

RADIO TIMES
TELEVISION
SUPPLEMENT

PROGRAMMES FROM JUNE 7 TO JUNE 12



GREER GARSON, seen here with Campbell Gullan in a scene from *The School for Scandal*, will appear in a totally different type of play, James Elroy Flecker's *Hassan*, on Tuesday

NEWS FOR TELEVIEWERS by 'The Scanner'

Lino Types

For some time Reggie Smith has been fascinated by the practice of referring to cabarets as 'floor shows'. His reactions towards the use of this phrase will be crystallised in a novel fashion in one of his forthcoming productions, for I note that on Monday, June 14, he has arranged to produce a 'floor show' of his own, bearing the title *Linoleum*. This is something new in the way of down-to-earth subjects! A curious aspect of this show will be the inclusion of the Six Metaxa Girls, for their television appearances are further disproof of the old saw about prophets without honour. The fact is that this dancing troupe is a discovery of Reggie Smith's, and the discovery was made in no more distant a resort than the Tudor Ballroom at Alexandra Palace! The propinquity of the television studios might well have predestined their debut, and when the producer from 'round the corner' watched their act one Saturday night, he resolved that viewers must be given a chance of seeing this promising all-British troupe.



'OLD BILL' will come to the television screen again on June 15, accompanied by his creator, Captain Bruce Bairnsfather, with whom he is seen here

Poirot at the Palace

Viewers are promised a real thrill in one of the forthcoming 'Theatre Parade' programmes, when the famous detective character Hercule Poirot will come to life at Alexandra Palace in a hitherto unpublished and unperformed play by Agatha Christie entitled *The Wasps' Nest*. This will be the first television broadcast of an Agatha Christie mystery story. More O'Ferrall, who has undertaken the production, tells me that the rôle of the portly and genial French sleuth will be assumed, as usual, by Francis L. Sullivan, who has become very closely identified with Poirot. The portrayal of the character has rested almost entirely in his hands since 1931.

Second Round of Coffee

The intimate type of Variety show so well suited to the television screen found a novel and successful form in *Coffee Stall*, which was presented on April 26 by twenty-two-year-old Eric Crozier, one of the youngest but most enterprising producers at Alexandra Palace. Viewers will be glad to hear that *Coffee Stall No. 2* is now in preparation.

The Personal Touch

I wonder how many of the more recent additions to the ranks of private televiewers have found the secret of one of the greatest advantages of the visual side of broadcasting—namely, the sense of intimacy and close association between artist and viewer. Although it is a moot point, the enjoyment of a television programme has always seemed to me personally far greater in the presence of a company of friends, who can establish still further the spirit of cameraderie so advantageous to Variety and many other types of programmes. This has never been more clearly established in my mind than on the occasion of Gracie Fields's recent Alexandra Palace debut, which I witnessed in a large public lounge in the West End. The audience leaned forward eagerly and joined in the fun of the thing as though Gracie were actually there with them, and the obvious high spirits prevailing in the studio as the result of Gracie's infectious personality added still further to the effect.

Seconds Out

Pugilistically-inclined viewers (and the hundreds of others who attend boxing-matches enthusiastically but would not hurt a fly themselves) should take note that the interesting boxing demonstration idea carried out on March 27 will be repeated under the title 'Black and White Boxing' on June 19. In the course of the seven months since the regular Alexandra Palace programmes commenced, television seems to have provided for the diligent viewer a complete sporting education. There have been lessons in every sport from horseriding to fencing and from archery to golf.

Return Trips

Despite the constant flow of new talent that finds its way into the television programmes, provision always has to be made for the innumerable artists who make such an impression on their first appearances that they are soon in demand for a return visit. Among those with whom viewers may look forward to renewing their acquaintance shortly are Walsh and Barker, the American duettists whose typically transatlantic 'songs-at-the-piano' act has been a popular form of Variety entertainment in England for many years; Captain Bruce Bairnsfather, whose famous 'Old Bill' creations delighted viewers last December and again in April; Lisa Minghetti, the brilliant young violinist last seen in a programme on May 24; and Esther Coleman, who first sang for viewers a few weeks ago.



