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## Impressions from Toronto

The elegant Royal York Hotel built by the Canadian Pacific Railroad in 1929 was the scene of the 45th convention of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) in Toronto, Canada, July 3 - 7. The convention was held for the first time in its 45 years in Canada. Although NATS was originally an American organization, it now includes chapters from the entire North American continent plus 76 individual foreign members. Ank Reinders from Holland and Prof. Charotte Lehmann and her husband from Hannover were seen among the more than 600 members present.

Congratulations are in order to the Toronto chapter of NATS for putting on a superb, interesting and informative convention. Of course the emphasis of the program was upon Canadian speakers, music and musicians who were of the highest caliber. The keynote address was given by Canadian soprano, Teresa Stratas, who speaking of her struggle with physical and emotional problems related to her career brought the audience to laughter and tears.

An hour each day was devoted to teaching basic language diction skills in Russian, French, Spanish, German, Italian and Icelandic. This was something new at a congress and seemed to be well received. Timothy Caldwell spoke and demonstrated how one can improve singing through movement. The entire audience became involved with the application of Dalcroze Eurhyth-

mics. Marshall Pynkoski gave a marvelous demonstration of Rhetorical Gesture and its application to singing.

The various other lectures, master classes, recitals, artist award finals, great entertainment, buffets and "High Tea" rounded out a rewarding convention experience.

*Howard Nelson*

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