

NEWS OF BROADCASTERS, ON AND OFF THE RECORD,

By *Swarf*

years. She is well known in both islands as a soloist in oratorio, operatic and concert work. More recently she has sung for the Waimate Choral Society and the Timaru and Ashburton Societies



VALERIE PERRY

and for recitals at the Waimate High School, at which her husband is her accompanist. Valerie Perry was last heard in Wellington, where she sang the soprano role in *Il Trovatore*, and in Christchurch at the end of last year as soloist for the Christchurch Harmonic Society's presentation of Handel's *Messiah*.

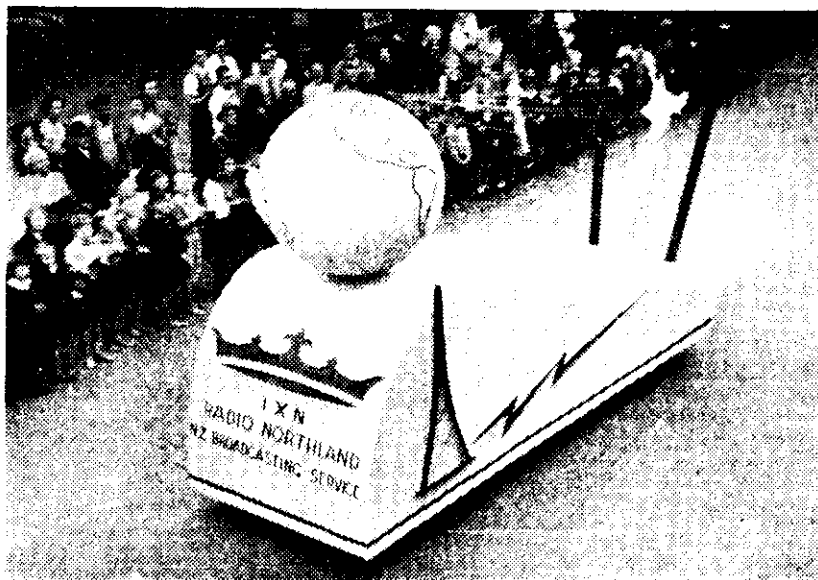
★

NEW ZEALAND has produced very few of those exceptional musical men known as counter-tenors. I can recall only one—W. Cookson—who sang in the Christchurch Cathedral Choir and also in the city's Liedertafel. For approximately the last 150 years the voice has been seldom heard on the concert platform, but in Purcell's day, and well on into the 18th Century it was the most popular professional voice, according to Alfred Deller, the



ALFRED DELLER

N.Z. LISTENER, JULY 10, 1953.



THIS FLOAT was part of a Coronation procession in New Zealand's Far North. The town was Whangarei, and the float, representing the BBC Coronation broadcasts to this country, was built by members of the staff of Station IXN Whangarei in their spare time

English counter-tenor, who has often appeared in NZBS programmes. (Earlier this year he was heard singing the songs in the BBC's transcription of *The Tempest*, part of the *World Theatre* series). Deller began as a chorister in a parish church choir at the age of 11. At his voice trial the organist said he would never make a singer as he had started too late. But he became solo boy and was still singing the soprano solos in *Messiah* when he was 16. Thereafter he sang alto, which simply meant to him the second line of music. He did not for a moment think of the way he placed his voice, but just continued to sing in the only way he knew. Deller quotes light-heartedly, and without comment, a modern manual of voice production on the counter-tenor voice. It declares that counter-tenors are extremists in one way or another. "They fall within one or the other of two groups: *Super*—ultra clever, highly nervous, exacting of themselves and others, refined and charming to an unusual degree, peculiarly nice and correct in interpretation and hypersensitive; *Sub*—they are stupid, phlegmatic, unreliable, with miserable manners."

Impressions of Alfred Deller, gained from his recordings and from his photo-

graph, suggest that he belongs in part or wholly to the *Super* group.

★

HARRY RABINOWITZ, new conductor of the augmented BBC Revue Orchestra, which is familiar to listeners to *Take It From Here*, was born in Johannesburg. He studied in South

NEW CONDUCTOR

Africa and at the Guildhall School of Music in London. From 1934 to 1946—with a break when he was serving with the South African Army—Rabinowitz was a featured pianist with the South African Broadcasting Corporation, and conductor of the Variety Orchestra at the Johannesburg Studios. In 1946 he went to England to study and with the intention of returning to South Africa; but broadcasting, recording for gramophone companies and conducting for films and theatre kept him in England. Harry Rabinowitz is married to a South African girl, and they have two children, Karen and Simon. His hobbies are watching Rugby football and playing lawn tennis. His present ambition, he says, is to get some sleep.

Some of the interesting people visiting London for the Coronation were interviewed by Joan Gilbert who is seen here with R. W. Jenkins, a New Zealand farmer



BBC photograph

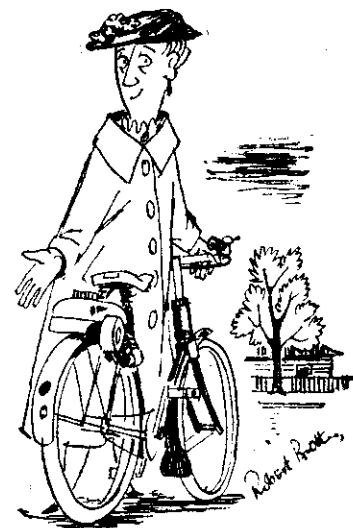
The WORLD'S BIGGEST SONG HITS

"TILL I WALTZ AGAIN WITH YOU"
"ISLE OF INNESFREE"
"I WENT TO YOUR WEDDING"
"KEEP IT A SECRET"
"HIGH NOON"
"HIGH NOON"
"RED'S BOOGIE"
"I LEAVE MY HEART IN AN ENGLISH GARDEN"
"LOVE'S ROUNDABOUT"
"WALKIN' TO MISSOURI"
"SIDE BY SIDE"
"A BROKEN ENGAGEMENT"
"AUF WIEDERSEHN SWEETHEART"
"BLUE TANGO" "YOURS"
"THE LOVELIEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR"
"MOONLIGHT BAY" "BE MY LOVE"
"JUBILEE RAG" "TELL ME WHY"

YOUR FAVOURITE SCOTCH SONGS
HARRY LAUDER'S
SONG ALBUMS,
Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Price 4/- each.

ALL MUSIC SELLERS

Or direct from the publishers,
J. ALBERT & SON PTY., LTD.,
2-4 Willis Street :: Wellington.



You have to move with the times,
my dear,
And you'll certainly be surprised
How easy it is to move around
When you're Mini-Motorized!

THE TROJAN MINI-MOTOR

FITS ANY BICYCLE

Agents & Expert Service Everywhere