FASHION FORECAST

One of the attractive lace frocks which will be televised in the display of summer holiday fashions on Friday, June 18

Gay Days

The works of John Gay will have been well represented in the television programmes when the third of his operas to be screened within the course of a month will be offered to viewers shortly. This is *Damon and Phyllida*, which is being produced by Stephen Thomas. Although the cast is still in the process of formation, viewers who saw the splendid productions of *The Beggar's Opera* on May 18 and *Polly* on June 1 will be prepared for an elaborate and outstanding production. There will be two performances of *Damon and Phyllida*, the first on Tuesday afternoon, June 15, the second the same evening.

Optimists

Feminine viewers who have been casting speculative eyes on the shop windows with a view to preparing themselves for their summer holidays might be well advised to postpone their decision until Friday, June 18, when H. E. Plaister and G. R. Kenward-Eggar propose to follow up their 'Ascot and Lords' fashion display with a presentation dedicated to the summer holiday season in general. Every department appropriate to the season will, they tell me, be dealt with in this survey, from bathing-costumes to day dresses and evening dresses, cruising clothes, and so on, to produce the complete equipment for what they describe as the 'typical English summer girl'. All that will be needed after this optimistic show will be a typical English summer!

Views of a Viewer *by Jean Bartlett*

PERHAPS other viewers may be interested to read a brief account of the reactions of one household and its friends to the first six months of television. We ought to say, first of all, that we ourselves were enthusiastic amateurs in the old days of thirty-line television, and so were very excited at the prospect of seeing a larger, steadier, and brighter picture and were duly thrilled by the inaugural programme last November. Our modest criticisms of that and all subsequent programmes are made, we hope, with the realisation that television is still experimental. Not so, some of our friends who, having seen it once, sometimes inquire sympathetically, as if it were an invalid member of our family, how it is getting on, and then fade away to the cinema. But the loss is theirs.

The most important element of the television picture is, obviously, movement. The artists may be shatteringly beautiful, the lighting perfect, the scenery just right, but without constant movement all completely fails. We often say that if producers remembered this fact during every second of their preparations and rehearsals, every type of programme that has so far been televised would be successful and every failure could have been a hit. Programmes, in our television vernacular, are either alive or dead. So many, among the alive, have been so good that it is almost impossible to select the best, or even the best type.

TALKS are by unanimous vote the weakest point. (The Zoo talks are, of course, unique and all too short.) They must be quite the most difficult programmes to present, and the difficulties have so far seemed insuperable. There seems to be no good reason why every type of broadcast programme should be translated into television. Why struggle over the impossible?

The subject of a talk may be profoundly interesting, but close-up studies of the speaker's face add nothing to it. With one exception—Sir Kingsley Wood—no speaker has appeared to enjoy television from the transmitting end.

Perhaps we are unduly prejudiced against pottery and masks, but there was surely a whole year's supply provided in a few weeks recently. One talk on pottery was so dead that we blushed in the darkness, having invited some critical people to their first experience of television. And then suddenly the screen came to life, and we looked at a picture of the potter working at his wheel and talking as he made, spoilt, and remade a bowl. Such things are real television, and only when a talk can be illustrated throughout its length by dynamic pictures can it justifiably be televised. The appearance of the speaker at the beginning and again, perhaps, at the close of his talk, is all that the average viewer wants of him.

WE nearly always have a full house when ballet is included in the programme, and this is not because we move in a circle of ballet fans, but because, in spite of the smallness of the figures compared with close-ups, good dancers can convey a wonderful sense of space, and make dancing one of the most satisfying television subjects. The movements of the camera inevitably tend to destroy the dancers' movements a little, but this effect is less noticeable when the scenery follows horizontal rather than vertical lines. The scenery is sometimes too elaborate for a picture in which everything is black and white, as, for instance, in the recent television production of *Casse-Noisette* by the Vic-Wells Ballet.

When an excerpt from a current West-End production is part of an evening's programme, then we always have a large, self-invited audience and a very appreciative one that would like to see this become a regular weekly feature. Shakespeare, on the other hand, invariably falls flat, even when distinguished artists are playing the selected arts. Non-Shakespeareans are frankly bored—they cannot get the hang of the thing before it is over; and lovers of Shakespeare are irritated by brief episodes suspended in mid-air and inevitably devoid of the play's original stagecraft, and viewed from two cameras alternately at rather



Television talks may not please everybody—but the Zoo talks are the big exception, 'unique and all too short'. Here the European brown bear is seen making his bow to viewers.

uninteresting angles. The charming fairy and ballet scenes from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, however, being easy to dissociate from the rest of the play, were also delightfully easy to watch.

