

# GLENN GOULD SUES PIANO TECHNICIAN

**Asks \$300,000 Damages,  
Saying Steinway and Its  
Employee Injured Him**

Glenn Gould, brilliant Canadian pianist and composer, filed a \$300,000 damage suit yesterday against Steinway & Sons and one of the company's employes.

The musician charged in Federal court that he had suffered physical injuries at the hands of a "demonstrative" employe, William Hupfer, who is Steinway's chief technician.

The 28-year-old pianist, who performs only on Steinway pianos, said that the defendants had been aware that he was a person of "extreme and unusual sensitivity to physical contact."

Mr. Gould said that on Dec. 8, 1959, he was sitting in the office of a Steinway executive when Mr. Hupfer approached him from behind and "recklessly or negligently let both forearms down with considerable force on the plaintiff's neck and left shoulder, driving the plaintiff's left elbow against the arm of the chair in which he was sitting."

Prior to this incident, Mr. Gould said, he had complained to the company of the "unduly strong handshakes and other demonstrative physical acts of Hupfer towards the plaintiff." He said that he demanded that Steinway take steps to "protect" him, but that the company had done nothing.

Mr. Gould said he suffered injuries to his neck, shoulder and spinal discs and impairment in the use of his left hand, which had prevented him from engaging in concert and recording performances.

The pianist said that to date he had spent \$3,600 for medical



The New York Times

**FILES DAMAGE SUIT:**  
Glenn Gould, Canadian pianist. He charged he had suffered physical injuries at hands of William Hupfer, the chief technician of Steinway & Sons, and is suing company and employe.

treatment and had lost \$21,400 in earnings.

Mr. Gould's idiosyncracies have earned him almost as much attention as his concert work. He wears gloves, scarves and overcoats in the summer lest he catch cold, and soaks his hands in hot water for twenty minutes before piano recitals.