

LEFT: Wooded islands and encircling hills enclose this peaceful harbor scene at Vancouver, host city for the 1954 Empire Games

## Zero Hour for Empire Champions

**T**HIS Friday, July 30, the Governor-General of Canada, Field-Marshal Lord Alexander, will open the fifth British Empire and Commonwealth Games at Vancouver, British Columbia. Because the sun never sets on British soil, he will also in effect initiate a continuous listening-watch throughout the world. Some 820 athletes from 25 countries will be competing, and at various times of the day or night sportsmen in Sydney and Singapore, New Delhi and Durban, London and Montreal, will be tuning in to follow their progress.

New Zealand's Games team numbers 54, with members competing in all nine of the sports covered by the Games. Since New Zealand time is 19 hours ahead of Vancouver's, listeners here should know the results of events very

shortly after they take place—there will be no overnight delays, no late-night listening.

The focus of public attention in New Zealand will almost certainly be on the Olympic broad-jump star Yvette Williams and on the promising young miler Murray Halberg (*Listener*, July 9). Miss Williams remains the most likely winner of the broad-jump at the Games, and may also shine in the discus and shot-put. She has thrown the discus 151ft. 6in. and the shot 43ft. 9in. Halberg, with a 4min. 4.4sec. mile to his credit, should give a good account of himself in what is expected to be one of the greatest mile races ever.

In athletics, too, New Zealand has some other promising entries. In the high-jump, Peter Wells set a New Zealand record this year with 6ft. 6½in., two and a-quarter inches higher than the mark he attained representing England in the 1950 Olympics. The 16-year-old M. Jefferies, who holds the N.Z. Junior record of 6ft 5in. may run him

Hendricks and Chapman, of Australia Lucas, who (like Hurring) has been training at the University of Iowa, was third in the 1650 event at the 1950 Olympics, and fourth in the 1500 metres "Big Ten" event in the United States this year. Among the women, Marion Roe, who creates new records at almost every start, is a good prospect in the 110 and 440 yards free-style, and Jean Stewart (third at the Olympics) should be last to beat in the 110 yards high-

close. And in the pole-vault New Zealand is well represented by M Richards, of Dunedin holder of the New Zealand record of 13ft. 2½ in., and by far the best prospect the country has had in this event.

Swimming, too, will claim much attention, and here New Zealand is particularly well represented Lincoln Hurring is a probable winner in the 110 yards back-stroke. He has swum 200 yards in 2m 10.8s in the U.S. recently, a faster time than any other Games competitor. Buddy Lucas, in the 4-0 and 1650 yards free-style, stands a good chance in those events though he is faced with strong competition from

### BULLETINS & COMMENTARIES

HERE is how the Empire Games at Vancouver will be brought to New Zealand listeners.

At 7.45 p.m. each day from Thursday of the present week (July 29), to Sunday, August 8, all ZB, X and YZ stations, and 2ZA, will broadcast "Sportscall from the Empire Games." This is a quarter-hour programme of commentaries results reviews and interviews.

At 9.30 p.m. each day from Thursday, July 29, to Sunday, August 8, all YA stations will repeat the same programme. On the first two days it will be the "Empire Games Preview," and for the rest of the time "Empire Games Review."

On both Sundays of the Games, all NZBS stations will broadcast results at, or slightly after, the following times: 7.18, 8.9, 9.1, 9.30, 10.30, 10.45 a.m., 12.33 p.m. (with summary of morning's results); 1.45, 3.0 p.m.; 6.40 p.m. (with summary).

On weekdays from Tuesday, August 3, to Saturday, August 7, all NZBS stations will broadcast results at, or slightly after, the following times: 7.18, 8.9, 9.30, 10.30, 11.30 a.m.; 12.33 p.m. (with summary); 2.0, 3.0, 3.30 p.m., 7.0 p.m. (with summary).

On Sunday, August 8, at 9.30 p.m., all YA and YZ stations will broadcast an hour-long documentary, "Empire Games, 1954—Retrospect." This will include excerpts from the opening and closing ceremonies and highlights from the entire week.

