

LETTERS

(Continued from Page 5)

STATEMENTS TO POLICE.

Sir,—I listened with pleasure to the NZBS play *The Man Outside* presented from 42B on Sunday, January 11, until the police inspector charged his prisoner with wilful murder and added the following caution: "I must warn you that anything you say will be taken down and used in evidence against you."

Now, Sir, this is such a frequent mistake, so often heard in plays and read in books, that I think attention should be drawn to it. As you probably know, there is a set of Judge's Rules governing the conduct of police officers. The appropriate rule (No. 5) reads as follows:

"The caution to be administered to a prisoner should . . . be in the following words: 'Do you wish to say anything in answer to the charge? You are not obliged to say anything unless you wish to do so, but whatever you say will be taken down in writing and may be used in evidence.' Care should be taken to avoid any suggestion that his answers can only be used in evidence against him, as this may prevent an innocent person making a statement which might assist to clear him of the charge."

This rule makes it plain that Inspector Blake of the NZBS play *The Man Outside* did not know the first thing about the rules governing his conduct. Surely it is not too much to ask our writers of plays and stories dealing with police work to make certain of their ground before they start to cover it? C. R. EDMOND (Dunedin).

APPEALS TO FARMERS

Sir,—I support "Hayseed's" objection to the farmer being urged to do more work. Most farmers look with contempt and ridicule on the 40-hour week people and their thinly-veiled bullying and spurious patriotism. As my contribution to patriotism I urge the 40-hour week people to do 16 hours of vegetable growing in the public parks to save importing wheat. The great Dr. Johnson said that patriotism is the last resort of the scoundrel.

PAUL NICKLINSON (Hunua).

HOWLER OR MISPRINT?

Sir,—Nice as it is to hear from A.A. and to have him poke borax at howlers in the British Parliament, it would be nicer still if he did not hoist himself so maladroitly with his own petard. Stone the crows—we cannot have the State squandering the filthy lucre it has wrung from us on writers who confuse euphuisms with euphemisms.

IGNORAMUS COLONALIS
(Dunedin).

(Misprint.—Ed).

LOCAL PLAYWRIGHT

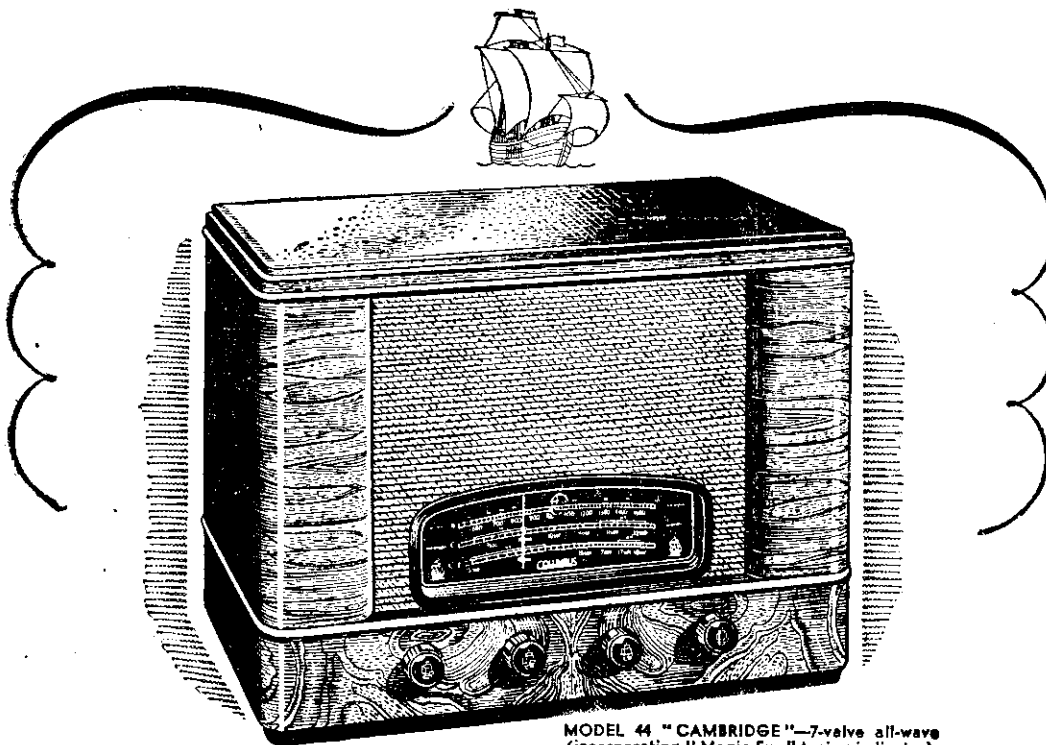
Sir,—I had the great pleasure of hearing the radio dramatization "No Miracle for Klomp," by John Gundry, on a recent night from 3YA. Surely this is a case where the work of a local playwright is equal to that of overseas writers. He has the ability to make his characters really live for us, the unseen audience.

E. M. SILVESTER (Waitoa).

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

W. A. Douglas Cole (Northern Wairoa) and Bruce Todd (Goodwood): Controversy closed in the meantime.

Miss A. I. Clayton (Christchurch): Thank you for your letter. Information sent on to the writer of our Notes.



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