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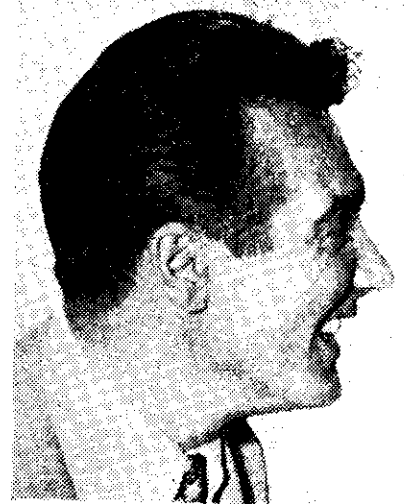


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NICK COLE (Auckland): Gene Krupa was born in 1909 in Chicago and the beat of the drum first called to him when he was 13. His parents wished him to enter the Church, and he studied for awhile with this in mind. But music proved the stronger call, and Krupa joined Joe Kayser's Band in 1928. After that he joined band after band, learning all the time, and in 1935 started his famous association with Benny Good-



man. In three years he won a reputation as the finest technician in the profession. In 1938 he formed his own band, which he led until 1942, and a year later he rejoined Goodman and then Tommy Dorsey. In 1944 he led his own band again, and his dynamic drumming encouraged arrangers to turn out some unusually exhilarating scores. Krupa is an authority on drums, and how to use them, and has given lectures on the subject at many universities. He appeared in person in the film *The Glenn Miller Story*, when this photograph was taken.

NEW ZEALAND was well represented at a concert broadcast recently in the BBC's General Overseas Service by the BBC Scottish Orchestra conducted by James Robertson, the new conductor of the National Orchestra of the NZBS. One of the performers was

Open Microphone

Esther Fisher, Christchurch-born pianist, and one of the works played by the orchestra was Douglas Lilburn's *Aotearoa*. Esther Fisher gained at an early age admission to N.Z. MUSIC the Paris Conservatoire. FROM BBC She was a student under Isidore Philipp in Paris, and under Artur Schnabel in Berlin, and she made her London debut at the Wigmore Hall in 1924. Since then she has been continuously before the public. For some time she was pianist with the viola player Lionel Tertis.

An interview with James Robertson was scheduled in the second programme by the New Zealand Music Society for broadcasting in a link of YC stations on June 22; that programme was one of a series of six recorded for the NZBS in London by courtesy of the BBC.

★
"OPERA LOVER" (Timaru): Grace Moore first became known here through three films. The first, shown in 1930, and piquantly entitled *A Lady's Morals*, purported to portray the life of Jenny Lind; then came *New Moon*, which featured her with Lawrence Tibbett; and the third, *One Night of Love*, showed her as a café-concert artist who rose to become an internationally famous prima donna. A banker's daughter, she was born in Del Rio, Tennessee. As a girl she was closely associated with Church work, taught a Sunday-school class and led a choir. Her earliest ambition was to become a missionary in China, but this project she abandoned after hearing a song recital by Mary Garden.

After a short period at a music school near Washington her family decided that singing was far more satisfactory as a pastime than as a profession. Grace Moore, unable to see the wisdom of this sentiment, packed her bag and ran off to New York to sing in a café in return for board and expenses. A theatrical producer took an interest in her and she understudied the lead in a musical comedy that went by the hardly euphonious name of *Hitchy Koo*. The principal fell ill—as, happily for understudies, principals sometimes do—and Grace filled the part admirably. Success in musical comedy and revue enabled her to study in Paris. A trip to Italy led to a meeting with Mary Garden—the singer, you remember, who years before had made

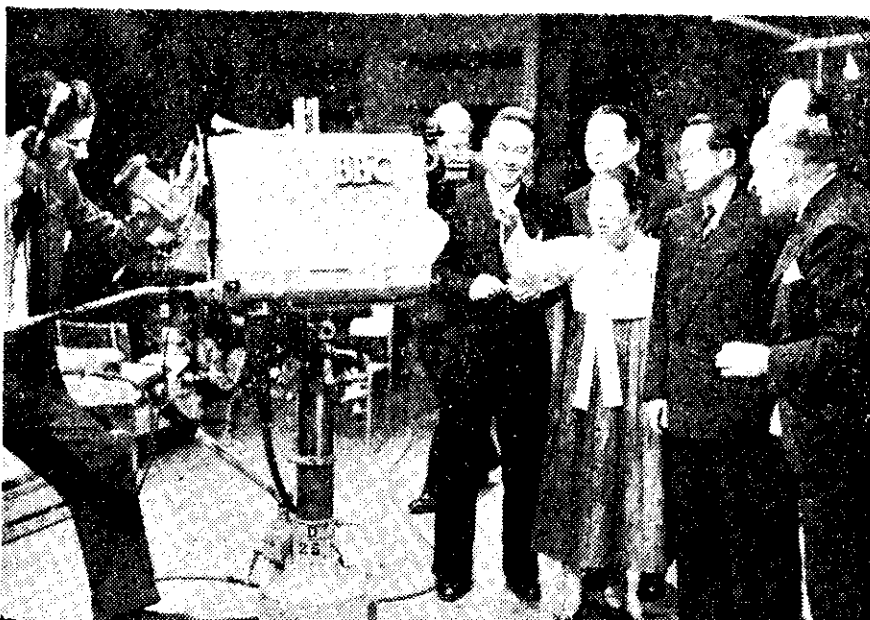


GRACE MOORE

Grace forsake her missionary aspirations. A course of study was taken and it was not long before she was singing Mimi in *La Bohème* at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York. That was in 1928. From then on she made her way steadily to the first rank of operatic artists.

Grace Moore was killed in an air crash en route from Denmark to Sweden on January 26, 1947.

★
[HERE is a portrait of W. J. Hicks, one of the BBC's expert sports commentators and a regular contributor to *Sports Review*, the popular weekly magazine programme which New Zealand shortwave listeners can hear in the General Overseas Service of the BBC at 7.30 and 11.45 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. on Sundays (N.Z. time). Bill Hicks, who is sports editor of the London *News Chronicle*, is a Cornishman who in his time has been a very useful amateur footballer and cricketer. His speciality is Association football, about which he broadcasts frequently, but he



★
HERE are some visitors from South Korea sight-seeing at the BBC in London. At the Television Studios in Lime Grove they watched rehearsals and were themselves filmed for Television Newsreel. Photographed while inspecting a TV camera are, left to right, Kuk-Wan Sul, acting Editor-in-Chief of the Korea Pacific Press, Ki-Yong Chang, Publisher of "Chosun Ilbo," one of the three oldest newspapers in Korea; Dr. Helen Kim, Publisher of the "Korea Times"; and Professor Clarence Ryee, Director of the Office of Public Information.

