

A Run Through The Programmes



der and mysticism. Although this play has been selected as representative of the dramatic literature of old Spain, it is actually only part of such a great literary output that the amount of Calderon's work has never been accurately reckoned.

Life on the Ice

Mark Twain announced his pride in a piece of fine writing about the desolation and enmity of nature in the Polar regions; but not without later admitting his error in assuming that the cold lands were necessarily unfriendly. Modern explorers talk of "The friendly Arctic," and authorities like Stefansson show that men who know how can make themselves just as much at home there as the Eskimos. Plants do grow in the Arctic, animals thrive, Eskimos live happily. But it is still surprising that a 4YA item at 10.50 a.m. on Saturday, July 13, should be titled: "Flowers in the Arctic." Listeners will want to know what all this is about. They may be sure that what they hear has the stamp of authority, for the speaker is none less than Sir Hubert Wilkins.

A Chemical Composer

"Researches Upon the Fluoride of Benzole," and "The Solidification of the Aldehydes" do not seem to have much to do with music, but it is a fact that Alexander Porphyrievitch Borodin was one of the greatest scientific figures of his generation (late nineteenth century). His chemical researches did not give him much time for music, but proof that he possessed "the vital spark" is evident in such compositions as "Prince Igor," the opera to be broadcast next week by 3YA at 9.15 on Sunday, July 7. It tells about the romantic adventures of Igor, who goes to attack the Khan of the Polovetzky and is captured. The opera's score includes pleasing love songs and melodies, is especially notable for the exciting music of the dance of the Polovetzky. For many music lovers, this is a favourite piece.

Namesakes

There were three musicians by the name of Albeniz. Two were called Pedro, both good churchmen, who wrote church music. One was called Isaac. Pedro (1) was a monk. Pedro (2) was more concerned with things secular, and founded the modern art of piano playing in Spain. Isaac, although no relation, capped off the tradition of the name. Pedro (1) was born in 1755. Pedro (2) heard his

first music soon after 1795. He was only five years dead when Isaac was born in 1860. Isaac was no monk. He ran away from home, ran away to sea, and played his way almost round the world before he got back, aged 13, to study on the strength of a royal grant in Europe. This very colourful character gave modern developed treatment to Spain's traditional music, and is worth hearing. He is one of three featured by 1YX in the evening of Sunday next, July 7.

Mary

Mary's career has reached the third instalment at Station 2YA. Mary is now making a home, and with Mary, of course, is the person who will sit on the other side of the fireplace and expect to find his slippers warming when he gets home from work. But Mary is making him earn his comfort. There are carpets to be laid, curtains to be hung (as our artist



suggests), floors to stain, a garden to dig, and a hundred other things to do to the house before it can be called home. This diary of the small but big things that happen during the life of a woman who was born, educated and married, will be continued from 2YA at 10.45 a.m. on Saturday, July 13.

A Snob on Snobs

It is one of the charges against Thackeray that he was a snob. He may have been, but it is also to his credit that he wrote the best of all books in condemnation of snobs. "The Book of Snobs" is funny, very funny in places; but it is also savage. Thackeray felt about some aspects of snobbery as many men feel toward positive evil; it infuriated him. O. L. Simmance is to read from "The Book of Snobs" from 3YA on July 10 at 8 p.m. Thackeray's prose is particularly easy, and "The Book of Snobs" should read well.



SHORTWAVES

WHILE our counter-attack was in committee, the Germans were flying troops to their military objectives at 200 miles an hour.
—Commander Stephen King-Hall, in May.

I AM more afraid of our politicians, with their talent for rescuing Hitler from his mistakes, than I am of Hitler.—Douglas Reed, in May.

HITLER is not something distinct from the German nation; he is the direct expression of a great part of it.—Anthony Eden, in May.

I TRUST that no woman will be allowed to minister in Church.—Lord Hugh Cecil.

I HOPE we may be able to devise some means whereby undesirable shows can be prevented.—The Lord Chamberlain.

THE length to which nudity has been permitted to go on our stage appalls and embarrasses me.—Sir Seymour Hicks.

THE average woman has no idea what suits her.—Sir Walter Gilbey.

WE produce about the worst cooks in the world.—Col. H. A. Reed.

WE found that out afterwards, by the way, that we'd crossed a minefield by mistake.—Harry Watt, after being mistakenly arrested as a spy while taking sea pictures for the G.P.O. film unit.

MAN'S unique facility for adapting himself to the most rigorous and bizarre conditions was never better illustrated than in Europe at this moment.—Bernard Portal in "Current History."

THE American people do not understand what this war is all about.—U.S. Ambassador to England, Joseph Kennedy.

TO the Fuehrer, von Ribbentrop seems a much-travelled man of the world. Bismarck would have set his Great Dane at him.—J. B. Firth in London "Daily Telegraph."

MEMBERS of the Women's Auxiliary Territorial Service will show their pink forms whenever called upon to do so.—Army Order, B.E.F.