

RADIO TIMES

TELEVISION

SUPPLEMENT

PROGRAMMES FROM JULY 19 TO JULY 24

NEWS FOR TELEVIEWERS

Just One More Glance

One last peep behind the scenes before Alexandra Palace locks its doors for three weeks. This time we will focus on the television focussers—the camera-men. But, before going any farther, it should be understood that no nonsense will be tolerated about the word 'camera' applied to an Emitron, in which, of course, not a single millimetre of film is to be found—both you and I realise that it is a misnomer, but we remember Old Bill's famous dictum too well to be silly about it. If you know of a better term for an Emitron than a camera, don't expect people to go for it. They won't, any more than they will confine 'cavalcade' to meaning a procession of horses.

Of the Old Brigade

Altogether there are at Alexandra Palace about ten men who are capable of doing television camera work, eight of whom are on duty each day in two shifts. All but one or two were on the engineering staff of the BBC before the Station opened in 1936.

Topsy-Turvy

Each camera has a view-finder of ground glass, about 4 inches by 5 inches, which gives an inverted image. Here then is one difficulty: the camera-man sees everything upside-down, chorus girls standing on their heads and tapping their feet on the ceiling, prima donnas looking like circus acrobats. Obviously, the first requisite of a camera-man is a cool head. Three things often concern him all at once—focussing, panning, and composition. The focussing is manipulated by a control knob on either side of the view-finder and the difficulty of doing this successfully in a Fred Astaire-Ginger Rogers type of dance scene can be imagined. As for composition, this is an important artistic consideration, in which the skilled photographer shows to advantage. The lighting tends to make things even more harassing: the illumination from the 5 kilowatt lamps occasionally makes the image on the view-finder rather indistinct.

Producers' Pencil Work

Now all this tends to give the impression that only a superman is capable of successfully manning an Emitron. Perhaps this would be true were it not for the producer, whose job it is to tell the camera-man exactly what he wants. Every producer begins his plans for a show by sketching a camera

plan, a drawing rough enough to make a draftsman wince, but accurate enough to show the approximate positions of the cameras in the studio. This plan is approved and occasionally altered by the Productions Manager, delivered to the Studio Engineer, and distributed amongst the camera-men.



'Tracking-up' on Nina Devitt in the studio. The camera-man has just told his assistant he has advanced sufficiently.

The Day Begins

The 'lining-up' for rehearsal takes place first thing in the morning, soon after 9 a.m. This comprises the arrangement of the cameras, the adjustment of view-finders, the checking of focussing. At 10 a.m. the producer comes on the scene. He sits aloft in the control room with a bird's-eye view of the studio from the observation window. In front of him are two monitors, one showing the image being transmitted, the other showing the image that *can*, if necessary, be transmitted from any of the other cameras. Behind him is the 'mixer', an engineer who has controls that fade-out one camera and substitute another, an operation that is done at the producer's direction. On the producer's desk is a microphone that can put him in telephonic communication with the camera-men, who wear headphones.

Two Moving As One

But down the steep iron staircase back to the studio floor: here may be four Emitrons, one trained on a caption board, another perhaps giving a profile of a pianist, a third showing a close-up of the hands on the keys, and the fourth, and most important of all, mounted on a movable truck to follow a troupe of dancers. Two men have to operate this last Emitron—the camera-man

himself, who sits aloft on the truck, and an assistant who manoeuvres it from one position to another, a job that is not as easy as it looks. The camera-man indicates his requirements for distance by a wave of the hand, a gesture that must be obeyed quickly.

