

"Come Christmas the Morn"

(3YA, Christmas Eve, 7.52 p.m.)

A SHORT programme by two musicians who are well known to Christchurch listeners—Myra Thomson (soprano, and narrator), and H. G. Glaysher (harpist). Myra Thomson will sing the old English carol "This Endris Night" (which means "The other night"), the Swedish carol "A Yule Feast," and the French carol "There Came a Little Stranger"; and Mr. Glaysher will play his own variations for harp on a Christmas carol.

"The Oldest Christmas Story"

(2YN, Christmas Day, 7.6 p.m.)

THIS is a recording by Charles Laughton of the story of the Nativity according to Saint Luke. It will also be heard from 3YA the Saturday after Christmas (December 28) at 8.52 p.m., together with Laughton's reading from St. Matthew of the story of the Magi.

A Reading for Christmas

(3YL, Christmas Day, 7.0 p.m.)

THIS reading will be given from the studio by Robert Newman. It will include "A Christmas Carol," by S. T. Coleridge, two extracts from Washington Irving's "Old Christmas," a piece

from *Juvenilia*, by George Wither, and this little anonymous rhyme:

Now Christmas is come,
Let us beat up the drum,
And call all our neighbours together;
And when they appear
Let us make them such cheer
As will keep out the wind and the weather.

The Plot to Overthrow Christmas

(4YZ, Christmas Day, 10.30 a.m.)

THIS was written by Norman Corwin for broadcasting at Christmas, 1944, and the recordings arrived here a few months later. It was heard during 1945, and repeated last Christmas. A good deal of it is in rhymed verse, and there is abundance of curious noises, particularly in scenes associated with the Devil.

Ode, on the Morning of Christ's Nativity

(2YA, Christmas Day, 11.0 a.m.)

A READING by Allen Curnow. Milton wrote this poem in 1629; his 21st birthday fell on December 9 in the same year. Mr. Curnow, who has published several books of verse, has broadcast before, from Station 3YA. In 1943 he read his poem "Landfall in Unknown Seas" (written for the Tercentenary of Tasman's discovery of these islands), with accompanying music by Douglas Lilburn.

From The Commercial Stations

AT first glance the ZB Christmas programmes appear to contain no elaborate plans. But here and there will be found seasonal sessions, coupled with occasional outdoor and special studio arrangements to entertain in the traditional way. We have not yet gained the confidence of the Weather Presentation Personality sufficiently to be able to say whether it will be fine or wet in Hokianga or Harihari, but we can assume that a radio set will not be far away, whether the family is sunbathing or huddling round the fireside.

Auckland's commercial station, 12B, has arranged a choral programme for nine o'clock on Christmas morning, featuring the Green Lane Congregational Sunday School Choir, whose main works will be descant arrangements of *Noel* and *Adeste Fideles*. Then at 4.0 p.m. there will be half an hour of old and new carols by the Auckland Baptist Tabernacle Choir, conducted by R. R. Wilson. This choir (of 50 voices) will present compositions by Vaughan Williams, Martin Shaw, Gustav Holst and C. H. Parry. On Wednesday, December 18, there will be a pre-Christmas feature. Members of the Old People's Association will be entertained by the 12B Orchestra and other artists in the Auckland Town Hall from 1.0 to 3.30, as a Christmas goodwill greeting to the aged.

Maori Programme from 3ZB

Station 22B Wellington will mark the start of Christmas Day broadcasting with 15 minutes of Christmas hymns recorded by the Victor Chapel Choir at 9 a.m., and at 11.30 a.m. the Petone Ladies' Choir will give a special presentation. At 5.0 p.m. listeners will hear a repetition of Norman Corwin's *One World* broadcast made on his arrival in New Zealand a few weeks ago.

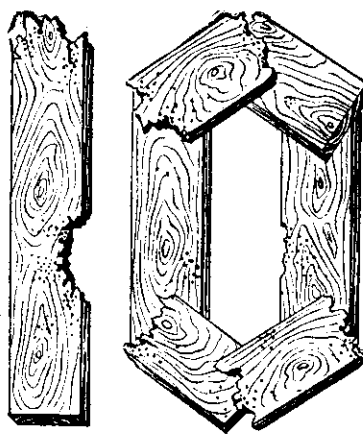
At nine o'clock on Christmas morning the Wellington Watersiders' Junior

Band, now touring the South Island, will give from 3ZB a half-hour presentation of excerpts from *Messiah*. A special feature, *Te Reo o te Waipounamu*, a session of greeting to Maori listeners, will be conducted by Irene Grennell at 6.15 p.m., and at 6.45 p.m. the Australian baritone, Allan Eddy, will sing a bracket of festive season songs. The programme will also include a half-hour session entitled *Pages From Our 1946 Scrapbook*, featuring outstanding items handled by 3ZB during the year. For some days before Christmas Santa Claus will take up his stance in the studio, and ice-cream and soft drinks will be an accompaniment to items.

Verse-Speaking in Dunedin

A choir of nurses from the Dunedin Hospital will open Station 42B's Christmas Day at 9.30 a.m. with a recorded selection of its regular Christmas Eve hospital entertainment, *Carols by Candlelight*. At 1.0 p.m. a half-hour programme of carols linked with verses, will be given by the 42B Choristers conducted by Anita Oliver. Peter Dawson, compère of the Children's Session, will conduct an hour of Christmas items beginning at 5.0 p.m., and at 6.45 p.m. a new poem by Kathleen Healey, *It Came to Pass*, will be heard. This will be a half-hour programme with the lines spoken by Jessie McLennan, assisted by a verse-speaking choir.

Palmerston North's commercial station 22A will herald Christmas Day at 8.15 a.m. with *Radio Santa Claus*, a commentary on Christmas in various lands with imaginary presents in the form of recordings from an imaginary Christmas tree. The regular Christmas morning relay from the Palmerston North Hospital will come from the children's ward at 10.0 a.m., where the nurses will sing carols. Santa Claus will make a gift to each child, the Mayor will have something to say and there will be a broadcast of the voices of the children talking to the announcer.



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