Cabaret and light entertainment are attracting fans of their own who are gradually forgetting the earlier weeks when every item of this type lasted six times longer than anyone could bear. The difficulty here must be, as in ordinary broadcasting and the stage, to find really good comedians and entertainers with fresh material.

One amusing little point is provided by two rather deaf neighbours of ours. At home, they sit with their ears glued to a wireless set in full blast, and never, in ordinary conversation, hear a remark at the first time of speaking. Nevertheless, when they come to see and hear a television programme they are quite content with a volume that is guaranteed not to wake the baby, and they still hear every word. The picture evidently helps their hearing, and so those who suffer torture from their neighbours' wireless sets can take heart—the television age is going to be a quieter one.

I SUPPOSE the greatest thrills of all for television enthusiasts have been those rare relays from outside the studios—the boxing match from the Alexandra Palace ring, the model aeroplane display from the Palace grounds, the archery, fire-walking, and other outside broadcasts—and, of course, as a climax to them all, the televising of the Coronation procession from Hyde Park Corner on Coronation Day, when television broke from the apron strings that tied it to the Alexandra Palace and came into its own.



'The fairy and ballet scenes from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* were delightfully easy to watch'

MONDAY JUNE 7
TUESDAY JUNE 8

VISION 45 Mc/s
SOUND 41.5 Mc/s

TELEVISION



POPPY WINGATE, the only woman golf professional in England, will demonstrate some shots on Monday afternoon. Bernard Darwin will introduce her and comment on her play.

Transmission by
the Marconi-EMI system

Monday

3.0 TEE TIME
A demonstration by Poppy Wingate with commentary by Bernard Darwin from the Alexandra Park Golf Course. Miss Poppy Wingate is the only woman golf professional in England, though she has one rival in Scotland. Her position has its disadvantages, however, one of them being that she is not eligible for any women's golf competitions. She therefore has to play entirely in men's competitions, which rather curtails her cup-winning chances. She has been playing and teaching for the last twelve years, and running a golf school in London for three and a half years. She has demonstrated and lectured all over the country, and she will now be the first woman golfer to do so in front of the television camera.

3.20 BRITISH MOVIE TONEWS

3.30 HALF-AN-HOUR
with
Ingrid Linck
soprano
'The Square of Black Silk'
by Bertram Henson
Dances by members of the
Ballet Rambert
Presented by Stephen Thomas

4.0 CLOSE

9.0 SONGS AT THE PIANO
Edward Cooper

9.10 IRIS SHOW
Blooms from the Iris Show to be held under the auspices of the Royal Horticultural Society on June 8 and 9 will be brought to the studio and shown and described by C. H. MIDDLETON and R. FINDLAY, Superintendent of the Royal Horticultural Society Gardens at Wisley.

9.20 GAUMONT BRITISH NEWS

9.30 THE BBC DANCE ORCHESTRA
Directed by Henry Hall

10.0 CLOSE

Tuesday

3.0 STARLIGHT
RENEE HOUSTON
and
DONALD STEWART

3.10 GAUMONT BRITISH NEWS

3.20 THEATRE PARADE
Scenes from
'HASSAN'
The story of Hassan of Bagdad and how he came to make the Golden Journey to Samarkand
by
James Elroy Flecker
Part I
with
Greer Garson
as Yasmin
Décor by Peter Bax

Produced by George More O'Ferrall
The story of Hassan will be told in two parts, Part 1 this afternoon and again tonight, and Part 2 on Monday, June 14. Hyam Greenbaum will conduct the BBC Television Orchestra in incidental music by Delius, which was composed for the original production in 1923 at His Majesty's Theatre.

Flecker's famous play, with its colourful story, will be the subject of the most elaborate and complex production undertaken by More O'Ferrall

since *The School for Scandal*. He has avoided the use of explanations and dialogue between scenes, just as the producer of a talking picture avoids the use of explanatory subtitles, and he hopes that the continuity of the production will thus be as smooth as that of the full-length original.

