



W. VAUGHAN THOMAS

WYNFORD VAUGHAN THOMAS started out for the BBC from the Swansea Grammar School (he's Welsh) and arrived there via Exeter College, Oxford, a spell as a deck hand on a North Sea trawler, and various educational and cultural posts. At the last Coronation he gave his first running commentary in London—in Welsh. He was responsible for many stirring war reports as a BBC correspondent at the Anzio beachhead, with the Allied Armies in Italy and in other campaigns. In Hamburg he made the last broadcast on "Lord Haw Haw's" microphone. After the war he was on the maiden voyage of the Queen Elizabeth, went to South Africa with the Royal Tour and to Kenya on the first stage of the Commonwealth Tour of the then Princess Elizabeth, and the Duke of Edinburgh. Now, as a free lance, he has become one of the leading commentators in British television.



FRANK GILLARD

ANOTHER former BBC war correspondent, Frank Gillard, came up from Somerset, where he had been schoolmastering to join the BBC staff as Talks Assistant. Now he's Head of the West Regional programmes. The story is told of him that

TALE OF in the early days of the **A DOG** Normandy fighting he discovered that his G.O.C.,

General Montgomery, as he then was, missed, above all things, the companionship of a dog. Gillard bought a fox terrier from a French breeder, and presented it to the General on behalf of the BBC war correspondents in the field. The dog was called Shic, "S" being the code initial for all dogs born in France that year. Monty translated the name to Schickelgruber, and so, it eventually became Hitler. Gillard has headed teams of BBC reporters covering several Royal occasions, including the funeral of King George VI.



BBC JEAN METCALFE

RED-HEADED Jean Metcalfe, once a British Broadcasting Corporation typist, will be one of the two women in the BBC's main team; the other is Audrey Russell (for news of whom see column one on the next page). In less

FAMILY FAVOURITE than a year Jean was given a test and her soft and pleasant voice gained her a job as a continuity

announcer. Now she comperes *Woman's Hour* on three days a week as part of her general duties. She has introduced many programmes, including the two-way *Family Favourites* between London and Hamburg. It was on this programme that she first met her husband, Cliff Michelmores. They had talked together over the air for many, many Sundays, and Michelmores decided to go to London to meet his opposite number. He found that she was his personal "family favourite," and they were married a few months later.

RAYMOND BAXTER is best known in broadcasting as a commentator on mechanical matters, especially anything to do with aeroplanes and cars.

MECHANICAL MAN The King's Cup Air Race, the Farnborough Air Show, the Centurion tank, scientific research at the Cavendish Laboratory, the Motor Show and the British Indus-

Open Microphone

ON June 2, the day of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth the Second, a worldwide radio audience will hear commentators describe the procession, the ceremony in Westminster Abbey, and the celebrations in London. The BBC's General Overseas Service in English will bring a full coverage of commentaries and sound pictures to Commonwealth countries. British Forces overseas and ships at sea. In addition to the broadcasts in English, accounts of the ceremony will be given in every language the BBC uses in its external services.

Through transcriptions of BBC programmes, broadcast by the NZBS, listeners in New Zealand will be familiar with some of the commentators' voices. This week *Open Microphone* is given up to photographs and short biographies of a few of the many English broadcasters, and a map showing the Coronation procession route. The broadcasts will reach New Zealand homes through the NZBS Overseas Receiving and Monitoring Station at Quartz Hill. Makara, whence they will be fed by land line to the studios of 2YA, to be joined up with other broadcasting stations. Details of the principal broadcasts are to be found on page 7.

tries Fair are typical of his broadcasts last year. In 1947 he was seconded to be No. 2 to the Station Director of the British Forces Network in Hamburg, and two years later he was appointed to the BBC Outside Broadcasts Department. Since then he has covered every type of outside broadcast from the take-off of the Comet from London Airport on the first regular jet airliner service, to the disastrous floods in Eastern England last January. Each year since 1950

he has doubled the jobs of commentator and competitor in the Monte Carlo Rally, which lures drivers 2000 miles across Europe.

NOTHING short of a major disaster will interrupt the Coronation broadcasting arrangements at the New Zealand end. L. H. Martin, engineer in charge of the NZBS Receiving and Monitoring Station at Quartz Hill,