Quick Orders and Responses

Remember the televising of the de Basil ballet rehearsal last month? A fine example there of co-operation between the producer, who was D. H. Munro in this instance, and the camera-men. The essence of the show was its spontaneity. A rehearsed rehearsal would have been a paradox only too evident to viewers. When SOUND and VISION glowed red in the studio neither the camera-men nor Munro knew what was going to happen. Had you been in the control room, looking through the observation window with Munro at the scene below you, you would have heard him mutter into the microphone rapid instructions such as these: 'No. 2 camera, over to Baronova in the corner!' 'No. 1, "shoot" that girl by the door fanning herself with her hand—quick!' Or perhaps a hurried whisper to the 'mixer', 'Show me what picture's on No. 3!' The success of the show depended on Munro's instructions being carried out almost instantaneously.

One-Man Audience

From the artist's point of view the human side of the camera-man is often an important factor. Imagine yourself cracking jokes in a close-up, the Emitron only a foot or so away from your face, the camera-man in his white coat, the audience you cannot help seeing. . . . But it is usually not as bad as all that. Probably you would have the same experience as Charlie Farrell, Chick Endor's partner, who could say after a recent cabaret: 'The camera-man's face makes all the difference in the world. He smiled so much I really began to think we were funny.'

'The Scanner'

INTERIM

In order that an overhaul and certain internal adjustments may be carried out at Alexandra Palace, transmissions will be suspended for three weeks, beginning on Monday, July 26. There will, however, be television transmissions from Wimbledon of the Davis Cup on July 26 and Tuesday, July 27, between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m., with an extension until 4.30 p.m. if necessary.

MONDAY JULY 19 VISION 45 Mc/s
TUESDAY JULY 20 SOUND 41.5 Mc/s

TELEVISION P

THE DAVIS CUP

On Monday and Tuesday at intervals between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. viewers will see scenes from the Inter-Zone Final at Wimbledon. On Saturday, and the following Monday and Tuesday, when the normal service will be suspended, there will be television broadcasts of the Challenge Round.

Transmission by
the Marconi-EMI system

Monday

Television programmes will be interrupted between 3.0 and 4.0 for short relays from the Inter-Zone Final of the Davis Cup at Wimbledon

3.0 Film
'LOBSTERS'

3.10 'DERBY DAY'

A comic opera by A. P. Herbert

Music by Alfred Reynolds

Bert Bones.....Frank Drew
John Bitter.....George Baker
Rose.....Tessa Deane
Mrs. Bones.....Charlotte Leigh
Sir Horace Waters, J.P.

Frederick Ranalow

Lady Waters.....Esther Coleman
Eddy.....Gordon Little
and

Vera Robson, Christine Lindsay, and
Desmond Davis



ERIC COATES will be seen conducting some of his own works on Tuesday and Thursday

A Section of the BBC Chorus
and
Trevor Anthony, Edward Crowther,
Douglas Ward, and D. Roderick Jones

The BBC Television Orchestra
Leader, Boris Pecker
Conductor, Hyam Greenbaum
Produced by Stephen Thomas

3.50 BRITISH MOVIE TONIGHT

4.0 CLOSE

9.0 Film
'LADYBIRDS'

9.10 'DERBY DAY'

A comic opera by A. P. Herbert
(Details as at 3.10)

9.50 GAUMONT BRITISH
NEWS

10.0 CLOSE

Tuesday

Television programmes will be interrupted between 3.0 and 4.0 for short relays from the Inter-Zone Final of the Davis Cup at Wimbledon

3.0 'THE MAN WITH
THE FLOWER IN HIS MOUTH'

A dialogue by Luigi Pirandello

The Man.....William Devlin

The Customer.....Philip Thornley

The Woman.....Genitha Halsey
and a Guitarist

Produced by Royston Morley

The Man With the Flower in his Mouth is one of the few Pirandello plays that are well known in the English theatre. It has been broadcast, and twice televised on the old thirty-line system. One of the television broadcasts was with puppets, produced by Jan Bussell. The play ends on a grim note, and the philosophy contained in it is characteristic of the author. He was born in Sicily in 1867. At the age of nineteen he went

to Rome, and a few years later he travelled to Germany to graduate in philosophy at the University of Bonn. In 1925 he founded an Arts Theatre in Rome for the performance of new Italian and foreign plays, and in the same year he brought the company of this theatre to London for the production of some of his own plays. He died in December, 1936.

