

PERSONALITIES

ON THE AIR

VIOLINIST, vocalist, and (in synchopated mood) pianist, Peggy Cochrane has a dark secret—it is that she was an Infant Prodigy, playing the piano at five and the violin at seven. Offered a scholarship at Petrograd by Leopold Auer when eight years old, she preferred to encourage home industries by winning a scholarship at the Royal Academy of Music, where she was awarded the Dove Prize for the most distinguished scholar. There aren't many who can play a violin concerto at Queen's Hall and round off the evening by appearing as a cabaret-pianist to the radio act "That Certain Trio." Peggy did it.

Peggy Cochrane will entertain 2YA listeners on Friday, July 8, in a vocal and piano presentation.

RHYTHM IS THEIR BUSINESS The title of the swing tune, "Rhythm is Our Business" would make

an excellent motto for Dick Colvin and his band, for whether listeners like the slow type of dance music, or whether they prefer "hot rhythm" makes no difference to his band. "Dick Colvin and his Music" means something in the New Zealand sphere of "rhythm." The band was begun to provide music for the patrons of a restaurant in Dunedin. Soon 4YA decided to feature the combination in its dance programmes. Accordingly the band was increased in size and the eight best players available at that time were engaged. Radio listeners, not only in Dunedin, were not slow in appreciation, so it was decided that as well as its Friday night broadcasts from the "Savoy," the band should present 4YA's Wednesday night dance programme. In Dick Colvin, the boys have an experienced leader. The trumpet is Mr. Colvin's instrument and he is assisted in this department by Ivan Booth. The reed section includes Sid George, Jim Burbury, and Keith Harris. Jack Roberts is pianist and his solid rhythm work is helped by Fred Page, on the string-bass. Lastly, there is Fred Gedson, who has recently arrived from Palmerston North, an excellent drummer, xylophone player and vocalist.

HIS MOTHER COULD HEAR HIM In his life story now running in "Tit-Bits," Sandy Powell opens chapter one thus: "The doctor held me upside down by the ankles and gave me a good slap. That started it! With my very first breath I yelled 'Can you hear me, Mother?' in a language that only

Partner Of Famous Melba



MELBA AS "JULIET."

... For once the critics were right.

THE name of John Lemmone, flautist, will always be linked with that of Melba—they made their debut together at a concert in the Melbourne Town Hall, on May 17, 1884. It was a concert arranged by the Melbourne Liedertafel for its conductor, Herr Ellsasser, who was ill in hospital.

John was a precocious youth at the time and he played a composition of his own—"Caprice." Melba's debut, now a matter of history, was a startling one.

As they made their debut together they were always in close artistic association. They even decided to make their farewells together, and in 1927 they made a final tour of Australia.

The morning after the farewell concert in Melbourne, the "Argus" reprinted, along with a critique of the performance, the critique of the concert in 1884, and it was interesting to see how the predictions in the latter came true. (Now and again the critics seem to be right).

Listeners to 4YA will hear John Lemmone, flautist, on Sunday afternoon, July 3.

mother could understand, and shortly afterwards I was placed in her arms. Nothing unusual about that. But there's nothing unusual about me at all. The son of a working man and an even more hard-working woman, I began life as a simple Yorkshire lad, and I'll never be any different. I

don't want to be." We can never agree with Sandy that there is nothing unusual about him, however. He has a most marked personality.

He will be heard in one of his inimitable sketches in 3YA's music, mirth and melody session on Monday, July 4.

DISAGREEABLE PIRATE OF SOMERSET Among those who could claim to be "up from Somerset," was William

Dampier, pirate, captain in the Royal Navy and hydrographer. This remarkable man must have been a very disagreeable man to sail with. He was continually quarrelling with his junior officers. He had a pleasant habit of putting ashore any one who displeased him. With a sea-chest and a few supplies, the delinquent was "marooned" and left on a strange coast. Dampier was himself once "marooned" on Nicobar Island, and was pilot aboard the "Duke"—the privateer that rescued Alexander Selkirk (Robinson Crusoe) from the island of Juan Fernandez.

The story of "The Buccaneers, and William Dampier" will be told by Mr. F. C. Brew, M.A., in 3YA's education session on Wednesday, July 6.

ALFREDO THE VAGABOND VIOLINIST Hailing from the important New Jersey city of Newark, Alfredo, the famous light orchestral conductor, was in his day a child prodigy who studied under a favourite pupil of the great Joachim in his native city. He made his debut as soloist at the age of twelve, with the local symphony orchestra, of which he was a member. After a few years he became the violinist in a classical quartet company and toured the variety theatres for two years, when he determined to do a "lone act," and made a distinguished reputation as "The Vagabond Violinist," when he appeared in a ragged costume.

Alfredo and his orchestra will be heard in 1YA's dinner music session on Tuesday, July 5.

LUNCHEON PARTY EXPANDED "Lunch with me, Gerald. We'll meet at one in the American Bar," said

Frank Mullings, tenor, one day to Gerald Cumberland, journalist. Gerald continues the yarn: "We met. By a quarter past one he had collected three other guests. We began food. Someone he knew came into the restaurant. Frank made to him a gesture of invitation; the invited guest joined us. Another man entered; he also was drawn in. Then two others, together. Then a fifth and a sixth. And a seventh. Some of us were eating the sweets as an eighth began his soup. At coffee and liqueurs there were nineteen of us. Sir Thomas Beecham joined us. He