



WHILE he was in Auckland, Todd Duncan visited King's College and sang with the College choir. He is seen here with the choirmaster, L. M. Saunders, and some of the boys. A tape-recording of the singing was taken by 1ZB and the recording broadcast the following Sunday evening

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Todd Duncan's own association with music began before he was aware of it, for his mother was a member of a church choir when he was born and when he was only a few weeks old she took him along to choir practices with her.

"Throughout all my early life I was associated with religious music," he said. "In fact, you might say that I went straight from church circles to the concert platform. To-day I have sung in nearly every country in the world outside Africa and Asia, to audiences representing many races and many creeds, speaking many different languages, but I have found that the message of the Negro spiritual reached everyone,

regardless of race or cultural background. The universal love of music is at least one unifying force in a divided world."

The Negro spiritual is, however, only one of the fields in which Todd Duncan excels. New Zealand audiences have already heard him in excerpts from opera and oratorio, in lieder and in art songs by English and Italian masters. When he is not touring, he teaches—he is Professor of Music at Howard University.

Further broadcasts by Todd Duncan, comprising relays from the first half of public concerts, will be heard from 2YA this Saturday, June 25; from 3YA on Thursday, July 7; and from 4YA on Tuesday, July 12. Broadcasts will begin at 8.10 p.m. (approx.) in each case.

PROFESSOR of BASSOON

THE BBC Midland Light Orchestra which is to be heard in *Time for Music*, a new series of programmes starting from 4YZ at 7.45 p.m. on Thursday, June 30, has proved very popular with British listeners since it was formed in 1941. Conducted by Gilbert Vinter (right) it consists of 31 players, many of them former members of BBC orchestras that were abolished at the beginning of the war. Vinter himself was brought up in a military tradition of music, although you wouldn't notice it in the way he conducts the light and tuneful pieces that make up the bulk of these programmes. He studied at the Royal Military School of Music and the Royal Academy, and in 1930 joined the BBC Military Band. During the next 10 years he played with many of London's leading orchestras, and in 1938 was appointed Professor of Bassoon at the Royal Academy of Music. He served with the R.A.F. during the war, and after this formed the International Light Orchestra,



BBC photograph
GILBERT VINTER

which was heard last year in the popular series *Music of the People*. It has always been his policy to broadcast what he calls "the better type of light music."



Trevor Howard

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