

# EASTER PROGRAMMES

THE most notable broadcast musical event of Easter this year will be the Royal Wellington Choral Union's performance of Messiah in the Wellington Town Hall at 8.0 p.m. on Wednesday, March 24. The soloists will be the British soprano Isobel Baillie, Mary Pratt (contralto), Thomas E. West (tenor) and Kenneth Macauley (baritone). The oratorio will be relayed in its entirety by Station 2YA.

On Good Friday, March 26, at 9.4 a.m., 2YA will present a special recorded Holy Week programme, written and narrated by the Ven. Archdeacon E. A. Northash, of Sydney, entitled *From Stonehenge to Calvary*, and at 3.0 p.m. from St. Gerard's Church, Wellington, 2YA will relay *Stations of the Cross*. At 7.30 p.m. 2YA will present a recording of Part I of Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*, by the Choir of St. Thomas's Church, Leipzig, conducted by Ramin. On Easter Sunday at 2.45 p.m., listeners to 2YA will hear Jacques Hopkins, BBC Gospel Singer, in a studio recital.

Other special Easter broadcasts will include the following:—

**Station 1YA:** Good Friday, 10.0 a.m., combined church service from Pitt Street Methodist Church; 12.0 noon, Anglican

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value in driving home to us the lesson that the race is not always to the swift or the controversy to the more controversial, for in this particular dispute the skill in the use of weapons and the zest for the combat are all on Byron's side. However, Lord Elgin's very prosiness is convincing, and the dull weight of his earnestness impresses us more than Byron's brilliant invective. But the very fact that I, an unbiased listener, felt compelled to take sides in a question as remote from me as the well-buried one of the Elgin Marbles is a gratifying proof of the potency of cunningly-presented radio controversy.

## Light and Likeable

INSTEAD of an advertised programme for which I had tuned to 4YA, there was presented a programme called *These You Have Loved*. When I heard the title, I was about to switch off, thinking it would prove to be another session of similar type to the usual request programmes, and that the songs which someone had loved would be either old-time ballads or modern popular jazz items. Instead, I was pleasantly surprised. With the exception of one merely meretricious item, the programme gave me items which I could truthfully say I had loved (or at least appreciated) at some time or other in my musical career. "The Eriskay Love Lilt" used to be a particular favourite of mine some 15 years ago; "Londonderry Air," another which I used to like before I heard it too often in bad arrangements, was here given fresh charm in an arrangement by Maurice Besly; nor could a music-lover cavil at a programme which included "My Lovely Celia," the Serenade from *Hassan*, Roger Quilter's "Blow, Blow Thou Winter Wind."

three hours' service from St. Mary's Cathedral; 7.30 p.m., Mendelssohn's *Elijah*.

**Station 2YH:** Good Friday, 9.30 a.m., Passion Music from Handel's *Messiah*.

**Station 3YA:** Thursday, March 25, 8.0 p.m., *The Night Winds Telling*, a play for Eastertide by John Gundry, produced by the NZBS; Good Friday, 10.30 a.m., United Churches' service from Trinity Congregational Church; 5.30 p.m., *To-day's the Day* (Eastertide in Music and Story); 7.0 p.m., *Bells at Eastertide*, and at 7.30 p.m., Isobel Baillie in a sacred recital: Easter Sunday, 4.30 p.m., organ recital of Easter music by Dr. J. C. Bradshaw.

**Station 4YA:** Good Friday, 10.0 a.m., service relayed from St. Paul's Cathedral; 7.0 p.m., combined Easter service relayed from Hanover Street Baptist Church.

**Station 3ZR:** Good Friday, 7.0 p.m., *Good Friday—the Story in Words and Music*.

**Station 4YZ:** Good Friday, 7.30 p.m., Stainer's *The Crucifixion*; 9.30 p.m., *From Stonehenge to Calvary*.

**Station 2YN:** Good Friday, 8.32 p.m., Bach Easter Music.

The ZB stations will present special programmes of Easter music at the following times on Good Friday: 12B, 3.0 p.m.; 22B, 9.0 a.m.; 32B, 3.0 p.m.; 42B, 1.30 p.m.

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