3.15 Film
'LADYBIRDS'

3.25 ERIC COATES
conducts

The BBC Television Orchestra
Leader, Boris Pecker

in a programme of his own
compositions

Saxo-Rhapsody
(Solo saxophone, KEN GRAY)

Overture, The Merry-makers

I pitch my lonely caravan

March, Knightsbridge (London Suite)

Eric Coates's 'Saxo-Rhapsody' was first performed at the Folkestone Musical Festival in September, 1936, and was broadcast on January 16 last, the soloist on both occasions being Sigurd Rascher, for whom the piece was written. To serious concert artists like Rascher who have for long lamented the scantiness of the saxophone repertoire, the 'Saxo-Rhapsody' is an ideal composition; it does much to dispel the erroneous idea that the saxophone is solely a jazz instrument. For all this, however, Coates has said of it: 'Secretly feeling that where there is a saxophone syncopation is never far away, I surreptitiously slipped in a few bars of syncopated rhythm, hoping that the classically-minded Sigurd would not mind.'

The soloist this afternoon, Ken Gray, is a member of the BBC Television Orchestra.

3.50 GAUMONT BRITISH
NEWS

4.0 CLOSE

9.0 THE JOHN CARR
JACQUARD PUPPETS

John Carr, described by his wife as chief 'puppetrator' of the Jacquard Puppets, makes a special point of adapting his show to television. All the models are made by him and dressed by his wife, and manipulated by his family. Perhaps his most attractive creation is his musical trio, composed of a 'cellist, pianist, and violinist, whose movements are made to correspond accurately with the music. Of these three musicians, it is hoped that the fiddler will be seen by viewers today. Although John Carr has been interested in puppets only for about four years, he has established himself as one of the foremost authorities on the art.

9.15 Film
'LOBSTERS'

9.25 CABARET

with

Valerie Hobson

Richard Dolman

Ernst and Lotte Berk

Charles Zwar

Edward Cooper

and

Eric Wild and his Tea-Timers

Produced by Dallas Bower

9.50 BRITISH MOVIE TONIGHT

10.0 CLOSE

All programme timings
shown on these pages
are approximate



JOHN GOSS and ELI
as they will be seen in *The Mizzen*

PROGRAMMES

WEDNESDAY JULY 21 VISION 45 Mc/s
THURSDAY JULY 22 SOUND 41.5 Mc/s

Wednesday

3.0 ERNEST MILLS
Cartoonist

3.10 GIRLS AND BOYS
COME OUT TO PLAY

An Outside Broadcast in the Alexandra Palace Grounds—weather permitting

The grounds in which Alexandra Palace stands are a favourite rendezvous of North London children. In the charge of their mothers or nursemaids, dozens of them are to be seen playing together on the terrace and the grass slopes below. Only bad weather keeps them away, and provided there is no rain the television camera will be taken out of the studio into the open air to show viewers some of these small visitors who frequent Alexandra Park.

3.15 THE DANCERS OF DON
(Leader, the Hon. Elisabeth Forbes-Sempill)

in a programme of Scottish Country Dances

which they will perform in Paris when they represent Scotland next week at the Exposition Internationale des Arts et des Techniques

Scottish country dances are based almost entirely on the French model, a reminder of the 'Auld Alliance' between Scotland and France. They combine formality and vitality in well-balanced quantities; and the great point to remember is that the music is not of the bagpipes but of the fiddle, the instrument that was introduced to Scotland with the dances themselves.

The Hon. Elisabeth Forbes-Sempill, the leader of the dancers, is a young woman in whom love of all things Scottish is very strongly developed. She has made it her business to be able to speak in the language of the north-east of Scotland, so efficiently that she has won prizes for the recitation of Scottish verse in competition with speakers to whom Scots was their natural tongue. Another of her accomplishments is the playing of the clarsach and the harp. Her enthusiasm for Scottish country dancing led her to found 'the Dancers of Don', who, having performed all over Scotland and in a good many places in England, are now going to Paris to represent their country in a dancing festival.

