

NEWS OF BROADCASTERS, ON AND OFF THE RECORD,

By *Swarf*

robes, a peach-tinted liquid foundation, a special shade of face powder, and a red-blue rouge to enhance the Queen's own colouring. The make-up had to



BBC photograph

THELMA HOLLAND

Four months of experiments

conform with the requirements of five different media—black and white television, colour films, lighting in the Abbey, special lighting installed in the State Coach and, possibly, sunshine. It also had to conform with the Queen's express wish that she should look natural and wear as little make-up as possible, since the Coronation was essentially a religious ceremony.

I MENTIONED recently that England had formed a "Friends of Fats" Society in memory of the famous Negro pianist "Fats" Waller. Now, DISCIPLE it appears, Frank Sinatra, OF BING who hypnotises certain types of adolescent with his voice, has achieved a similar distinction. Believe it or not, an English organisation called the "Sinatraphiles" heads his admirers and distributes portrait button-holes to all loyal and true members. It was a Bing Crosby film that sent



FRANK SINATRA
Buttonholes for loyalty



ANDRES SEGOVIA (aged 59), the concert guitarist whose name figures in many NZBS recorded programmes, was recently taken to hospital in Madrid with serious trouble in his right eye. His other eye is also in danger. Before entering the operating theatre, Segovia took up his guitar and played to the nurses and doctors. He remarked, "Now I know I can go on playing even if I remain blind for the rest of my life." When Segovia played in London for the first time, he was described as "an artist who, without doubt, stands in relation to the instrument of his choice as Casals does to the 'cello or Kreisler to the violin." Many composers have been inspired to write music for him, and he has transcribed music by Bach. In his playing Segovia uses all the contrapuntal resources of the instrument. He studied at the Granada Musical Institute and made his debut as a guitar virtuoso in Granada. At a recital he gave at the Edinburgh Festival some years ago the audience stayed on long after the advertised items were over to hear him play many extra pieces. He is regarded as the greatest player since Fernando Sor, his compatriot

Sinatra off on a career netting him millions of fans and dollars. Sinatra had just become a newspaper reporter when the sight and sound of the "Old Groaner" made him change his mind. He resigned his job, went in for an amateur talent quest, sang *Night and Day* (for the one night only) and then became vocalist with Harry James's Band. "Frankie Boy," as his admirers call him, owns—as well as a voice—interests in several prize fighters, a handful of oil wells and a progressive song publishing business.

THERE is an eager reading public for nature books and articles, and it is a pity that the greater part of the matter now offered in New Zealand is so pedestrian and hackneyed, and that publishers have to accept so many scissors - and - paste contributions from writers who would not recognise the plants and animals they write about if they happened to meet them in the field. Australia is somewhat better served and writers and journalists like Alec Chisholm and Crosbie Morrison are interpreters who have something worthwhile to say and an effective way of saying it.—Dr. R. A. Falla, in a NZBS *Book Shop* talk.

THE New Zealand League for the Hard of Hearing already has several centres in the larger cities and towns, and it hopes to open a good many more. Nelson, from which a broadcast will come on Thursday, September 3, opened a branch this year under the guidance of Mrs. B. W. Roberts, who was trained in Auckland, and whose work is arousing considerable interest.

There are many people who cannot be classed as deaf, but who are hard of hearing; in fact, nearly everybody has some friend who could benefit by knowing more about the League and the help it is giving people who otherwise would be more severely handicapped. The centres are not intended for speech-reading classes only. Rather are they community centres where the deaf or hard of hearing can meet and carry on many interests and activities, and since loneliness is the chief enemy of the deaf, they are of considerable value. The speaker at 2XN Nelson at 8.45 p.m. on September 3 will be Brenda de Butts.



JEAN ROBERTSON, Australian radio actress, who plays the role of Mrs. O'Keefe in the serial "Courtship and Marriage," broadcast by the four ZB stations at 10.45 a.m. on Thursdays and Fridays

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"ISLE OF INNESFREE"

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