

# AMATEURS ARE UP AGAINST IT

By **NADRA PENALURICK**

For so many years, amateur orchestral activities in Adelaide have been taken for granted, mainly as a poor investment for the real music lovers' fastidious tastes.

Their striving for artistic recognition is hard.

They are faced with the seemingly impossible task of breaking down such a prejudice and, at the same time, tapping a certain section of the musical public who might possibly be the nucleus of a future listening audience.

How best to reach this section is today's problem for these players.

In one instance, at least, it can now be said the aims are high and the standard gaining ground with every performance.

Such a combination of players is the Burnside Symphony Orchestra, who will give their third concert for this year in the Burnside Town Hall next Tuesday night.

Under the vital direction of John Black, this orchestra has achieved a particular status in the eyes of discerning musicians during the four years of its existence.

Its main object appears to be to promote orchestral playing among amateur instrumentalists and, at the same time, presenting to the public performances of work off the beaten track as far as most orchestras' repertoires are concerned.

To have prepared three programs during the year

is a fine effort on an amateur basis.

The preparation of this final one for Tuesday's concert is particularly commendable when one remembers that in Adelaide we have had six musical shows, including the current "My Fair Lady," in the past three months, which have drawn quite a number of players from the ranks of the Burnside Symphony Orchestra.

"Even so," says its conductor, John Black, "attendances have always kept up to the 30-mark for the weekly rehearsals."

## PLANS AHEAD

John Black, whose direct approach and enthusiasm have gained him the full support and confidence of his ever-growing orchestra, plans his concert programs nine months ahead, and his schedule for next year is already partly in operation.

Migrants, young promising students, and many of the experienced former professionals work together to produce the best in orchestral music.

All performances are for charity, and the interesting program on Tuesday has dramatic soprano Janice Hearne as the soloist.