



**EVEN** with folded arms and a "trophy" in the middle, the *Take It From Here* cast does not quite manage to look like a group of successful footballers. The typical "team" pose seemed called for, however, as *TIFH* had just won—for the third time—the *Daily Mail* National Radio Award for the most amusing programme of the year.

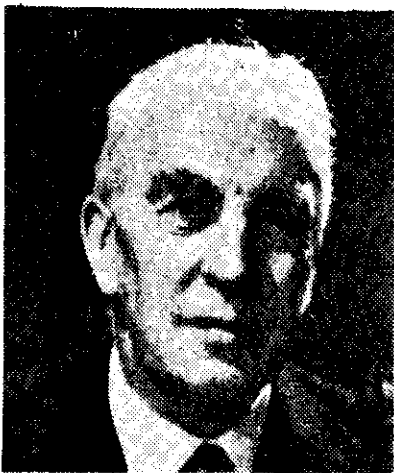
The show with the changed cast shown here has not yet been broadcast in New Zealand, but the absence of Joy Nichols, now in Australia, seems not to have

affected its popularity. June Whitfield, the blonde at left centre, now takes the speaking parts formerly done by Joy, and Alma Cogan, next to her, the singing. Jimmy Edwards, moustache rampant, stands at left back, with Dick Bentley, showing few signs of his allegedly great age, on the right. The producer of this weekly jollity, Charles Maxwell, holds the microphone at centre and is flanked by the show script writers, dark and brooding Denis Norden on the left and Frank Muir on the right.

Since *Take It From Here* started in 1948 it has climbed steadily upwards in listeners' affections. Producer and authors follow the technique of that most famous of broadcast variety shows, *ITMA*, in that they are constantly changing *TIFH's* format. No character or catch-phrase, however popular, is allowed to stay for long, and when it has reached the height of its fame it is whipped out and another, soon to become equally popular, inserted in its place. It is, as Dunhill might put it, a Let-us-not-rest-on-our-laurels-but-go-onwards-upwards-and-ever-upwards type of show.

#### Elizabethan Madrigals

TEN of the original 25 madrigals in *The Triumphs of Oriana* are sung by the BBC Singers under Leslie Woodgate in a BBC transcription to be broadcast from 3YC at 5.45 p.m. on Sunday, April 25—the first broadcast of this programme in New Zealand. Composers represented are Thomas Morley, John Bennett, Thomas Weelkes, John Hilton the elder, Michael East, Thomas Tomkin, George Kirbye, John Farmer and John Wilbye.



**LISTENERS** who missed Professor Arnold Toynbee's *Reith Lectures* on "The World and the West" when they were broadcast several months ago, as well as those who would like to hear them again, will be glad to know that they will be repeated from 2YC during the next few weeks. The first, to be heard at 10.0 p.m. on Saturday, April 24, considers the way in which Russia's historical background is still influencing her relations with the West. In these lectures Professor Toynbee (above) presents the West, not as another name for all of the world that is of any importance, but as a disturbing intruder who in comparatively recent times has broken in upon the world and turned its life upside down.

N.Z. LISTENER, APRIL 15, 1954.



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