

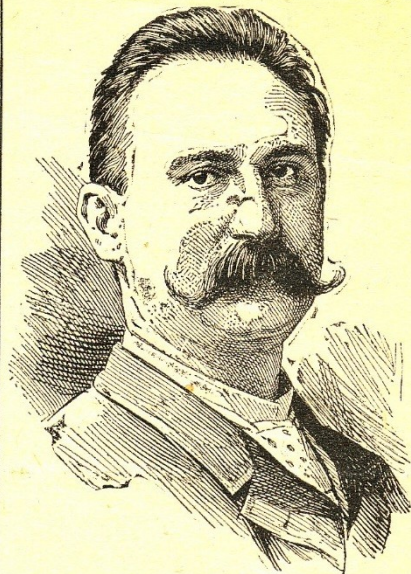
**Montag 23. Mai 1897 "The Mexico Ledger", Mexico  
Missouri / USA:  
Scharwenka Contest am Hardin College and Conservatory  
for Ladies in Mexico  
Verleihung der "Scharwenka Medaille"**

**SCHARWENKA CONTEST.**

**Miss Byrd Jourdan Received First Medal—A Brief Speech by the Renowned Professor.**

The piano contest for the Scharwenka medals at Hardin College Saturday night was a merited success in every respect and was attended by a large audience. The programme opened with a vocal solo, "The Dream of My Heart," by the accomplished vocal teacher, Miss Jane Gray. The listeners were highly entertained and responded with a hearty encore.

The second number on the programme was a reading, "The Revenge," by Miss Sara Greenleaf Frost



*Herr Xaver Scharwenka.*

and was delivered in an interesting manner, receiving liberal applause.

The first contestant, Miss Provence, who won the second medal, rendered with skillful touch, "Pathetique Sonata" by Beethoven, and was honored by tumultuous applause.

The next to appear was Miss Byrd Jourdan, the winner of the laurels. She delivered "Scherzo" by Chopin, in a manner that won the contest, although she had a close second. One of the most noticeable features in her rendition was the remarkable ease of delivery.

"The Chase," by J. Rheinberger, was the next and last number of the contest and was rendered in a charming manner by Miss Tessie Sumner. She is a rare musician and was complimented by liberal applause.

While the judge was making his decision the audience was entertained by other selections. The pretty little comedy enacted by Misses Ossye Coleman and Eva Payne was highly entertaining and kept the audience in a flood of laughter throughout.

Miss Eva Payne, in her usual charming way, then recited "Naughty Ezelle," and was brought back the second time.

The programme ended with a del-sarte drill. Those who took part were Misses Wooldridge, Michau, Emmett, Houts, Talbot, Harshbarger, McCoy, Day and Coleman.

Thus was finished a very interesting programme and one which was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience.

**SCHARWENKA'S SPEECH.**

Herr Scharwenka does not claim to be an orator and he made his maiden speech in presenting the medals on this occasion. The great musician said:

"I will begin my speech with an excuse for my poor English. It is my maiden speech as an after-contest speaker.

"The three performances which we have just heard were rendered to my utmost satisfaction and it only speaks for the untiring efforts and ability of the teachers and the high standard of Hardin College as a conservatory of music.

In reference to the three pieces I will say that "Scherzo," by Chopin, was played with technical brilliancy and spirit; the "Sonata," by Beethoven, was rendered with good <sup>con</sup>ception and classical interpretation, and "La Chasse," by Rheinberger, was also played in a very satisfactory manner. The impression made upon me dictates that I must give the first medal to the pupil who played "Scherzo," by Chopin; the second medal to the pupil who played "Sonata," by Beethoven, and, as I wish to express my recognition of the performance by the pupil who played "La Chasse," by Rheinberger, I will present her with my picture."

The remarks of the famous musician were well received.

Konzertflyer zu der  
Veranstaltung am 22.05.1897 unter:

[http://www.scharwenka-stiftung.de/xaver\\_konzerte\\_bis\\_1924.php?aktiv\\_sub=308&&aktiv=30](http://www.scharwenka-stiftung.de/xaver_konzerte_bis_1924.php?aktiv_sub=308&&aktiv=30)