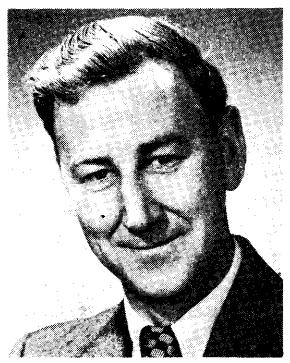
THE STARS ARE SINGING ...!

a star." Jean Mc-Pherson told The Listener when describing her The Stars Are Singing. "For instance, the first week it's Rosemary Clooney, Fred Barker, our compère, tells her life story, and I sing the songs we always associate with her name. There are five or six songs in each programme, as well as a theme song such as 'Come on a My House' for Rosemary Clooney, or 'Where the Blue of the Night' for Bing Crosby. There are eight programmes in the series. and the stars around whom the programmes are built are Eddie Fisher, Doris Day, Guy Mitchell, Al Jolson, Vera Lynn, Rosemary Clooney and Bing Crosby," Jean McPherson is accompanied by Norm. Cumming (piano), Cliff Evans (drums), Doug, Brewer (bass) and Jimmy Carter (guitar). The programmes start from all YA stations and 3YZ at 8.18 p.m. on Wednesday, October 20.



N.P.S. photograph

... to the accompaniment of Norm. Cumming (above) on piano-and rhythm section

Gathering of Vultures

THE theme of Victor Rietti's play The Wanderer strongly resembles that of Ben Jonson's Volpone, but without the taint of heartlessness that mars the earlier play for modern readers. In a kinder, more mellow Italy of a later day than the Fox's Venice, a peasant family goes about its business on the farm and in the house. They are a hardbitten, canny lot on the whole, with an eye out for any extra lire capable of being extorted, no matter what the source.

Giacomo and his shrewish Mansueta, head the household, and they are guardians of their niece, Viola, an unhappy girl whose money is in the tight grasp of her uncle and aunt. This unlovely pair plan to marry her off to their foolish son but, fortunately for Viola, one afternoon a fiddler passes along the hot, dusty road to the farmhouse. He is great-uncle Martino, returned from a life of wandering in distant lands, and now, perhaps, a rich man.

He appears to be desperately poor, but his money-grubbing relatives are convinced that this is a blind to test them out before he makes his allimportant will. How Martino feigns ill-

(continued from previous page)

British naval victory over the French and Spanish fleets was a sequel to the breakdown of Napoleon's scheme for invading England. The first Trafalgar Day was 149 years ago, but English speaking people in many parts of the world still mark the occasion, and on Friday, October 22, several NZBS stations will broadcast special programmes. These will include Tralalgar: the Decisive Battle-a BBC programme -from 3YC and 2XA, and Cecil Manson's Did New Zealand Win Trafalgar? and a BBC programme, He Brings Great News, based on a book by Clemence Dane, from 2YA.



RIA SOHIER

ness, extracts permission from her intransigent guardians for Viola to marry her lover and himself succeeds in tricking the stingy relatives into declaring their real reasons for worrying about health, makes a sty, ironic commentary on human frailty.

Victor Rietti's comedy has been televised by the BBC with the author himself playing the old wanderer. Rietti, it might be added, is also the author of an even more famous play, To Live in Peace, which was made into one of the finest films of the Italian post-war cinema renaissance. The Wanderer was produced for the NZBS by William Austin, with Roy Leywood, Briton Chadwick and Ria Sohier in leading roles. It will be broadcast by 4YZ on Wednesday, October 20, at 9.49 p.m., and will be heard later from other National stations.



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