

# A Run Through The Programmes



in the modern art world; Lady Bancroft, who with her husband helped to revolutionise English acting and production; and John Pounds, the crippled Portsmouth cobbler who began the Ragged School Movement. A mixed bag.

## Everybody Sing!

There must be some deep urge to account for the fact that some people *will* sing, even if such an event is manifestly undesirable. From old Mr. Smith-Brown who protests to his hostess that "he really couldn't sing to-night" and firmly intends to before the evening is out, to the blushing boy soprano, once someone plays the piano the rot sets in. However, everybody *does* enjoy a good round of choruses, and that is why the item to be presented from 2YA on Wednesday, October 25 at 8.8 p.m., "Round The Piano" should be well received.

## What's In A Name?

Despite the contempt implied in the cliché, there's a very great deal in a name. as any film star's publicity agent will tell you—if you catch him off guard. What would Joan Crawford have been if she had remained Lucille La Sueur, and how many hearts would Ramon Novarro have broken as Ramon Samaniegos? It is the same everywhere. Names seem to have made history as often as history has made names. Some of the most interesting examples will be discussed in the series "What's in a Name?" beginning at 3 p.m. from 2YA on Sunday, October 22.

## Literature For Listeners

There have been readings and literary talks on the air before now, but during the coming week Auckland, Christchurch, and Dunedin have assembled an unusually fine group of great prose writers. In Auckland, Professor W. A. Sewell changes from poetry to prose in his "Personal Anthology" and has selected favourite passages from Jeremy Taylor and Sir Thomas Browne. Professor Sewell is to be heard from 1YA at 8 p.m. on Friday, October 27. From 3YA, O. L. Simmance has this week also included Browne in his readings programme (Wednesday, October 25, at 8 p.m.), and 4YA completes the group with readings by Professor T. D. Adams from Alexander Smith, on The Writing of Essays; from Leigh Hunt, on The

Cat by the Fire; and from Dr. Samuel Johnson on Boswell and Carlyle (Friday, 9.33 p.m.).

## Rustic Histrionics

As the philosopher cried, "Go back to nature." Buried deep in the heart of rustic England is the BBC programme, "The Village Concert." The histrionic powers of the parish are put to the test as the good yokels and yokelesses(!) take the stage. Presided over by the deah vicar, they give of their



best, despite disparaging comment by the assembled multitude. There is plenty of variety, and lots of fun; for example, there is one old dear of fifty who sings with great élan songs from "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," complete with half-portion echo in the wings. Listeners should enjoy this programme when it is presented from 1YA Auckland, at 9.48 p.m. on Wednesday, October 25.

## He Died Young

The Gods, we know, seldom give long life and fame at the same time. It was certainly the case with Chopin. Loving good things like music and friendship, he died at thirty-nine. He was a lyric poet, and translated everything he felt into melody. But he could not stand the wearing life of fêting and died in Paris in 1849. Four piano compositions by Chopin will be presented by Haagen Holenbergh from 3YA Christchurch, at 8.40 p.m. on Sunday, October 22.



## SHORTWAVES

ONCE upon a time, when jazz was very young, it used to be possible to distinguish between such different members of the profession as composers, arrangers, instrumentalists, and leaders.—Leonard G. Feather, in the "Radio Times."

GERMAN dance bands have been particularly told that it is "unworthy" to sing the words of foreign dance music in a foreign language.—From an article, "German Music Under The Censor," by A. A. Gulliland.

IF Columbus found a new world, Dickens created one—and peopled it with men and women.—Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch.

THERE is no incidental music to the dramas of real life.—Sax Rohmer.

AS is to be expected, the idea of music is more popular to women, since they as a sex tend to sing more at their work than men do.—B. W. Gussman, in a talk on music in factories.

WHERE a lead glass eye would last an ordinary person for, say, six months or a year, a soda-glass eye would last perhaps several years.—From a talk on glass eye making.

ONCE a funny little chap of about fourteen worked for me. It was his first job and he'd never seen a telephone. On his first day I was in the garden when the 'phone rang. I heard the most awful banging and then silence. I rushed in. The telephone was smashed. The child was sobbing with terror. He said that the thing on the wall had screamed, so he'd picked up his knobkerrie and hit it as hard as he could till he'd killed it.—Kathleen Hewitt, speaking on native servants in South Africa.

I AM often asked to say what is the average life of a dog . . . there is evidence to show that exceptional dogs have lived as long as 25 years, and a number must have reached 20.—A. Croxton Smith in "The Field."

DEMOCRACY, a derivative of Christian fellowship, must now be extended beyond the political into the economic realm. The Church, solicitous for human welfare, is inevitably involved in this controversy.—Alfred W. Swan in the "Churchman."