meal, the climax being a discussion about Bucephalus, the steed of Alexander the Great. The question of the colour of the horse is argued from every angle, and obstinacy in maintaining her point nearly costs Catherine her head. The play ends without any agreement on the vexed question. Maurice Baring wrote a number of dialogues between notable personages of history, none of them remotely accurate as to fact, most of them caustically witty, and any of them suitable for broadcasting. May I suggest them to the talents of the NBS players? And, by the way, will some savant please tell me the colour of Alexander's horse?

# Count Your Blessings

JOHN REID'S Radio at Your Service programme from 2YA was one that demanded, and at first impression merited, attention. Mr. Reid is gifted as a programme organiser-he can take odd chunks of unmalleable material and rivet them into a programme with coherence and force, liberally decorated with wit. Though this type of process does not make for a quiet half-hour, it probably did us good to be stirred out of our post-prandial stupor and become a target for lumps of embryonic radio material. But when the tumult and the shouting had died, the technicians, the programme organisers, the men up the pole at Titahi, and all the other dramatic personae had taken their bow and departed, it was good to hear the soothing strains of the music preceding Big Ben. The programme certainly succeeded in its minor aim of giving us some idea of the processes which must function perfectly before even the simplest item can be put on the air. But assuming its major aim was to celebrate ten successful years of broadcasting by the NBS, a short résumé of memorable broadcasts would have been more likely to arouse feelings of gratitude in the listener than a programme which was largely an appeal to us to be thankful to the NBS for such small mercies as getting serial episodes in their right order and employing announcers who don't blow into the mike.

## Candy from a Kid

IT'S a truism that the chaps in this year's First XV. are nowhere near the size of the men we used to play with, nor would the puny teams who oppose them have scored a single try against the heroes of '28. So it is when the ex-quiz kid looks back on the old session. Surely

announcers were sterner and questions tougher in the days when we carned our shilling-and-a-free-clean in the Give - It - a - Name Jackpots? Or is it, merely, as in the case of the old school, that our standards have changed? The



former explanation is the more flattering, and has the added merit of being backed by the facts. In last Monday's session sponsor and announcer were obviously joined in an unnatural alliance to get rid of the cash as fast as possible. (1/- and a free clean for knowing who was the outlaw of Sherwood Forest.) Special coaching was provided for any candidate not immediately responsive to the question. (One candidate, asked the American author of Strange Interlude and Anna Christie, was told that it was an Irish name, that it began with something apostrophe, that it began with O'). Another competitor earned plaudits and

meal, the climax being a discussion prize money with his third guess.) The about Bucephalus, the steed of Alexandidate who, in spite of the facilities, ander the Great. The question of the muffed his shot, must undoubtedly have colour of the horse is argued from every felt that he had betrayed not only himangle, and obstinacy in maintaining her self but the spirit of the thing.

## Orson Welles Declaims

'A MERICAN Tradition" from 4ZB, proves to be a collection of speeches by famous Presidents of the United States, admirably declaimed by Orson Welles. Whether Jefferson and Lincoln actually sounded like that is something we are unable to vouch for, but there would be many who could compare Welles's imitation of Wilson with remembered speeches by Wilson himself. and as far as New Zealand listeners are concerned there are thousands of us to whom the memory of Franklin D. Roosevelt's voice is immediately present. Welles does not, in these recordings, make the mistake of over-simulating resemblance to the original style of Roosevelt's oratory, but nevertheless vividly suggests the manner of the great man; and without over-acting, his presenta-tions of addresses by Jefferson, Lincoln, Wilson, and Roosevelt sounded like addresses by four different speakers. This broadcast lasted a full half-hour, and in none of the speeches was there any lightening of the sombre mood; I wonder how many of the ZB stations' regular listeners would continue to listen after the first ten minutes or so?

#### Music's Fourth Dimension

T still happens that the relay of a musical performance from a concerthall is often far more lively than a studio broadcast. The Lyric Harmonists' Choir usually broadcasts from the studios of 1YA, but on Saturday, July 20, the first half of the programme was relayed from the Concert Chamber of the Town Hall. Music has loudness and softness, it has pitch and the spatial relationships of time; but it has also a fourth dimension. This is depth, a sort of perspective which gives music the quality of hovering in aura! space. Call it, if you like, liveliness. Technically the relay of the Lyric Harmonists was good in this respect, but its pleasantness was somewhat diminished by a certain uniformity of tonecolour. This may have been due to levelling up on the control panel or again it may have been due to over-enthusiasm on the part of the choir. Apart from this the choir sang a well-varied and interesting programme with an acceptable interlude by the Moya Cooper-Smith String Quartet in two movements from Haydn's "Emperor" Quartet.

### New Winter Course From 3YA

WINTER Gourse Talks from Station 3YA, Christchurch, have been arranged by the NBS for Monday evenings as follows: August 19 and 26, "Modern Music" by Ernest Jenner; September 2, "Cathedral Choirs and Church Music," by C. Foster Browne, organist and choirmaster at Christchurch Cathedral; September 9 and 16, "Industrial Engineering" by Professor R. J. Rastrick, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, Canterbury University College; September 23 and 30, "Words and Thinking, Emotion and Thinking" by Professor I. L. G. Sutherland, Professor of Philosophy, Canterbury University College; October 7, "Conditions in Other Lands—France" by Gordon Troup, liaison officer between Canterbury College and the secondary schools; October 14, "Italy" by N. C. Phillips, M.A.; October 21, "America" by A. W. Stockwell, M.A., B.Sc., and October 28, "Sweden," by Mrs. A. M. Mason.



"Old Father William"-with analogies to Lewis Carroll and Sir John Tennie.

"Gee whiz," said the Youth, "how the porters all stare. At the way you jump into a train.

At the way you jump into a train, Having run down the platform with baggage and all They fear it will injure your brain."

"You should see me jump out," Father William replied, "I never can wait for the halt.

The reason, of course, as I told you before-

'Steady Nerve', through this wonderful Salt."

It's Andrews Liver Salt that Father William refers to. Andrews is a gentle but effective aid to good health for all the family. Whenever you feel your system needs it, take a glass of sparkling Andrews. Children, especially, like bubbling, sparkling, effervescing Andrews Liver Salt. Keep a tin of Andrews handy.



# ANDREWS LIVER

The Pleasant Effervescing Laxative
Scott & Turner Ltd., Andrews House, Newcastle-on-Tyne, England.

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