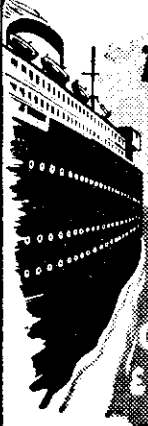


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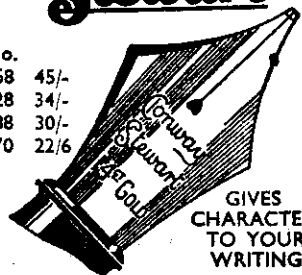
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SUN-TANNED from basking on the deck of the Rangitoto and from a spell at her home in New Plymouth, Doris Veale, a New Zealand pianist I met the other day, is back here for a few



**DORIS VEALE**  
Concertos with orchestra

weeks after seven years in London. She was busy making some recordings for the NZBS, and these will be broadcast by the YC stations in due course. Miss Veale goes back to England in August.

It was when she was four that she took her first piano lessons from her mother, Hawera-born Doris Veale told me. In 1945, when she was 15, she gained the Scholarship of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music for record marks in the Licentiate Diploma examination, and in addition became one of the first students to be awarded a New Zealand Government bursary for overseas study. Before leaving for London she made a six weeks' tour of the North Island, giving over 20 concerts, and broadcasting in the principal towns. At the Royal Academy of Music she won several awards for piano playing, including the Harold Samuel Bach prize, and was appointed a sub-professor in September, 1950. In the same year she went with a string quartet from the Royal Academy to represent England at an International Summer School of Music students organ-

# Open Microphone

ised by the Conservatoire de Musique, University of Saarbrücken. During the past few years she has arranged the programmes of the Royal Academy students for the London County Council Music Appreciation concerts, and has played at more than 100 such concerts herself.

In January, 1952, Doris Veale became accompanist to the London Philharmonic Choir and she has recently made appearances as soloist in the Commonwealth Artists' programme of the BBC. Some other recent appointments have been: September, 1952, accompanist to the Croydon Philharmonic Society; May, 1953, deputy-professor on the senior staff of the Royal Academy of Music; and répétiteur and chorus coach for the world premiere of *Irmelin* given at Oxford by Sir Thomas Beecham and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Doris Veale will give a studio broadcast from 2XP at 9.3 p.m. on Sunday, March 7. She will also be heard with the National Orchestra in Christchurch on May 13, and in Dunedin on May 18.

★

AFTER a tour of Canada and America which succeeded beyond all expectations, the St. Paul's Choir is home again "effectively inoculated against anti-Americanism," as

INOCULATED Canon L. John Collins puts it (says *The Manchester Guardian Weekly*). Through 41 cities its path was made happy by such comforting platitudes of criticism as "their tone balance is miraculous," and "an embarrassment of musical riches." Never before in the 1000 years of its history had the choir sung outside London.

★

OVER the past few months he has been trying unsuccessfully to find a photograph of the Grace Gibson Radio Productions actor, Alan White, says John Gardiner, of Manurewa, Auckland.

A photograph of Alan White as Hercule Poirot was printed in *The Listener* with an article introducing the *Agatha Christie Mysteries* at the ZB stations, and here he is again. White has been heard from NZBS stations recently in several Australian serials.

Listeners will remember him as Randy Stone in *Night Beat*, Godowski in *Dossier on Dumetrios*, Dr. John Cabot in



**ALAN WHITE**

Dr. Paul, Bill Lorimer in *Night Nurse*, Sean O'Farrell in *January's Daughter*, Johnny Nolan in *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, and Marcus Kent in *House of Conflict*.

★

R. D. THACKWELL (Christchurch): Erna Berger was born at Dresden, and spent her childhood in Paraguay before returning home for intensive musical study. She was chosen by Fritz Busch to sing at the

BERGER AND DRESDEN STATE OPERA, where she scored an immediate success

which led to engagements with many important orchestras and leading opera houses of Europe. She appeared at the Bayreuth Festival with Toscanini, at Salzburg with Busch, and at the Berlin Municipal and State Opera. An opera tour took her to Copenhagen, Holland, Rome, Vienna, Bucharest, Barcelona, Geneva and London. She appeared at Covent Garden before touring Australia a year or two ago.

Anton Dermota, principal lyric tenor with the Vienna State Opera, will arrive in Australia in September for a concert



FRANK LAWRENCE, pianist and singer (left), is a New Zealander who went to Australia for a working holiday and found a career in the entertainment world. He left his home town, Wanganui, in 1949, and in Australia found himself a number of jobs. In Melbourne, I'm told, he took over the dual role of pianist-singer for the "Amateur Hour," in which listeners vote by telephone for their favourite artists; he was judged one of the 10 best in the 1950 series. Later he was offered a job in a Sydney night club and that became the base from which he made occasional expeditions into other parts of the entertainment business. Station ZGB offered him a programme, and he played from there three times a week. Then he added a young contralto, Val Kempton, to his act, and the pair secured a contract with a travelling company. When that show closed Lawrence returned to New Zealand on holiday, and gave several broadcasts from 2YA and 2XA. Lawrence has been presenting a series of programmes, "Your Favourites and Mine," from 2XA. He will be heard again on March 3, 10 and 17.

