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No. 24

NEWS FROM THE ZB'S

WHEN he was only 19 years of age George Gershwin was asked to write the score for a Broadway revue. And in the following six years he produced works, each of which added to his stature as a composer, especially of music peculiarly American. Probably his best-known compositions are *Rhapsody in Blue*, for piano and jazz orchestra, and *Porgy and Bess*, with libretto from Du Bose Heyward's play *Porgy*. Commenting on *Porgy and Bess*, Oscar Levant mentions in his biography of Gershwin, that the composer was always dissatisfied with his works. He wanted to write something serious, but his ambition was thwarted by the never-ending commissions for light music. But when he had finished *Porgy and Bess*, he remarked that his life as a composer had not been wasted. *Rhapsody in Blue* has always found an appreciative audience, from the time of its first public performance in the Aeolian Hall, New York, in 1924. George Gershwin and his work will be the subject of a 15-minutes' programme to be broadcast at 2.0 p.m. on Sunday, June 8, from 1ZB Auckland.

* * *

SEFTON DALY, the New Zealand pianist who accompanied Noel Coward on his Dominion tour, will be heard in a recorded session from 3ZB on Sunday, June 1, at 4.30 p.m. Daly, who is 35 years of age, was born in



SEFTON DALY
Talent for improvisation

Christchurch and was a pupil of the Christchurch Boys' High School. He did not start on his musical career till he was 14 and even then he showed a preference for improvising rather than for studying musical notation and its technicalities. Later on he decided to make for London, but when he was in Sydney the war broke out and altered his plans. There he met Noel Coward, when the latter was playing at the Minerva Theatre, and was engaged as his accompanist for the tour of Australia and New Zealand. Afterwards Daly joined the Army and was attached

(continued on next page)

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