



# THINGS TO COME—



## STATIC

**"ARMEN Pass Out"** is the heading given by a South Island newspaper to a paragraph concerning Air Force trainees' completion of a three weeks' course. Rather a sinister way of putting it!

**MANY** farmers allowed soldiers in camp to help themselves to straw with which to fill their mattresses. That's the stuffing to give the troops!

**IN** a military canteen recently, out of four soldiers playing darts, three were city business men a few weeks ago. Still at a board meeting!

**GOD** heard the embattled nations sing and shout "Gott Strafe England" and "God Save the King."

God this, God that, and God the other thing. "Good God," said God, "I've got my work cut out." —Attributed to J. C. Squire, during the last war.

**PHOTOGRAPHER TO WED MANNEQUIN.** CAMERA ROMANCE—Billboard. But no longer in camera.

**TRUNK AIR SERVICES. FURTHER CURTAILMENT NEXT MONTH.**—Headlines. Down to the torso?

**"ACCORDING** to the 1911 edition of the 'Encyclopædia Britannica,' the only Australian term to have won acceptance in Britain at that time was 'larrikin.'—News item.

And now the other is *still* left out.

**RUMOUR:** Heard the latest? Fifty 'planes came down in Germany. So what? They had to, to get into the hangars.

**IN** Nazi Germany, if a thing isn't forbidden it must be obligatory.

**COLONEL** Hatchet-Mugg, of Little Swithering, assures us that the Siegfried line is only Jerry-built.

**"BRITAIN** and France will never drift apart now," says a newspaper. That's good news for Channel swimmers.

**THE** English idea of keeping fit: Take a few week-ends in the country.

The Nazi idea of keeping fit: Take a few countries in the week-end.

**I**N the Australian outback, a miner strikes a stone with which he is not familiar.

He breaks it, after many attempts. It proves to be the clue leading to the discovery of a strange underground city. Thrills and adventure follow to make up the new serial from 2YD, "Out of the Silence," a dramatisation of a novel by Erle Cox, Australian author. The second instalment is scheduled from 2YD at 9 p.m. on Wednesday, December 13.

### Top Notes

Who among us has not watched some soprano, worked up to a pitch of ecstasy, fling open wide her arms and break the dead silence of the missing shouts for encore with:

*"Come! Come! I love you oh-only,  
Come hero mine!"*

"My Hero," of course, comes from "The Chocolate Soldier," a musical comedy by Oscar Straus (the branch of the clan with



one "s" at the end of the name). This attractive stage show is based on George Bernard Shaw's well-known play "Arms and the Man," once rather wittily described in its musical-comedy version as having become "Legs and the Woman." A selection from "The Chocolate Soldier" will be heard from 3YA on Saturday, December 16, at 8 p.m.

### New String Orchestra

At 8 p.m. on Wednesday, December 13, from the Exhibition studio, the National Broadcasting Service String Orchestra, conducted by the well-known English violinist, Maurice Clare, will give its first broadcast.

The scheme for the formation of the orchestra was originated by the Director of Broadcasting, Professor James Shelley, and it is felt that the orchestra, besides giving much entertainment, will create a wide interest in good music in this country. It is the nucleus for bigger musical organisation in the future. Mr. Clare travelled all over New Zealand to get the best musicians available, and the orchestra, consisting of twelve, has been rehearsing since December 1. Mr. Clare, besides conducting, will sometimes play with the orchestra, and Vincent Aspey, of Auckland, is the deputy-leader. The programme for Wednesday is an excellent one, and launches an orchestra which should prove a great asset to music and radio in this country.

### Nightmare

In the cafes of the French port of Bordeaux, anything is likely to happen. Thieves and adventurers rub shoulders with respectable business men; the garrotter and the speculator mingle with the crowds of shop assistants and clerks. Bordeaux is the colourful setting for "The Fall," a short story by Stacy Aumonier, adapted for radio by Felix Felton. "The Fall" is really a dream. You, too, have had a dream, probably, in which you felt yourself falling from a high tower, or a bridge; anyway, you ended up heaving convulsively on the bedroom floor. But if you listen in to this play, a blend of mystery, thrills, and bizarre reality, you will find what such a dream did to a man named the Jackal. The time for the presentation: 8 p.m. on Monday, December 11. The station: 1YA, Auckland.

### The Brownings

It is said that somebody once wrote to Robert Browning asking him the meaning of a certain passage in one of his poems, and Browning replied that he was sorry he could not explain the passage, but doubtless the Secretary of the Browning Society would oblige. This is one of many jokes about the Browning cult of years ago. One wonders what has happened to the Browning Societies. Do any exist to-day? Browning's fame, like that of most or all Victorians, has suffered something of an eclipse. His optimism does not commend itself to the pallid young despairers of to-day, but the rock on which it rests (we know this is a mixture of metaphors) has not really been shifted. Professor T. D. Adams is to read from Browning on