

REQUEST SESSION

*BY the voice of the people whose lofty command
Brooks no refusal to bow to their pleasure
The hardworking records come meekly to hand
Waiting to spin out their ingraven treasure.*

*WEEKLY more weakly the baritone roars,
Warily triumphant with whistle and whoops,
Training his lions and licking their paws,
Lazily putting his seals through their hoops,
Endlessly howling his throat and his wares,
Ceaselessly bearing the same weary load—
Eternal drum major, and Jack of affairs,
Sweeping the chimneys on Life's Open Road.*

*THE lion has gone and the lambs come instead
Lamentingly pouring love's woes in our ear—
Lonely men these, whose love-life lies dead,
While a thousand-piece orchestra weeps at the rear.*

And it doesn't make up for the loss of their love

That the moon they refer to rhymes neatly with June,

*And that stars by necessity twinkle "above"
Which all but the lovelorn admit is a boon.*

*WHEN Z. Burglestein gets hold of a number
That some lesser man has attempted to do,
He deftly remodels the tune to a rumba
Keeping Chopin alive—and Burglestein too.
And "Regular Listener" of So-and-So street
Curls up with her knitting and turns on the switch,*

*And thinks that Tchaikovski is perfectly sweet
As she heaves the odd sigh and drops the odd stitch.*

*ONE would think that a cowboy with hands on the reins
Would not have his hands full of heart-troubles too,*

*But it's sobs in the saddle, and pains on the plains
And all for a true love that always ain't true.*

The home on the range has no range in the home

*Or electrical fittings to turn on the lights
Only silvery threads in his old mother's comb*

And a lamp burning bright in the window at nights.

*A MID frenzied percussion of drums double skinned
A trumpeter screams out of tune and of breath,
Till with flailing of drum sticks and flailing of wind*

The Listeners' Session is beaten to death.

—"Augustus"

(continued from previous page)

more competent performance than the English; one may compare Simenon with his English rivals.

To descend from the general to the particular, this short novel by Jacques Natanson has a neatness and cynicism which will appeal to sophisticated and unmystical readers. A rich man hires a handsome scoundrel to seduce the affections of his wife, not from himself but from her "regular" lover whose hold on her he is determined to break. But the blackguard has his sparks of honour, and anyway this little job proves an infernal machine which carries him on a road he never intended to take.

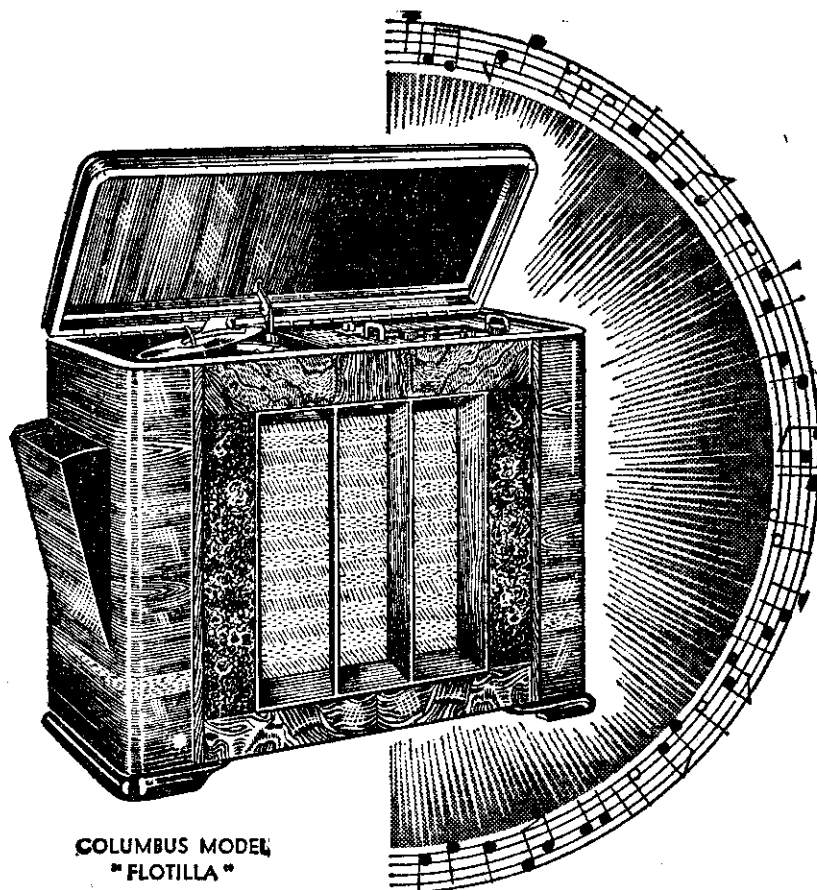
The story, deftly told by the scoundrel, moves quickly and may be enjoyed on at least two levels, as an entertainment and as an unusual view of human nature. Take it as you find it.

—David Hall

Film Melodies

LOUIS LEVY is one of the best known musical directors in the British film world, and he conducts his famous orchestra in the BBC series *Melodies from British Films*, which will start from 2YA at 9.30 p.m. on Monday, April 12, from 4YA at 2.0 p.m. on April 15, and 1YA at 9.30 p.m. on April 17. Louis Levy has spent most of his professional life making music for the cinema, both as musical director and composer. He started his career as a violinist in cinema orchestras in the old silent film days (see page 21).

NEW ZEALAND LISTENER, APRIL 9



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