



● William Lloyd Webber . . . a talented composer who encouraged two famous sons.

Father not forgotten

WHEREVER you turn in musical circles these days the name Lloyd Webber crops up.

But aside from the famous Andrew and Julian, there is another to be reckoned with — their father.

William Lloyd Webber, who was born in 1914 and died five years ago, was a gifted musician at an early age. Encouraged by his father, William became a distinguished church organist, teacher, examiner and administrator.

He was also a composer of great skill whose ideas were expressed through a full-blooded romanticism that, in a revolutionary age in music, was no doubt looked down upon.

To ensure that posterity will



be familiar with his legacy of compositions, some have now been recorded.

The world premiere recording his tone poem *Aurora*, which owes a debt to Rachmaninov, is one item of a Philips release, 420 423-1.

The major part is occupied by Andrew Lloyd Webber's extended work *Variations* in which his brother Julian is soloist. Lorin Maazel conducts the London Philharmonic in both works.

Variations is a serious undertaking, melodic, facile and effective in the imaginative and original manner in which the variations are worked out.

Some further idea of the range of William Lloyd Webber's interests comes on an ASV issue on DCA 584 which contains choral and piano works, pieces for tenor and organ and cello and piano.

Richard Hickox conducts his singers, with organ accompaniment, in the short but businesslike *Missa Sanctae Mariae Magdalenae*.

John Graham-Hall (tenor), John Lill (piano) and Julian Lloyd Webber (cello) are sympathetic soloists who help disclose the product of a sensitive musical intelligence.