

## SRO Signs Mark Meadow Brook Opening Tonight

### There's Good Music To Anticipate

According to Chicago music critic Heuwell Tircut, "If Sixten Ehrling gives Detroit the kind of music-making he produces with the Chicago Symphony, then theirs is a series to be envied. And with this Ravinia concert (Mr. Ehrling came directly to Birmingham from Ravinia), one is all the more taken by his stature."

AND THE CHICAGO Daily News reported:

"Sixten Ehrling, 46-year-old Swedish conductor who first appeared as guest with the Chicago Symphony last January in the crisis created by the death of Fritz Reiner, made his Ravinia debut Tuesday night (July 14).

"One of the works was a piece that this orchestra and its late musical director all but owned for a decade, Bartok's Concerto for Orchestra.

"EVERY ORCHESTRA that can manage it plays the Bartok masterpiece, but Reiner gave a searing clarity and power to his fellow Hungarian's music that other conductors rarely approach.

"Ehrling, while not erasing those memories by any means, gave a Bartok performance that stood as a vivid reminder of what this orchestra still can do in the Reiner repertory.

"Currently a musical director of the Detroit Symphony, Ehrling plainly knows his trade."



THE DETROIT SYMPHONY'S SIXTEN EHRLING  
An audience of over 3,000 will hear him conduct opening

### Intermission Notes For Localities

Did you know . . .

That Mrs. Dorothy Kemp Roosevelt, vacationing in the East, has turned over her amazing "contemporary" on Baldwin, with its two shiny baby grinds, to Sixten Ehrling while he's in town for the Meadow Brook Festival . . . and that those dramatic, deep purple peonies on the front stoop Friday were a welcoming gift from Bunky and Florence Knudsen, unavoidably detained out of town when the conductor arrived.

That Mr. and Mrs. Leonard T. Lewis recently made it their personal responsibility to decorate the stars' dressing rooms in Baldwin Pavilion . . .

That Dean of Critics Harold Shonberg of the New York Times and Theatrical Producer S. Hawk will be among tonight's audience.

That 90 husbands and wives of the Junior Women's Association for the Symphony will usher on a volunteer basis throughout the Festival . . . under the cochairmanship of Mrs. Arthur Johnson of Grosse Pointe and Mrs. John Fleming of Birmingham . . .

That, with the cooperation of Walter Reuther and Kenneth Morris, the UAW purchased a thousand season tickets . . .

That bus loads of music lovers will arrive tonight from Trenton, Mt. Clemens and Bay City . . .

That Florence (Mrs. James M.) Barnes raised funds on her own for those gleaming picnic tables available for informal dining . . .

That the RN's in attendance at all concerts are volunteers . . . organized under the auspices of the Rochester Junior Women's Club.

## Suburban Scene

By MARY ELLEN MEAD  
Society Editor

### FESTIVAL DEBUTS

When Sixten Ehrling lifts his baton tonight in the Howard C. Baldwin Pavilion at Meadow Brook, a dream-in-the-making will take a giant step forward—a step that hundreds of people in the metropolitan-suburban area have facilitated with unswerving dedication, lots of faith and plenty of two-flated spade work.

As the "Star Spangled Banner" rings out across Oakland University's campus tonight, Meadow Brook Festival will be under way—under way to a sell-out audience of over 3,000.

An unbelievable amount of streamlined effort—in an unbelievable short space of time—has gone into a project aimed toward the development of a complete performing arts center in southeast Michigan—a center, it is hoped, which will shortly have more to offer (theater, ballet, opera) than this first, thrilling trial balloon; A series of 12 summer concerts played by the full Detroit Symphony Orchestra under Sixten Ehrling's direction.

### IT ALL BEGAN . . .

On a blustery day last February, a number of people gathered at the DAC for luncheon and to hear plans for Michigan's answer to Tanglewood—as presented by Oakland University's Chancellor Durwood Varner, Mr. and Mrs. Senon E. Knudsen, who had just accepted general chairmanship of the project, and Mrs. Alfred G. Wilson, honorary chairman.

The response generated by this meeting was electric—it was "aye" all the way, especially when it was revealed that Mr. Ehrling would be available to conduct (cancelling a European tour to do so); that the easily accessible locale was to be the famed natural amphitheater on campus—its beauty a sheer delight; that people could sit under cover (the shell accommodates 2,000) or on car robes under the stars; that the whole atmosphere would be informal—even to family style picnic dinners on the site; that prices would range, modestly enough, from \$10 for season tickets down to \$1 for ground entrance and that, most importantly, the world's great music would be available to all, smack in our own backyard.

### AT THE HELM

Following that initial luncheon, which drew national coverage from press, radio and TV, committee heads were pegged and, under them, hundreds of workers hove to!

General area co-chairmen include Mr. and Mrs. Rinehart S. Bright, Mr. and Mrs. Louis J. Colombo, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Walter F. Skinner and the Richard C. Van Dusons.

Among those from the Birmingham-Bloomfield area serving on various committees are the Robert Andersons, Mr. and Mrs. E. Curtis Matthews, Mr. and Mrs. Colin Campbell, the Edward Coles, Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Estes, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Jones, the A. C. Girards, the Macvyn Katkes, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kyes, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Lang, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Renfrew, the Paul Averills, Mr. and Mrs. Don Ahrens, the William Baldwins.

Others are Mr. and Mrs. William Breech, Mr. and Mrs. William Gossett, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Himelhoch, Mr. and Mrs. Lee A. Iacocca, the Henry C. Johnsons, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lerchen, Mr. and Mrs. Paul McKenney, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Mills, the Raymond Perrings, the Norman Westons, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur B. Tilton, Mr. and Mrs. Gene A. White, Mr. and Mrs. Jamison Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Wilson, Jr., the James Wrights, the C. E. Wilsons, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Yntema and, literally, dozens more.

### GAIETY REIGNS

Preceding tonight's opening, Chancellor and Mrs. Varner will be hosts at a reception in their home for Festival heads, university personnel and a few out-of-town guests. This will be followed by dinner in the Gold Room on campus.

After the concert, Mrs. Wilson will entertain a small group for supper in her home, Meadow Brook Hall.

And meantime, back at the shell, busy workers will be closing up shop.

The scholarship committee, in addition to supervising the buffet, will operate its Scholar Shop, with Mrs. John Pomeroy and Mrs. Charles Hucker among committee workers.

Mrs. W. Edwin Mosher, hopefully, will not have a single musical score or recording left in her Friends of the Library booth.



USHERS JOHN FLEMING (FROM LEFT), MRS. ROGER CRATON, MR. CRATON, MRS. FLEMING



PICNICKERS RANDY AND JOHN POMEROY (FROM LEFT), MRS. JOHN POMEROY AND MRS. CHARLES HUCKER



SCORE READERS ROBERT BATES (FROM LEFT), BARBARA CARSON, MRS. W. EDWIN MOSHER AND JOHN CULPAL



MUSIC A FAMILY AFFAIR FOR MRS. ARTHUR JOHNSON AND NANCY