



Choir is here to stay

A COURSE on choral music run for six weeks by the Nantwich branch of the W.E.A. has led to a move to form a permanent choral society in the town.

So great was the interest shown in the course and the progress made that the tutor Mr. Michael Bax, decided to present a full-scale concert, and the 40-strong mixed choir made its debut at the Parish Church last week before an audience of 150.

After the concert, Mr. Bax

told "The Chronicle" that it was planned to hold an inaugural meeting for the new choral society on September 20, at a venue to be decided.

The aim is to start rehearsals for a performance of the "Messiah" at Christmas, with possibly another concert in the Spring. Prospective new choir members are invited to attend the first meeting.

Added Mr. Bax: "I am grateful to all members of the choir, orchestra and soloists for their considerable efforts and keen enthusiasm, producing a performance which will be remembered by those who heard it for some time."

The programme opened with a selection of church music by Purcell, Gordon Jacob, William H. Harris and Stravinsky.

The choir then showed their rapidly-acquired versatility with a group of folk songs and followed with a number of English madrigals.

The concert, conducted by Mr. Bax, ended with Schubert's Mass No. 2 in G, scored for choir, strings and organ. The accompanying string orchestra, led by Mr. Cliff Grice, comprised Crewe College members and friends. The organist was Michael Bridger.

The vocal soloists were Margaret Henshall (soprano), Tudor Morris-Jones (tenor) and Brian Roberts (bass). The accompanist was Joy Roberts.

● Pictured are the W.E.A. choir outside the Parish Church where they made their debut. Mr. Bax, the conductor, is on the extreme right.