

"BOOMPS-A-DAISY" COMES TO CHRISTCHURCH

STATION 3ZB recently introduced to Christchurch audiences at the Community Sing, the new old-fashioned dance number "Boomps-a-Daisy," which was so enthusiastically adopted by the British Expeditionary Force, according to cabled advice.

Christchurch took up this song en-

thusiastically, and 3ZB decided to feature it on Saturday evening in a Studio production. The dance was explained in detail over the microphone, and then actually performed in the Studio by "Jacko" with Miss Vi Gardner as partner, both dressed in the costumes of the Gay 'Nineties. Miss Gardner is a dancing



teacher of Christchurch, but until this performance not even his most ardent admirers had suspected "Jacko" of being a master of Terpsichorean art. Whether it was the effect of the costume, or whether it was the sympathy of the large audience, who looked through the window on this occasion, it is difficult to gauge, but "Jacko" and Vi tripped the light fantastic in this "Boomps-a-Daisy" specialty number to such good effect that the other artists awaiting their turn in the Studio joined in the dance and

showed just how easy it was to catch its infectious spirit of gaiety.

"Boomps-a-Daisy" should rival "Little Sir Echo" as the hit of the year in song numbers, and bids fair to out-do the "Lambeth Walk" as a new old-fashioned dance.

Congratulations are due to 3ZB for its success in popularising the number, especially as the music only arrived in New Zealand three days before its introduction over that station.



"OUR FIRST HUNDRED YEARS" ON THE AIR *Radio Preview of Special New Feature*

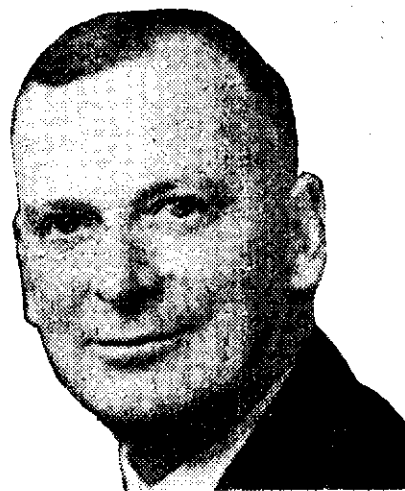
ONE day last week a radio preview was held of an exclusive new feature sponsored by the New Zealand Railways Department. The feature is "Our First One Hundred Years," a history, as you might have already guessed, of this country from the earliest times.

Present at the preview were C. G. Scrimgeour, Controller of National Commercial Broadcasting; G. H. Mackley, General Manager of New Zealand Railways; D. Stewart, Publicity Manager of the Railways Department; L. D. Webster, manager of Goldberg Advertising, and others connected with the production. After hearing portions of the new feature, all agreed that it is one of the most excellent programmes ever to be produced by the Commercial Service. As Mr. Mackley remarked, "I think it is very appropriate, coming at this time. It will help people to gain a better understand-

ing of all that the Centennial means. It compares favourably in my judgment with anything the Service has done previously, and I think that listeners should find it excellent entertainment."

The story starts when, hundreds of years ago, Kupe sailed in his tiny canoe across the uncharted waste of the Pacific Ocean and sighted these islands. He went back to his native island and told the people of the new land he had discovered. Later, when trouble and discontent came among his people, they decided to venture forth for the "Land of the Long White Cloud," and, building canoes from great forest trees, they journeyed off, eventually arriving in New Zealand. Later came the advent of the first white man, and the story of settlement began.

Most people have a general idea of the history of our country, but only a few know the fascinating



S. P. Andrew, photograph

G. H. MACKLEY

"... Listeners should find it excellent entertainment"

details that, pieced together like a mosaic, have made the exciting story of courage and adventure that is the story of New Zealand.

Fiction never has compared with truth for sheer excitement, and no writer on earth could write such a fascinating story as the birth and development of this country. It speaks well for the Commercial Service that, given such a magnificently vast canvas to work upon, they have painted such a clear and colourful picture.

The characters of the old Maoris and early explorers such as Tasman and Cook, are all realistically portrayed, and every historical detail is correct. The programme is interesting in more ways than one. Mr. Scrimgeour remarked that it really fulfilled a double function, first of being good entertainment, and secondly of brushing up the memory.

"Our First Hundred Years" began from 1ZB on September 29. The commencing dates from the other stations are: 2ZB October 6; 3ZB October 13, and 4ZB October 20.