Hassan was a posthumous work of James Elroy Flecker, who died in Switzerland in 1915 at the age of thirty-one, leaving two unpublished plays and a number of books of poetry. In the original production Henry Ainley appeared in the title rôle, with Malcolm Keen as the Caliph, and Leon Quartermaine as Ishak. These three artists all took part in broadcasts of *Hassan* in 1933 and 1935.

There have been altogether four broadcasts of the play. The original production for the microphone, staged by R. E. Jeffrey and Donald Calthrop, in November 1925, was one of the first large scale dramatic broadcasts. On this occasion the play was cut to a length of two hours. A year later another version was presented. In 1935 the complete play was broadcast in one performance.

Greer Garson, who will be seen in the part of Yasmin, comes from Northern Ireland. After taking a B.A. degree with honours at London University, she commenced her stage career at the Birmingham Repertory Theatre in 1932. One of her best-known parts was that of Linda in *Accent on Youth*.

4.0 CLOSE

9.0 GOOGIE WITHERS
in Songs

The attractive blonde features of Googie Withers are already familiar to thousands of filmgoers. She has established herself, in the course of a number of appearances in British pictures, as a character comedienne of an unusual type. She has been described as the English Zasu Pitts, though it would be fairer to say that she has a strong personality of her own. Her first appearance at Alexandra Palace was made a few weeks after the transmissions commenced last November.

9.10 BRITISH MOVIE TONEWS

9.20 THEATRE PARADE
Scenes from
'HASSAN'

The story of Hassan of Bagdad and how he came to make the Golden Journey to Samarkand

by
James Elroy Flecker
Part I
with
Greer Garson
as Yasmin
Décor by Peter Bax
Produced by George More O'Ferrall

10.0 CLOSE



THE STORY OF HASSAN OF BAGDAD. Scenes from James Elroy Flecker's this week and Monday next week. This drawing by Reinganum gives an impression of the Procession of Protracted Death descending into the Caliph's Garden. Hassan

PROGRAMMES

WEDNESDAY JUNE 9 VISION 45 Mc/s
THURSDAY JUNE 10 SOUND 41.5 Mc/s

Wednesday

3.0 EN ROUTE FOR RICHMOND

Major H. F. Faudel-Phillips

exhibits at Alexandra Park some of his entries for the Richmond Horse Show

The horses which viewers will see in this programme are most literally en route for Richmond, where the famous Horse Show opens tomorrow. They will probably be housed for the night in the neighbourhood of Alexandra Park, since it would obviously be detrimental to them to do too much travelling on the day before the Show. Major Faudel-Phillips is already well known to viewers; with his genial appearance and his parade-ground voice he has become quite a personality in television.

3.20 BRITISH MOVIE NEWS

3.30 'PICTURE PAGE' (Sixty-First Edition)

A Magazine Programme of General and Topical Interest

Edited by CECIL MADDEN

Produced by ROYSTON MORLEY

The Switchboard Girl: JOAN MILLER

4.0 CLOSE

9.0 A LA CARTE

with Fredrika

accompanied by Gilba and Gilbert and Robert Linden

Fredrika's mezzo-soprano voice was first introduced to viewers in April, though she was televised during experimental transmissions five years ago. Cosmopolitan by parentage and background, she has appeared successfully all over Europe and America.

An artist new to the television studio is Robert Linden, the well-known dancer. Londoners may have seen him recently in the revue *And We Go On* at the Savoy Theatre, in which he appeared in the volcano number with June Knight. Amongst his earlier successes were *Gay Deceivers* and *Follow the Sun*.

9.20 GAUMONT BRITISH NEWS

9.30 'PICTURE PAGE' (Sixty-Second Edition)

A Magazine Programme of General and Topical Interest

Edited by CECIL MADDEN

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The Switchboard Girl: JOAN MILLER

10.0 CLOSE

Thursday

3.0 HELLA KURTY in Viennese Songs

The charming Austrian actress and singer, Hella Kurty, studied for the stage under Professor Arnau of Vienna. She played in *Liebelei*—listeners will remember the radio version of it—in Vienna with enormous success, and at the Metropol Theater in Berlin in 1929 she appeared as Princess Mi in the first production of *The Land of Smiles*. She made her first appearance in London in 1931 at Drury Lane, playing the same part, and was again featured in this rôle at the Dominion the following year. Amongst her later activities in this country were the rôles of Bertha in *Nymph Errant* at the Adelphi, and Lisl Harford in *Roulette* at the Duke of York's Theatre in 1935.

