

NEWS OF BROADCASTERS,
ON AND OFF THE RECORD

he was only 33. The story of how the two met says a good deal about the character of both men. Though Siki was already professor of piano at the Budapest Conservatorium when he sought asylum in Switzerland in 1947, he found



life so hard there that in the end he became a newsboy, delivering papers from 5.0 a.m. to 8.0 a.m. for about £10 a month. Just managing to keep alive, he spent the rest of the time in practice and study. When Lipatti heard that the boy who brought his paper was a pianist, he asked the young Hungarian to play for him. From then on Siki had a weekly lesson from Lipatti, for which the Rumanian would accept no payment. This went on till Lipatti died, and by that time they had become close friends.

THE musical ideas of Shorty Rogers are said to be among the most potent in the present jazz movement, and an LP Album called *Shorty Rogers and His Giants*, currently being heard from the YA stations, gives listeners some idea of what Shorty can do. It includes "Mambo del Crow," "Diablo's Dance," "Pirouette," and

other Shorty Rogers compositions. The next broadcast will be from 4YA at 10.45 p.m. on Wednesday, October 20. Milton "Shorty" Rogers, whom "Kentonia" (Opotiki) has asked for information about, was born in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, in 1924, and was first heard of with the Will Bradley band in the early 1940s. He then joined a septet headed by his brother-in-law, Red Norvo, before being drafted into the Army. He played with the Woody Herman Herd of 1945, left to do some freelancing, and then rejoined Herman in 1947 as trumpeter and arranger. In composing such pieces as "Back Talk" and "Keen and Peachy" for Herman's Herd, as well as a number of pieces for the smaller Herman group known as the Woodchoppers, Shorty soon became one of Herman's most valued arrangers. Later he worked as trumpeter and arranger with Stan Kenton, turning out such compositions as "Jambo" and "Jolly Rogers." At present he is a member of the Lighthouse Jazz Club unit at Hermosa Beach, California.

EIGHT years ago the Alex Lindsay String Orchestra was only a name in the head of a determined young musician who had just come home from the war. Nowadays the orchestra is fairly well established, but the OLD PRO going is still tough for a small, independent string group in this country. Alex Lindsay, an Invercargill boy whose first ambition was to be an All Black, talks about the career of the professional musician in New Zealand in a series of talks called *Suite in Six Movements*. They are being heard from 2YC at 10.0 p.m. on Monday evenings.

MARY NEGUS, who is heard with the Oswald Cheesman Sextet in Saturday's night's programme *I Love a*

N.Z. COMPOSER

Tracy Moresby

TRACY MORESBY is well known as an organist, music teacher and composer. Many of his songs have been broadcast by local and overseas artists, and his works for violin and piano and organ have been publicly performed. He was born in Auckland, where he has lived all his life, apart from early school-days in Paeroa and four years' service with the New Zealand Medical Corps in the Middle East. He began music studies under his mother's tuition "almost as soon as I could talk," and studied later at the Paeroa convent. But when he returned to Auckland at 14 he completed his L.R.S.M. diploma without tuition. Although he later gained his Mus. Bach. degree at Auckland University College, and although he has submitted work to the Royal Academy for comment—and been encouraged to carry on—he is largely self-taught as a composer. "In the days when I was most needing help," he says, "there was no such thing as a bursary. One either sank or swam alone."

Tracy Moresby is now a teacher of music at King's School, Remuera, and he teaches privately as well. A Piano Sonata of his was included in the Auckland Lyric Harmonists' New Zealand Composers Concert last year, and this year his Sonata for Violin and Piano was broadcast in the New Zealand Composers Concert presented by the Christchurch Civic Music Council. It

Melody (YA stations, 8.15 p.m.), has broadcast from both National and Commercial stations of the NZBS for a number of years. She has taken MELODY leading roles in Auckland MAKER Amateur Operatic productions, and in 1946 she was soprano soloist for the Auckland Choral Society's production of *Messiah*. She



MARY NEGUS
Also Gilbert and Sullivan
was granted a scholarship before the war by Professor Roland Foster, of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, but when the war broke out she was unable to take it up. Throughout the war years she was a member of the Army Education and Welfare Service concert parties which put on performances of Gilbert and Sullivan in Army camps under the direction of the NZBS. She is now married and has two children. She is also



was awarded second prize as well in a competition conducted by the Council for a new work by a local composer. Tracy Moresby's church music has lately been performed by the Christchurch Cathedral Choir, and to commemorate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II he composed a special *Paeon* for organ. This work, played by C. Foster Browne, can be heard in the fourth programme of *Music by New Zealand Composers*. In the fifteenth programme in the series Olga Burton (soprano) sings three songs by Tracy Moresby, with the composer at the piano.

a keen tennis player. But she is still determined not to give up her music.

SOME of the most delightful songs we hear on the air are in the arrangements of Arnold Foster, the Yorkshire composer, who since the death of Cecil Sharp has been entrusted by the English Folk Dance and Song Society with most of the arrangement of English folk-dance tunes for orchestra and piano. "M.B.M." of Palmerston North, has asked for information about Foster. He was born in 1898 at Sheffield and studied under Vaughan Williams, another folk-song enthusiast, at the Royal College of Music. In 1926 he was music-master at Westminster School and in 1929 director of music at Morley College, London. He was the conductor and founder of the English Madrigal Choir, and in 1936 honorary conductor of the Whitsuntide Singers and Players. He is a specialist in the conducting of Tudor choral music, and has achieved a reputation for reviving and conducting unknown or neglected choral and orchestral works. His compositions include a piano *Concerto on Country Dance Tunes*, a *Suite for Strings on English Folk Airs*, a ballet, *Midsummer Eve*, *Autumn Idyll* for small orchestra. He has also published many collections of English and Manx folk songs. Foster's contemporary, Alec Rowley, whom "M.B.M." also enquires about, is still alive as far as we know here. He is well known here for the children's song book which he arranged specially for the NZBS Broadcasts to Schools Department in 1948, and dedicated to the children of New Zealand.

ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENT

Valerie Skinner (Auckland): The Guy Lombardo programme was a Voice of America recording, and has now been broadcast from all stations. It isn't likely to be repeated as that particular Hit Parade is now out of date.

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