

rushed from A to Z of a musical dictionary—well-illustrated, certainly, but still only a dictionary—when they might be enjoying a reasonably comprehensive course in elementary musical appreciation. This is a programme with excellent intentions, and one that could be interesting and valuable to those who find their appreciation of music restricted by their lack of rudimentary knowledge of its technicalities.

For Southern Listeners

A SERIES of talks prepared by Florrie Hogarth, and given from 4YA, has been dealing with *The Blue Pool of Wakatipu*. The very name of this series has a nostalgic effect on any listener who has ever spent a holiday in and about Wakatipu and the surrounding country; and these talks, treating of life in the old days, would appeal to all types of listener interested in the region, whether tourist, country shopkeeper, farmer, or mountaineer. With the centenary of Otago coming next year, such talks, full of anecdotes, reminiscences of place and person, historical facts, and description of social life and customs, are the very thing southerners require to help them to a further knowledge of their own province. Broadcasting will be of inestimable service during the centennial year, when we expect to be overwhelmed with historical celebrations. Let us hope that the historical material broadcast will have the atmosphere, the interest, and the humour shown by the writer of these talks.

Speaking of the Weather

AN interesting talk on "Weather and Climate" was given from 4YA by G. D. A. Anderson, M.A., education officer at the Otago Museum. I confess that when I listen to the Weather Report myself, it is with little real knowledge of its purport. Waves of pressure, cyclones and anti-cyclones, deep depressions, cold fronts, and so on, mean little to me; even to the details of the local weather I listen with half an ear, not really believing that a man up there in Wellington can tell me whether to take my coat to-morrow when I walk up Princes Street (being a Dunedinite, I always take it, wet or fine, "just in case"). But Mr. Anderson, with a few words, set me right about the matter. After I had heard him explaining the different cloud-types, the peculiarities of local climate, and some methods of observation, I felt that I could easily become my own weather-caster, dispensing forever with those unreliable people up in Wellington. After the talk was over, I went outside, observed the types of clouds, the possibility of a halo round the moon, the approximate velocity of the wind, and the position of the needle in the barometer. According to my forecast, we were in for bad weather, and possibly snow. Sure enough, that was exactly what happened. However, I take no credit to myself—as a friend remarked, any Dunedinite could have forecast snow in July!

Bravo!

THE appearance in Dunedin of the National Orchestra under the baton of the Dunedin-born conductor, Warwick Braithwaite, was a glorious occasion for audiences at the concerts, who greeted players and conductor with vociferous enthusiasm. The usual reserve which characterises the Dunedinite had entirely vanished, and no one who attended the concerts could help but thrill to the keen and tense expectancy of the occasion. Not only the conductor and

the orchestra, but the audiences also, were on top of their form, and the result was memorable music-making. That the ice-bound breast of the Dunedin music-lover can melt in an ecstasy of appreciation has been proved on but few occasions, I am afraid; the visit of the Boyd Neel Orchestra was one such occasion, the visit of Warwick Braithwaite another. Before Dunedin audiences retreat into the crab-like shell of wary indifference, let them take stock of the situation, and realise that what is chiefly needed to transform a good performance into a grand one is the warm-hearted attitude of the listeners. The best musicians are waiting to bring good music to us; let us extend to future visitors, when they deserve it, the magnificent welcome accorded to the two orchestras we have just heard.

Characters from Dickens

I HAVE listened now to several items in the BBC series on *Dickens Characters* and have found them very good entertainment—and very good Dickens. Such jewels as Dick Swiveller and Mr. Micawber have been plucked almost whole from their settings, without losing any of their original brilliance. But the best to date, I think, has been Sam Weller ("Do you spell it with a V or a W?" inquired the judge. "That depends upon the taste and fancy of the speller," replied Sam. "I never had occasion to spell it more than once or twice in my life, but I spells it with a 'V.'") All the rich humour of the Cockney dialect, which may be missed in reading is brought out in this radio version—the interchange of V's and W's which



Dickens lavished so gleefully on Sam's speech is recorded with faithful extravagance. But perhaps the success of this particular character lies as much in Dickens's original portrayal of him, as in the BBC's. Having renewed my acquaintance with him, I can well understand how the introduction of Sam Weller in the fifth episode of the serial brought instant popularity to the *Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club*, and success to the young reporter who created him.

MASTERTON HOSPITAL VACANCIES FOR STUDENT NURSES

There are vacancies at the Masterton Hospital for candidates of good education over the age of 18 years for training in accordance with the requirements of the Nurses and Midwives Registration Board. Salaries payable are in accordance with scale rates and uniforms including shoes and stockings are provided. For the use of the Nursing Staff there are tennis and basketball courts and a swimming bath. Forms of application may be obtained from the Matron.



* THE ONE AND ONLY *

Copley's Knitting Wools

Copley's is English Knitting Wool of superlative quality, clear uniform colour, and excellent texture. Supplies of Copley's cannot as yet meet the demand but regular shipments are arriving, and wools of such quality are worth searching and perhaps waiting for.

Copley's Knitting Instruction leaflets and Copley's Wools are available at better stores throughout New Zealand.



If you can't obtain Copley's Wools write to: "Copley's," P.O. Box 828, Wellington, for name of your nearest stockist.

L. COPLEY-SMITH & SONS LIMITED, MANCHESTER, ENGLAND.