



N.Z. Agents: S. A. Smith & Co. Ltd., Albert St. Auckland



for all common ailments of throat & mouth. At all Chemists

Australasian Agents: BENGER-GENATOSAN PTY. LTD. 350 George Street, Sydney.





Take my advice... get some

OINTMEN BRAND

RECKITT & COLMAN (New Zealand) Ltd., Pharmacoutical Division, BOND STREET,

DUNEDIN.

erupted was now clean

into the unhealthy skin tissue

to destroy the germs which

cause or aggravate the trouble.

Dettol Cintment contains in

active form the germicidal

principle of the 'Dettol' Antiseptic.

ACROSS THE TABLE

(continued from previous page)

Governments of the Western democracies had learned that in the national interests they must censor the Press in war-time, relations of a kind that would have seemed incomprehensible and indeed shocking to soldiers and statesmen of old, had been established with news-

The General's Frankness

General Robertson was very cordial and frank. He smiled as he talked and both he and his interviewers were completely at ease. He had a friendly smile; what he said was given clearly and agreeably-always easy to follow.

On such occasions there is always a touch of conventionality in compliments, but General Robertson invested his references to the New Zealanders under his command with impressive sincerity, and that touch of fact which always improves a generality. The New Zealand Fighter Squadron (No. 14), for instance, was the best in Japan, and about the best in the world. Why? Because it had been able to do a lot of training in very difficult conditions. Long, parrow and mountainous, Japan was like New Zealand, but the winds were much fiercer. Wellington, we remembered, has a bad reputation with its gusts up to 80 miles an hour, but in Japan they encounter gales up to 200 and over. Then the Y.W.C.A. The General spoke most warmly of their work, and mentioned Jean Begg, who was recently decorated, Muriel Wilson, and Phyllis Hindle.

And the work among cholera casesthere was quite a lot of cholera, and the New Zealanders had more of it to handle than any other unit in the B.C.O.F. There wasn't a single case among the New Zealanders or the rest. The explanation was discipline. The men followed their instructions strictly. With memories of what used to happen in the British Army in India-when medical science was not so advanced-one was impressed by this immunity.

The Occupation

How long would the occupation last? At least until the peace treaty was signed, and no peace treaty was in sight. The longer the occupation lasted, the better chance there was of the liberal elements in the population strengthening their position; that was the opinion of competent observers.

Did the Japanese admit defeat? A section did not. They claimed that Japan had "made peace." There were six and a-half million Japanese troops abroad when the war ended, and they had been brought home. But of these four million had never been defeated in battle. One wondered whether there was any parallel to these figures in history. Japan was beaten because she was struck at the heart, and the limbs collapsed. When General Robertson took the surrender of a Japanese admiral in the islands, he arranged that he should walk up to where the general was, past 400 yards of troops—to impress upon him that it really was a defeat.

Perhaps remembering his Mahan, and claims made for air power during and since the war, one Pressman asked if sea power had not been the ultimate base of victory against Japan. General Rob-

A number of questions were asked about the state of the people. They were very well-disciplined, said the General, and it wasn't easy to know what they really thought. But certain new influences were at work. For example, women were taking more interest in public affairs, and the work of the Y.W.C.A. units with the Army of Occupation had helped this movement. Then the Japanese worker would probably be impressed by the improvement in his working conditions. If Japan became a member of the International Labour Office, it would have to maintain the labour standards agreed on. The Japanese worker had been introduced to the 40-hour week, and he might not like to go back to the old system of a 10-hour day and a seven-day week.

Before the war, Christian Churches had been restricted in their work. What of Christianity now? The General said there were 400,000 professed Christians at the occupation, but now there were over two millions, and he thought the increase would continue.

As to fraternisation, General Robertson emphasised the barriers of language and conditions of life. There were a few wealthy people in Japan, but the mass of the nation lived on coolie level. If a foreign soldier wished to get to know the Japanese in their homes, he would first of all have to face the difficulty of a language he did not understand. Then he would find the food and the surroundings distasteful. General Robertson thought Japanese culture would make little impression on the occupying troops. True, they go to Japanese theatres — "after D-D-T-ing themselves first."

What of the Future?

Wasn't the question of room for expansion of population still unsettled? What was going to happen with a huge and growing population, and nowhere to go to? The General smiled again. "Your guess is as good as mine," said, in a frank recognition that the problem was still there. Not only was the population increasing, but he thought the increase was deliberate, and the implications of this could be seen by anyone. "There were children everywhere, and they were well-fed and healthy."

So the conference ended on a note of interrogation. In this it did not differ from a good many other conferences these days, some of them of the highest level. But the journalists came away feeling that they had learned something, and under a good teacher in a very pleasant

-Staff Reporter

PINOCCHIO AT 3ZB

PINOCCHIO, the radio serial based on the book by Carlo Coliodi, which has just started from 1ZB (at 4.30 p.m. on Sundays), will begin from 3ZB at 5.0 p.m. this Sunday, February 15, and at a later date will be heard from the other three Commercial stations. All of Pinocchio's marvellous adventures— with Papa Gepetto, the Blue Fairy, the Lame Fox, the Little White Mouse, the ertson agreed, but added that see power could only function under cover of air Fish—are vividly told in the 39 episodes of this Edward Sloman production.