

The Board of Musical Studies

Gentlemen

We have the honour to report that
at your request we have made some
experiment on the acoustical properties
of the Conservatorium teaching rooms.

The chief fault is an excess of
echo due to the smoothness and regular
shape of the walls and ceiling.

We hung art serge all round Mr Beran's
room, placed curtains on the windows
and door and two carpets on the floor.
Mr Beran then complained that the room
was so dead that singing in it was
painful.

We have taken away the serge and

left the curtains: we have also taken
away the ~~rug~~ carpets and put only
two small rugs on the floor. The room
now is fairly satisfactory. Mr. Beran
is anxious to have linoleum on
the floor: but we have not felt that
our instructions were sufficient to
permit our ordering this to be done
as the expense would be about £10.
It would ^{make} ~~be~~ some improvement to the
room acoustically: but not, in our
opinion proportional to the expense.
We have asked the permission of
the Council to have a picture mould
put up in this room; ~~and~~ leave was
granted and the work is ordered to be
done. Pictures and diagrams hung
on the walls will certainly be a help.

We now recommend that trial
be made of the room as altered,
and the future course determined
by the results of the experiment.

The concert room at the S. end
of the building is very full of echoes
and something must be done to
it before it is suitable for its purpose.
Perhaps we may be allowed to make
further recommendations at this point.

We have the honor to be

Yours obediently

W. H. Bragg

P.S. Since writing this, we have
had curtains hung from the
ceiling of the concert room in a simple
fashion, and Dr Scott reports that
there is a very great improvement.