

HIGHLIGHTS ON THE SHORTWAVE BAND

Australian Overseas Services

FROM "Radio Australia" Melbourne, the Australian Overseas Shortwave Services may be heard in English on the frequencies and at times mentioned below. The programmes include news bulletins on local events, as well as news on world affairs:

Programme to North America, 12.30 p.m. - 1.50 p.m.: VLC9, 17.84 m/c, 16.82 metres.

Programme to the Forces, 2.0 p.m. - 4.0 p.m.: VLA6, 15.2 m/c, 19.74 metres (Saturday, 2.0 p.m. - 7.30 p.m. for sports); VLG6, 15.23 m/c, 19.69 metres; VLC4, 15.315 m/c, 19.59 metres.

Programme to North America, 5.0 p.m. - 5.45 p.m.: VLC4, 15.32 m/c, 19.59 metres; VLG4, 11.84 m/c, 25.34 metres.

Programme to Great Britain, 7.0 p.m. - 8.15 p.m.: VLC11, 15.21 m/c, 19.72 metres; VLA4, 11.77 m/c, 25.49 metres.

Headlines in the Programmes:

Magazine of the Week - - 7.15 p.m., Sunday, VLA4.
 Australian Newsreel - - - 7.15 p.m., Saturday, VLC11.
 Australian Newsreel - - - 5.25 p.m., Sunday, VLC4.
 Review of Economic News - 8.0 p.m., Friday, VLC11.
 Sporting Round-up - - - 5.0 p.m., Thursday, VLC4.
 Sports Results - - - 8.35 p.m., Saturday, VLA4.

News Bulletins may be heard at the following times: 1.30 p.m., VLC9; 2.00 p.m., VLA6; 3.00 p.m., VLG6; 5.15 p.m., VLC4; 7.30 p.m., VLA4; 9.00 p.m., VLA4; 11.00 p.m., VLA4.

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modesty and freshness of his own adventures as a war-time tourist who never lost an opportunity of seeing a new place. His book is illustrated by some good architectural photographs.

—David Hall.

THE WEATHER

I PREDICT A STORM. By P. H. Jones. Printed for the author by the Gage Publishing Co. Ltd.

MR. JONES may predict a storm, but this book will hardly provoke it. Yet provocation is his avowed purpose. He opens fire on the accepted authorities on the first page of his first chapter, is still firing on the last page of his last chapter, and can't resist one final shot into space in the appendix. It is no doubt good for the authorities, but it is very bad for Mr. Jones, and a little wearisome for the neutral reader. Mr. Jones's grievance is that the Meteorological Office ignores him. Well nobody would like being ignored after making 63,875 personal observations over a period of 25 years, but Mr. Jones strains the imagination when he says that his methods are not known to the official meteorologists "or they would not keep on making the same blunders." His zeal may be unknown, his patience, his painfully acquired weather sense, but if his methods are unknown it can only be because he has not succeeded very well in demonstrating their value. He begins an exposition, but is as likely to wander off on a side-track as to go on with the lesson. Take Chapter 7, for example: "Otago Observations." He begins with a joke about Dunedin weather, goes on to say that "the late A. C. Hanlon discussed weather problems with me one afternoon until well after office hours," explains how he discovered "about this time" a very simple method of charting the complete history of a storm on one graph, met Sir Hubert Wilkins, missed a chance of getting one of his Predictors "to the Pole with Byrd," found a terminological inexactitude in a work compiled by a world authority, and finally quotes "a remarkable result achieved at Tarras, Central Otago," by

an amateur using the same method as his own. There may be an importance in all this that other amateurs cannot detect, but on the face of things it suggests that Mr. Jones, who sets out to be a thorn in the flesh of the orthodox, succeeds only in making it clear why the Weather Office goes on ignoring him.

OVER THE HILLS AND FAR AWAY

TARARUA STORY. Edited by B. D. A. Greig. Tararua Tramping Club (Inc.), Wellington.

THIS slightly belated Silver Jubilee publication of the major Wellington tramping club is an ambitious production, embellished by superb mountain photographs, well printed, and competently written too, from the poem by Paula Hanger (my pick from the verses included) to the sober, matter-of-fact accounts of the Club's historians. The peculiar idioms of the mountaineer have their place in this narrative of many-sided achievement, but they do not dwindle into a jargon. It is primarily a record of good fellowship, in the hills and out of them. Founded by sensible men, the Club has been lucky in attracting a succession of men and women capable of carrying on its well-balanced, friendly tradition, always alert to break new ground but never deserting the old. The Club's activities include bush travel, alpine climbing, skiing, and simple rambling, a school of friendship of —

The mountain bivouac and the bathing beach;
 Where incidents draw every day from each Memorable gesture and witty speech.

Safe and efficient travellers in their own bush country (just as difficult to navigate and live in as more glamorous regions further afield), the Tararuas' ambitions were never bounded by their title, and the reader is amazed at the width of experience of places and peaks they have built up over the years. The Club has nursed the first steps of many fine mountaineers, and this volume is a graceful reminder of how much a strong club can do to encourage respect and love for the hills and a deeper understanding of nature and human nature.

—D.O.W.H.

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