1. S. F.
5/19/?

Rubinstein Gets 'Best' Ovation

By MARIE HICKS DAVIDSON

Artur Rubinstein is unchallengeably the laureate pianist of his era. Possibly of all time.

He played an all-Chopin program last night at the Opera House, where his audience gave him a standing ovation. Extra seats had been placed in the orchestra pit to accommodate an unprecedented demand and hundreds were turned away for lack of space.

The romantic scores of Chopin were never more beautifully, dramatically or tenderly played than by his compatriot Pole, born in Warsaw in 1890. When Rubinstein came to the "Marche Funebre" in the Sonata B flat, Opus 35, he played as if for every martyr of that "corridor" land, or for every bleeding human being, for that matter. It was a threnody through which the tenderness of an anthem was projected by the mysterious mastery of the Rubinstein virtuosity.

The "Grande Polonaise" which followed the "Andante Spianato" was majestic in its tonal splendor. The "Impromptu in G flat" was in lyric mood with cascading roulades and lovely nuances in which the piano seemed to be in conscious rapport with the artist.

The second half of the program consisted of the ballades and nocturnes which all Chopin students essay and few completely compass. To describe Rubinstein's way with them would exhauts superlatives.

A Rubinstein concert is indeed an experience. Last night's was the zenith of any which he has given in San Francisco.