3.10 ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK—4

A series of exhibitions is being run under the auspices of the British Institute of Adult Education. The general object of the scheme, which is known as 'Art for the People', is to hold exhibitions of good pictures in the smaller towns to encourage art amongst the working people.

W. E. Williams, the well-known broadcaster, is bringing a selection of these pictures to the studio, together with some of the works that have been created by the people of these small towns as a result of the exhibitions.

3.25 GAUMONT BRITISH NEWS



THE METAXA GIRLS will dance in the new revue, *Regatta*, which Dallas Bower will present on Thursday and Saturday

3.35 REGATTA A Revue for Television Produced by Dallas Bower

The cast includes:

Cyril Ritchard

Sylvia Welling

Annie Esmond

Douglas Matthews

The Metaxa Girls

(by arrangement with Meta Kaye)

The BBC Television Orchestra

Leader, Boris Pecker

Conductor, Hyam Greenbaum

4.0 CLOSE

9.0 STARLIGHT RENEE HOUSTON and DONALD STEWART

Since the recent dissolution of the partnership of the famous Houston Sisters, Renee and Billie, both these artists have appeared at Alexandra Palace with their respective new partners. Billie Houston and Nina Devitt were featured on May 25 and 28.

Donald Stewart is well known as a singer of considerable and versatile ability. He was for some time featured in stage, film, and concert work with Ambrose's Orchestra.

9.10 ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK—4 (Details as at 3.10)

9.25 BRITISH MOVIE NEWS

9.35 A RECITAL

Sidonie Goossens (harp)

Margot Fonteyn (ballerina)

(by permission of Miss Lilian Baylis)

and

The BBC Television Orchestra

Leader, Boris Pecker

Conductor, Hyam Greenbaum

Presentation by D. H. Munro

Sidonie Goossens will play a Concerto for Harp and Orchestra by Dittersdorf arranged by Pilney, and 'Deux Chansons populaires françaises'—1 Et ron ron ron, petit patapon; 2 Le bon petit roi d'Yvetot.

Margot Fonteyn will dance the Pas Seul from Stravinsky's ballet *Baiser de la Fée*, and to Debussy's 'Clair de Lune', which will be played on the harp by Sidonie Goossens.

The programme ends with the first performance of a Pastorale, written by Constant Lambert and dedicated to Margot Fonteyn. In this item the orchestra will be conducted by the composer. The choreography is by Frederick Ashton.

10.0 CLOSE

All programme timings shown on these pages are approximate



ker's Hassan will be presented on Tuesday impression of the culminating scene of the Hassan and Yasmin are seen in the foreground.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

FRIDAY JUNE 11 AND SATURDAY JUNE 12 : VISION 45 Mc/s SOUND 41.5 Mc/s



JOAN MILLER, the Switchboard Girl of 'Picture Page', will be seen as a gangster's girl in *One Hundred Per Cent. Broadway* on Friday

Friday

3.0 MUSIC MAKERS CARROLL GIBBONS

This is Carroll Gibbons's third appearance at Alexandra Palace. Still leading the orchestra at the Savoy Hotel, he has by now become one of the most familiar figures in British dance music, though he was born in Clinton, Massachusetts, and studied music at the New England Conservatoire, in Boston. He first played in England in the old Savoy Havana Band in 1924, and later organised a group known as the Sylvians. Between 1929 and 1931 he was again in America, working as a staff composer at one of Hollywood's biggest film studios. On his return he became co-director of the Savoy Hotel Orpheans with Howard Jacobs, and since then, except for one short trip to New York, he has remained here permanently with an all-British orchestra.

