects.

In the Training Course are taught:—

Ethics, singing, instrumental music, general conception of music, harmony, history of music, pedagogics, method of teaching music, Japanese literature, foreign languages and gymnastics.

3. Personnel.

THE Director is Mr. K. Norisugi. We have seventeen professors, thirteen assistant-professors, six superintendents of students, about one hundred instructors, twenty clerks, etc.

We have about 1,000 students in the various courses and have turned out about 2,000 graduates.

Most of the graduates are engaged in education, mainly as teachers in normal schools, secondary schools for boys and girls.

The concerts held during the "seasons" in Japan are, for the most part, in the hands of the graduates of the Academy.

4. Extention Work of the Academy.

FOR the purpose of studying and popularizing orchestral music, we have two Orchestra Departments: one being organized with about one hundred members consisting of the teaching staff and graduates, and the second consisting of about sixty students.

The mixed chorus consists of three hundred students. This chorus, the largest and best in Japan, is going to broadcast selections to Germany on October 30th.

The Academy holds semi-annual concerts, that in spring and autumn, and they are a feature of the musical world of Tokyo. Until some years ago, they were held in the concert-hall of the Academy, but lately it has become too small to answer the purpose. Consequently, we have held our concerts for years in the Central Public Hall, which is the largest auditorium in Tokyo, and yet each time the hall has been

literally packed to capacity. At these concerts foreign representatives of the Diplomatic Corps do not consider it beneath themselves to be present. Apart from these concerts, we give from time to time special concerts in honour of H.M. the Empress or H.M. the Empress-Dowager, who is graciously pleased to attend in person, accompanied by Princesses of the Blood. Following close upon the Emperor's Enthronement Ceremony at Kyoto in the third year of Showa (1928 A.D.) we held a concert in celebration of the auspicious occasion, comprising both Japanese and Western music. H.M. the Empress was pleased to honour the performance with her presence.

Moreover, last April we held a concert in celebration of the Birth of the Crown Prince. H.M. the Empress was again graciously pleased to attend it in person, accompanied by ten Princesses of the Blood.

As regards the outside work of the Academy of Music, the Ueno School of Music for Children has been opened under the direct auspices of the 'Doseikwai' (an alumni association). The school gives instruction in music to approximately three hundred boys and girls from ten to thirteen years of age. These children are specially selected from amongst the leading primary schools in Tokyo. A certain number of the boy students are enrolled in a boys' choir.

