Schubert

Richard Trump*
Schubert

—Unfinished Symphony

By Richard Trump, '36

UNFINISHED only as a traveler's tale
That tells the whole of an uncompleted quest
For some far land along a mountain trail,
His music now retells his own unrest—
A traveler lost, alone in a wind-swept night
Of starless sky and pathless earth, to grope
Along the barren rock where, height on height,
Sharp ledges rise to mock his dying hope.

And out of this brief unfinished life that hurled
Itself against a cold unyielding wall,
There came a song of peace for the stricken world—
A song of life's despair and hope for all
Mankind, more beautiful than stars that glow
Above the chill black earth where travelers go.

December, 1396
Adventures in Pursuing an Idea

By Jane Sproul, '39

AFRICA has her big game hunters, the Arctic her explorers, but I have my own pastime of pursuing the vague and elusive Idea.

As a general rule, Ideas run in flocks, crowded closely together and often tripping over each other in their frantic haste to evade the desperate hunter. Again they may be found in groups of two or three, and even singly. At times the countryside for miles around the radius of your desk may be completely barren of these tantalizing creatures. It is here that the sport of the hunt enters in.

The Idea is a sly creature. He may raise a beguiling head from a barren wilderness, and then, just as you are about to bring him within reach of your trusty pen, he may vanish, and nothing but a very large void is left.

Again he may leer covertly at you from beneath the tangles of imagination, and once again he may disappear, leaving you harassed and frustrated.

However, if you are a crafty soul, you may be able to attack one of these elusive creatures from behind, and, although the struggle will be a great one, you may eventually overcome him. The best method for hunting is this: first of all, start early in the day when the world is new and the mists that have befogged your brain have all been blown away. Then, pick your firearm. A pen is a good weapon, but a pencil is in high favor with many.

Third, carry several large sheets of white ruled paper which you may use to bind the Idea once you have safely ensnared him.

The task is difficult, but if you are exceedingly patient, and cautiously crafty, the hunt may be fascinating, even thrilling. Do not despair—"success comes to him who waits," and even an Idea, vague, ethereal, elusive though it may be, can be captured by the patient hunter.