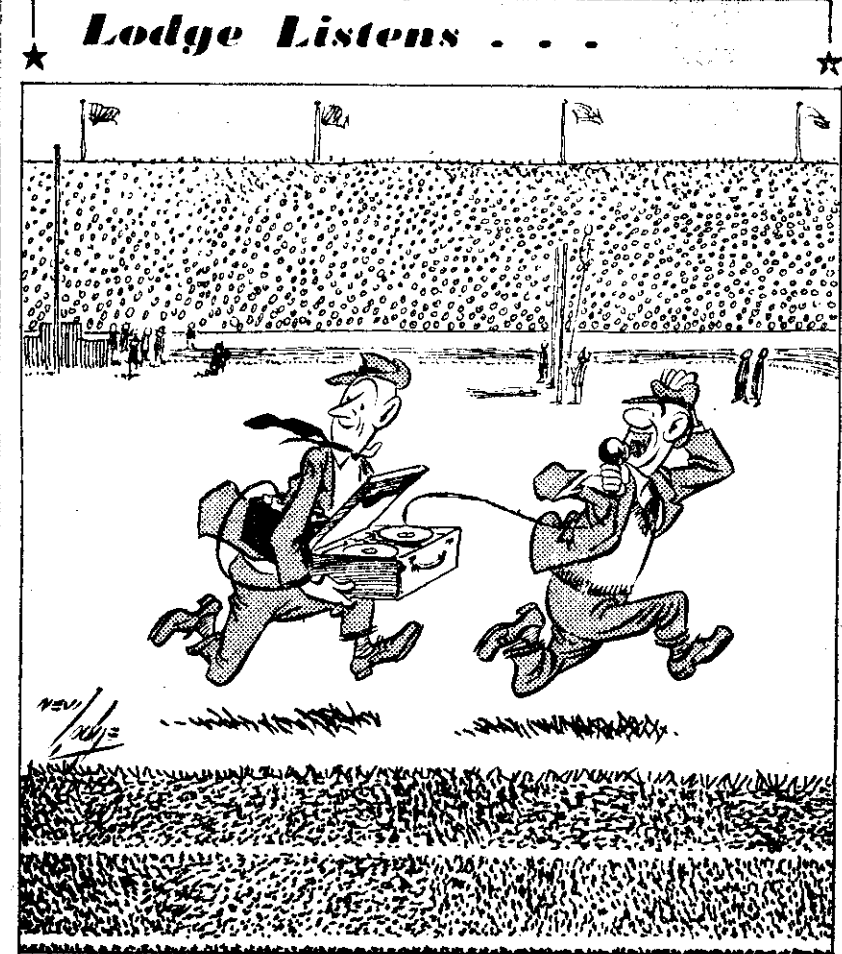
stroke. Both women will probably have their strongest competition from Joan Harrison of South Africa, the reigning Olympic champion.

The 1954 Games will end on Saturday, August 7, with an address by the Duke of Edinburgh. Both opening and closing addresses will be heard in *Empire Games 1954 Retrospect* (see next page).

other countries in the Commonwealth.

Items were recorded in Auckland by the Keysters, a light combination featuring Nancy Harrie (novachord) and John Thomson (piano) with rhythm accompaniment; the Duplicats, a team of close harmony specialists comprising Esme Stephens, Ena Allen, and Dale Alderton, with John Thomson at the piano; and the hillbilly singer Johnny Granger, with Dick Hobday (guitar) and Bob Ewing (ass) sings such songs as "Swing That Old Lasso."

From Wellington items came from the Capital Quartet, whose members are Frank Malthus, Joe Miller, Bruce Chandler, John McDonald and Henry Rudolph (piano), with Ken Macaulay as soloist. John Parkin (piano) and John Hoskins (baritone), also of Wellington, provide further items for the series.



"—And with only half a lap to go in this great Empire Games mile—"