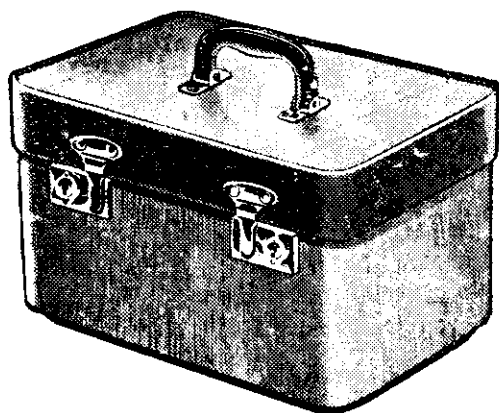


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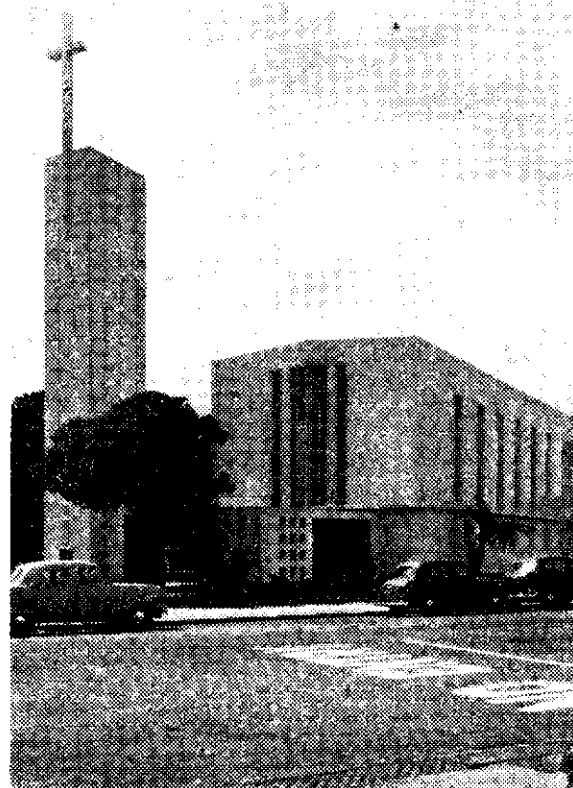
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Choral Music from New Church

THE great interest roused by the new Church of St. James in Lower Hutt was due mainly to its unusual design and decoration. The Queen herself, when she visited it during the Royal Tour, expressed surprise that such a church could have been designed and built in a New Zealand parish. Much thought was also devoted to the church's acoustics, which turned out to be so successful for music that the sharpest critics have been unflinching in their praise. Recently a recital of sacred music was given in the church by the Schola Cantorum, conducted by Stanley Oliver. The recital was recorded by the NZBS, and will be broadcast from 2YC at 8.40 p.m. on Wednesday, September 1. The music will be preceded by a short talk about the church based on information supplied by the vicar, the Rev. Canon W. F. Bretton, M.A. A copy of the recording has also been sent to the ABC for broadcast in Australia.



THE CHURCH of St. James, Lower Hutt, which was inspected by the Queen during her visit to the district, and in which the Schola Cantorum has recorded a programme of sacred music

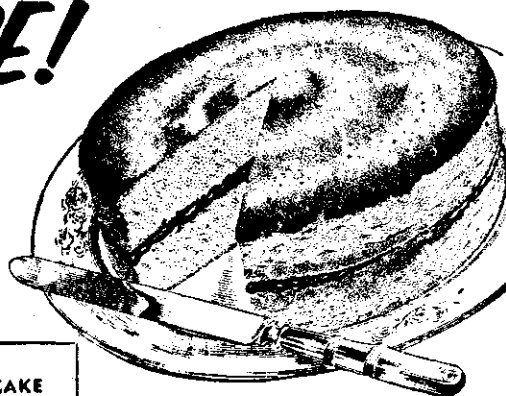
Stanley Oliver said that from the point of view of music the acoustics of the church were very good, when discussing the programme with *The Listener* last week. "It has just that little bit of after-glow of sound without being an echo," he said. "That's the same problem that they've solved so well at the Royal Festival Hall in London. One reason is that for its seating capacity the church probably has twice as much air space as any other church. It is so lofty."

Mr. Oliver mentioned two works in his programme which he thought were of particular interest. First was Charles Ives's "Setting of the 67th Psalm,"

which is scored for male voices in the key of two flats, and for the ladies in the key of C. Although this sounded a little frightening, he said, it worked out beautifully when the work was sung. The other was Edmund Rubbra's "Credo" from *Missa in Honorem Sancti Dominici*, which he described as a kind of modernised plainsong, almost neo-primitive in effect.

The recital will also include works by Vaughan Williams, Thomas Whythorne, Randall Thompson, Edward Bairstow and Gordon Jacob.

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Prepare 2 layer cake tins. Beat butter and gradually add sugar and beat well. Add eggs one at a time. Sift flour and salt and blend in alternately with milk. Finally fold in grated chocolate. Bake at 350-deg for 35-45 minutes. Fill and top with chocolate icing.

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THE DUKE IN THE DUNGEON



Spencer High photograph

ROY LEYWOOD

FRANCE at the time of the civil wars in the 16th Century is the setting for *The Duke in Darkness*, a play by Patrick Hamilton to be heard from YC stations during the coming fortnight. For 15 years the Duke of Laterraine has shared imprisonment with a former servant, Gribaud, who is now losing his reason. While pretending he is blind, the Duke has been working on a plot to escape. With so much at stake what is he to make of the claims of a servant of his captors that he is in touch with the Duke's friends outside? What is to be done with the faithful but now demented Gribaud if the Duke is to get safely away? In this moving play, produced by Bernard Beby for the NZBS, the part of the Duke is taken by Roy Leywood, and Gribaud by William Austin. *The Duke in Darkness* will be heard from 4YC on August 31, 3YC on September 4, 2YC on September 5, and 1YC on September 11.

N.Z. LISTENER, AUGUST 27, 1954.