

NEWS OF BROADCASTERS, ON AND OFF THE RECORD,

By *Swarf*

than the last three years she has been announcing. Her voice is well liked by British listeners, and by many New Zealand listeners to the Overseas Service



BBC photograph

KAY SHARMAN
Miss Radio I

of the BBC, which gives good reception at certain times of the day. Last year several American sailors serving in Norwegian waters aboard U.S.S. Currituck A.V.7, wrote to her saying that they had adopted her as "Miss Radio I" for 1952. The reason? They considered her voice was "as charming as could be."

ANY New Zealander who worked with the Forestry Corps in the Scottish border country during the war, and who hears a BBC programme called *Portrait of a Forester*, may recognise an old friend in John F.

SLOW GROWING MacIntyre. Head Forester of the Forest of Newcastleton. The programme, which is going the rounds of the National stations, is a professional portrait of a man who has spent his life in the service of the trees, turning bare hillsides into carefully tended forest. MacIntyre himself unfolds his story, while in the dramatised parts he is represented by a fellow clansman, Duncan MacIntyre the actor. A forest's a slow-growing thing, says MacIntyre, so a forester's life is a slow-growing thing, too. But as this feature shows, it is full and productive. When John MacIntyre went to Newcastleton from his native Highlands, 30 odd years ago, it was a countryside given over to the sheep, the grouse, and the curlew. There were 10 acres of timber which he worked with simple hand tools. Now, from a hilltop, you can look down on 3500 acres of evergreen conifers at Newcastleton. MacIntyre's three or four labourers have grown to a staff of 40, and the tools they use are tractors, bulldozers and ploughs. And those 30 years have brought changes for the Head Forester, too. A Highlander has settled down contentedly as an adopted Borderer, matching the span of his life with the trees

he planted all those years ago. *Portrait of a Forester* was recorded as a transcription from the BBC's Edinburgh studios. It was written by Robert Kemp and produced by Robin Richardson.

"MY first appearance in the show business was with my sister, Dainty Baby June and her singing newsboys. I was one of the newsboys; the others were real boys

MODESTY Mother picked up anywhere, and if any of them showed talent, Mother soon sent them packing. Needless to say, I stayed with the show from start to finish, having no talent at all.—Gipsy Rose Lee, American stage star, in a BBC programme.

VICTORIA KINGSLEY, Britain's globe-trotting singing guitarist, who visited New Zealand recently, and whose musical recordings will go the rounds of the NZBS stations in April, is a linguist and a collector of primitive musical instruments.

LONE TRAVELLER Every so often she sets off with her travel-stained guitar to play and sing songs of all nations to the people of all nations. When I last saw her she told me that she thought her next move would be an encore tour of India, Pakistan and Ceylon. Victoria Kingsley, a slim blonde of medium height, travels alone, with little luggage but her guitar, and "on spec," fulfilling engagements as they come, and constantly gathering material for a book she is writing on her world travels. She has described incidents in her trips in many BBC broadcasts. She has told how in South American Indian territory she ate meat roasted over a fire in the open by holding the meat between her teeth and trimming off the protruding part with a knife. In India she sang in backwater villages and maharajahs' palaces, and for Pandit Nehru. In the tropics her guitar has to be protected against the ravages of white ants by DDT treatment. On her tours she must be careful that her guitar-strumming fingers do not become too soft by too-

frequent immersion in water. Born in Lancashire, educated in Scotland, she won a B.A. degree at Oxford, then studied at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art before becoming a repertory actress. In her large house at Hampstead, London, she has several tom-toms and other native drums, queer flute-like native wind instruments and quaint stringed instruments—one with an armadillo as its back, and recordings of native music and songs gathered on her voyages.

STAGE AND SCREEN FANFARE, written and presented by Jim Thomson, gives 2XN listeners, each Wednesday, news of personalities and developments on the stage, screen, in television, radio and the show business generally. The programme has been running since July of last year. It does not review films, but rather



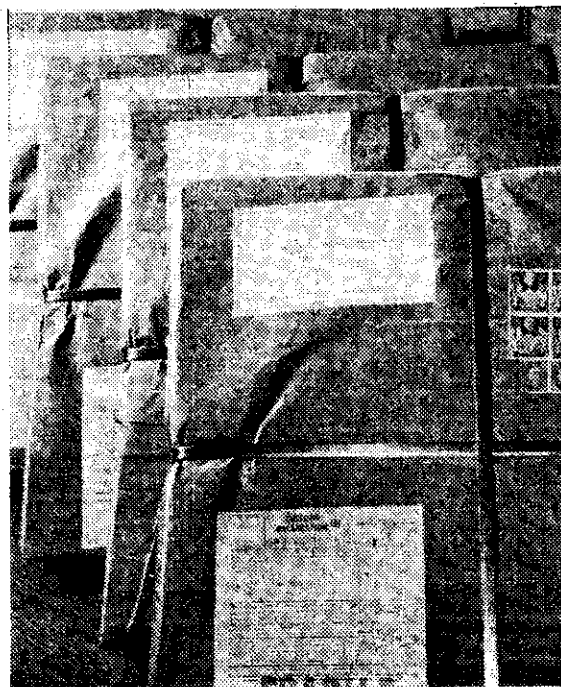
JIM THOMSON

gives what Thomson feels to be interesting sidelights on all forms of entertainment. *Stage and Screen Fanfare* is meant to be more of a diversion than a dissertation, and is broadcast just after 9.0 p.m.

Charles Crighton, who handles BBC

Transcriptions for the NZBS, told in the issue of March 6 how the BBC packs recordings with such care that breakages are unknown.

Here are parcels at Maida Vale, London, for dispatch to all parts of the world.



BBC photograph

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