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THINGS TO COME

A Run Through The Programmes

TOKYO, 1944, is a violent mixture of East and West, a city of cries in the night and sudden disappearances, a city of jealousy and hate where Nazi officials watch their Japanese allies with undisguised suspicion. Tokyo is the capital of fear. That, at any rate, is the way it is presented by the BBC in a new radio thriller — a serial called "Appointment in Tokyo." This is a story of intrigue and counter-intrigue in the very heart of Japan, and though the story itself is fictitious, the serial is perhaps more important than most radio fiction in that it sheds some light on the Japanese war machine. "Appointment in Tokyo" will start from 2YA on Monday, February 19, at 9.40 p.m.

Also worth notice:
3YA, 9.25 p.m.: Dvorak Trio (studio).
4YA, 8.3 p.m.: Piano Quintet in E Flat
(Schumann)

ONCE upon a time sentimentality was the cloak which all men and women of fashion wore if they wanted to cut any ice at all. They sang sentimental songs and mooned about in exaggerated attitudes with long hair flowing and large velvet bows nestling under their chins. After a while the fashion began to change slowly; then came a world war and sentimentality went out with a rush. Women cut their hair short and men pretended to be cold and cynical. Anything even slightly approaching sentimentality was spurned. But is the cycle turning once more? An item to be heard from 3YA at 9.25 p.m. on Tuesday, February 20, is called "In a Sentimental Mood." It is one of a series of programmes "designed to awaken echoes of the past and revive romantic memories."

Also worth notice:
1YX, 8.8 p.m.: Transfigured Night (Schonberg).
4YO, 8.0 p.m.: Violin Sonata (Elgar).

CHRISTMAS is over, but it will still be entertaining to hear from 2YA at 8.6 p.m. on Wednesday, February 21, the radio comedy specially written for Christmas by Norman Corwin, that comes here on U.S. Office of War Information recordings. It has the curious title, "The Plot to Overthrow Christmas," and though we haven't listened to all of it ourselves, we have gathered this much: it is "The story of the utter ingloriousness of some gory goings on in Hell; it happened in Hades, Ladies — and Gentlemen . . . the fiends held a meeting for the purpose of defeating the custom of Christmas . . . what went on in the sulphurous hole we'll soon pick up by remote control. . . ." We lifted the needle at this point and the next thing we heard was Nero practising a complicated cadenza. As we cannot think of anything to rhyme with cadenza, we will stop now.

Also worth notice:
1YA, 8.0 p.m.: Passacaglia (Walter Piston).
3YA, 9.30 p.m.: "Faust" Symphony (Liszt)

ANOTHER of the series "Palace of Varieties," which revives the songs and atmosphere of the London Music Hall of the 50 years that ended with the last war, will be heard from 2YA at 8.0 p.m. on Thursday, February 22.

This episode includes that famous old song "In the Shade of the Old Apple Tree," which was one of the favourites of Florrie Forde, and which is now sung by Helen Claire. In the same programme, among many other numbers, is the famous Cockneyism, "'Arf a Pint of Ale," which was first sung by Gus Elen, that king of coster comedians, and is here sung by Nat Travers.

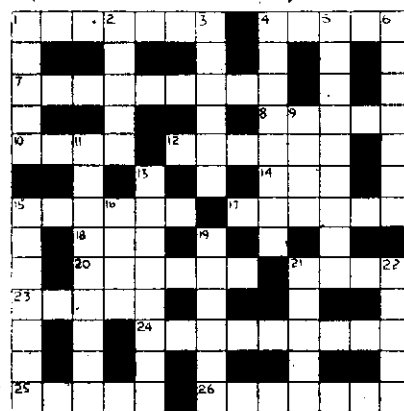
Also worth notice:
2YC, 8.43 p.m.: "Les Plaisirs Champêtres"
(Montclair).
4YA, 9.25 p.m.: Music by Vaughan Williams.

ON the 180th line of longitude lie the Fijian Islands, the home, among other things, of strange chants and customs. These chants have never been transcribed, for they consist largely of quarter tones. They have never, therefore, been heard by the outside world till now. The programme in the BBC series, "Travellers' Tales" to be heard from 2YA at 8.28 p.m. on Friday, February 23, contains recordings of these ancient chants. What is more interesting for New Zealanders is the fact that the only way the BBC could have the records made was by calling in the help of the New Zealand recording unit van which had landed in Fiji to record messages from our troops. The recordings were made by Vivian Spencer and Don Cameron of the National Broadcasting Service, New Zealand.

Also worth notice:
 1YA, 8.0 p.m.: By-paths of Literature:
 Famous Unfinished Novels.
 3YA, 8.20 p.m.: Concerto for Two Pianos
 and Orchestra (McDonald).

THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

(No. 233: Constructed by R.W.C.)



Clues Across

1. Study this eel-like creature and you will find my pearl.
4. The end of some sleeves.
7. Bride came to an illusory banquet.
8. Cancel.
10. There is a song about one with a delicate air.
12. Ask Ted if he did this.
14. "Speak _____ of no man to his face" (Ben Jonson).
15. With the end of 12 across Rex is in the right.
17. Well-bred combination of lip and toe.
18. Electrified particle found in Ohio nitrate
20. The R.A.F. becomes a parent.
21. Don't put all yours in one basket
23. Tuesday in France.
24. Dance and sing in rising scale.
25. "Men loved darkness rather than light because their _____ were evil." (John 3, 19).
26. With snakes they make a game.

THERE is a programme to be heard from 3YA at 9.25 p.m. on Saturday, February 24, called "It Began with Celluloid," but it is not a dramatised fire-disaster. Celluloid was one of the first substances to be a "plastic" in the current sense of the word. You may be old enough to remember celluloid collars, or young enough to remember those celluloid kewpie dolls tied to a black cane and sold at agricultural and pastoral shows. The collars are a thing of the past now, but ping-pong balls, piano keys, drawing instruments and many other things are still made of celluloid. For the story of what is replacing it and going far beyond it in the industrial world, tune in to 3YA.

Also worth notice:
1YX, 8.0 p.m.: Music by Beethoven.
2YC, 8.0 p.m.: Symphony No. 3 (Rach-
maninoff).

ONE would scarcely believe that the airman's first impression on approaching London in summer is not that of the greatest city in the world, but of a huge expanse of greenery—yet it is true. A programme, "Parks and Gardens" (in the series "Snapshots of London") is all about those areas that are responsible for the pleasant illusion the airman enjoys. In fact, only about 10 per cent of Greater London is built up. The rest is roadways, gardens, trees, or flowered squares, and the great parks such as Kensington Gardens, Hyde Park and Wimbledon Common. "Parks and Gardens" will be heard from 4YA at 4.15 p.m. on Sunday, February 25.

Also worth notice:
1YA, 8.15 p.m.: "The Bartered Bride"
(Smetana).
2YA, 3.0 p.m.: "Sinfonia for Strings"
(Douglas Lilburn).

Clues Down

1. Descriptive tag from a bell.
2. Dancing shoes.
3. An interjection to strike fear into the heart of the fox.
4. Art on ice (anag.).
5. Fun in gold for a deserted infant.
6. Eels can form a kind of triangle.
9. A favourite of Charles II. concealed in the panneling.
11. Fixes a tag for a rock plant.
13. Neat sign for blue flowers.
15. Did Mona offer one?
16. " . . . the ———, ugly and venomous,
Wears yet a precious jewel in his head . . ."
("As You Like It," II., 1).
19. Alternative to pen and ink.
21. Our revels now are ———"
("Tempest," IV., 1).
22. Sings out of order.

(Answer to No. 232)

