

NEWS OF BROADCASTERS, ON AND OFF THE RECORD,

By *Swarf*

Makara, and staff, will operate 20 receivers on normal power, but with emergency power available throughout the proceedings. Considerable work has been done at Quartz Hill in co-operation with the BBC to select the most suitable short-wave frequencies for the transmissions. Martin, who has been with the NZBS for 14 years, has spent the last four years at Makara, where he and his wife and two children live. His hobby is training young soldiers, and at weekends he changes into uniform for parades of the Territorial Army, in which he holds the rank of Lieutenant.



L. H. MARTIN

AUDREY RUSSELL has had what she calls a "front row seat" covering every Royal event and pageant which has graced London since the war. One was the Dedication Service on May 3, 1951, when King George VI opened the Festival of Britain. FRONT SEAT which gave her the almost certain distinction of being the first woman to broadcast from St. Paul's Cathedral. This Dublin-born, fair-haired commentator now in her early forties, pioneered a new field in Britain when she became

the BBC's first woman reporter. After assignments in front line Dover and other embattled towns she was accredited as the BBC's only official woman war correspondent, working in operational areas in Belgium, Holland and Germany. Audrey Russell resigned from the BBC two years ago to freelance in sound broadcasting and television.

TALBOT DUCKMANTON, Australia's representative in the Coronation team, is one of the ABC's fore-

most commentators. He is assistant manager of the Commission's stations in Queensland and—in his very early thirties—its youngest executive officer. In 1939 he transferred from announcing to the Sporting Department and covered his first Public School Boat Race—one of the highlights of Sydney's sporting year. He became Sporting Supervisor in New South Wales in 1950, covering Davis Cup, tennis, Rugby and many other sports, and in the same year he came to Auckland as one of the two ABC commentators at the Empire Games. The following year he reported the Sturt Expedition up the Murrumbidgee River as part of the Commonwealth Jubilee celebrations, and a few months later was appointed to his present post in Queensland.



AUDREY RUSSELL

HOWARD MARSHALL, who has achieved distinction in several spheres, has spent much of his professional life round about Fleet Street, the BBC, Whitehall, and since the war, in the public relations and industrial welfare department of a big steel firm. His first jobs were on the editorial staff of

Answers and the London magazine, with a period as a steward on a cargo boat sailing between London and Hamburg. He joined the BBC as an announcer in 1929, passed on to News and thence to Talks, and the next year resigned to go to the Daily Telegraph. He broke new ground by describing Britain's slums in a talks series called *Other People's Houses*, which attracted wide attention and resulted in one of his early books, *Slum*. From then on he began to be known as a broadcaster in *Children's Hour*, *Radio Sports Club* and other programmes, and a commentator on any type of event from a Test Match to a Royal wedding.



TALBOT DUCKMANTON

JOHN ARLOTT, whose cricket commentaries delivered in the loamy Hampshire accent are known to a world-wide audience, has had solid experience of most phases of radio. He has read the lesson in a Christmas Day Service, and talked of the

HAMPSHIRE ACCENT wines of Bordeaux, given Soccer commentaries and compered

Country Magazine. One of his most trying ordeals was to announce, produce, narrate and act in a 60-minute Gandhi Memorial feature programme at an hour's notice without notes or script. But it is in connection with cricket that he is best known, as a player, historian and a writer and commentator who rejoices in its lyricism and grace. Most summers since the war have seen Arlott touring with County or Test cricket teams, and he has covered Test series against the Australians, Indians, New Zealanders, South Africans and West Indians. He has also been a producer in the BBC Eastern Service in charge of poetry and literary talks, been questionmaster in *Twenty Questions*, and one of the panel in *Any Questions?* From 1951, until he resigned early this year to join the London *Evening News*, he was Senior Instructor at the BBC's Staff Training School, teaching announcers, producers and other BBC staff in various aspects of broadcasting.



HOWARD MARSHALL



JOHN ARLOTT

