(continued from previous page)

"However do you get time to read so much?" inquired Mrs. Thompson, one day.

"Well, you see," explained Mrs. Morrow, looking rather abashed, "Tom's seeing new countries and meeting fresh people all the time, so I get books on travel from the library, and anything else that I think will keep my mind polished up. I don't want Tom to come home and find me just a maternal vegetable."

Keep her mind polished up indeed! Ridiculous! thought Mrs. Thompson. She would be better employed keeping her house polished up.

AFTER what seemed an age, there was news that the two men were coming home on fuflough from the Middle East. With only a week's notice, there were feverish preparations in both houses. Mrs. Thompson cleaned her house from top to bottom, turning out every cupboard and drawer in a frenzy of activity.

Mrs. Morrow made herself a frivolous blue frock, and tried out a new hair-do. She bought the boys new shirts and shorts, and made Sally a blue frock like her own, mother-and-daughter style that she copied from the latest fashion magazine. She gave the house a sketchy clean-up and put bowls of flowers everywhere. She said Tom wouldn't be crawling around on his hands and knees looking for dust under the sideboard.

For a week after the men returned, Mrs. Thompson didn't see much of Mrs. Morrow, although she heard much laughter and gay talk coming from their house.

Then one morning, when both women were in the garden hanging out some washing — together for once — Mrs. Morrow called out over the fence, "Isn't it marvellous having a husband about the place again?"

Mrs. Thompson of course said "Yes," but she sighed as she turned away. She wasn't so sure. All that cigarette-ash about the place, dirty socks thrown down anywhere. Everlastingly picking up after him.

up after him.

Men! She'd forgotten what a mess
they made about the place.

"The Show of Shows"

HUMPHREY BISHOP, the showman, has produced several musical features which have been heard over the air in New Zealand. One of the best is The Show of Shows. Listen for the words "Humphrey Bishop presents" from 4ZB on Friday evenings at 6.30, when for a quarter of an hour you will be entertained with world-famous songs and presentations from stage and screen. Each broadcast features a well-known artist. In the first episode Heddle Nash is introduced, supported by a first-class chorus and orchestra,

19th Century Shocker

A FAMOUS mystery novel of the 19th century was The Mystery of Bartram Haugh, which has now been dramatised for radio by George Edwards and company as The House of Shadows, 3ZB's new evening feature. It tells of the curse that was placed upon the Riven family, according to which a monster in human form would be born into it, and of what happens when twin sons, Austin and Silas Riven, are born. This strange story is heard from 3ZB at 7.45 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.



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