

ZB EXHIBITION APPOINTMENTS

"Jill" And "Mac" To Be Heard From 5ZB—"The Exhibition Station"

Interesting appointments to Station 5ZB are Ian Mackay ("Mac," to 2ZB listeners) and Annas Gale ("Jill" to 4ZB listeners). The former will be in charge of the station, and the latter will act as announcer, artist and hostess, and will generally "cover" the Exhibition for women and children listeners. Both these popular ZB personalities will bring a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to their new tasks and both have expressed keen anticipation of the interesting possibilities which their unusual appointment implies.

A NY New Zealand girl in her early twenties who can crash into one of Australia's toughest (from a staff viewpoint) radio stations, has "something." Such a person is 4ZB's very charming "Jill" (Miss Annas Gale).

A member of a well-known Christchurch family, "Jill" received her early pianoforte training at Sacred Heart Col-

legiate, later "finishing" under Alfred Bunz as an A.T.C.L. and L.R.S.M.—letters which she obtained for singing as well as for the pianoforte. An experiment among the vocal arts was even more successful under New Zealand's own Hubert Carter, now one of London's best known tenors, with whom she made her debut as Juliet. in the opera "Romeo and Juliet." Later, her artistry earned praise for other outstanding performances, as Marguerite in "Faust," Micaela in "Carmen," and in the title role of Mendelssohn's "Lorelei," and as a soloist for many leading musical combinations in Christchurch.



K. W. KILPATRICK, CBS Programme Director, who will control all ZB activities at the Exhibition.

NCBS Appointment

Back again to Christchurch she was appointed to 3ZB as an announcer, and Christchurch favourably remembers her introduction of a first-class children's hour with Jacko.

Then on to 4ZB, and her organisation, along with the irrepressible Peter Dawson, of that station's new idea for the children's hour. In this splendid session were many attractive and original ideas which she incorporated with marked success. Jill also took over the Home Service Session, through which she has become known to thousands of 4ZB listeners for her charming microphone personality and the interest and sincerity with which she has invested the sessions.

"MAC's" Busy Life

IAN KEITH MACKAY (to give him his full name) is still in his twenties and has had a somewhat varied career. A Nelsonian by birth he was educated at Nelson College.

With the advent of Nelson's first radio station, 2ZR, Mr. Mackay became its hon. secretary, and an interest in radio work quickly brought him to the "mike," and he became well known as a broadcaster in the Apple Province. A speaker of some ability he formed and became President of the Nelson Radio Educational Society. His interest in radio, although still a hobby, branched into wider fields and he assisted in the formation of a New Zealand Federation of B Stations and became Secretary of that organisation.

Trade Union Work

An interest in Trade Union work and organisation followed, and Mr. Mackay returned to Nelson and organised some of the major unions in that district. He achieved some success as an advocate and represented unions in Conciliation Council and Arbitration Courts. In between times he had time to exploit his talents as a writer, and was a successful



"JILL"

prize-winner in a literary competition on Racial Problems open to the British Empire and sponsored by the New History Society. In the following year this Society sponsored a further literary competition on Disarmament open to the entire world, and Mr. Mackay was again a prize-winner, having his paper translated into eight languages.

Return To Radio

Mr. Mackay made a return to radio and joined Station 2ZB, Wellington, as an announcer. Transferred to 3ZB, Christchurch, he organised the Sports Sessions of that station before being promoted to Production Supervisor. Shortly afterwards a further transfer brought him back to Wellington as Production Supervisor, and earlier in the year he was appointed Station Director of the Mobile Unit 5ZB for its highly successful tour of the North Island.

He is President of the City of Wellington Highland Pipe Band, and Vice-President of the Clan Mackay Society of New Zealand.



"MAC"

Memorable "Mike" Moments

Most of us have had out-of-the-ordinary experiences we shall never forget, and radio announcers are no exception to the rule. On inquiry, we found that most of them have had very awkward moments before the mike, humorous, tragic, or embarrassing—but always memorable. We were so interested in the confessions of the radio stars we approached that we decided you would be too.

That's why we are starting a series of such incidents this week, the first of them about "Gran," of 1ZB. Questioned on the subject "Gran" said she remembered all her mike moments, but when we asked her which was really the most memorable of all, she said: "Well, one day the mike was set in a garden where I was doing an outside broadcast. The day was an ideal summer one, with flowers blooming in profusion, but alas—for me—the bees were plentiful. As I stepped up to 'do my stuff' I beheld a bee hovering around the mike. Strange as it may seem, the sound of bagpipes doesn't disturb me—but the buzz of the bee scares me stiff! I waved my hand a bit trying to get him or her to move on, but no! Whether he thought I had honeyed words to impart or not, the vicinity of the mike seemed to be the favoured spot. Those few seconds seemed like an hour . . . and that, I think, was my most exciting ordeal at the mike."

And we take it, Gran, that you didn't get stung!

"Michael's" Misfortune

The next person we approached was the tall "Michael" of 2ZA. "Say, Michael," we asked, "what was your most awkward moment in broadcasting?" "Well," he said, "I think this is the most trying experience I have had. I was conducting the Motorists' Session in which I used to have a guest speaker to give hints and advice to motorists. The speaker came into the studio appearing rather anxious; but there was nothing for it, so I just introduced him at the given time and sat back, prepared to relax for at least seven minutes. Ah! yes, but it became obvious that my speaker was not going so easily. After a brave "Good Evening, Motorists!" and a few opening remarks, he uttered a few incoherent phrases and suddenly threw up his hands in despair, indicating that he could not go on with his talk. Yes, genuine "mike-fright" had got the better of him. I just managed to make some casual announcement and put on a record in a desperate endeavour to more or less save the situation. As soon as the record was playing the speaker made one bolt for the studio door and fled. My next difficulty, however, was to fill up the minutes which his defection had left. Strangely enough this was the only occasion on which I had not brought with me just a little extra material in case of emergency!

(To be continued)