

TELEPHONE 3923 MADISON Sq

Intended for

Dr Cahill
"O wad some power the giftie gi'e us
To see oursel's as ithers see us."

HENRY ROMEIKE, Inc.

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THE ELECTRICAL PRODUCTION AND TRANSMISSION OF MUSIC.

A record of marked progress in the design and construction of apparatus for the electrical production and transmission of music is given in this issue in an article descriptive of the Cahill telharmonic system. It will be recalled that the method employed by Dr. Cahill consists in generating alternating currents of proper frequency and amplitude to be superposed in such a maner that a telephone diaphragm subjected to their magnetizing effect will produce any desired musical sound. The first equipment constructed for the purpose showed that electrically produced music could be made very sweet, but indicated that an elaborate generating and controlling installation would be required for the best effects. In the second

equipment, which was placed in service for a time in New York City, many of the limitations of the initial installation were overcome and the possibility of producing excellent music was proved. However, the controlling equipment, as manipulated by the performers, was so complicated that no trained musician could be induced to devote to it the years of study and practice necessary to master it properly. It was not surprising, therefore, that the music produced by the New York Telharmonium was considered imperfect by many musicians.

In the third and latest equipment several important changes have been introduced, and the musical effects have been improved correspondingly. As is frequently the case in the development of an invention, the changes have resulted simultaneously in a simplification of the installation and a lessening of the cost of construction. The present Telharmonium is devoid of those complications at the keyboard which discouraged the accomplished piano or pipe-organ player from attempting to master the instrument; and the effect which such a musician can produce with the latest equipment after a practice of a few days is enormously superior to any effect which would have been obtainable by any one after a lifetime of study and practice with the New York Telharmonium plant. Doubtless additional improvements will be made in the present or future Telharmoniums before the development of electrical music has been completed, but enormous progress has already been made as shown by a comparison of the third with the first equipment built by the inventor.