

NEWS OF BROADCASTERS, ON AND OFF THE RECORD,

By *Swarf*

jotting down. As for Ted Ray, his comedy is so good that departures from the spoken word come as a disappointment. Still, if that's the way he wants it (so does the studio audience, judging by the applause) I suppose we can put up with a temporarily vocal Ted. Fortunately, comedians rarely attempt the crooning technique in which there is a low moan like a fog-buoy, complete with shuddering vibrato at the end of each phrase.



RBC photo
Reg. Dixon

UNTIL she produced Monica, the schoolgirl in *Variety Bandbox*, who leaves devastation in her wake, Beryl Reid was just another radio comedienne. Today, her "Jolly hockey stick" and "Absolute terminus" are public SCHOOLGIRL catch phrases. Beryl Reid says that Monica is a mixture of all the school-girls she ever met. For her radio work she turns up at the studio in full Monica rig—gym skirt, blouse and school tie. Most of her scripts are written for her by Ronnie Wolfe, but it's Beryl who translates them into Monica-ese.

YOU see the remote country lending libraries stuffed full of the poor forgotten ghosts—Florence Barclays and Israel Zangwills, and C. N. and A. M. Williamsons; and the stalwarts of my own youth—
FATE WORSE Leonard Merrick, **WILTHAN DEATH** liam J. Locke, Michael Arlen—who reads *The Green Hat* now? And how long since you even thought about A. S. M. Hutchinson's record-breaking best seller *If Winter Comes*? However, better fade into the gentle oblivion of the country library than meet a fate far worse than death at the hands of the Hollywood scenario writers.—From an NZBS *Book Shop* programme.

THE dizzy (but not so silly) blonde who plays the leading role in the M-G-M Radio Attractions show, *The Adventures of Maisie* (12B, 22B and 32B, 7.0 p.m. on Tuesdays, and starting at 42B on May 12), is Ann Sothorn, the film star. Her first **MAISIE AT THE ZBs** "Maisie" picture was so successful that she was engaged on a long-term contract to make one "Maisie" film a year. Born in Valley City, North Dakota, she is the daughter of Annette Lake, a concert singer, and Walter Lake, a produce broker. She gets nearer to permanent fame as the granddaughter of Simon Lake, one of the early experimenters with the submarine. The family moved to Minneapolis early in her childhood, and she attended public schools there, winning first honours for original music composition at the



FARM BROADCASTS in Auckland are "Country Journal" at 12.33 p.m. every Tuesday from 1YA; "For the Farmer," also from 1YA, every Wednesday at 7.0 p.m. (including "Farmers' Newsreel" and Department of Agriculture talks); and from 1YD "The Land and Its People" at 7.30 p.m. every Thursday. Pictured above are H. Belin (a commercial beekeeper), Dick Gutteridge (who is now organising the farm sessions at 1YA), and D. Roberts (Apiary Instructor for the Department of Agriculture). They are recording a programme called "Meet the Commercial Beekeeper," which will be broadcast by 1YA on the evening of Wednesday, May 13

Central High School. She was sent to school in Detroit on a music scholarship, and then attended the University of Washington in Seattle for two years. During summer she went on concert tours with her mother. Hollywood was on the itinerary, and she attracted the eye of the late Paul Bern (producer). Then, when Florenz Ziegfeld saw her in a screen skit, he asked her to appear

in one of his New York productions. Naturally she agreed, and Ann Sothorn rose rapidly from the "pony chorus" and appeared in many stage shows and films. It was when she sought determinedly for character parts that she became a star. *The Adventures of Maisie* was written by Arthur Phillips and produced by Raymond Katz. The music was composed by Harry Zimmerman.

Here is
Kay Keavney
who adapted
the novel
"Kitty Foyle"
for radio.
This story
is now being
broadcast by
1XH on
Tuesdays and Thursdays
at 11.15 a.m.



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