



SECOND of the five modern English operas to be broadcast this month, *Ruth*, by Lennox Berkeley (above), will be heard from YC stations on Tuesday, October 8. The opera, in one act, is based on the Biblical story of Ruth, the steadfast Moabite widow who accompanies her Judean mother-in-law to Bethlehem and there gleanes in Boaz's field to support them both. Boaz is attracted by the virtuous Ruth, and, through the medium of his kinswoman Naomi, Ruth is instructed to come to Boaz as he lies sleeping on his threshing floor after the harvest and to offer herself as his wife. From the union sprang the line of David.

BRITISH OPERA

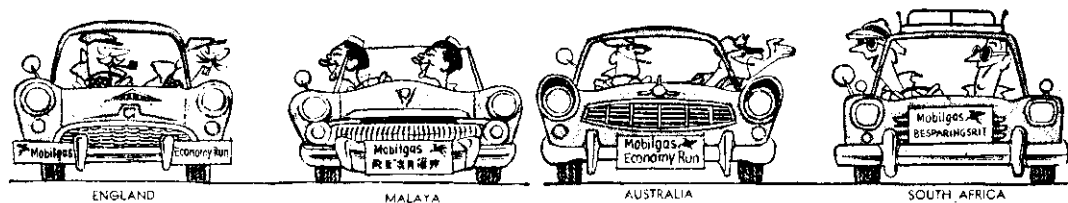
Berkeley's librettist, Eric Crozier, has altered the Biblical version to some extent, eliminating the scene where Boaz offers Ruth first to a nearer kinsman, and combining Ruth's coming to Boaz and his proclamation of their marriage into one scene. It is, all round, a much politer story, but if the critics are to be believed, Berkeley has created a highly individual work, considerably superior to his previous essays in opera, *Nelson* and *Dinner Engagement*.

(*Ruth*, all YCs, Tuesday, October 8, 8.0 p.m.)

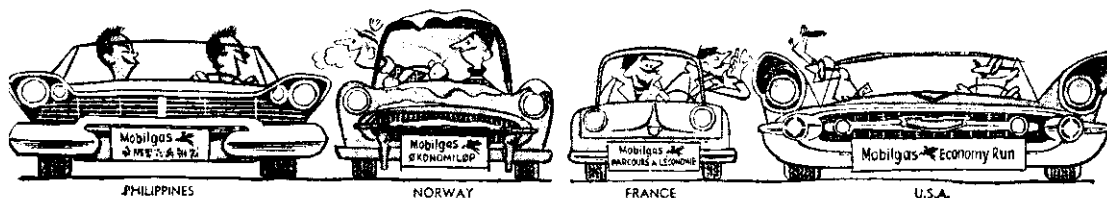
Forest Experts Meet

THIS year's British Commonwealth Forestry Conference—the seventh of a series which began in 1920—is spreading its sessions and preliminary tours and meetings over two months. The first pre-conference session began at Port Moresby on August 11, and since then there have been tours or meetings in Western Australia, Queensland, Tasmania and Melbourne. On August 25 the conference proper began at Adelaide. Later it moved to Canberra, and delegates had also visited Australian forest areas before they came to New Zealand last week. Here meetings will be held at Rotorua and Christchurch, where the conference ends on October 11. The Director of Forestry (A. R. Entrican) and other senior officers of the New Zealand Forest Service, are among those who are reading papers to the conference. After the formal meetings, delegates will have a chance to visit forests in North Auckland, Nelson, Westland, Otago and Southland. Listeners will hear a programme about this Seventh Commonwealth Forestry Conference from YA stations and 4YZ at 9.30 a.m. on Sunday, October 13.

N.Z. LISTENER, OCTOBER 4, 1957.



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