

Er lebe hoch!

Volkswaise

Die Melodie eignet sich auch sehr gut zu einem englischen Toast: Long may he live!

Lebhaft

Er le - be hoch, er le - be hoch! Er le - be hoch, er le - be hoch, hoch,
er le - be hoch, .

hoch,

Detailed description: This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (Bb, Eb) and a 3/4 time signature. It features a melody with eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment with eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are written below the staves, with some words like 'hoch,' and 'er le - be hoch, .' appearing on separate lines.

hoch, hoch, hoch, er le - be hoch!

er le - be hoch, . . . er le - be hoch,

hoch, hoch, hoch,

Detailed description: This system contains the second two staves of music. The top staff continues the melody from the first system, ending with a double bar line. The bottom staff continues the accompaniment, also ending with a double bar line. The lyrics 'hoch, hoch, hoch, er le - be hoch!' are written below the top staff. Below the bottom staff, the lyrics 'er le - be hoch, . . . er le - be hoch,' and 'hoch, hoch, hoch,' are written. The music concludes with a final cadence in both staves.

Zweimal wiederholt, immer stärker und bewegter.

A MARIANIST MYSTERY SOLVED

For some time the Province Archivist has been questioning various of the Brothers in an effort to pin down the origin of the toasting song that has become a tradition among American Marianists. Thanks to Bro. Don Hebel of the Cincinnati Province and Brothers Novosal and Schnepf of the St. Louis Province, a plausible solution seems to have been found.

No, the Er Loebe Hoch did not come to the US with the pioneer Alsatian Brothers. According to Fr. Theodore Koehler, himself an Alsatian, that song is unknown in those parts. Rather, the Er Loebe is of German folk origin and was probably sung among the German-American settlements in this country.

According to Bro. Novosal, who is archivist for his province, it was Bro. Louis Thein who made the song an SM characteristic. As to the origin of the song, among the personal effects of Bro. Lawrence Gonner was found a book of Neues Deutsches Lieder published by D.C. Heath in this country during 1931, as part of its Modern Language Series. On page 43 of this volume is found the song reproduced below. The version familiar to Marianists appears to be an adaptation of it.

Many thanks to those Brothers who patiently assisted in the search for an answer to this little mystery of Marianist folkways.

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Zweimal wiederholt, immer stärker und bewegter.