

Around The Nationals

FROM Wednesday, November 5, the popular 2YD session *Young Man With a Swing Band* is to be heard from Station 1YX, Auckland as well. In the words of the compère, the session introduces "the young men who go to make to-day's music." The emphasis, as the title indicates, is on swing, and among the bands which are heard from time to time are those of Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman, Artie Shaw, Jimmy Lunceford, John Kirby, "Fats" Waller, Charlie Barnett, Henry James, Gene Krupa and many others. Each band receives a half-hour's programme to itself. A *Young Man With a Swing Band* will be heard from 1YX at 9.30 p.m. every Wednesday.

"PASTICCIO" is the Italian for pie or pastry, and when applied to music it usually means a medley, especially an operatic medley. A dear old lady in the West of England once was heard to refer to the contents of her upset work-basket as a "perfect beggar's opera." This gets us back to 3YA, whence on Sunday evening will be heard a studio presentation of John Gay's *Beggar's Opera*, with the popular English actor and screen star, Michael Redgrave, playing the part of Captain Macheath. *The Beggar's Opera* is virtually the sole specimen of its kind—the last flicker in English music between Purcell and the 19th century renaissance. But besides being a historical landmark, it is what not all landmarks are—an enjoyable presentation, full of humour and life, and with an edge of satire that can strike home still.

GEORGE FARWELL'S prize-winning play in the ABC contest last year, *Portrait of a Gentleman*, has already been recorded at 2YA, but is not yet scheduled for the programmes. The character of Thomas Wainwright, the infamous poisoner, whose authentic life story, or one might say, crime-story, provides the theme of the play, is played by Howard Wadman. Mr. Wadman, who comes from England, has not been long in New Zealand, but has already appeared with success in repertory circles. Opening in the pleasant country village of Turnham Green, near London, and closing in the convict settlement of Hobart, in Tasmania, then known as Van Dieman's Land, *Portrait of a Gentleman* is a drama that should hold listeners' interest throughout.

MUSIC-LOVERS will appreciate the Rimsky-Korsakov item from 4YA on Thursday evening (November 6), when the Philadelphia Orchestra, conducted by Leopold Stokowski, will be heard playing the original detailed programme-music of the *Scheherazade* Symphonic Suite, which was written by Rimsky-Korsakov in 1888. This prolific Russian composer was born in Novgorod in 1844 and was brought up in the country, where he absorbed its folk music. Later he spent some years at sea in the Russian Navy, and it was during this period that he composed his first symphony.



Alan Blakey photograph
HENRI PENN, whose piano recitals with the harpist Winifred Carter have delighted listeners throughout New Zealand, will be heard in several recitals from 1YA during the coming week



W. G. McClymont will give a Winter Course talk from 4YA on November 4 on "The Decline of the Guilds"



MARTHA MAHARRY who is officially described as a "lovely singer," made her radio debut recently from Station 4ZB

PEOPLE IN THE



BBC photograph
TONY BECKWITH, producer and continuity writer in the BBC's feature "Radio Newsreel" makes a spare time hobby of cycling. In a varied career he has been playwright and stage and film critic



RONALD AND ZILLAH CASTLE will play music on the violin, recorder and virgin p.m. on Monday



JEAN McLAY, the Dunedin contralto, who will be studio vocalist in 4YA's evening programme on November 8. She will be heard at 8.9 and 8.44