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## Otago Centennial

# FARTHEST FRONTIER

(continued from previous page)

farthest of all. In 1848 Otago was the farthest flung frontier of the British Empire.

WE generally think of these pioneers as elderly men and women. That is what the photographs in the Early Settlers' Museum suggest to us. But these pictures were made late in their lives. The fact is that the pioneers were in the age-group of from 20 to 40 — young men and younger women, in the very prime of their early lives. To wrestle with the primeval conditions; to tramp and boat over rough hills and bogs and waterways; to live in small tents and grass huts; to carry babies over tussock hills; to cook on open fires — these conditions called for the physical strength and mental resilience of young men and women.

When the settlers came in 1848, they settled in the Otago block, which was

a coastal strip only about 12 miles inland, and extending from the Nuggets to the north of Otago Heads. What was considered suitable for mixed farming was sold in blocks of 50 acres. So the farms were from 50 to 200 acres. Farmers on these small farms were the backbone of the settlement. Then run-holders—men with capital—took up the tussock areas, outside the block, in big river-to-river runs. Gold was discovered in 1861. This gave a great increase in population. Development proceeded apace. But it was not until the Dunedin sailed in 1882 with a cargo of frozen produce that farming began to pay. The chemist and the engineer enabled the exporting farmer to ship mutton and lamb, and butter and cheese to the Old Country. Dunedin once thrived on gold; now it thrives because of the efforts of those people who breed cows and sheep. And everybody who assists the farmer with essential services is a partner in this work.

In 1948 it is as well to pause and remember: (1) That the early settlers laid the foundations of the farming industries; (2) that hard work, a good deal of capital, and managerial ability have been needed all the time; and (3) that with the natural assets of a reliable rainfall and an equable climate, the early pioneers, their sons, and their grandsons have made—and are making—a real contribution to the necessities of a hungry world.

Above all, every day we should count our many blessings, and be very thankful that the pioneer men and women gave us the opportunity of growing up in this lovely country.

## SHORTWAVE HIGHLIGHTS

SPORTING events which will be covered by the BBC Shortwave Services at Easter will include the Oxford and Cambridge boat-race, the British Empire flyweight boxing title and the Rugby Union international match, Scotland v. England, for the Calcutta Cup. As the boat-race is timed for 2.15 a.m. (New Zealand time) on the Sunday morning, this event will be rebroadcast by the National stations later in the day.

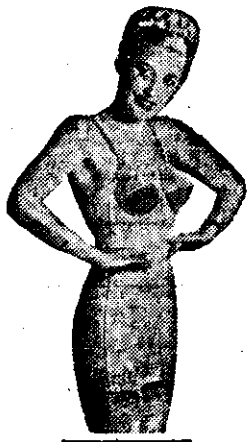
Of particular interest to New Zealand listeners will be the Otago Centenary programme, to be broadcast in the General Overseas Service at 9.30 p.m. on Sunday, March 21, and in the Pacific Service at 6.45 p.m. on Wednesday, March 24. Written by Robert Kemp, the programme will trace back to its beginnings the close affinity of Scotland with the Dominion.

*Stations, Frequencies, Wavelengths and Times of Transmission:*

Pacific Service (6.0-7.45 p.m.): GVZ, 9.65 mc/s., 31.12 metres; GRX, 9.69 mc/s., 30.96 metres; GSN, 11.82 mc/s., 25.38 metres.

General Overseas Service: GSD, 11.75 mc/s., 30.96 metres; GSN, 11.82 mc/s., 15.18 mc/s., 19.76 metres (5.0 p.m.-4.0 a.m.); GSV, 17.81 mc/s., 16.84 metres (5.0-9.0 p.m.); GST, 21.55 mc/s., 13.92 metres (6.0-10.0 p.m.); GSV, 17.81 mc/s., 16.84 metres (10.0 p.m.-4.0 a.m.).

At 6.15 p.m. on Sunday, March 21 (in the Pacific Service) listeners will hear extracts from speeches by Sir Robert Robinson and Sir Edward Appleton, recent Nobel Prize winners. A dinner is also being held in their honour and this is timed to be broadcast at 8.15 p.m. on Tuesday in the General Overseas Service.



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