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Herbert Inch work to be featured in two concerts planned in celebration of the Montana Territorial Centennial

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Herbert Inch, Missoula native who has taught at Hunter College, New York City, since 1937, is one of 10 Montana composers whose works will be featured in two concerts planned by the Montana State University School of Fine Arts in celebration of the Montana Territorial Centennial. The programs are scheduled May 24, at 3 p.m. in the University Theater and 8:15 p.m. in the Recital Hall, Dean Charles W. Bolen said.

Inch's Anthem for Chorus and Orchestra will be performed by the MSU Choir and Symphonette at the afternoon concert. His Trio and Recessional will be heard at the evening concert. The Trio, for piano, violin and cello, is dedicated to the late Luigi Silva who, as a young cellist in Italy, participated in first performances of several of Inch's chamber works. The Recessional is a march containing fugal devices.

The Anthem is based on words from Isaiah which express the joy of the Jewish people on returning from the Babylonian captivity to their mountainous homeland. "The words are appropriate to the Centennial concerts in that they suggest the feelings of the early settlers to whom Montana brought a sense of freedom and unlimited opportunity to make a better life for themselves," the dean commented.

Inch, a graduate of Missoula County High School, studied piano with Josephine Swenson and theory with the late Prof. Herman Weisburg. He continued his training at Eastman School of Music, Rochester, N. Y., and took bachelor, master and doctor's degrees at the University of Rochester. For two years he held a traveling fellowship from the University of Rochester for study in Europe. Later he spent three years as a Fellow of the American Academy in Rome. (more)
In 1946 the composer received the Ernest Bloch award for his choral work, "The Return of Zion." In 1943 he was awarded an honorary doctorate by MSU. His compositions, which include a psalm written for the dedication of the MSU Music building in 1953, have been performed throughout Europe and the United States.

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