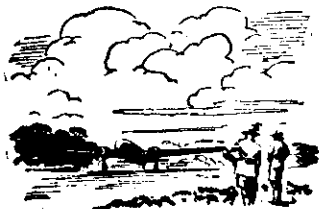


The SHELL NEWS COLUMN

Searching for oil in South American jungles is expensive, and difficult—often dangerous.

Oil is often found in remote countries: a good example is the South American State of Ecuador. The Shell Group has established oilfields out there, deep in the densest jungle, where neither roads nor tracks exist, and where some of the natives are head-hunters.



From Quito, Ecuador's capital, to Shell-Mera, (Shell's advanced base) a special road has been built which drops 6000 feet in a seven hour ride, often verging sheer precipices. But beyond Shell-Mera, only aircraft can serve.

The first well was sunk at Arajuno. Since road building was impossible, a party trekked out on mules and cut a tiny clearing for a plane to land. Equipment was flown in and, after several attacks by hostile Indians, drilling started. But—that well was a failure.



Meanwhile a similar start was made at Ayuy and at Taisha. At some places, even landing strips can't be built—and everything has to be parachuted in.

So the adventurous, hazardous search for oil goes on—in dense jungles, in desert wastes, amid high mountains. World consumption is rising rapidly, and Shell is playing a vigorous part in the endeavour to keep supply ahead of demand.

E4.9

Another in the Series
**THE SHELL COMPANY
OF N.Z. LTD.**
(Incorporated in England)

THINGS TO COME

A Run Through The Programmes

Rhumba Rhythms

LISTENERS whose taste in dance music favours the South American will be interested in the series of programmes being given from 1YA by Warwick Ransom and his Cuban Cavalleros. Ransom has made a special study of the rhumba for a number of years. He has visited most of the countries where the rhumba is thoroughly established and is well versed in the different styles of rhumba rhythm. His dance group, which is believed to be the first local rhumba band to broadcast from the station, will be heard at 9.43 p.m. this Thursday, March 24, at the same time on Thursday, March 31, and finally in this particular series of broadcasts the following Thursday evening, April 7.

Germany To-day and To-morrow

WHAT is Germany like to-day and what is her future? These are the questions Ralph Sutton sets out to answer in two talks from 1YA which are being broadcast at 7.15 p.m. this Thursday, March 24, and next Thursday, March 31. They are based on Mr. Sutton's impressions and experiences when he visited Germany during the course of a trip to Europe to attend the World Council of Churches at Amsterdam. In his first talk he speaks about what Germans are thinking to-day and notes their particular interest in the Antipodes. In his second talk he describes war damage and refers to the sense of frustration and hopelessness of millions of Germans. He finds it difficult to answer his latter question, but listeners will appreciate his statement of some of the problems and of his faith in the power of the Christian Church to help meet those problems.

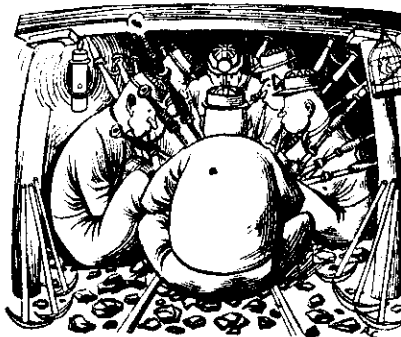
South American Way

EDMUNDO ROS, exponent of the Latin-American musical idiom, and now a "BBC Personality," was a high-spirited youth. He exhausted a fond mother's patience and was packed off to a South American military college for discipline. Here the college band was immediately the subject of his closest attention. He was given the only spare instrument—something like a huge euphonium—which was almost as big as he was. Struggling with this massive affair proved too much for the youngster's health, so he went on to the drums. Later he took up musical study at the Royal Academy, London, and eventually had his own band. For some time he has been playing at the Bagatelle, one of London's smartest restaurants, and at the Astor Night Club, and also broadcasting regularly in the BBC Overseas, Home, and Latin-American programmes. The swarthy and strong (but not silent) Edmundo will be featured in the *For My Lady* session from 2YA, at 10.40 a.m. on Saturday, April 2.

