Smart Set
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Ravinia Ends Big Season

BY CHARLES BUCKLEY

The record attendance for the final week of chamber music at Ravinia may cause an upward revision of the drawing power of this unspectacular medium by the entrepreneurs of music.

As long as the conductors insist on repeating the same symphonic repetoire ad nauseaum, maybe we can bypass the orchestra now and again and tap the enormous reservoir of never-publicly-played chamber music.

The Big Three -- Rubinstein, Heifetz, Piatigorsky -- brought the current season to a blazingly successful close yesterday afternoon.

RAVINIA TO FOLD TENT

Ravinia will fold its tent and strenously go forth to raise the money for a roof overhead next Summer.

Ravinia may, probably will, accomplish more wonders of reconstruction. But it will never have a more distinguished trio than the Big Three on its stage. There just ain't any.

We hope the three virtuosi enjoyed playing as a team and that some of their outstanding colleagues will be inspried to do likewise. Big possibilities there.

In the "Trio in B Major, Opus 8" by Brahms, the Adagio, in particular, was a stylistic gem.

Soloist yesterday was cellist Piatigorsky who played Bach's "Suite No. 3 in C Major" with Breadth of style and warmth of tone.

USES NEW APPROACH

John Weicher, concertmaster of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, was Rubinstein's page-turner in the Trio.

In the Heifetz-Piatigorsky duos of Gliere's "Prelude" and Martinu's "Rondo," Weicher used a new-type approach for the single copy of duo music.

To flip the pages in the nick of time, Weicher crouched low and crowded his way through a Heifetz elbow and a Piatigorsky arm. Not a note was lost. Neatest trick of the week.