

TEMPO di JAZZ

RED NORVO (in private life Kenneth Norval), spoken of as the only real xylophonist in the world, appears on 2YA's programme on Saturday, July 25.

THE drummer in a well-known dance band in the North of England was approached by a friend of his to keep Sunday night open. His friend was a young university student and asked the drummer to come along to a rhythm club. "You see," said the student, "I am giving a lecture on The Duke, and I want you to swing for me!" Needless to add, both are still alive!

I ALWAYS believe that commercial dance music, if it is to please everyone, needs restraint.—*Fred Hartley.*

DEBROY SOMERS, one of the most brilliant men in his own particular line of business, will never allow a (Continued foot of next col.)

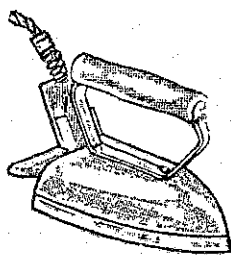
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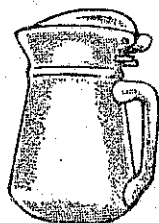


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PERSONALITIES of the WEEK

Master of Masters

THEODOR LESCHETIZKY, the famous Polish piano teacher, numbered among his successful pupils Paderewski, Friedmann, Hambourg, Ethel Leginska, Katherine Goodson, Gabrilowitch and Alexander Brailowsky, among a small army of virtuosi. In describing his great master, Brailowsky once wrote: "The reasons for his great success, I have summed up in two sentences. He had, it is true, great musicianship and the ability to discipline with effect, but he had something which other teachers lacked. This to my mind was, firstly, a love of beautiful tone, and, secondly, a respect for the individuality of the student." 3YA listeners will hear Brailowsky play on Wednesday, July 22, and 4YA's programme includes his name on Thursday, July 23.

From Accrington

LANCASHIRE has given the musical world some excellent singers, none of whom has won more popularity than that excellent tenor soloist and thorough Savoyard, Derek Oldham who first saw the light in the cotton-spinning centre of Accrington. His first stage appearance was at the London Pavilion as Julien in the operetta, "The Daring of Diane." Since then theatre-goers and others have seen in his artistic career a sure and steady rise to fame in the musical comedy and

pseudo-comedian on the stage. He introduces comedy to his act only when he can afford to engage an artist of the calibre of Leslie Henson to take care of it. The comedian is never expected to play a guitar or handle a "fake" piano-accordion with the band.

RICHARD MACK describes how an additional plume was added to the already fame-feathered cap of the gorgeous "blonde bombshell of rhythm," Ina Ray Hutton. Her movie short was booked for a one-day engagement into a little theatre located in the town of Buzzard's Bay, Mass., U.S.A. Fairly close to the theatre is a theological seminary. The future ministers flocked to the film house early and often enough to cause the short featuring Ina and her Melodears to be held over for a ten-day session. Which proves that ministers are quite as human and as observant of feminine charm as plain, ordinary sinners.

operetta world. As a Gilbert and Sullivan principal in the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company since the close of the war (through which he served with considerable distinction), Derek Oldham has taken the familiar leading roles. His cultured voice will be heard in "The Mikado" at 1YA on Sunday, July 17, and in "Patience" at 2YA on Thursday, July 23.

Onegin's Best Tonic

SIGRID ONEGIN'S philosophy of life is a refreshing one, for in work the great contralto finds the finest of tonics. "I have worked all my life," she once confessed to an interviewer. "As a young girl I was forced to earn money as a stenographer to pay for my singing lessons. I had to study in my spare hours, sometimes when I was so tired I thought I could not keep awake. There were times of self-denial, when a piece of music sometimes represented the price of a meal. But I chose the music, and skipped the meal. And I had my reward when I was able at last to make my debut in opera. It was in Stuttgart, and I sang the role of Carmen. It was the first little milestone of success. I could not help being thrilled." To this day, listeners are also thrilled when hearing Onegin's rich voice. 1YA's programme for Friday, July 24, contains her name.

A Suspected Confectioner

THE Royal Philharmonic Society is as English as a London club—one of the more venerable ones, that is. Founded in 1813, "to promote the performance of the best and most approved instrumental music" it was exclusive in its membership. There is a story of the new subscriber who was all but turned down because he kept a confectioner's shop in Bishopgate Street. His sponsor had to assure the directors that his man had never served behind the counter! The society was never progressive; never propagandist. It was content to keep the lamp burning, not to scatter fire around; so that in the 'fifties a writer could still declare that "orchestral concerts in London are as rare as the proverbial visits of angels." 4YA listeners can enjoy the playing of the London Philharmonic Orchestra on Thursday, July 23.