

Banjo Club, A. J. Weidt, director; **The Newark Mandolin Orchestra**, 100 players, A. J. Weidt, director, one of the greatest lists of talent ever appearing at a Guild concert.

The Exhibition.

Opens at the Continental Hotel officially Monday, April 25th at 8.30. Unofficially some of the exhibitions will open on Saturday, April 23rd. Only Guild Trade Members will exhibit and the exhibition is open to the general public. Exhibitors are the **Oliver Ditson Co.** full line of Ditson Mandolins and Guitars, Cole Banjos, Ditson Edition Mandolin Orchestra, Odell Mandolin Methods, sheet music and books; the **Gibson Mandolin-Guitar Co.** full line of Gibson instruments; **Vega & Fairbanks Co.** full line of Whyte Laydie and Tubaphone banjos, Vega and Fairbanks mandolins, guitars and lutes; **Rettberg & Lange**, Orpheum banjos and Manhattan goods; **H. A. Weymann & Son**, full line of Keystone State mandolins, banjo-mandolins, Keystone State folio for mandolin, banjo, guitar and piano; **White-Smith Co.** music and books; **Wm. C. Stahl**, mandolins, banjos and guitars, sheet music and books; **Walter Jacobs**, sheet music and books; **H. F. Odell & Co.** Edition Odell and Edition Chenet, strings and sundries; **Crescendo Pub. Co.** complete files of CRESCENDO and premiums.

Maulbetsch & Whittemore, the well-known instrument case makers who have been trade members of the Guild for years, have cordially invited all the visiting members to visit their factory while in Newark. This firm is well-known as makers of the finest cases in the U. S. and this gives members a chance to see how these cases are made. The Maulbetsch & Whittemore factory is located at the corner of Cross and Spring streets. It is quite probable that the members will visit the factory in a body of which announcement will be made at the convention.

The Banquet

To be held at the Hotel, Monday evening, April 25th. Immediately after the Banquet, President J. J. Derwin will call the gathering to order and introduce the Toastmaster George L. Lansing who will introduce the various speakers. Among those who will speak on various subjects will be the representatives of the trade members, the officers and prominent members. It will be an enjoyable affair generally and one long to be remembered.

All Members.

It will assist the manager and officers if you will kindly follow the suggestions referred to here and engage your tickets and room at the official hotel immediately. It would oblige me if you would drop me a line immediately on a postal card and let me know if you are to attend the convention.

If possible we would like to know in advance just how many will attend. Last year 20 or 30 members arrived at New York three days before the convention and stayed 3 days after. A number of our members will arrive at Newark on Friday, the 22nd, therefore we hope that all

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Prominent Guild Members.



VALENTINE ABT

Valentine Abt, the eminent mandolin virtuoso, was born in Allegheny, Pa., June 13th, 1873. He began to study music first at the age of 13 and took lessons on the violin from a well-known teacher who was formerly connected with the Thomas Orchestra. He studied the violin for about 5 years and then he applied the knowledge he had gained to the mandolin. Mr. Abt studied harmony under noted teachers in Pittsburg and Utica, N. Y. He was first located as a teacher in Utica, N. Y., in the year 1894. Shortly after that he moved to Pittsburg. During his musical career at Pittsburg, he managed one of the largest concerts ever held in the country at which time he had an orchestra of 150 mandolins and guitars under his direction. During this time, Mr. Abt first took up the study of the harp and today he ranks as an excellent soloist on this instrument. A few years ago he moved to N. Y., and is located at Carnegie Hall. His entire time is devoted to teaching and concert work. In 1908 he organized the Plectrum Society, an organization of about 30 players which devotes its time to the rendering of the highest class of compositions and under Mr. Abt's direction, this society has already obtained a high reputation for skillful and careful rendition of the best in music. As a mandolin soloist, Mr. Abt ranks among the best in the U. S. His work is artistic and musicianly, in fact he is a thorough, all-around musician. His various concert tours have taken him from Canada to the Gulf. He has been a member of the American Guild for some time and last year was the manager of the 8th Annual Convention and Concert which affair was one of the greatest successes the Guild has ever held artistically and financially. Mr. Abt has just organized the Abt Plectrum Quartette, an account of which appears on another page and which makes its first appearance at the Guild convention. He will appear as a soloist rendering both mandolin and harp solos in addition to his appearance in the quartette. Mr. Abt has made an excellent reputation as a composer of high class songs, beautiful mandolin duos, concert pieces and teaching pieces, several collections of studies and in addition a mandolin method. He is a genial man to meet and a musical genius with the highest ideals in music. Mr. Abt is married and has four sons.