

## THE PASSING SHOW

# Boston Orchestra: Actors From Canada and Italy

**A**MONG newcomers to Edinburgh's International Festival who will take the stage next week, are the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Stratford (Ontario) Festival Company, and the Piccolo Theatre of Milan.

The Boston Orchestra, which is celebrating its seventy-fifth anniversary, arrived in Cork yesterday, and, after giving a concert there, proceeded to Dublin.



Pierre Monteux, guest conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

The first of five concerts in Edinburgh will be given in the Usher Hall to-morrow.

The orchestra, which consists of 104 members, will be conducted by its regular conductor, Dr Charles Munch, and a guest conductor, M. Pierre Monteux. Since its foundation in 1881, when Henry L. Higginson, a Boston millionaire, gathered together the best musicians he could obtain, the orchestra has achieved greatness under a succession of brilliant conductors—among them Serge Koussevitsky, who was with it for 25 years.

Included in the programme will be five compositions which were commissioned for this, the seventy-fifth season, and on Thursday a special programme will be given entitled "Homage to Koussevitsky."

The Boston Brass Ensemble, a chamber music group formed by members of the orchestra, will give a concert on Tuesday forenoon in the Freemasons' Hall and will include works by contemporary American composers Robert Sanders and Nicolai Berezowsky.

### HIGH PRAISE

Advance reports of the Stratford (Ontario) Festival Company's new production of Shakespeare's

"Henry V." indicate that the Canadians have made a special effort to make a good impression on their first visit. Writers who, in the past, have been critical of the company's performances, have given high praise to Henry V., according to Press notices which have just reached this country.

The production is by Michael Langham, Tyrone Guthrie's successor as resident director, and the French roles will be filled by French-Canadian actors. Since their formation in 1952 the company have achieved a growing reputation at their own Shakes-

pearean Theatre at Canada's Stratford-on-Avon, built to the requirements of the first producer-director, Tyrone Guthrie, to the designs of Tanya Moiseiwitsch. This modern adaptation of the Elizabethan stage projects out into the centre of the audience with seats on three sides. This is the only permanent feature of the theatre, for the whole is housed in one enormous bell tent. The overall effect at the opening performance, when "Richard III." was presented, created a sensation. This type of presentation is thus well suited to the apron stage of the Assembly Hall.



Tino Carraro, who appears with the Piccolo Theatre.

In addition to Shakespeare, Tyrone Guthrie's production of Sophocles' "Oedipus Rex," in W. B. Yeats' translation, will be presented. This production, in which the actors play in masks designed by Tanya Moiseiwitsch, was first seen at the Stratford Festival in 1954 and was revived there with great success last year.

**ITALIAN DRAMA**

The Piccolo Theatre of Milan's visit to the Lyceum Theatre next week will be the first occasion that Italian drama has been presented at the Festival. There is likely to be considerable interest in their presentation of Luigi Pirandello's "To-night We Improvise," on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. In this production, actors and actresses will be planted among the audience, and Mr Robert Ponsonby, artistic director of the Festival, when he announced that this would be on the programme,

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