3.25 BRITISH MOVIE TONEWS

3.35 'AD LIB.'

A revue by Herbert Farjeon
The music by Michael Sayer
Costumes by Stella Pearce
with

Nadine March
Elizabth French
Irene Prador
Cyril Ritchard
James Hayter

and chorus under the direction of Ronnie Bowyer

The BBC Television Orchestra
Leader, Boris Pecker
Conductor, Hyam Greenbaum
Produced by Stephen Thomas

4.0 CLOSE

9.0 MARIE EVE
in Continental Songs

This will be the first time that Marie Eve has appeared at Alexandra Palace. She has only just arrived in England, where she is now singing in a West-End cabaret; and very shortly she goes to Deauville to partner Harry

Richman. Her nationality is a trifle puzzling. She was born in Milan of a German-Polish mother and a Russian-Polish father. It is not surprising, therefore, that her repertoire includes songs in four different languages.

9.10 ERNEST MILLS
Cartoonist

9.25 GAUMONT BRITISH
NEWS

9.35 THE MIZZEN
CROSS TREES

A Revue of Nautical Songs and Dances

with

John Goss

Taylor Harris

Elizabth French

Wendy Tove

(by permission of H. M. Tennant, Ltd.)

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

Chorus: Trevor Anthony, Edward Crowther, Douglas Ward, D. Roderick Jones

Dances arranged by Wendy Tove

Produced by Stephen Thomas

10.0 CLOSE

Thursday

3.0 STARLIGHT
ELSIE CARLISLE
in Comedy Songs
accompanied by Ronald Aldrich and Freddie Aspinall

3.10 EXPEDITION ON A
BICYCLE
Myfanwy Evans

There are only two ways of seeing the country: one is to walk, the other to cycle. Myfanwy Evans chooses the latter means of propulsion, and this afternoon she will try to convey the enjoyment she had when she recently made a cycling tour of the Chilterns. The expedition started with an empty haversack, which soon began to swell and bulge with odds and ends, some of which will be shown on the television screen. She met some interesting people, too, and one or two of them will be with her today in the studio.

Myfanwy Evans is the wife of John Piper, who has given several television talks in the past. She studied English at Oxford where she was president of the University Women's Swimming Club. Now she is editor of *Axis* and a contributor to periodicals such as *Time and Tide* and *The New Statesman*.

3.25 GAUMONT BRITISH
NEWS



MARIE EVE, whom viewers will see for the first time on Wednesday

3.35 CABARET

with

Valerie Hobson

Richard Dolman

Ernst and Lotte Berk

Charles Zwar

Edward Cooper

and

Eric Wild and his Tea-Timers

Produced by Dallas Bower

4.0 CLOSE

9.0 'THE MAN WITH THE
FLOWER IN HIS MOUTH'

A dialogue by Luigi Pirandello

The Man.....William Devlin

The Customer.....Philip Thornley

The Woman.....Genitha Halsey

and a Guitarist

Produced by Royston Morley

9.15 Film

'MICKEY'S PAL PLUTO'

A Walt Disney Cartoon

9.25 ERIC COATES

conducts

The BBC Television Orchestra

Leader, Boris Pecker

in a programme of his own compositions

Saxo-Rhapsody
(Solo saxophone, KEN GRAY)

Overture, The Merry-makers

I pitch my lonely caravan

March, Knightsbridge (London Suite)

9.50 BRITISH MOVIE TONEWS

10.0 CLOSE



LIZABETH FRENCH
Cross Trees on Wednesday and Friday

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

FRIDAY JULY 23 AND SATURDAY JULY 24 : VISION 45 Mc/s SOUND 41.5 Mc/s



VALERIE HOBSON who will face the cameras on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday

