

Saturday the Tommy Handley Half-Hour, with the spectacle unedifying to an ITMA fan of Tommy playing bunny-rabbit to Chee-ful Charlie Chester's tortoise. Finally "Write a Song for £2000," an account of a recent song competition won by two conventional and tuneful waltz songs "Cruising Down the River" and "When You're in Love with Somebody Else" (so much better expressed years ago by "Dancing with Tears in My Eyes"). Next week of course I may listen to a similar selection of programmes (though I seldom make the same mistake twice) and enjoy myself more—it's just possible that my present jaundiced ear is due to the fact that I had been asked out only two nights of that week.

Miss Sayers's Mr. Budd

DOROTHY SAYERS'S *The Inspiration of Mr. Budd*, as heard recently from 2YA, was a happy inspiration for half-past ten of a Sunday evening. Miss Sayers's genius translates well to radio, as those who heard *The Man Born to be King* will remember. "Mr. Budd" (not to be confused with the ubiquitous Lanny of Mr. Upton Sinclair) belongs of course to a much less lofty genre, but our half-hour with him convinces us of his reality. Here is no super-sleuth, but a timid and modest little barber, redeemed from mediocrity by his conscientiousness as a citizen and his pride in his profession. There is no suggestion of violence in this little tale of Mr. Budd's contact with the criminal, nothing to rob us of even a minute of that precious eight hours so essential to prepare us for the working week.

Negro Spirituals

A RECITAL of Negro Spirituals was given recently from the 4YA studios by Geoffrey de Latour, possessor of a fine, resonant bass voice which broadcasts excellently. This singer reveals in his interpretation of spirituals a deep sense of their beauty and power. It might be argued that such singers as



Marian Anderson and Paul Robeson have said the last word regarding the interpretation of spirituals, and it is true that our own singers can tell us nothing new about the old favourites like "Sweet Chariot" and "Deep River." But there are literally dozens and dozens of spirituals which we hear so seldom that they are really new songs to us, and our singers can help to present us with the harvest of this rich field of music by discovering its glories for themselves.

Schertzinger Melodies

MELODIES by Victor Schertzinger are to be heard from 22B at 9.45 a.m. on Friday, August 8. Schertzinger was responsible for one of the biggest popular song successes of this century when he wrote *Marcheta*. In Hollywood he was associated with many films, including *The Love Parade*, *One Night of Love*, and *The Fleet's In*. His death occurred while the last of those films was being produced.

NATIONAL FILM UNIT

THIS is the orange season and into New Zealand are coming thousands of cases of oranges from the Cook Islands. The National Film Unit has made a film of the handling and transporting of the fruit, entitled "Oranges," which will be released on August 1 in Weekly Review No. 309. It shows the islanders picking and sorting the fruit, putting it into gas chambers to shrink the skin for better preservation, and packing it into cases. These are loaded into small boats which have to negotiate coral reefs to reach the ship waiting in calm waters to load the fruit for the New Zealand market.

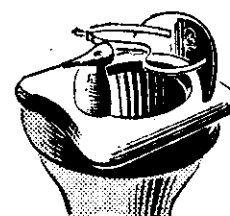
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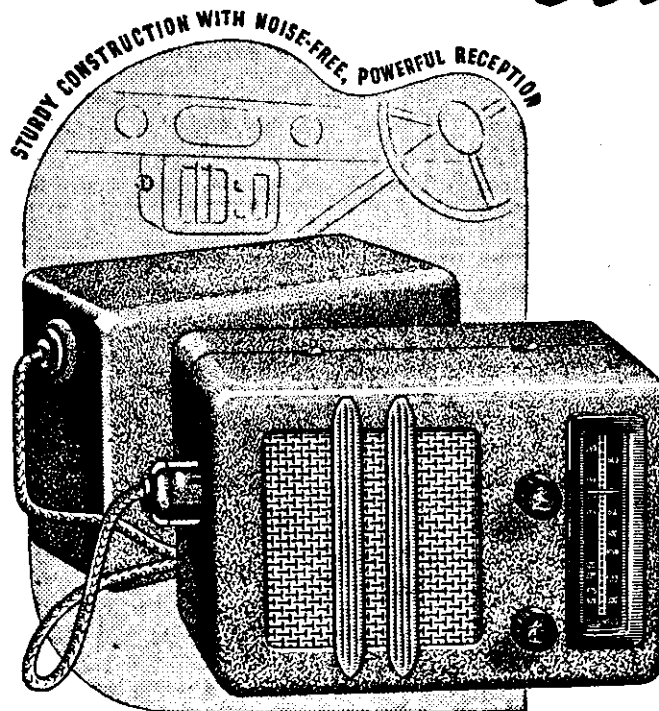
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