

AMEND=FRANK

(Incorporated)

ONE-ARMED STRING ORCHESTRA

The only Organization of its kind in the world.

(See cut on page 5)

The Amand-Frank One-Armed String Orchestra is one of the most unique organizations in the world. The members are as follows, top row reading from left to right, Alfred R. Spreadborough, manager, Jack Wedel, trombone, L. Stein, cornet, R. S. Frank, violin; Lower row, Lester M. Cox, drums, Wm. H. Tienken, mandolin, Arthur E. Hanson, violin-cello, Bert R. Amend, piano. The orchestra is incorporated and chartered by the state of Oregon. The officers are President, Bert R. Amend, Secretary, Arthur E. Hanson, Musical Director, R. S. Frank, Manager, Alfred R. Spreadborough.

Of the eight members composing the orchestra, seven with their right arms gone and one, the drummer, who has the left gone, each one lost his arm through accidents in mills, etc., in Oregon and Washington.

This novel organization gives a very interesting entertainment including full orchestral numbers, solos, trios, quartettes, etc. The most interesting part of their program is to see how these one-armed men, handicapped as they are, play their instruments. The pianist is a show in himself. Probably the most novel number is that by Bert Amend and Wm. H. Tienken who render a solo on the guitar both playing on the instrument at the same time. Another novelty is the peculiar voice of Mr. Tienken who sings "Silver Threads Among the Gold" in high soprano.

The idea of the orchestra originated with Mr. Bert R. Amend after he had lost his arm. He already was a musician and thought there must be others who were unfortunate like himself and he began formulating plans for this orchestra. Much credit is due to Mr. Amend and also to Mr. Frank, the musical director, for their untiring efforts in bringing this orchestra to its present high standing and popularity. Indeed credit is due all of the members for their unstinted interest and zeal in the work of the organization.

The orchestra does not pretend to play the higher form of classical music, but devotes itself to the good wholesome music that is ever popular, neither do the members pretend or claim to play all the instruments with one arm, but every member, by the aid of some mechanical device or contrivance of his own invention, is able to produce music. In this respect, the members have displayed great originality and are enabled to play with ease and grace on their instruments.

The manager feels justly proud of the orchestra, in fact, while he has managed many musical organizations, he has never felt as interested in any as he is in the Amend-Frank One-Armed String Orchestra.