

Around The Nationals

FROM nigger minstrel to grand opera covers the experience in vocal work of Ernest Rogers, tenor, who has been a performer at 3YA for the past 12 years, as a soloist and as a member of quartets. In the early days of 2YA he was a member of Madame Gower Burns's Operatic Quartet, and later of the Commercial Travellers' Male Quartet, one of whose members was Jock Tennant, now of Station 4YA. Mr. Rogers has also had considerable experience in oratorio and church music, and as a member of the Dixonian Club has studied opera of more modern type. He will be heard in a studio recital from 3YA on February 14.

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MAKING her first appearance before the microphone on February 15 is Zena Finlay, of Waiuku, a young pianist who will be heard in a short recital from 1YA on that evening. Miss Finlay, whose picture appears on this page, plays Chopin when she plays to please herself, but realising that Chopin's works are familiar enough to most listeners, she has chosen lesser-known melodies for her broadcast. It will include "Barcarole" by Merikanto, the Finnish composer, "Ballet des Ombres Heureuses" (Gluck-Friedman), and Medtner's "Drei Novellen, Op. 17"

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THERE is something fascinating about French songs of the Bergerette Style, two of which will be sung by Irene MacDonald (contralto) in a programme from 3YA, scheduled for 8.12 p.m. on February 13, together with the popular French-Canadian folk song "Alouette." Two well-loved French ballads—"Si mes Vers avaient des Ailes" and "Chanson du Coeur Brise" are also on this programme.

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MERLE CUNNINGHAM, a pianist who is frequently heard in broadcasts from 3YA, and will be heard again on Sunday, February 9, won an Exhibition which entitled her to free tuition at the Royal Academy of Music, London. While there, she studied under York Bowen, the eminent Professor-pianist, and composer of world-wide reputation.

Before leaving New Zealand, Merle Cunningham won the Violet Ward Prize, Advanced Grade Exhibition, and Final Grade gold medal and Exhibition, numerous competition successes, and the Bristol Scholarship. She holds the diplomas of L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., L.S.R.M., and F.T.C.L.

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OWEN BONIFANT, who for a long time has been supplying tenor parts in the Home Town Concert Party, and who is the tenor member of the Cameo Three, sings two well-known songs from 2YA on Wednesday, February 12. They are, "I Heard a Thrush at Eve," and "Love Could I Only Tell Thee." Mr. Bonifant is also a member of the Schola Cantorum and has been before the microphone from 2YA for a number of years.



ZENA FINLAY, pianist, will make her first appearance before the microphone from 1YA on February 15



MARIE CAMPBELL, contralto, will sing from the 2YA studio at 9.25 p.m. on Monday, February 10. Her items will include two songs by Del Riego



PHILIP NOEL-BAKER, M.P., is one of the speakers New Zealand listeners to BBC broadcasts hear in the "Britain Speaks." series. Here he is broadcasting in the Overseas Service



DENNIS JOHNS, New Zealand Commissioner for Rover Scouts, is well known to 12B's junior listeners as "Kahu," who presents a fortnightly Scouts' Newsletter. A paragraph about him appears on page 25



ARTHUR S. BELL, baritone, will be heard in a studio recital from 3YA at 8.39 p.m. on Wednesday, February 12. He will sing four Schubert songs

PEOPLE IN THE



"ANDRINA" of 4ZB has been conducting 4ZB since early in December. A paragraph



NORMA SANDBROOK (left) and BETTY RENWICK discovered by 2ZB and brought to the microphone. They are seen here with Eric Bell of 2ZB