



L. C. M. Saunders



Oliver Harris



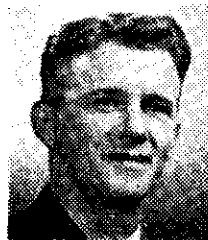
Doris Sheppard



Harry Botham

THE first of six district sections in the *Mobil Song Quest*—the district judges for the four main centres are shown above and below—will be heard from all the 12 SONG QUEST stations involved—ZBs, Xs and 2ZA—on August 2. These district sections will continue till September 6, and in the

following week the first of the district finals will be heard from all 12 stations. In hearing the district section contests the district judges may nominate a winner each week or may decide that no first place should be awarded for that week. They may also nominate one person other than the section winners for each district as a recall for the district final.



John Ritchie



Victor Peters



Bertha Rawlinson



H. Walden-Mills

(continued from previous page)

Opera Company in London. The magazine *Musical Opinion* wrote of his debut as Canio in *Pagliacci*: "Mr. Dowd is a singer of sensibility and an actor of great possibilities. His voice is well placed and controlled and is consequently secure in pitch. He is able, moreover, to use it as a means of expression. He realises that artistic necessity for degrees of tone amount, and appreciates the dramatic power of a pianissimo. Not once did we feel that he considered (as so many appear to these days) that a sustained fortissimo is the *sine qua non* of a singer. It will be interesting to hear Mr. Dowd later on in a more lyrical role."



Ronald Dowd

The review also noted the first appearance of the New Zealand singer Denis Dowling in the title role of *Don Giovanni*: "Denis Dowling gave a nimble, swashbuckling account of the Don and, until the last few scenes when his voice began to show some signs of strain, sang with a good quality of tone and sense of style."

ALTHOUGH Father Agnellus Andrew has been associated with religious broadcasts from the BBC for about 14 years—he is now Roman Catholic Assistant to the Head of Religious Broadcasting—he first took the air in a programme of music from the Western FRANCISCAN Isles of Scotland. "That was during my long spell in the North of England, when I founded a large choral, orchestral and operatic group which I ran till I left Manchester for London," he told us. "It became well known in the North. Our programmes included a good deal of lighter music, such as Gilbert and Sulli-

van." Father Agnellus said that music was "quite a hobby" with him, and there was a note of regret in his voice as he mentioned that he now has no time for this sort of work.

Father Agnellus, who is being heard in the monthly *Christian Question Box* programmes—the next will be broadcast from YA and YZ stations on August 2—is a friendly, cheerful Scot who was born in Ayrshire and educated at Garnet-hill College and London University. A Franciscan friar, he did parish work in a big parish in Manchester for six or seven years and lectured "pretty continuously" to Catholic undergraduates in Manchester University. After that he was put in charge of Catholic social teaching in an area in the North of England. Readers will recall from our interview with Father Agnellus printed some time ago that he first took part in religious broadcasts when a BBC representative heard him answering questions "off the cuff" at a factory gate meeting. From then on he was heard, for several years, in a religious "brains trust" called *The Arvil*.

Nowadays Father Agnellus does little ordinary religious broadcasting, such as talks and services, but still has a hand in sound and television commentary and in other work where special knowledge and techniques are required. Broadcasts of this sort have taken him to Europe on a number of occasions, and he has also had to attend many international conferences on broadcasting—in France, Spain, Germany, Rome and America. Outside his BBC post Father Agnellus works—and lives—in a big Roman Catholic radio and television centre in London.



N.P.S. photo

Father Agnellus

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