Friday

3.0 'PYRAMUS AND THISBE'

A most lamentable comedy contained in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, by William Shakespeare

Bottom.....Wilfrid Walter
Quince.....Charles Lefeaux
Flute.....Don Gemmell
Snout.....Eric Chitty
Snug.....Herbert Lees
Starveling.....Hubert Leslie
Theseus.....John Rudling
Philstrate.....Kenneth Villiers
Hippolyta.....Jillian Sandilands

Produced by Jan Bussell

3.15 Film 'MICKEY'S PAL PLUTO'

A Walt Disney Cartoon

3.25 THE MIZZEN CROSS TREES

A Revue of Nautical Songs and Dances with

John Goss
Taylor Harris
Elizabeth French
Wendy Toye

(by permission of
H. M. Tennant, Ltd.)

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

Chorus: Trevor Anthony, Edward Crowther, Douglas Ward, D. Roderick Jones

Dances arranged by Wendy Toye
Produced by Stephen Thomas

3.50 BRITISH MOVIE TONEWS

4.0 CLOSE

9.0 'THE RAFT'

An Interlude by Stephen Leacock
Harold Boris.....Hedley Briggs
Edith Croydon.....Diana Beaumont

Scene: Lost in the Caribbean Sea

Produced by Jan Bussell

9.15 Film 'BUGLE FROM BLUE GRASS'

9.25 'AD LIB.'

A revue by Herbert Farjeon

The music by Michael Sayer

Costumes by Stella Pearce

with

Nadine March
Elizabeth French
Irène Prador
Cyril Ritchard
James Hayter

and chorus under the direction of
Ronnie Bowyer

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

Produced by Stephen Thomas

9.50 GAUMONT BRITISH NEWS

10.0 CLOSE

Saturday

2.30 THE DAVIS CUP

A relay from the Challenge Round of the Davis Cup at Wimbledon

In addition, the programmes between 3.0 and 4.0 will be interrupted for short relays from Wimbledon

'In my opinion, much of the fascination of television, and to a great extent its future, is bound up with actuality, a virtue which it alone possesses, and which the news-reel, with its time-lag, misses. In direct television the viewer will learn and appreciate that the picture he is watching in his home is the picture he would be seeing at that very moment were he with the camera, and not one that has already taken place.' These words of the Director of Television, written in April, have had particular significance during the last few weeks, when transmissions of tennis from Wimbledon have been a regular feature of the programmes.

Viewers are reminded that on July 26 and July 27, when normal programmes have been suspended, there will be transmissions from Wimbledon of the Davis Cup between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m., with, if necessary,

an extension to 4.30 p.m. This means, therefore, that viewers will have an opportunity of seeing something of all three days of the Davis Cup Challenge Round, instead of the first day only, as was originally contemplated.

3.0 IN OUR GARDEN

Another practical talk by C. H. Middleton from the garden in the grounds of Alexandra Palace

3.15 THE JOHN CARR JACQUARD PUPPETS

3.25 GAUMONT BRITISH NEWS

3.35 REVIEW OF REVUES

Produced by Dallas Bower

The artists include:

Adèle Dixon
Valerie Hobson
Cyril Ritchard
Antony Tudor
Maude Lloyd

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

4.0 CLOSE

9.0 STARLIGHT ELSIE CARLISLE in Comedy Songs

accompanied by Ronald Aldrich and Freddie Aspinall

9.10 SUMMER GARDENING

A studio talk by C. H. Middleton

9.25 BRITISH MOVIE TONEWS

9.35 REVIEW OF REVUES

Produced by Dallas Bower

The artists include:

Adèle Dixon
Valerie Hobson
Cyril Ritchard
Antony Tudor
Maude Lloyd

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

10.0 CLOSE



John Carr and his family with their JACQUARD PUPPETS. Viewers will have an opportunity of seeing them on Tuesday and Saturday.