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- ☐ B 21047 H "When the Red, Red Robin" and "Beautiful Music to Love By" - - - DORIS DAY
- ☐ B 21276 H "Blue Bells of Broadway" and "I Speak to the Stars" - - - DORIS DAY
- ☐ B 21122 H "Many Times" and "In Love" - - - PERCY FAITH AND HIS ORCHESTRA
- ☐ B 21236 H "Eleanora" and "Dream, Dream, Dream" - - - PERCY FAITH AND HIS ORCHESTRA
- ☐ B 21146 H "In the Mission of St. Augustine" and "No Stone Unturned" - - - SAMMY KAYE
- ☐ B 21200 H "Bella Bella Donna Mia" and "Y (That's Why)" - - - SAMMY KAYE
- ☐ B 21269 H "Easter Parade" and "The Rosary" - - - - - LIBERACE
- ☐ B 21164 H "A Red, Red Ribbon" and "Sweet Mama, Tree Top Tall" - - - THE MARINERS
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- ☐ B 21202 H "You'd Be Surprised" and "Why Should I Be Sorry?" - - - JOHNNIE RAY
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- ☐ B 21248 H "Just in Case You Change Your Mind" and "Gee" - - - SOMETHIN' SMITH AND THE SKYLARKS
- ☐ B 21179 H "Make Love To Me" and "Adi-Adios-Amigo" - - - - - JO STAFFORD
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PD 39

Open Microphone

BILLY COTTON—who has been called the last exponent of the Great Band Show of the 1930s, when comedy arrangements were the craze of the day—is well aware that when listeners hear his greeting "Wakey! Wakey!" in rich

GOOD
CLEAN CORN

and fruity Cockney tones they expect to be cheered up. "The public knows me and knows what sort of show they can expect from me," he says. "They like it that way—so I give it to them. Corn? Maybe it is, but it's good clean corn. Other bands went in for hot jazz and a mush of soft crooning, lots of it. Many of them flopped. I stick to the comedy arrangements, and stay in work. It's just as simple as that."

If you could see a Billy Cotton Show—you will have a chance to hear one in BBC Variety Parade from YA



BILLY COTTON

stations, 1YZ, 3YZ and 4YZ this Saturday (July 14)—you'd discover that Billy is the sort of clown who throws cotton-wool coconuts into the audience, pulls up his trousers and dances a hornpipe and can turn a cartwheel on the stage in spite of his 50-odd years. This energy and zest is reflected in some of the sports he has followed—boxing, yachting, football, motor-racing and flying. He started flying during the First World War when he enrolled in the Royal Flying Corps by faking his age. "I got my fill of adventure then," he says. Before that, at 15, he had joined the Royal Fusiliers as a drummer boy and had seen service at the Dardanelles.

At the end of the war Billy found himself, like many thousands of others, out of a job. What could he do? Well, he could play the drums, so he played the drums. He formed a small band, played at ballrooms throughout the country, and then to his surprise was offered a date at the exclusive Ciro's Club in London. The show went with a bang, and Billy has never really looked back.

★

"I'm convinced that space travel will come, probably some time in the next few decades, but I'm equally convinced that it won't come easily," says Colin Keay, whose talks on space travel have been widely heard from National stations. "A greater effort will be required than mankind has ever before

NEWS OF BROADCASTERS ON AND OFF THE RECORD

FARMER IN RUSSIA

JOHN HALL, whose talks "A New Zealand Farmer in Russia" have been heard from a number of National stations, tells us that he is a third generation New Zealander, who served in France and Germany in the First World War, and since then has been farming at Hororata, in Canterbury.

On 300 acres there he runs sheep and grows crops. For a number of years he was on the North Canterbury Provincial Executive of the New Zealand Farmers' Union, and also held the position of vice-president.



John Hall

Apart from his work on the farm, Mr. Hall gives some time to free-lance journalism—specialising in articles on farming and nature study—and he is New Zealand correspondent for the English "Farmers' Weekly." He is also a keen photographer—does his own processing and enlarging—and has had photographs published in a number of papers and journals.

expended—even on wars," he told us, "but it isn't beyond the capabilities of man."

Mr. Keay, who has been interested in astronomy "right from childhood," began to take an interest in space travel in 1944, when he first

ASTRONOMER heard of the German V2 rockets and of their amazing capabilities. "I realised," he says, "that a vehicle had been built that could probe space itself, and since then I have tried to keep abreast of developments in the subject." A member of the Royal New Zealand Astronomical Society for the past 10 years and a foundation member of the Canterbury Astronomical Society, he is at present completing research into the problems involved in detecting meteors by using radio echo—radar—techniques. "I regard this research as one small way in which New Zealand can contribute to the world's store of knowledge about the planet we live on," he says. "At the



COLIN KEAY

N.Z. LISTENER, JULY 13, 1956.



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The Course has increased my energy, endurance, poise, health and fitness. I find my nerves have been strengthened and deeper breathing has now become a habit. It has improved my physical and mental condition, giving me a more vigorous and confident attitude to my daily duties.—R. E. Cairns, "Barrhill," No. 2 R.D., Rakai, N.Z. 12/4/56.