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HAS HAD A LONG TOUR

Maud Powell Is Here From Western Trip **Famous Violinist has Spent Twenty-Four Nights Out Of Forty-Two On Sleeping Cars.**

Here after a tour in which she spent 24 nights out of 42 on sleeping cars, Miss Maud Powell, the famous violinist, nevertheless looked in the pink of condition when she talked this morning about her work.

"I began my season at the Worcester (Mass.) Festival the first part of October," said Miss Powell, "and immediately started on a tour of the West. I went all through California and parts of Utah and gave recitals also in some of the Middle West States. I really played the part of 'pioneer' in many of the places I visited. They had never had a chance to hear any good music in some of these towns, and the delight and appreciation of the audiences was well worth traveling for. At one place they were so pleased with the recital that they promised next time I came they would have a grand piano for my accompanist. They did not know beforehand that a piano was necessary at a violin recital, and so at the last moment they had to obtain from somewhere an upright, which they pressed into service.

"In acting as pioneer, by-the-by, I was merely following an inherited tendency, I suppose. My father was an educator who blazed the way for many new educational methods. He was one of the first men in this country to advocate manual training. An uncle was the first white man to explore the great canyon. When I was in California, I met a man who had been one of my father's pupils, and who wrote a very charming critique of my work, which only goes to show how strangely things come around."

"Do you practise much while you are on tour?" asked the reporter.

"Very little. I don't know whether you know it, but playing on the violin is a great physical strain. The mere holding up of the violin becomes an effort after a while, and the vibration of the instrument against the neck and cheek tells on the artist. It is a wonder to me sometimes that I am not entirely deaf in the ear on that side. When I am on tour I go over the thing I am to play mentally and find that a great aid. In Cleveland I was to play a concerto with the Thomas orchestra, now led by Mr. Stock, a very able man. I practised that concerto two hours, and that was the greatest amount of practising I did at any one time during the tour. At others I would go over the things I had to do in my mind.

"At Los Angeles I was invited to a banquet. I had had recitals the four nights before, and my train was 10 hours late, so I arrived in the city just one hour late for my engagement. I went to the feast in a traveling dress and a big hat. It was a celebration of the Celtic club, and there

were representatives of all its branches there –Scotch, Irish, Welsh, indeed there was even a Manx-man present. Each branch claimed me as a kinswoman, and I had a delightful time in spite of my fatigue. After the dinner I improvised on some Celtic air, and was heartily applauded.”

“Was this your first tour in the West?”

“Yes, I have played in South Africa, Russia and Hungary and all over the Continent, but this was the first time I ever went to our own Pacific coast.”

Miss Powell spoke of the violin as the greatest of all instruments. “One can create on it,” she said. “The tone depends upon the player. In the piano, I have always held, though the pianists do not agree with me, that the notes are there, and no mood of the artist can change them.”

Miss Powell, who off the stage is Mrs. Turner, is very animated and has a vivid personality. She is a tall and handsome brunette. She will give a recital with Miss Clara Ascherfeld at Lehmann’s Hall tonight. During her stay she is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Randolph at 28 East Preston Street.

From the Archive of The Maud Powell Society for Music and Education