

Then, too, there are General Pedagogical Institutes which have training courses for music and art teachers for the general schools as well as for the general classroom teachers who also teach music in many of the general schools through the fourth year. Members of the orchestras and choruses and conductors of orchestras and choruses receive their education at the Conservatories—or, in Moscow, for instance, not only at the Conservatory but perhaps at the Gnessin Institute (Music School) which has a very highly developed professional curriculum. The Moscow Conservatory and Gnessin Institute prepare for teaching as well as for performance. The factor of qualifications is extremely important, and acceptance for enrollment and continuation of enrollment are based on rigorous examinations, both in theory and in performance.

Ballet Schools

ADDITIONAL information will be given later in the report regarding curriculum and activity in the specific music schools and Conservatories. At this point some interesting facts are appropriate concerning the other types of schools dedicated to the arts. It is difficult to say whether music or the dance is in the foremost position of prominence in the arts in education program—the two are so closely identified. Certainly the ballet and the music of the ballet are a part of the cultural life blood of the Soviet Union. The Bolshoi Ballet School in Moscow and the Vaganova School of Ballet in Leningrad provide memorable experiences for the visitor fortunate enough to visit these schools, to know their directors and to witness demonstrations of the work in the schools. The training in the ballet schools, in seriousness of purpose, objective, dedication, length of preparation, corresponds to that in the Conservatories. At the ballet schools are provisions for the general education courses which the students receive from the time they enter the schools—some as early as age seven.

Students are trained at the ballet schools in classical ballet, national dances, and for participation in serious