The Per Niente

Born and trained in Buffalo, Leonard Pennario made his debut as a concert pianist at the age of 12. Since then, he has become world renowned for his abilities and techniques. Having played with every major philharmonic in the US and many abroad, Mr. Pennario holds a place in music history and is revered by every fan of classical music performed on the piano.

Mr. Pennario is considered the 20th century pianist who did the most promoting of American music in general; composers such as Gershwin, Gottschalk, Bernstein and Rozsa. In Carnegie Hall, Pennario collaborated in history-making concerts with Jascha Heifetz and Gregor Piatigorsky, having filled the seat vacated by Rubinstein. Thousands of music lovers attended, hearing these three great artists in brilliant performances of trios by Beethoven, Brahms, Dvořák, Arensky, Turina and Mendelssohn.

Other highlights of Mr. Pennario's career included his acclaimed debut with the New York Philharmonic at Carnegie Hall. At this concert, Mr. Pennario, who had just been enlisted by the United States Army, performed Liszt's Concerto in E flat in his Army uniform. He also had the honor of playing Rachmaninoff's Second Pi-

ano Concerto with the Minneapolis Symphony at the request of conductor Dimitri Mitropoulos in a memorial concert dedicated to the great Russian composer.

As a composer, Pennario has written a number of

works for piano which have been published and earned him membership in the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP). This distinguished artist has also appeared at the White House and was a regular guest at summer festivals, including the Hollywood Bowl, Mann Music Center in Philadelphia, Waterloo in New Jersey, and Brevard Music Center in North Carolina.

Besides having written tunes for movies, Mr. Pennario's achievements include a Grammy Award in 1995.