

## WAY FOR A SAILER! New Seafaring Series from ZB's

EVERY country set in encircling seas owes its human history to ships. The early Polynesians carried history to New Zealand in their canoes; the white pioneers brought more, and in ships two generations of their descendants have exported it. There is, then, no family in New Zealand which has not some connection with the sea. So that the younger generation may have a better idea of the great part ocean navigation has played in shaping men's lives Francis M. Renner, of Wellington, will start next Monday, November 10, a series of recorded talks from 1ZB under the general title *Windjammer*. These sessions, which will be heard on Mondays and Wednesdays at 5.0 p.m., will last for several months. *Windjammer* will begin at 2ZB on November 17, at 3ZB on November 24, and at 4ZB on December 1.

The ground to be covered will be the development of sailing ships since about 1840, with factual anecdotes about tea clippers, the Western Ocean packets, the Downeasters, the cargo-carriers of the early 20th Century, the Colonial clippers, and the nitrate ships, of which the Pamir, now bound for London round Cape Horn, is one.

Each episode will describe some particular vessel, with stories about the famous skippers who were responsible for wresting the speed riband of the seas from the Americans, who at one stage held the supremacy in sail. The races between the Thermopylae and the Cutty Sark, most famous of the China clippers, will be included, and there will, as well, be descriptions of many famous feats of seamanship, of mutinies, and other adventures on the high seas, and of the hardships endured by the crews of the old whaling ships.

When he was a boy Francis Renner left Wellington as a member of the crew of the three-masted barque Antiope, which, on her maiden voyage, made a remarkable run from Liverpool to Melbourne in 61 days. He joined when the Antiope was under the command of Captain James Broadhouse, who had his wife, son and daughter with him, for a trip to Rotterdam, via Cape

Horn. After that he came ashore and was in business for 20 years.

Early in the recent war Renner joined the crew of the Pamir, doing six voyages in her up and down the Pacific. He became bosun's mate, bosun and finally third officer. Now he is in business in Wellington again. He is not new to the microphone, for he has given several talks on the sea for the National stations, and has written two plays around seafaring which have been broadcast. During the recent war he wrote radio scripts for the American Office of War Information on the Pamir and her history.



FRANCIS M. RENNER  
History was the first import

## "THE JADE MOUNTAIN"

Bryan O'Brien Writes New  
Serial for Children

PIXIES, elves, gnomes, fairies and other Little People, and Toby and Janie, a small boy and girl, are the principal characters in a new children's serial, written by Bryan O'Brien and to be heard between now and Christmas from the ZB stations. Called *The Jade Mountain*, the new serial is in 16 quarter-hour episodes in which fantasy and natural history are pleasantly blended. Recorded music has been used in the main to accent the theme, but several songs were composed especially for the serial by Bryan O'Brien. The two main characters, Toby and Janie, are played by Terry Brown and Judith McDonald, of Wellington.

*The Jade Mountain* which began at 1ZB on Thursday, October 30, will be heard on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 6.30 p.m. until the final episode on Christmas Eve. At 2ZB the serial will begin on Friday, November 14, at 5.15 p.m., and will be heard on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays until December 19. Tuesday, November 18, will be the opening date at 4ZB where the serial will be heard on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 4.45 p.m. until December 20.

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*They Sail at Sunrise*. Here there are dual heroes—a rat and a platypus, who go voyaging after strange adventures, and find them among mermaids, green witches, and kings and princesses in *The Land of Heart's Desire*. This is much more orthodox fantasy than the other story, but both Ratty and Platty have an independent, matter-of-fact manner which is, perhaps, accounted for by their Australian origin. Again, a number of illustrations, this time by Joan Turner, embellish the story.

NEW ZEALAND LISTENER, NOVEMBER 7

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