

Belfast Telegraph, Wednesday 5 October 1966.

Orchestral ‘overflow’

The first public performance of the Ulster Orchestra in Belfast may be remembered as the day when the orchestra was overwhelmed by success.

For the audience at the lunch-time concert in the War Memorial Building, Waring Street, overflowed from the Queen’s Hall unto the foyer and latecomers like myself could hardly even see the orchestra.

But the Arts Council rallied round and I noticed **Capt. Peter Montgomery**, the president, carrying chairs to accommodate the overflow.

Mr. Maurice Miles, the conductor, was delighted with the large audience and said that the attendance proved that Mozart was “very good for lunch.”

Though conditions outside the concert hall were trying — it was difficult to hear the orchestra above the noise of the traffic, rustling papers and the clip-clop of high heels — I was surprised at the number of people who remained standing throughout the hour-long programme.

But there is good news for music lovers. In future, the lunch-time concerts will be held in the Wellington Hall — which was not available yesterday — and the orchestra will give a concert there every other Tuesday, alternating with the band of the R.U.C.

Chichester