3.10 WEAPONLESS SELF-DEFENCE No. 4

Demonstrated by Bob Gregory assisted by King Curtis Mickie Flack and Helga Brandt

3.20 BRITISH MOVIE TONIGHT

3.30 100% BROADWAY

with David Burns compère
Joan Miller gangster's girl
Ken Harvey banjo

and the Six Albertina Rasch Girls (from the Dorchester Hotel)
Presented by Cecil Madden

4.0 CLOSE

9.0 LINA MENOVA in Songs

9.10 WEAPONLESS SELF-DEFENCE No. 4

Demonstrated by Bob Gregory assisted by King Curtis Mickie Flack and Helga Brandt

9.20 GAUMONT BRITISH NEWS

9.30 BROADCASTING IN INDIA

LIONEL FIELDEN, Controller of Broadcasting in India, will describe the work that has been accomplished in India

9.45 STARLIGHT STEVE GERAY and MAGDA KUN

10.0 CLOSE

Saturday

3.0 IN OUR GARDEN

Another outdoor gardening talk and demonstration by C. H. Middleton

from the garden now being made in the grounds of Alexandra Park

C. H. Middleton is known all over Britain as a man who tells you what you ought to do in your garden.

Viewers will know him in future as a man who tells them what he's going to do in Alexandra Palace's own garden. A patch of waste land in the Park is in process of being converted into a model garden, and every fortnight viewers will have an opportunity of seeing how the garden grows—unless, of course, the weather is very inclement. At present it is in its very early stages, but Mr. Middleton will take this opportunity of demonstrating the ground work of gardening, so to speak—the gentle art of trenching (not as warlike as it sounds), the first steps in laying a lawn, the proper foundations for a path—in short, how to set about making a garden.

3.15 FOLK DANCING

Sword Dance
Morris Dance
and
Country Dance

Performed in the grounds of Alexandra Palace by winning teams of the Folk Dance Competition

The dances in this programme will all be performed by winning teams from the Folk Dance Competition, held in Stratford Town Hall on June 2. Incidentally, two hours after the television broadcast they will be taking part in a massed folk dancing display at Alexandra Palace in connection with the Seventy-fifth Annual Festival of the English Schools' Music Association.

3.25 VARIETY

with Dolores Ray
Alexis and Dorrano
Charlie Higgins

3.50 GAUMONT BRITISH NEWS

4.0 CLOSE

9.0 JOHN CARR AND HIS FAMILY

will give another entertainment with their Jacquard Puppets

John Carr has created literally thousands of characters in his puppet universe, but has promised to find room for yet another new one for this programme—the dance-band crooner, seen in a broadcasting studio setting.

9.10 IN OUR GARDEN by C. H. Middleton A talk from the studio

9.20 BRITISH MOVIE TONIGHT

9.35 REGATTA

A Revue for Television
Produced by Dallas Bower

The cast includes:

