

PERSONALITIES

ON THE AIR

HERMAN FINCK has always claimed to be the inventor of that kind of musical medley known as the "switch." His Dutch ancestors were musical, and his grandfather, who lived in Amsterdam, used to provide music and orchestras for concerts, weddings, christenings and spees. On one wedding occasion, as the band began to tune up for Mendelssohn's "Wedding March," the mother of the bride rushed at Grandpa Finck and asked him what was that noise. He replied that his men were tuning up. "But this is ludicrous," he said, "I engaged you three months ago!"

Herman Finck and His Orchestra will be heard at 3YA on Friday, June 3. They will play a medley or "switch" of Finck's own compositions, entitled "Finckiana."

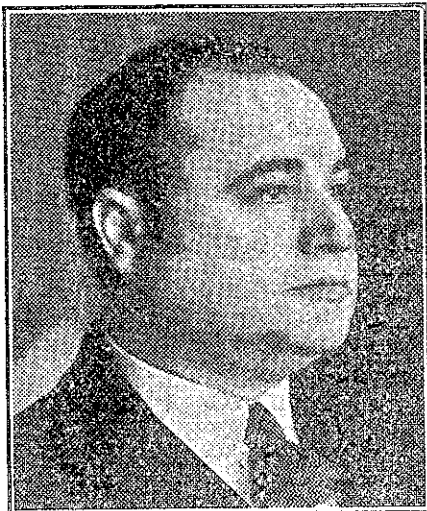
RED TERROR OF REVOLUTION In writing "A Tale of Two Cities," Charles Dickens, no doubt, owed much of his inspiration to Carlyle's tremendous epic, "The French Revolution." But the genius that depicted a moving and tragic story upon the red background of the "Terror" was Dickens's own, and the "Tale of Two Cities"



ALLAN McSKIMMING.
... Will take part.

is in many respects distinct from all his others. It stands by itself as final proof that its author could handle a great theme in a manner that was worthy of its greatness. The work was one of the novelist's later writings—it was published in 1859—

Tenor Looks After His Peasants



GIGLI.

... Oversees the work.

GIGLI, the Italian tenor, is the owner of about 120,000 acres of land in his native country. These acres are divided into perhaps thirty estates.

The land is in the hands of trusted "contadini," the peasants who till it and tend the stock. These "contadini" have a direct interest in the property, as they share in the profits of the enterprise. Half the profit is theirs, the other half goes to Gigli.

On each property dwell about twenty families. During the summer Gigli visits each estate individually, spends time overseeing the work, and getting reports on the stock and the crops.

This genial, kindly Italian gentleman lives to help others.

Beniamino Gigli, tenor, will be heard at 4YA on Thursday, June 9.

among Dickens's masterpieces, in sombre and splendid loveliness—a detached glory to its author, and to his country's literature. In stage and cinema versions it is familiar to many.

A radio dramatic version of "A Tale of Two Cities" will be broadcast from 1YA by Allan McSkimming and Players, on Monday, June 6.

CHORALISM IS Since good Queen Britain's Bess, as the great musical glory "Oriana," figured as heroine of a multitude of madrigals, since Cromwell solaced himself with the motets of one Richard Deering, and Charles II beat time to the anthems in the Royal Chapel, the English have been a nation of choralists. Old Strype, a 16th century writer, records, "You may sometimes see at Paul's Cross, after the service, six thousand persons, young and old, singing together." This love of part-singing the English share with the Germans—and this in part accounts for the implied compliment in calling Mr. Alfred Worsley's choir the "Christchurch Liederkränzchen."

This body of singers will be heard from 3YA on Friday, June 3, in groups of modern English part-songs.

NEW ZEALAND BASS When Andersen Tyrer, the well-known Trinity College examiner, heard Oscar Natzke sing, he immediately decided that here was the voice of a generation, which must be brought under the guidance of a great master. On his recommendation, Trinity College offered the young student free tuition over a period of four years. At Trinity College he was placed under M. Garcia, the famous singing master, and his progress has been so rapid that already London critics are ranging him among the world's great bass singers. Re-



OSCAR NATZKE.

... Wins high ranking.

cently Natzke appeared at a special Trinity College concert in a recital of compositions by Sir Granville Bantock. Sir Granville said: "I consider him to be an exceptional singer of unusual promise and attainment, and I feel confident that he will reap a rich reward. He deserves every encouragement and I have great faith in his future."