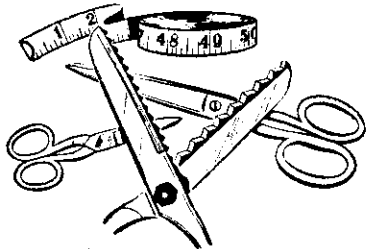


## 24,000 HOUSEHOLD BARGAINS



**2000 DRESSMAKERS' SETS** (as illustrated) contains 1 pair pinking shears, Sheffield made, 1 pair cutting-out scissors, 1 pair embroidery scissors, and 1 full size Dean's tape measure. The set of 4 for only **25/6**. Postage 9d.

**4000 56 X 108 HEMMED U/B. SHEETS** will launder snow white. 3-year guarantee, mill reinforced selvedge. Greatest value offered for 20 years. Bargain price, **7/11 each**, or 3 for only **23/6**. Postage 1/9.

**2000 80 X 100 HEAVY WEAVE U/B. SHEETS**, A1 quality; guaranteed 5 years; ready to hem. Bargain price, **16/11 each**, or 3 for only **50/-**. Postage 3/-.

**10,000 QUICK DRYING TEA TOWELS**; cotton; 32 x 22; check coloured borders. Bargain price, **1/11 each**, or 6 for **11/-**.

**4000 ENGLISH COLOURED BATH TOWELS**; thick and thirsty; 44 x 22. A real bargain at **4/8 each**.

**2000 POCKET MANICURE SETS**, comprising scissors, tweezers, file in leather case. Reduced to only **5/6 set**. WE GUARANTEE SATISFACTION OR MONEY REFUNDED

Please Add Postage

**Price & Dempster Ltd.**  
37-39 ALBERT ST., AUCKLAND, C.1



Oh for some  
**Optrex**

Eye strain—taut, tired, gritty eyes—can be the cause of many "unexplained" headaches. Keep your eyes clear, clean, relaxed and healthy by regular use of Optrex, the Eye Lotion.

Price 4/6. Trouble size 8/-.  
Optrex Ltd., Perivale, Middlesex, England. 64



**THE** New Zealander's reputation for an ability to turn a hand to any task is deserved in David Galbraith, the 26-year-old Auckland pianist, who can use hammer or klavier with equal efficiency, and still manage to stay well tempered withal. Invited to Wellington by Donald Munro to produce Menotti's *The*

**HAMMERKLAVIER** *Telephone* for the New Zealand Opera

Group, David Galbraith found himself designing and constructing the set, playing the piano and conducting the orchestra—as well as producing. Short of something to do in the other half of the programme, he played a mime part in *La Serva Padrona*. Was it in the interval, or the following evening that he gave a studio recital from 2YC? "I do remember I had sore hands and stiff arms and wrists from hammering nails into the set," says this young, talented player. David Galbraith returned to New Zealand just before the last Auckland festival, after five years in Britain studying at the Royal Academy of Music in London and giving recitals. He plans to go overseas again in the coming year—and to visit South America, for he has a fondness for



**VESTA O'HARA** (left) and **VALERIE ISBISTER** (right) are two of the recent contestants in IZB's "Ladies of Song" competition, broadcast in "Radio Theatre Guest Hour" at 9.0 p.m. on Sundays. Vesta studied with Roland Foster and has broadcast and appeared in a number of operas in Australia. She made two trips to Melbourne in connection with the *Mobile Quest*, in which she was a semi-finalist. Valerie Isbister is well known for her leading roles in Auckland amateur operatics, for her wartime camp concert work, and as a Competitions prize-winner. She also sang in opera during three and a half years in Australia.

# Open Microphone

Spanish music. Meantime, admirers in his homeland have several opportunities to hear his work. Listeners may hear David Galbraith in the current five link programmes with the flautist James Hopkinson. These are being broadcast from the YCs at 8.0 p.m. on Thursdays.

**ELLESTON TREVOR**, adaptor of the BBC serial *Dead Silence*, which starts from 2YA at 4.0 p.m. on Monday, December 6, was recently nominated by the *New York Times* as one of the top three suspense writers of the year. The first instalment of his latest radio thriller, based on the story by "Simon Rattray," opens with the

## DEAD SILENCE

violent death in a railway tunnel of a brilliant research scientist, and ends with the cry of a retired biologist fatally bitten by a black mamba in his own private zoo. Elleston Trevor began writing during war service in the R.A.F. Under his own name and two pen names—"Warwick Scott" and "Simon Rattray"—he has written a score of novels (four of which have been made into films), a dozen children's books, and about 100 short stories. During the past year or so twelve of his plays have been broadcast by the BBC, many of them featuring a new style sleuth, Hugh Bishop, whose interest in crime is combined with a passion for playing chess and racing around the countryside in a "vintage car." Still in his thirties, Trevor is married and has one young son, Peregrine. His attractive blonde wife Jonni takes an active part in her husband's literary career by acting as a "woman of all work." The Trevors live in a Regency house at Brighton, which has been converted to a hotel, and Elleston's study is the ballroom. "I work in one corner of the room behind a screen," he says. "It's a most restful atmosphere."

**THE** life of a concert pianist has its more strenuous moments. For instance, there was the experience the

other day of the Australian pianist Nancy Weir, when she was giving one of the last of a series of studio broadcasts from linked YC stations. The pianist was staying at an Auckland hotel, and her next recital was timed for Sunday evening. She went down to the NZBS studios for a few hours' solid practice in the afternoon, then walked back to the hotel, had a



**NANCY WEIR**  
*The seconds ticked by*

bath and lay down for a short rest before the broadcast. As the time approached the studio became the usual scene of activity. Technicians cleared the land-lines, the studio piano was placed in readiness—but as the seconds ticked around on the studio clock no pianist appeared. A quick phone call to the hotel established that Nancy Weir was still asleep in bed. She got dressed in record time, jumped into a taxi, and was at the studio only six minutes after the scheduled starting time. Meanwhile fill-in music had been broadcast—and after all the excitement Nancy Weir's recital was one of the best of her tour. Later she apologised for forgetting to leave instructions with the hotel clerk to be wakened in time. But such accidents are liable to happen in the best-regulated lives!

**"I STARTED** with classical music. At six I gave my first concert. Later, I led the Opera House Orchestra in Budapest. After that I toured Scandinavia with a trio, always playing classical music. Then one day I heard a tune on an orchestration. It was a dance tune. I liked it. I went home and re-wrote it. I played it, and a beautiful blonde Norwegian girl

**THE "GECZY"** —my wife—liked it. I got a band together.

**STYLE** We started playing. And since, there has been applause." In these words Barnabas von Geczy, a Hungarian aristocrat who plays popular music in a style all his own, once explained the secret of his success. The Geczy style in music is a way of "refining" popular tunes by masterly re-orchestration which robs them of none of their rhythm or melody, but makes them sound different and reveals hitherto hidden beauties. Barnabas von Geczy was very popular on the Continent before the war, and made his headquarters in Germany. Since the war a new group



**VESTA O'HARA** (left) and **VALERIE ISBISTER** (right) are two of the recent contestants in IZB's "Ladies of Song" competition, broadcast in "Radio Theatre Guest Hour" at 9.0 p.m. on Sundays. Vesta studied with Roland Foster and has broadcast and appeared in a number of operas in Australia. She made two trips to Melbourne in connection with the *Mobile Quest*, in which she was a semi-finalist. Valerie Isbister is well known for her leading roles in Auckland amateur operatics, for her wartime camp concert work, and as a Competitions prize-winner. She also sang in opera during three and a half years in Australia.