story unfolds with a vividness as telling as though it had been dramatized by a company of players. The first story was the one about the clerk with homicidal tendencies who is just about to bash the boss (and has already done so, with gory consequences, in his own fertile imagination) when the victim raises his unsuspecting head to announce promotion and a rise in pay for a now thoroughly subdued and relieved employee. The second play, not quite so successful, concerned a lady who led a diffident hero through a ghostly adventure, without at any time becoming visible to him or anyone else. J. Jefferson Farieon's stories and plays are meant to be heard; his stuff does not read so well--I remember being unutterably bored with the famous "No. 17" when I read it, although I am told it has quite a different effect in dramatic form. The success of these two readings will, I hope, encourage the NZBS to give us more of the samea well-read story is hereby proven to be equal in appeal to a well-done play; and since the story requires less team-work in its preparation, we may presume it to be so much the easier in production.

Congratulations!

C. GORDON GLOVER'S play, Farewell, Captain Jacoby, heard lately from 4YA, was something new and interesting enough to arrest the listener's attention from its very beginning. The not-so-new idea which formed its theme (the ordinary man presenting a false

that the characters come to life and the front to the world) was, after all, not the most important thing in the play. I should imagine this author is capable of dealing in the same arresting manner with any given plot. What made it different from the ordinary run of radio plays was the style, vivid and typical of radio, in which it was written. Indeed. the whole thing was intrinsically excellent radio, obviously conceived as a play to be heard, unlike many radio plays which seem to have been written with one eye on the stage. This play, done by the NZBS, was very well produced; the voices were just right, the timing of what might be described as "aural mon-tage" was also just right. From the moment when we were introduced to the 'gentleman" standing before his mirror, tying that unforgettable bold blue tie, throughout the whole sad unfolding of his pitiful and pretentious tale, to the bitter-sweet ending of the little masquerade, there was scarcely a false note or a jarring accent (save perhaps the playing of the Debussy, which may have been a trifle beyond the appetite of musical Ealing - wouldn't Chopin have suited the occasion better?). The number of voices, the rapidity with which they followed each other, in the manner of a modern "chorus," all might have resulted in confusion for the listener had not the voices been so carefully selected for timbre, pitch, and accent. Altogether this was a refreshing play to find in the programmes, and the NZBS production unit is to be congratulated on a successful job well done.

Programme Notes from ZB's

ROOKERY NOOK will be heard for the first time over 1ZB on Friday, May 9, at 7.15 p.m. The Ben Travers comedy has been produced by the Clem Dawe company, and it is said to be as funny over the air as it was on the stage and the screen. Station 2ZB listeners heard the first episode on Friday, April 25. Station 3ZB will present the show on Friday, May 23, and it will go to Palmerston North and Dunedin later this month.

STORY of English life, Scarlet A STORY of English me, 22B on Harvest, which started at 1ZB on 2ZB Tuesday, April 29, will open at 2ZB on Tuesday, May 6, at 8.30 p.m., to be heard thereafter on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Station 3ZB will present it later. The tale, which concerns three generations, starts in late Victorian times and ends on VE Day. It has a long cast of characters and uses almost every dramatic device from blackmail and murder to pure romance.

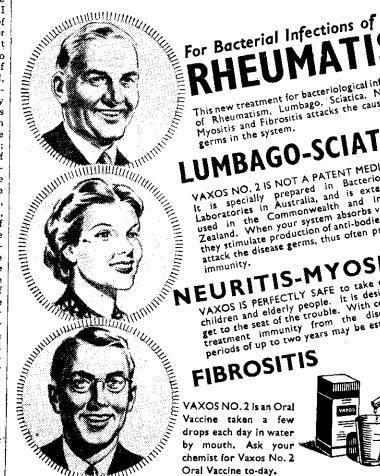
THIS ACTUALLY HAPPENED, which is replacing History's Unsolved Mysteries, is a radio dramatization of unusual and sometimes little-known facts. It had its first broadcast from 2ZB on April 20, and will be heard from the other four Commercial stations this Sunday, May 4. Listening times are: 1ZB, 9.0 p.m.; 2ZB, 8.0 p.m.; 3ZB, 7.0 p.m.; 4ZB, 8.0 p.m., and 2ZA, 3.0 p.m. This feature is scheduled as a regular Sunday item from now on.

THIS Sunday, May 4, a series of album recordings by Orson Welles, of great speeches, will start at the Commercial stations. Station 2ZB will lead off at



ORSON WELLES Athens to Gettysburg

9.45 p.m. The first three (to be heard in one session) are the funeral oration of Pericles, the meditative essay of John Donne, No Man is an Island, and Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. On Sunday, May 11, the first series will be heard from 1ZB, while 2ZB will present the second, comprising Emile Zola, the French novelist, on Truth and Justice (one of his speeches in defence of Dreyfus), John Brown's On Behalf of the Despised Poor, and Liberty and Union. by Daniel Webster, American statesman and lawver.



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