

Final Preparations

BEFORE the battle, the wise general concentrates his artillery where he can best use it; before the Empire Games open the NZBS will have concentrated its electronic artillery in Auckland. To the disc recorder and two tape recorders already at 1YA, there have been added four new disc recorders and two tape recorders, eight portable tape recorders, and the mobile broadcasting unit, which contains two more tape recorders. This armament has been based at three headquarters in Auckland, which will be occupied by the BBC, by the ABC, and by the NZBS, which is also acting for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and the South African Broadcasting Corporation.

Zero Hour, G Day, is 1.25 p.m. on Saturday, February 4, when listeners will hear the Royal Guard and Marine Band entering Eden Park to take up positions facing the saluting base im-

mediately in front of the dais from which the captain of the New Zealand team will take the Oath of Amateurism on behalf of all the athletes participating. The timing of other highlights from the impressive opening ceremony includes: 1.30, arrival of the Governor-General and Lady Freyberg; 1.40, following a fanfare of trumpets the March On of athletes will begin; 2.5, the Governor-General will read a message from His Majesty the King; 2.7, His Excellency will declare the Games open; 2.11, fanfare of trumpets followed by salute of four guns signalling the raising of the British Empire Games Federation Flag, and as the flag reaches the mast-head a massed flight of pigeons over the park will be released; 2.20, the Oath of Amateurism will be taken. By approximately 2.46 the ceremonial opening will be over, and the grounds cleared for events to begin.

Results and stories about the Games, quite apart from press cables, will flow out from our shores through the radio



Spencer Digby photograph
W. L. HARRISON

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G. H. STRINGER



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THE BROADCAST SCHEDULE

SUMMARIES (YA stations):

7.18 a.m. Previous evening's results, and preview of coming day's highlights.

12.33 p.m. Morning events (except February 11).

6.40-7.0 p.m. Morning and afternoon results, with edited highlights.

11.15 p.m. Complete day's results (YA and YZ stations linked).

COMMENTARIES (YA stations linked) on athletics, swimming, cycling, rowing, boxing and wrestling.

1.30-5.0 (approximately) every afternoon, returning to the studio at intervals, when results of diving, fencing, weight-lifting, and lawn bowls will be broadcast.

7.30-10.30 (approximately) every night.

On each day of the Games, Stations 1XH, 1XN, 2XA, 2XG, 2XP, 2XN, and 3XC will remain on the air to broadcast the final daily summary of results at 11.15 p.m.

telephone and Radio New Zealand between 3.15 a.m., when a summary will be sent to South Africa via Australia, and 11.45 p.m., for a total of two hours five minutes broadcasting time every twenty-four hours.

Overseas coverage of the Games starts on January 28. The NZBS has made available recorded descriptions of fields and arenas where Games events will be held. The BBC uses this material in *Radio Newsreel*, while the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation asked for a record of the Canadian team's impressions of the voyage, how they were housed in Auckland, and of

the country in general. This was air-mailed to Canada by the NZBS.

Each morning of Games Week, there will be a conference of broadcasting officials at 1YA to survey the day's requirements, co-ordinate the activities of the various people involved, and see that equipment is used to the best advantage. Shirley McNab, talks officer at 1YA, will interview many of the women competitors and use these interviews for Auckland Women's Hour programmes. The Commercial Division of the NZBS, which will present summaries of results at 12.30, 1.30, 6.45, and 10.30 p.m., will also concentrate on recording material for subsequent broadcasts. One of these will be at a peak listening hour on the Sunday following the Games, when a half hour of the week's highlights will be broadcast.

Control of Organisation

IN spite of careful preparation, it is always necessary where organisation is complex, to have responsible officials on the spot. From the Wellington Head Office of NZBS will go C. Marshall, who will be in charge of the staff performing the necessary presentation, typing and clerical work. G. H. Stringer, assistant secretary, looking after broadcasting liaison, the chief engineer, W. L. Harrison, in charge of the technical side, and J. H. Hall, supervisor of talks, who will be responsible for editing and presenting the summaries. It is highly unlikely that these people will see much of the Games, but it is only through their ceaseless activity that listeners both here and overseas will receive the end product of the most extensive broadcasting assignment ever attempted by the NZBS.

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Medici at Rome. He was born in Paris and has written many works for piano, organ and harp, comic operas, ballets, and his famous symphonic suite, *Escapes*, has been heard in many parts of the world.

One of the most mature and forceful personalities in modern Polish music, and Director of the Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra, Panufnik has based his *Suite polonaise* on popular themes of Masovia, the region of Poland where Chopin was born. The American com-

poser represented, Hanson, is a member of the U.S. National Commission for Unesco, chairman of the Commission's panel on music, chairman of the National Music Council, and Director of the Eastman School of Music, Rochester, New York. The number of his works is considerable. The Englishman Lennox Berkeley has a link with New Zealand through the pianist Colin Horsley. He has written a piano concerto especially for Horsley, who was granted the sole performing rights for two years, and concert-goers will prob-

ably hear the first New Zealand performance of the concerto when Horsley revisits New Zealand this year.

The style of Malipiero, Italian composer, has evolved from the early Debussian impressionism to Neo-Classicism. He has written symphonies, oratorios, comic operas and operas. Chavez is not only the most important of Mexican composers, but also the moving force in the musical life of his country. In 1928 he founded the Symphonic Orchestra of Mexico, and is a member of the Mexican National Commission

for Unesco. Martinu is one of the most outstanding composers of contemporary Czech music, and is responsible for operas, ballets and orchestral works and concertos. The second French composer in the programme is Schmitt, whose many compositions include symphonic and chamber music, songs and other works. Among them are his famous *Psalm XLVII*, *The Tragedy of Salome*, incidental music for *Antony and Cleopatra* and a recently-composed *Quartet*.

This anniversary programme will occupy an hour and a-quarter.



Seven of the eleven composers who contributed to the Unesco programme honouring Chopin's memory. From left, TANSMAN, MARTINU, CHAVEZ, ESPLA, IBERT, PANUFNIK, and HANSON.