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one good play per three-monthly period, but then, how many flesh-and-blood theatrical shows would I be likely to see in that time, had I no radio to bring plays to my fireside? A couple of evenings of really good music would suffice—but by really good I mean symphonic concerts, chamber music, and so on; call it highbrow, if you like. This may sound a thin list to those who are accustomed to using their radios all the time during broadcasting hours, but I maintain that discriminate selection, even though it may cut listening time in half, actually provides the owner of the radio with better value for the licence fee.

Art and Patriotism

A NEW series, "It's a Small World," has begun from 4YA. It will consist of a series of half-hour programmes devoted to the music of various countries. The performers in the first programme were Olive Campbell (pianist), Dorothy Wallace (cello), Ritchie Hanna (violinist), and Phyllis Turner (mezzo-soprano). With confidence and patriotism the organiser of the programme placed New Zealand first on the list; and we had the first recital consisting of works by some of our New Zealand composers, (local composers were represented by Chas. Martin, Mary Martin, and Renfrew White, composers of New Zealand nationality working overseas were represented by Max Saunders, Gordon Macbeth, and Arnold Trowell). There are two schools of thought on the subject of New Zealand composers—those who favour publicising their works under the collective "made in N.Z." label, whereby the listener knows where the works are composed and can compare them, if he wishes, with the product of composers of other nationality—and those who think it better to allow New Zealand compositions to be included unlabelled in the regular run of radio and concert programmes, in which case no patriotic bias is likely to influence the listener, and the intrinsic worth of the work will be the only criterion of its value. I incline to the latter view. Let our music find its own place among other music, and let our composers be free of the semi-patronising attitude that their work can be considered "good, considering that it's local."

"The Little Enemy"

AS his subject in the Winter Course Talks from 4YA, on "The Roots of Otago," John Harris, the Otago University Librarian, chose to deal with "The Little Enemy." The title had me puzzled at first, until the speaker explained that this was the title applied in the early days of the province to all those who opposed the claims of the Scottish founders for a sort of "closed shop" wherein the only worthy settlers should be those adhering to the doctrine of the Free Church of Scotland. It all seems a dead enough issue nowadays, but there must have been acute heart-burning over it in the time when Captain Cargill warned off the Wesleyan minister of Waikouaiti from preaching

in the Scots community, thereby precipitating a large-scale newspaper controversy and antagonising the opposition into action. As Mr. Harris said in his talk, the Presbyterian influence in Otago remains to this day a hard inner core against which sparks can still be struck by the modern equivalent of the "Little Enemy." Under the heading of this talk he included all those non-Presbyterian, non-Scots elements which went to the making of Otago—the Polynesian migrants, the moa-hunting Maoris, the whalers and sealers, the gold-rush settlers, and the succeeding waves of new population from all over the world. Without this admixture of different races and creeds, customs and manners, Otago would have been a different kind of province and not a tenth as interesting. We must thank Mr. Harris for reminding us tactfully, during the 100th anniversary year of the Scots settlement in Otago, of people like Sir Robert Stout, W. M. Boulton, Thomas Bracken, Mark Cohen, and von Tunzelman, some of the men of different ideas and nationality whose influence on the province's history was so far-reaching in effect; and for reminding us that we are, in culture and custom, the result of the inter-action of many and varied forces, among which the Scots, though the most powerful, is not necessarily the only one worth reckoning with.

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