



BOYD NEEL  
He chose boldly

# BOYD NEEL AND HIS ORCHESTRA

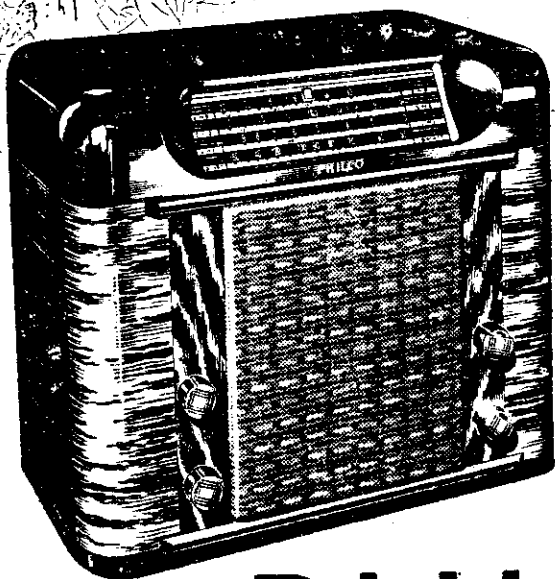
*N.Z. Tour Organised by  
British Council*

NEARLY two years ago the British Council sent Sir Angus Gillan, Director of its Empire Division, to tour New Zealand and see whether there was any way in which we could make use of the assistance the Council offers to overseas countries (including the Dominions) which have a desire for cultural relations with Britain. At that time, Sir Angus Gillan held out hopes of being able to send us such things as the Old Vic theatrical company, the Sadler's Wells Ballet, and perhaps a British orchestra. And a few weeks ago it was announced that the Boyd Neel Orchestra (already very well known to New Zealand radio listeners by its recordings) would come here in April. Minor services from the British Council (such as the supply of review books to newspapers) have been in operation for some time; and through the recordings of British music which it has sponsored, the Council has already enriched our musical experience; but the visit of the Boyd Neel Orchestra will be the first large-scale operation in this country by the British Council.

Boyd Neel is 42, and was a doctor of medicine before he became a professional musician. He was born in Kent, and took his medical degree at Cambridge. As a student, he organised undergraduate musical activities, and admits that he only just got through his exams. Then he worked for three years at St. George's Hospital, and for five years as a G.P. in the slums of London. But in



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