Cyril Ritchard
Sylvia Welling
Annie Esmond

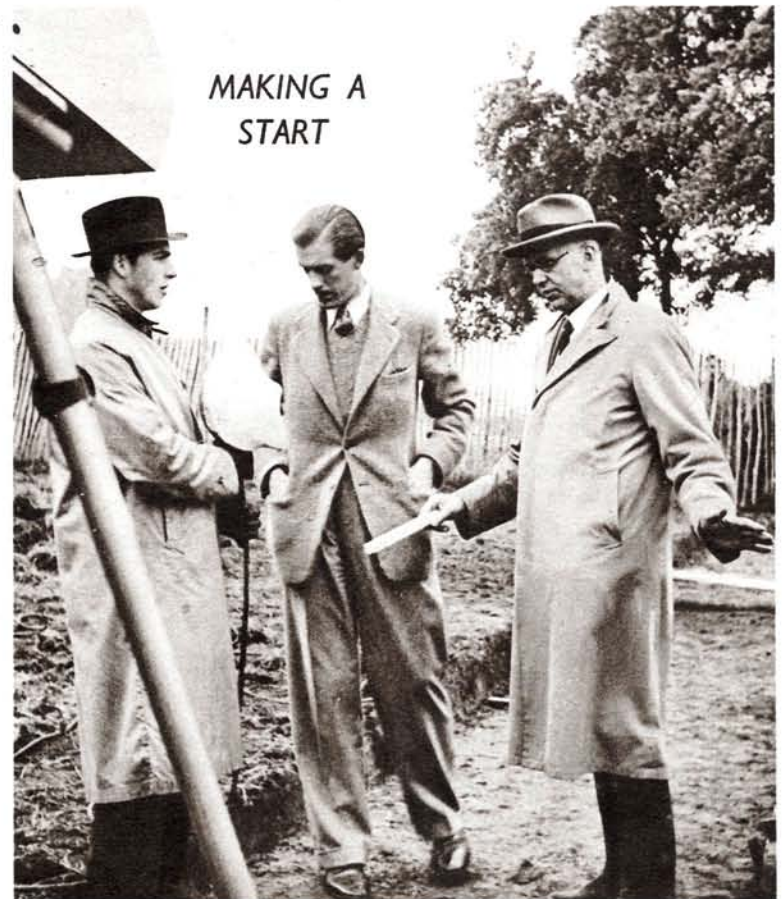
Douglas Matthews

The Metaxa Girls

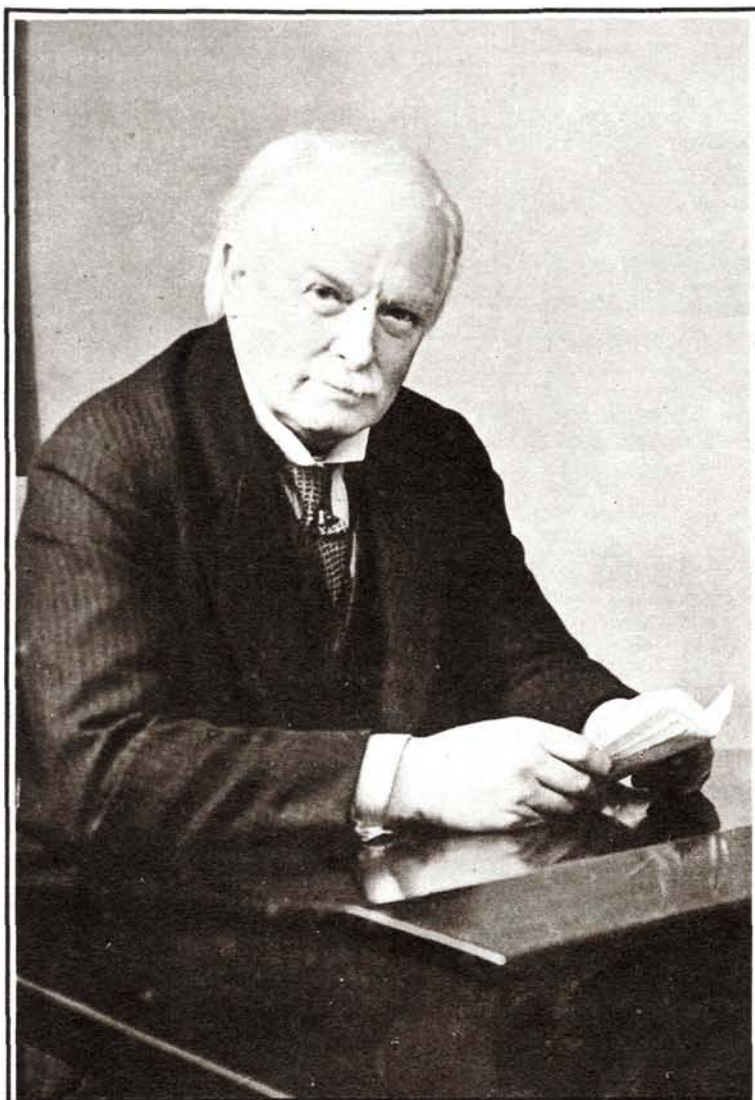
(by arrangement with Meta Kaye)

The BBC Television Orchestra
Leader, Boris Pecker
Conductor, Hyam Greenbaum

10.0 CLOSE



C. H. MIDDLETON is designing a model garden in the grounds of Alexandra Palace and every fortnight he will give viewers a practical demonstration. This picture shows him (right) working on the layout of the garden. Leslie Mitchell is in the centre.



The broadcast address
by the Rt. Hon.
David Lloyd George, M.P.,
on

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will be published in
next week's issue of

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