"UNITED AGAINST IGNORANCE"

N.Z. University Greets Columbia

UCH emphasis has been laid on the power of radio in promoting intimate, friendly relations between the nations, socially and industrially. Now New Zealand has taken its place scholastically in the production of a better understanding, in this instance particularly with the United States of America.

Students of Columbia University, New York, which was founded in 1754, opened recently a series of weekly programmes honouring the United Nations. The New Zealand Minister to Washington (C. A. Berendsen), asked for a New Zealand recording, and so, through the NBS, Dr. James Hight, pro-Chancellor of the New Zealand University, and a New Zealand student were invited to record messages. The student was G. S. Bogle, of Victoria College. These records were sent to Melbourne to be broadcast by the Australian Office of War Information.

Dr. Hight's message ran:

"The University of New Zealand salutes Columbia and its sister universities. We greatly value greetings from universities older and larger than ours, but large or small, all are brothers united against ignorance and prejudice and pledged to extend knowledge and to broaden the idea of a liberal education. All are bound by a keen sense of obligation to the social good.

"In our effort we have been encouraged by visitors from America—Dr. Starr-Jordan, a visitors from America—Dr. Starr-Jordan, a leader in our reform moyement; Dr. Keppel, once dean of Columbia College, who understood New Zealand as few have done; and more recently Professor Nevins; faculty members who came as visiting lecturers; student debating teams and to-day students and faculty members serving with the United States forces.

"We have had help from endowed corpora-tions who have provided travelling and research fellowships. A few New Zealand graduates have served in the United States, for instance, Dr. Maclaurin, formerly head of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. I myself am

one of those who, as a visiting professor, owe much to your hospitality. Such intercourse be-tween our institutions has increased and we would recommend exchanges of staff and students and any other means of promoting more intimate relations.

"One step taken to promote a better understanding between our two peoples is American history compulsory in our freshman history programme.

"May our common outlook on the many problems of this tortured generation, a result in part of our common ancestry, grow in clarity partnership in the war against ignorance and tyranny.

"I conclude this message of grateful acknow-ledgment with the warmest fraternal greetings from this university."

Mr. Bogle's contribution was as follows:

"Calling President Nicholas Butler and students of Columbia University and students

"I am sending you good wishes from New Zealand and news of what New Zealand students are doing and thinking about the war. The war has taken away most of our senior students. Those senior men who remained are mainly students of science, engineering, or medicine. In spite of this the attendance at our universities has grown. In my college there has been an increase of about 30 per cent. since the war began. Enthusiasm for student activities other than studies fell at the beginning of the war, but has since risen.

"Students who have not entered the armed forces have raised money for international student relief by means of student work days. Also, the profits from our annual extravaganza performances have Fone to swell patriotic funds.

"Although I am not an official spokesman I think I can speak for New Zealand students. We hope that after the war there will be free education up to any stage for all who merit it. We hope that victory will not be only for our common good, but for the good of all

"As members of a university we are particularly concerned with the preservation of freedom of speech and freedom of thought—in short, with the freedom of the human spirit."

(continued from previous page)

somewhere - here a flood, there a drought, elsewhere locusts. Hence, to replace and to improve transport is essential. It is in the Japanese-occupied north that interference with agriculture has of course been worst. So there, lands burnt out, or flooded by the Chinese themselves, will have to be reclaimed and the foreign-type seed got in. That means the difference between a good crop and a mediocre one. However, it is the rice-eating south that is worst off. Though much less ravaged, it needed, even in peace, imports to keep it fed. Despite the proverb that 'It is better to let your revered grandmother starve than to eat your seed wheat,' seed stocks will have to come from outside. Buffaloes for ploughing have been grabbed by the armies, overworked, or killed for food. Tools have not been replaced. Our Agricultural Rehabilitation Programme is preparing what its name implies."

"And refugees?" asked The Listener.

"Directing refugees," said the delegate, "39 million in Europe, perhaps 60 million in China, will almost certainly be UNRRA's biggest job. We are preparing health inspectors, and rest treatments, identification procedures and transit camps. The channels and the filters must all be ready, against the day when the political dams break and this flood bursts over two continents."

Items From The ZB's

FOR several years Lou Vernon has portrayed Doctor Mac, the Scottish country doctor with an ever-ready hand for those who need it and a keen understanding of human nature. Doctor Mac is returning to the air, to be heard every Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening at 9 o'clock. Starting dates are: 1ZB and 3ZB, March 24; 2ZB, April 5; 4ZB, April 3; and 2ZA, April

"AUNT DAISY" has been presenting a series of talks over the ZB stations on her impressions of America for some months now. These have been heard on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 10.45 a.m. in place of "Big Sister," which has temporarily been broadcast on only two days a week. From March 30 this serial will revert to its normal five-days-a-week presentation.

"HYMNS OF ALL CHURCHES." which was presented by 2ZB on Tuesday evenings at 10 o'clock, has now been succeeded by "Your Hymns and Mine," a programme which contains popular hymns of to-day and yesterday, introduced by brief descriptive passages.

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