

Lodge Listens . . .



"Of course, you didn't think to look and see what MIGHT be making the squealing noise!"

"Charlie," the robot smoker, to show just what happens to your gasper—17 puffs to a cigarette . . . 33 cc. per puff . . . diluted 15 times by air in the lungs . . . Yes, definitely bad for training—pulse up . . . skin temperature down . . . blood pressure. . . Then there's the vexed question of lung cancer; and there (says the specialist) it makes a big difference. A sobering thought to end with: the older generation, you can't do much with them, but youngsters, perhaps they'd better lay off. . . Ah, well (*ugh ugh hooagh*), here goes another 33 cc.

—M.K.J.

Films Remembered

THE mellowness that can only come from a prolonged savouring of life's pleasures is generally lacking in our own radio speakers, who tend to the downrightness of youth or the didacticism of middle age; and I have always envied the BBC its Compton Mackenzie. A little more exploitation, however, and we can have our own Compton Mackenzie in Professor Arnold Wall, whose opening talk in 2YA's new series *My Five Most Impressive Films* gave me considerable pleasure. Professor Wall was able to draw on 50 years of film-going for his talk, which reached back to memories of the breaking wave of Bioscope days; but fortunately he placed his five films in the last 20 years, which gave most of us a chance to endorse or repudiate his preferences. Possibly the most enjoyable part of the talk came before the Professor got down to specific films, taking time off to air his film

prejudices and predilections, to the accompaniment of an occasional neigh from his particular hobby horse.

—M.B.

Unfamiliar Music

AN attractive recorded wind concert, given by the London Baroque Ensemble from 4YC recently, included two less commonly heard shorter works by Handel, the St. Anthony Divertimento, Dvorak's Serenade in D Minor, and two marches by Cherubini—all music which can be listened to many times without losing freshness. By repeating the entire concert a few days later, 4YC made a commendable innovation that might be developed to include further "repeats" of unfamiliar or difficult music within the week of first hearing it.

The Cuckoo Bird

A PROGRAMME containing a few bars of Beethoven's Sixth Symphony, poems by Shelley and Shakespeare (read by Barbara Jefford), an ancient Irish air, and reports of naturalists, mediaeval and modern, was held together by the sheer force of personality that the cuckoo apparently possesses. This programme, *The Cuckoo*, written for the BBC by James Fisher and Geoffrey Grigson, was unusually interesting—not only because of the material itself, but also because of its extraordinary diversity. One felt at the end of the half-hour that the bird had been dealt with capably, historically, scientifically and artistically, and with a fitting respect that, at the outset, neither its voice nor its habits had appeared to warrant.

—Loquax

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