

EIGHT YEARS WITH THE ZB's

AFTER eight years' service, K. W. Kilpatrick, national programme organiser of the Commercial Division of the NBS, has resigned, to go into business on his own account as a publicity and organising specialist. Before leaving the Service he was presented with an office desk from the Director, executives, and members of the staff of the division, the presentation being made by the acting-Director, W. Yates.

Mr. Kilpatrick has seen 2ZB grow from the time when the typists had to use boxes for chairs, and he has been in charge of many notable outside broadcasts. He did excellent work as a member of the War Publicity Committee, of which the Hon. D. Wilson (now New Zealand Minister in Ottawa) was originally chairman, and his war publicity work generally has been outstanding.

He recalls many quaint incidents during his eight years with the NBS, notably a visit to the ship Dominion Monarch, when technicians and announcer went on board to do a broadcast. They were met by an angry captain who asked: "What the — are you doing on my ship?" The announcer said: "Ladies and gentlemen, you will now hear a few words from the master of this fine vessel," and held the microphone in front of the captain who, entering into the fun of the

thing, made an excellent speech of welcome.

Mr. Kilpatrick was in charge of 2ZB broadcasts at the Centennial Celebrations, and the broadcast of the Waitangi celebrations, and he has seen the commercial service grow to the eighth birthday of 2ZB recently.

Mr. Yates, speaking for the staff, offered Mr. Kilpatrick best wishes for a successful future in his new enterprise.



K. W. KILPATRICK

MAINLY BALLAST

WHEN William the Conqueror landed in England, the story goes, he fell, but turned the accident to good purpose by clutching a handful of English soil as an omen of success. Whether his success was brought on by the power of the soil we are not in a position to say, but it could be true to say that every Englishman since has held English soil as a power to be protected at all costs, and the traditional handful is enough to stir him to rousing patriotism.

Of course this handful of soil business does not belong to the English only. All races hold their soil sacred. Orthodox Jews go so far as to carry soil from Jerusalem with them, so that when they are buried their remains may keep the bond with their homeland.

Our interest, however, is much more local. Some ships which arrived a few

months ago from England came "in ballast" in the old meaning of the term. To-day a ship in ballast is one which carries no paying-cargo. In modern vessels the place of ballast is taken by water-tanks, which are filled more or less as required to trim the ship as the fuel is used up, but in the days of sailing ships the vessels were so top heavy that they required a good quantity of ballast to keep them righted. Ballast in those days was anything from stones to bones. But these ships which arrived recently in Wellington carried Bristol sand and Plymouth mud, and the city authorities took the opportunity to build up a city beach with Bristol sand. The Plymouth mud was dumped outside the harbour. But the matter went further than that. Nostalgic people in New Zealand who still call England home, started carrying the beach away in their anxiety to obtain a handful of English soil, and action had to be taken to prevent that.

Curiously enough the arrival of this sand completes a cycle that was begun in the 19th century. In those days the ships that arrived in New Zealand came heavily laden, and the ships that returned to England needed a good load of ballast to make them stable. To-day, because of the war, the ships which arrive here sometimes have very small cargoes and carry ballast. It is the returning ship which is heavily laden with cargo (sometimes human). In a "Wellington Almanac" for 1866 we came upon this advertisement by George Houghton, Lighterman, etc. "Shipping supplied with stone and shingle ballast. Fresh water on hand." And more recently we read in a Wellington newspaper about a Captain Williams whose vessels brought coal to New Zealand and returned loaded with ballast taken from a site in what is now upper Willis Street, Wellington.

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CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL

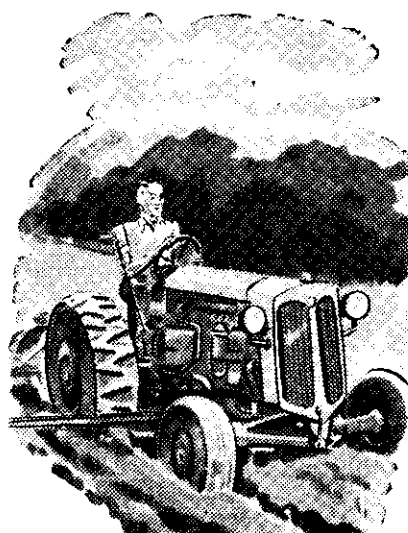
The following programme will be broadcast to Correspondence School pupils by 2YA, and re-broadcast by 1YA, 3YA, 4YA, 2YH, 3ZR and 4YZ.

TUESDAY, MAY 22

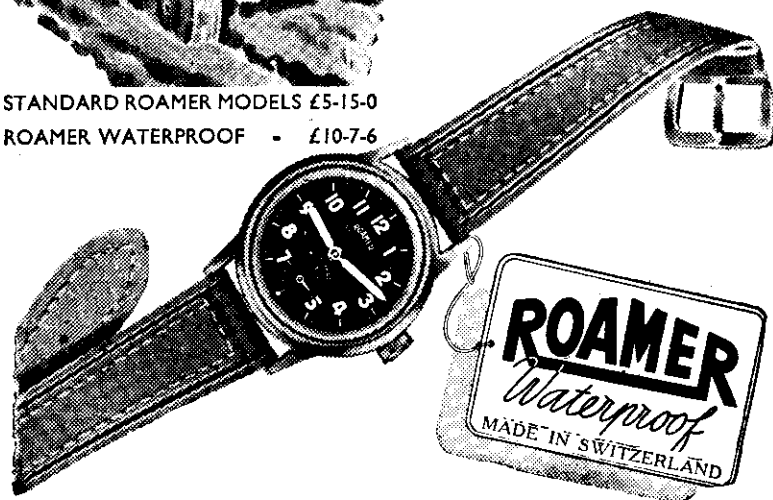
- 9. 5 a.m. Miss M. Armour: *Storytime for Little People.*
- 9. 13 Mr. A. D. Priestley: *Story-writers All.*
- 9. 21 Miss M. M. Neill: "Kapiti—An Island Sanctuary."

FRIDAY, MAY 25

- 9. 4 a.m. Miss R. C. Beckway: *Musical Appreciation: The Dance Suite.*
- 9. 14 Visiting Teachers: *A Cheerio.*
- 9. 22 Lt.-Col. T. Orde Lees: *Other Lands (1).*



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