

BUSY DAYS AHEAD

Heavy Programme for Orchestral Concert Season

THIS year's orchestral season, which is starting later than usual to fit in with the opera season, will open with a symphony concert in the Wellington Town Hall on Wednesday, June 29, when the re-assembled National Orchestra will be heard again under the baton of Andersen Tyrer. From then until November the Orchestra will be fully occupied with a tight schedule of performances in the main and provincial centres. Plans for this year anticipate that the Orchestra will go much further afield than it has done in the past, and the projected itinerary includes visits to North Auckland, the East Coast, and Westland. Performances in

Other works which it is believed will receive their first public performances in New Zealand during the coming season are Kalinnikov's Symphony No. 2 and Prokofiev's Classical Symphony. The tone poem *Death and Transfiguration*, by Richard Strauss, the *First Norfolk Rhapsody*, by Vaughan Williams, Delius's Norwegian rhapsody *Eventyr*, William Walton's *Passacaglia on the Death of Falstaff*, and *Touch Her Soft Lips and Part*, two pieces from the film music he wrote for *Henry V*, will also be performed for the first time by the Orchestra this year. Other new works for the Orchestra include a suite from Handel's ballet *Terpsicore*, Walton's *Facade Suite No. 2*, the Brahms Rubbra *Variations on a Theme by Handel*, and Benjamin Britten's *Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Purcell*, *Soirées Musicales* (entitled "five movements from Rossini"), and *Matinée Musicale*.

Symphonies from the Orchestra's present repertoire which will be played again during the 1949 season include the Beethoven Third and Fifth, Mozart's Nos. 35 and 39, Schubert's Fifth, Brahms's First, Second, and Fourth, Cesar Franck's Second, Tchaikovsky's Fifth, Borodin's Second, Kabalevsky's Second and Dvorak's New World Symphony.



Spencer Digby photograph

ANDERSEN TYRER

From June to November, a tight schedule

these areas will be given in as many as possible of those towns which have suitable halls and accommodation.

The Orchestra's North Island tour has been arranged so that performances will be given in Auckland next August during the Music Festival which the Auckland Music Council has planned on the lines of that held in 1940. The Orchestra will give two symphony concerts during the week August 15 to 20, and it will take part in a performance of Elgar's cantata *Caractacus*. In October the Orchestra will be in Christchurch to perform Elgar's oratorio *The Dream of Gerontius* with the Christchurch Harmonic Society. Arrangements are also being made for two prominent overseas artists to take part in concerts with the National Orchestra during the latter part of the season. They are the baritone Harold Williams and the pianist Alexander Hellmann.

The most outstanding of the new works which the orchestra will perform in the course of the season will be Vaughan Williams's Symphony No. 6. This work was finished only last year, in the composer's 75th year, and its initial performance by the BBC Symphony Orchestra conducted by Sir Adrian Boult aroused great enthusiasm among all who heard it. It has not yet been heard in this country.

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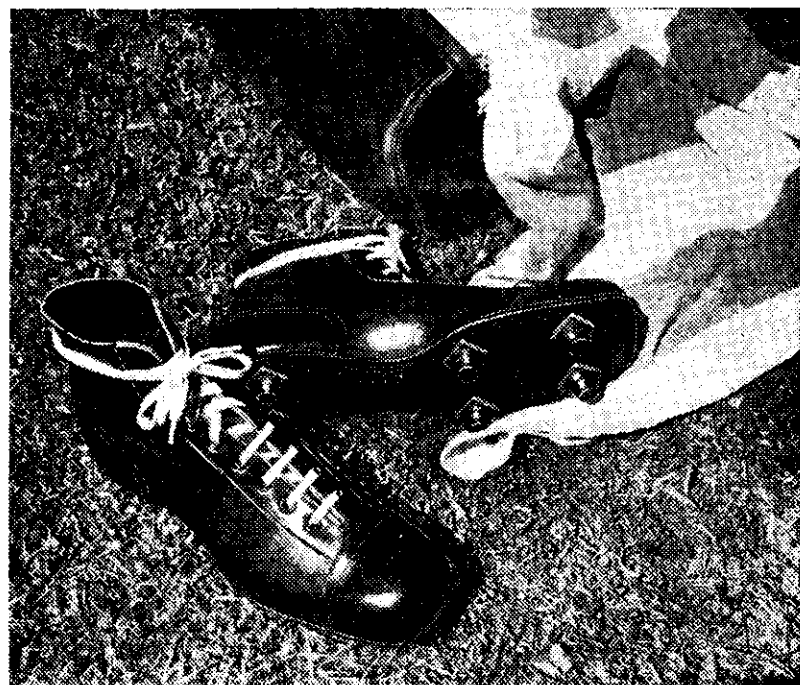
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COVERING THE CRICKET TOUR

FURTHER details on the BBC's planned coverage of the New Zealand cricket team's tour of England have come to hand. These include reports by Arthur Gilligan on practice at the nets, the physical condition of the team, and so on, which are being rebroadcast by the main National stations of the NZBS at 9.4 a.m. on Sunday, April 17, and Sunday, April 24. These broadcasts are each of eight minutes' duration, and the manager and captain of the New Zealand team will probably speak in one or other of them. A half-hour recorded actuality broadcast of the Cricket Writers' Dinner which the team will attend will also be given by the BBC, but the time of the rebroadcast has not yet been fixed.

The BBC's coverage of the tour (excluding the four Tests) will take in commentaries on each of the three days of play in the following seven County matches: v. Yorkshire (starts April 30), v. M.C.C. (May 21), v. Glamorgan (June 4), v. Surrey (June 18), v. Glamorgan (July 30), v. Lancashire (August 20), and v. Middlesex (August 27). These commentaries will be broadcast in the General Overseas Service of the BBC at 12.10hrs. G.M.T. and repeated at 16.45 hrs. G.M.T. Eyewitness accounts will be broadcast in the G.O.S. at 21.15hrs. G.M.T. and repeated in the Pacific Service at 07.15hrs. G.M.T. the following day.

The remaining matches (excluding the Tests) will be covered by five- or ten-minute eyewitness accounts only, which will be broadcast in the General Overseas Service at 2.15hrs. G.M.T. and repeated in the Pacific Service at 07.15hrs. the following day. The extent of the Test coverage has not yet been finally decided by the BBC.



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