

(continued from previous page)

sliced carrots, and beetroot), and home-made cakes—Nick took me round the back of his house, and showed me where his vegetables grew.

The garden was very neat and clean, and as Nick told me how the slugs had ravished his cabbage plants, the way you had to look out for bumble bees ruining the blossom on french beans, the proper way to earth-up potatoes, and what amazing luck he had had with his silver beet, his voice was smooth and easy. That tense anxiety had gone. He seemed quite a different person from the one who had told me of Greece and Crete, when he was beside me, in hospital.

I was glad.

Nick said he'd had a lot of trouble digging this part of the section. Ruddy great stones all over the place. And down there, by the little plum tree, he'd struck part of a bitumen road—bitumen road, mind you!

"But I was digging away here," said Nick, grinning happily, "when the spade struck something solid, jarring my arms and shoulders pretty severely. What the heck is this, I thought to myself, trying to dig round it. But, try as I might, I couldn't get to the end of the thing, so in the end I had to dig a flamin' great pit and muck round with a crowbar, and then I hauled out—you'll never guess."

"What was it, Nick?" I asked.

"A blasted great door, with bolts and hinges and knobs on it! A bloomin' door! Wouldn't it rock you?"

"Tea's ready, you two," called Nick's wife, leaning out of a back window.

And as Nick and I went in to tea, I felt a new fondness and sympathy and friendship for old Nick, the returned soldier.

Not so much because of what he did in Greece and Crete. I've heard all that before. And, admittedly, he had some pretty good yarns to tell. No, not because of that. But because of the other thing.

I feel proud that I know Nick now. For, when you come to think of it, there can't be many people in New Zealand, you know, who have really dug up a door—with bolts and hinges and knobs on it.

TOSCANINI IN FILMS

Recordings Made by NBS

THROUGH the courtesy of the United States Office of War Information, Wellington, the NBS has made a recording of the whole of the sound track of a film in which Arturo Toscanini is featured. Toscanini once spurned a Hollywood offer of 250,000 dollars for a single film but, in his determination to assist in ridding the world of Fascist and Nazi oppression, he has made a motion picture based on Verdi's "Hymn of the Nations." This features the NBC Symphony with vocal highlights by the Westminster Choir and Jan Peerce, Metropolitan Opera tenor. The recordings will be heard from 1ZB this Sunday, February 18, and 2ZB on March 4, thereafter at South Island stations.

Items From The ZB's

"OUT OF THE ETHER," a new session of special interest to DX'ers is broadcast each Saturday at 1.0 p.m. from 3ZB. Compiled from the diary of "Aerial," it provides listeners with information about overseas stations which might otherwise be known to them only as a call signal. "Aerial" is a member of the N.Z. DX Club, the All Wave-All World DX Club, Universal DX Club of America, British Long Distance Listeners' League, Radex Club of America, and the Russian Listeners' Club.

FORMERLY a Rugby referee, and also a player in many Gilbert and Sullivan operas in various parts of New Zealand, Bill Meredith, veteran sports announcer for 1ZB, does two weekly sessions, football relays in the winter and racing forecasts and summaries. He spends a good deal of his spare time arranging concert parties and is programme organiser for the Orehunga Orphans' Club and some other bodies.

PLEASANT songs and musical items before and after the story assist "Hot Dates in History," heard from 2ZB on Saturdays at 8.45 p.m. Each episode deals with a notable event, dramatised by a picked cast.

FOR home participation, the Movie Quiz heard each Friday night at 6.30 from 2ZB uses half-a-dozen or so recordings of screen stars and orchestras featured in films during the last five years. Listeners are invited to name the singers, the film in which the item was heard, and the orchestra. In other cases tunes are played and listeners are asked to name the melody and its film. A money prize and double tickets provide an incentive.

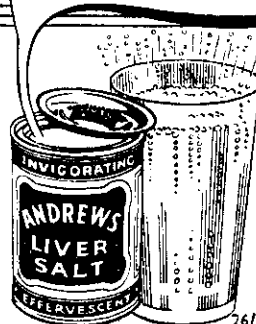
"MORNING MELODIES," on Mondays and Wednesdays at 10.15 from 2ZB, is a selection of songs and music designed to provide a restful morning tea interlude with a big range of variety.

A NEW feature at 1ZB contains an ingenious idea. Produced by Arthur Collins, it is the result of a brief plot or synopsis which is handed to two different script writers, who each build up a story. The interest lies partly in the dramatisations themselves and partly in the contrast shown between the two variations on a single theme. For the writing of the scripts Mr. Collins employs talent drawn from the ranks of well-known New Zealand writers and people in public life. This session, which is entitled "One Way and Another," is heard every Monday evening from 1ZB at 7.45.

IN dramatised form, the Robert Louis Stevenson story of *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* has come to the radio. The story is heard each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday night at 8.45 from 4ZB.

AFTER a rest of some weeks, "Brains Trust Junior" returned to the air at 4ZB on a recent Saturday at 7.45 p.m. The Questionmaster is Don Donaldson, and the other participants are known as John, Harold, Barbara, and Ian.

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