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Mr. Herbert Belar
211 Seward Place
Schenectady, N. Y.

My dear Herbert:

Thank you for your letter of September 9th. I wish you all possible joy and success in your new undertaking.

There have been many attempts to produce an instrument such as you describe, and there was an instrument known as the Teleharmonica, invented by an American called Cahill. I think over a half million was sunk in the promotion of this instrument a great many years ago. The instrument was just as you say, the proper combination of fundamentals and their partial tones of all qualities and shades. It could imitate any instrument of the orchestra with astonishing fidelity, ranging from the harp and oboe to flute and violin.

I wrote a long article about this in the "Musicalische Wochenblatt" and this was re-published in scientific papers all over Europe. It was translated into Russian and even Greek, because the article attracted a great deal of attention. The article ran through three issues.

It failed largely because of the fact that with each new instrument it added, orchestral massed volume of the tone diminished in quantity until it got to a ridiculous amount. I wish I could find a copy of this article to send to you. I remember spending nearly a month investigating it because I thought it had great possibilities.

Cordially,

Theodore Presser Co.

James Francis Cooke
President

JFC:B