

## NEWS OF BROADCASTERS, ON AND OFF THE RECORD

the National Orchestra and the Auckland Festival Choir. He will also be broadcasting shortly with Harry Botham's Orchestra from 2YA.

TWO former Otago wicket-keepers will be describing play in the first Test between England and New Zealand at Carisbrook from March 11 to 16. They are Iain Gallaway and Noel Lawson. Noel Lawson first played for Otago in 1936 and a year later won a New Zealand University "Blue" for cricket. He

kept wickets for Otago during 1944-45, and during the 1949-50 and the 1950-51 seasons he was a member of the Otago Cricket Association's selection panel. His voice has been heard in cricket commentaries from Carisbrook during the last two Plunket Shield seasons, and in 1949 he described play in the three-day unofficial Test between New Zealand and Australia. Iain Gallaway played against Walter Hammond's M.C.C. team in 1947. For some time he was a top-ranked Rugby Union referee, wearing the white jersey at Invercargill in 1949 when Southland played Trevor Allen's Australian XV, and a year later at Grey-mouth when Karl Mullen's British Isles team played the West Coast. His close knowledge of the laws of the game stand him in good stead for his Rugby Union commentaries during the winter season, and last summer he was associated with Noel Lawson in describing the Plunket Shield matches from Carisbrook. Before Christmas Iain Gallaway flew to Australia and witnessed the second Test and Davis Cup at Sydney and the third (Tyson's) Test at Melbourne. He has a high regard for the younger brigade in the M.C.C. team and believes that Cowdrey and May will delight New Zealand spectators if they can get going. As we go to press it has been announced that Lankford Smith will also give commentaries on the Test.

"THERE'S never too little time to look smart," says Gwen Ralph, who plays the violin with the Auckland Radio Orchestra and the Auckland Studio



GWEN RALPH and her daughter MEGAN

Players. Gwen is a full-time musician and full-time mother (she has a daughter Megan, aged four), but it was in her part-time role as a model that she was speaking. Tall

MOTHER, MUSICIAN AND MODEL blue eyes and an engaging smile.

Gwen Ralph has travelled a long way since she appeared in Auckland's Children's Hours at the age of five as Gwen Morris, one of Thea's Little Sunbeams at 1ZB, and in Cinderella's session at 1YA. After two years as a violinist with the National Orchestra, from its inception, she spent another two years in England, fashion modelling for *Harper's Bazaar* and *Vogue*, both the English and French publications, and as a mannequin for leading fashion houses. At the other end of the scale, as it were, she hitchhiked from Land's End to John o'

Groats. Maker of clothes as well as model, Gwen designed and made the clothes which she and her daughter Megan are wearing in the photograph. She also designed and made up the costumes for the recent Auckland amateur stage presentation of *Carissima*. When Gwen's hairdresser saw the hair style which she is wearing in the photograph, she clucked at the Italian fashion. "It makes you look too severe," she said. "Sit down and I'll fix it for you." Gwen stood up with her hair cut shorter and waved forward in a youthfully becoming movement. Heigh-ho for the day when the Radio Orchestra plays on Television!

ERIC FOGG'S *Ode to a Nightingale*, a work for the ensemble combination of baritone, string quartet and harp, which will be broadcast from linked YC stations on Wednesday evening, is the

third in the series of new and unusual works chosen by Donald Munro and the Alex Lindsay Quartet. They are accompanied by Lesley Comber, harpist to the National Orchestra. The song cycle was composed in 1939, the year of Eric Fogg's death. This brilliant young composer was born in Manchester in 1903 and aroused considerable attention with his fluent compositions at an early age. At 17 he appeared at a Queen's Hall Promenade Concert to conduct his *Ballet Suite*. For more than 16 years he was a member of the BBC, and was its first Empire Music Director and Conductor of the BBC Empire Orchestra. *Ode to a Nightingale* is written in an idiom quite modern even by today's standards, and the harp gives the work a colour which the piano couldn't give, Mr. Munro told us recently when describing the proposed broadcast.



ERIC FOGG

MAURICE TANSLEY (light baritone) and Jack Thompson (pianist) of Invercargill are at present being heard from YZ and X stations in "Serenata," a recorded series of popular and musical comedy numbers. Both were formerly well-known broadcasters in Auckland. Maurice Tansley is an old member of the Kiwi Concert Party, and after the war he took part in their successful tour of Australia.



N.Z. LISTENER, MARCH 11, 1955.

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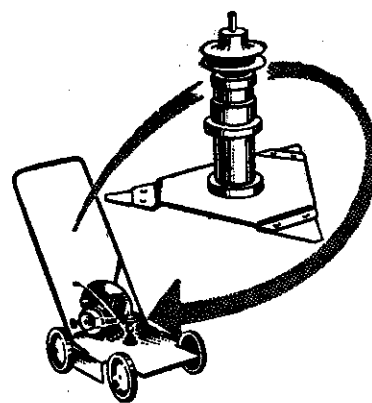
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