

AMERICANIZATION OF MUSIC

A Two-Minute Address delivered by Charles E. Watt, Editor of Music News, at the Westinghouse Radiophone Studios in Chicago on March 14 and broadcasted to a minimum audience of Two Hundred Thousand People with a possibility that it may have been heard by Six Hundred Thousand.

"We should have in America today a nationalized music development.

"In commerce and invention we have long since outstripped the world, but in music we still follow.

"It was natural, at first, that we should borrow ideals from Europe, but the necessity is long since passed, and we need now to use European music only for variety and comparison.

"We have talent, money and initiative aplenty, and we should use these in the development of our own music to the point where it shall lead all the nations.

"Since opera is so great a factor in the popularization of music, we should have opera as well as all song recitals in English.

"In France opera is sung in French, in Italy in Italian exclusively, and in Germany in German, and to this is due, largely, the fact of nationalized music in those countries.

"We should insist upon our own language in our opera houses and concert rooms. We should give the preference to our own composers and artists, and we should thus put Americanization into every music development in this country.

"In a word, our motto in music, as in everything else, should be AMERICA FIRST."