

Economics and the Individual

WITH pain or pleasure we are all made to realise from time to time that whether (or not) we think about economics it certainly thinks about us. Decisions made in terms of economics are affecting us vitally as individuals and as a nation all the time, and none of us can really do our duty properly as citizens without some understanding of what it is all about. To help New Zealanders to understand economic developments month by month the NZBS is starting next week on up-to-date monthly survey of economic questions. *Economic Survey* will be broadcast from YA and YZ stations at 9.15 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month, the first of them on June 15. The speaker for the first three months will be Professor H. Belshaw, Professor of Economics at Victoria University College, and he will be followed by Professor G. C. Billing, Professor of Economics at Otago University.

The aim of *Economic Survey* is to look around on the New Zealand economic scene at the time of the broadcast and to talk about the important economic news of the preceding month, seeking to assess the significance of each item and to relate it to the national



Spencer Digby photograph
PROFESSOR H. BELSHAW

economy generally. In his first talk Professor Belshaw will to some extent "set the scene" for this treatment by giving a brief picture in more general terms of the economic situation in this country at present.

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from all parts, from the Ukraine to Minnesota, U.S.A., and they pledge themselves in music which, starting as national, finishes by being universal.

The Nixa recording carries the best of the 1952 festival, admirably introduced by Jack Bornoff, executive secretary of the International Music Council, and faithfully recorded—which must have been difficult considering that it was made on the spot.

From the same department of folk music, but much more sophisticated, comes a recent recording of Manuel de Falla's ballet music, *The Three-Cornered Hat*, performed by L'Orchestre de L'Opéra-Comique, Paris, conducted by Jean Martinon, and with Amparito Pero de Pruliere singing the soprano solo with appropriate Spanish tang (Nixa ULP 9034). While this playing hasn't quite the polish of the performance by L'Orchestra de la Suisse Romande (Decca LXT 2716), reviewed some months ago, its very brashness becomes part of the character of the music, making this a spirited, virile presentation.

Still dancing, but in a different manner, Mozart's *Twenty Country Dances for Orchestra*, by the Vienna State Opera Orchestra conducted by Franz Litschauer (Nixa VLP 426), make delightful listening if taken in small doses.

Coda

Sir Thomas Beecham's Beethoven Sixth Symphony, with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (Columbia 33CX 1062), is all that you expect of Sir Thomas and his bright boys—clean, meticulous playing, the music faithfully interpreted and faithfully recorded. Mozart's "Prague" Symphony, with the Handel-Beecham *Faithful Shepherd Suite* on the reverse side (Columbia 33CX 1105), is played by the same company in the Beecham manner. The recording is by no means as good as the playing deserves. For symphonic music a little off the beaten track, there is

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