

**L**AATEST news of Patrick Murdoch, the New Zealand baritone, whose home town is Dunedin, is that he is making a



Spencer Digby  
Patrick Murdoch

name for himself in musical comedy in London. He has been appearing in a revue *Peepshow* at the Prince of Wales Theatre, and has had parts in the musicals *Golden City* and *Carousel*, as well as in various ice shows. Before leaving for England, where he studied at Trinity College of Music, he was frequently heard in broadcasts from NZBS stations.

**CLAUDE BLOOM**, who takes the part of Isabella in the BBC production of *Measure for Measure* in the forthcoming *World Theatre* series, is an actress with a tremendous future; or so Charles Chaplin thinks.

**CHAPLIN'S CHOICE** Early in 1951 he rang from America to London and asked her if she would like to go to New York to be tested for the part of leading lady in his new film *Limelight*. She flew over, made the test, and returned to London and her starring role in *Ring Round*

# Open Microphone

the Moon, and after some tense months of waiting, learnt that she had been chosen. She arrived in New York to begin work on the film in September of the same year.

**IN** a transit camp in Italy—one of those sprawling military hives with people constantly coming and going—a soldier astonished his

## THE GIRL FRIEND



James Hopkinson

friends by opening his kit-bag and producing a very beautiful woman. Another soldier, falling in love with her, acquired her for a nominal sum, and after some extraordinary adventures by the way-side, she now lives with the soldier and his wife in New Zealand. The buyer was James Hopkinson, formerly a flautist with the National Orchestra, but now of Napier, and he calls her The Girl Friend. She is a fine copy of the Italian painter Domenico's picture Sibyl. James Hopkinson will tell the story to 3YC listeners on Saturday night.

## NEWS OF BROADCASTERS, ON AND OFF THE RECORD.

By *Swarf*

On the following evening at the same station, he will be heard in a talk *The Lumber Room*, concerning some odd discoveries made while fossicking about among discarded trifles.

**WILFRED PICKLES** in his final *Have a Go* programme a week or so ago reintroduced to BBC HAD A General Overseas Service list- GO eners some of the interesting personalities he has met



BBC photo  
Wilfred Pickles

in the last six years since his show began. He has interviewed 1500 people, asked more than 5000 questions, "given them the money" to the tune of £2500, and travelled 100,000 miles.

## Winston McCarthy changes his role

**ON** a recent afternoon I was invited to examine Winston McCarthy's knees. They were knobby in a muscular way, but still, just ordinary knees. "Look," he said, "they're knocking!" Mac has left his job with the NZBS to be an auctioneer, and zero hour for his first sale was eleven next morning. "In one sense I find a similarity between broadcasting and auctioneering," he confided. "I still get paid for talking." When I suggested that after his long

experience as an entertainer as well as head office Sports Officer for the NZBS, he should be able to put the customers into a good humour, Mac went into a serious mood. "A little bit of fun goes a long way," he said, "but I'm out to sell"; and with even more gravity, "selling's an art you know." Winston McCarthy joined broadcasting in 1937 when, with Sid Hayden, he inaugurated shows at 2YD, "The Little Station with the Big Programmes." Since those days

New Zealanders have heard his descriptions of sporting events at home and abroad. The way he handled the 2nd N.Z.E.F. Rugby team's match at Cardiff against Wales so affected listeners that tough internationals reeled from their radios with nervous exhaustion before it was over. And during his four months under the South African sun with the 1949 All Blacks we heard all there was to hear about the Springbok way of Rugby. Mac's voice will still come over the air, in football and boxing commentaries from 2YA.



"I'M A LITTLE TEAPOT"



"REACHING FOR THE MOON"

"OLD ROCKIN' CHAIR"



"MEANY, MEANY"

N.P.S. photos

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