Pipes of Scotland

IT'S not easy for miners on shift work to get together for band rehearsals, but the miners of Bowhill, a village in the Fifeshire collieries, are such enthusiasts for pipe music that they have

made the Bowhill Colliery Pipe Band one of the foremost in Scotland. In 1947 they won a first prize in the competition held by the Scottish Pipe Band Association during the International Music Festival at Edinburgh, and they are now featured in the first programme of the new BBC series *Pipes of Scotland*, which starts from 3XC Timaru at 7.45 p.m. on Sunday, April 3. They play a selection of Scottish marches and dances, including "Dovecot Park," one of the victory marches played by the Massed Pipes and Drums of the 31st Highland Division during the V-day celebrations



in London. Future programmes in this series, which no lover of pipe music should miss, include a solo recital by the world-famous Pipe-Major William Ross, of Edinburgh, numbers by the Glasgow Police Pipe Band, the Clan MacRae Society Pipe Band, the Shotts and Dykehead Caledonia Pipe Band, and solo recitals by Pipe-Major John MacDonald, from the island of South Uist.

Story of Russian Music

BOLD prophets in Beethoven's time had been heard to say that a great musical future was in store for Russia, but the fulfilment of the prophecy was long delayed. Although Anton Rubinstein had said that Glinka was the equal or superior of Haydn and Mozart, he had expressed an opinion that could only have occurred to a Russian, and then only as a patriotic paradox. The first composer to make a genuinely Russian music recognised over the whole civilised world was Tchaikovsky, and by 1860 a group known as "the Five" had arisen, which, following Glinka's lead, aimed at fostering a distinctive national spirit in their music. Borodin was one of the most distinguished members of "the Five," and with the others—Balkirev, Cui, Moussorgsky, and Rimsky-Korsakov—he laid the foundations on which modern composers like Prokofieff and Shostakovich have established Russia as one of the leading musical nations in the world. Listeners interested in the rise of Russian music should tune in to 2YA at 9.30 p.m. on Thursday, March 31, when the first of a series of programmes will be broadcast under the title *Seventy Years of Russian Music*.

Confidence Man

A NOT very attractive young lady, who spends her time looking after an invalid aunt, meets a handsome South African who is stationed in England during the war. She and her relatives are swept off their feet by his

ALSO WORTH NOTICE

MONDAY

2YA, 8.0 p.m.: Opera "La Boheme."
4YZ, 7.15 p.m.: Talk, "Seed Certification."

TUESDAY

2YZ, 3.15 p.m.: Music of Our Time.
3XC, 9.4 p.m.: The "Linz" Symphony.

WEDNESDAY

2XG, 9.0 p.m.: Play, "The Pedantic Phantom."
3YA, 9.30 p.m.: Serenade, "A Little Night Music."

THURSDAY

2YC, 7.30 p.m.: "Christmas Crackers."
4YZ, 2.15 p.m.: "Morning, Noon, and Night in Vienna."

FRIDAY

2YA, 7.15 p.m.: Talk, "Neighbours and Citizens."
4YA, 9.30 p.m.: Dunedin Brains Trust.

SATURDAY

1YA, 8.37 p.m.: "William Tell" Overture.
3YA, 9.30 p.m.: Extracts from "Hamlet."

SUNDAY

1YD, 5.0 p.m.: "Bandstand."
4YA, 10.0 p.m.: Play, "The Waxworks Mystery."

dashing manners, his stories of a family fortune in diamonds, and the account of his heroic deeds at Dunkirk and Tobruk. As if in a dream she becomes engaged to him, and when he explains that he is a little short of cash (because there has been a hold-up in his army pay and it takes a while to cable out to South Africa) she lends him money to pay his mess bills. When it turns out that her fiancé is nothing but a plausible rogue, and he makes off with all the family jewels, their car, her engagement ring, and even her fur coat, the young lady does—well, not exactly what is expected, for this NZBS play has an unexpected ending, as anyone can discover who tunes in to 1YA at 8.0 p.m. on Sunday, April 3. Its title is *Make Mine Hemlock*.

Musical Soldier

A MAN who enlisted in the army so that he could pursue a musical career might be considered a little crazy these days, but apparently army life in the early 19th Century was different from what it is now, for Gaetano Donizetti did just that thing. Donizetti was born in Italy in 1797, and legend has it that in order to escape parental opposition to his musical career, he enlisted in the Austrian army and began to compose in his leisure time, completing his first opera, *Enrico di Borgogna*, at Vienna, in 1818. The success of his fourth opera four years later caused his release from military service, and he then composed many operas for Italian theatres. He wrote very rapidly, composing one operetta in nine days, and his early work was much influenced by Rossini. However, most of his operas are little played these days, except for the ever popular *Lucia di Lammermoor*, which is based on Sir Walter Scott's novel, and the comic opera *Don Pasquale*. Listeners to 3YA will hear a recorded version of *Lucia di Lammermoor* at 8.5 p.m. on Sunday, April 3.