

Charles Galloway Concert A Successful Event.

The Christmas season was given a most auspicious opening in Alton on Friday when the Alton Woman's Council gave a Christmas musicale at the First Methodist Church. The program was made possible through the efforts of Mrs. Henry C. Priest, Mrs. R. H. Levis and Miss Katherine V. Dickinson who brought to Alton Charles Galloway, a St. Louis organist of renown. Mr. Galloway furnished a program of beautiful organ numbers, bringing out to the best possible advantage the organ which was given by Mrs. Henry C. Priest as a memorial to her husband.

The original organ was built twenty-one years ago by J. W. Gratlan of this city. When the old church was razed in order to make ready for the new, the organ was removed and replaced when the new church was built. It was considered one of the best musical instruments of its kind in the city. In March of this year the First Methodist Church was destroyed by fire, the pipe organ being damaged to a very great extent. The organ was rebuilt this summer by J. W. Gratlan, and son, William Edward, and Mrs. Priest added chimes to the rebuilt instrument.

Mr. Galloway, who is said to have been a favorite pupil of Gullmatt, played two of Gullmatt's compositions, Allegro Maestoso and Scherzo in C minor, together with "Contrasts" by J. Lewis Brown, "The Holy Night" by Buck, "Fantasietta" by Dubois, "Will O' the Wisp" by G. B. Nevin and "In Moonlight" by Kinder. The programs, presented to the audience, carried a most comprehensive explanation of each number and served to make the afternoon one of pleasure to those not thoroughly conversant with the organ. Mr. Galloway's coming to Alton was a rare treat and much credit and thanks are due the women who brought him to Alton to give music lovers a chance to hear such a fine afternoon of music.

Mr. Galloway was assisted by Miss Helen Irene Elder, soprano; Mrs. F. H. Allen, mezzo soprano; Dr. H. C. Middleton, tenor, and Bertrand C. Richardson, baritone. Mr. Richardson sang Oley Speak's "There's a Song in the Air," and Miss Elder, Pietro Yon's "Gesù Bambino." The program closed with the quartet singing Margaret Lang's Christmas cycle, "The Night of the Star."

Not only did the musicale inaugurate the opening of the Christmas season but also gave to several hundred lovers of music an opportunity of attending the opening of the Henry C. Priest memorial organ.

The guests were received by Mrs. J. D. Makinney, president of the council, and Miss Hetta Eaton, Mrs. J. A. Giberson, Mrs. James Johnston, Mrs. Edward L. Gibson, Miss Bertha Bishop, Mrs. Beatrice Crawford, Mrs. Arthur Levis, Mrs. Eugene Bishop, Mrs. Horace Brown, Mrs. E. J. Byron and with the organ. Mr. Galloway's assistants were Mrs. C. J. Jacoby, Jr., and Mrs. Russell Tilt.

Mr. Galloway was presented by Miss K. V. Dickinson who was in charge of the council's Christmas program.