(continued from previous page)

of the better-known songs, and the task of arranging this material into a suite of about 20 minutes playing-time was given to Ashley Heenan of the NZBS musical library. With the assistance of copyists and photographers he accomplished the task of orchestrating the



Spencer Digby photograph
ASHLEY HEENAN
Photostats for strings

selections and copying out the various parts in a period of a little over seven weeks.

The two songs involved the greatest difficulty, as the vocal parts for soli and chorus had to be arranged and scored for full symphony orchestra. This was done by Mr. Heenan, who has already achieved some note as a composer—his Minuet for String Orchestra was broadcast from 4YA in a programme of music by New Zealand composers in 1946. The main problem, Mr. Heenan told The Listener, lay in writing the orchestral

parts in a manner as near as possible to that which Bizet himself would have employed if he had been arranging the suite. Although he believed there was a Carmen suite written by the composer in existence, Mr. Heenan said, he did not think there was a copy of it in New Zealand. Thus he had nothing to work on in the arrangement except his knowledge of Bizet's style based on other prichestral works. It took him over a month's hard work to complete the arrangements to his satisfaction.

Copyists' Tasks

Incorporating the overture and three entr'actes into the suite involved little difficulty apart from the copying out of the actual orchestral parts, and this was done by copyists working on manuscript paper with the actual opera score before them. But when the complete score of the suite was finished, the separate parts for use by the various sections of the urchestra had also to be made out. In the case of the woodwinds, brasses and percussion, part scores for each individual player were copied out by hand, but with the string section the greater amount of score and the larger number of players involved made this a too laborious task. Master copies only were done by hand and these were sent to a photographer and photostat copies made -one for each desk in the string sec-

Additional work was involved in edging and binding these photostat copies into a form that could easily be read by the players, and finally one complete score of the suite for use by the conductor had to be made. The resulting manuscript volume of 103 pages is a massive tome to handle, and the amount of work spent in copying it out can be realised when it is understood that each page of manuscript took on the average 40 minutes to complete.

The Orchestral Suite from Carmen, arranged by Ashley Heenan, will be played by the National Orchestra in some of its concerts at dates to be proposed later.

lay in writing the orchestral announced later.

For the Kiwis in Japan



LEW ANDREWS, of Wanganui, at the control panel of the recently opened radio station WLKY (Chofu). Though used primarily for rebroadcasting AKAA at Yamaguchi, WLKY frequently broadcasts its own programmes

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