

NEW MUSICAL SOCIETY

WITH a view to giving Auckland music lovers opportunity to hear a wider range of music than the ordinary private library can provide, a Recorded Music Society has been established in the northern city. The society also

By gathering gramophone enthusiasts together into one society their combined private libraries will become available to all for programmes played at the monthly meeting of the society and also will enable members to exchange records, lists of which will be filed by the society, between each other.

In addition to the regular monthly meeting the society will encourage members with similar musical interests to form smaller groups meeting to listen to, and hold informal discussions upon, the works which are their special interest. Recordings of value which are unlikely to be purchased for private collections will be bought by the society for its own library. The society also intends to procure equipment which will give a quality of reproduction beyond that which the average listener can maintain in his own home.

At the musical evening to be held by the society this month, four new recordings will be played. The first work will be Fauré's *Pavane for Chorus and Orchestra*, recently recorded by the Philharmonia Chorus and Orchestra conducted by Sir Malcolm Sargent. This will be followed by Debussy's little-known ballet suite *Jeux*, the choreography of which was created by Nijinski. It is played by the Augustio Rome Orchestra conducted by Sabata. The third item is an American recording of excerpts from the opera *Wozzek*, a story of tragedy in Vienna, composed by Alban Berg, who was a pupil of Schoenberg. To conclude the programme members will hear a new recording of the Brahms First Symphony by Furtwangler and the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra.



DR. A. HEPPNER, who was formerly music and record critic for a Berlin paper, is president of the society

proposes to arrange lectures and discussions on the technical aspects of recording and sound reproduction, and will enlist the assistance of visiting specialists in this field as well as of local members to deliver these talks.

AWAY TO A GOOD START ZB's Plan Special Xmas Broadcasts

SPECIAL programmes for Christmas 1948 which listeners to the four ZB stations and 2ZA (Palmerston North) will hear throughout Christmas Day are to be home-grown and home-produced. That is to say, they will be made up of material that has already been or is now being gathered throughout New Zealand. They will cover activities ranging from the gum-fields of Waihopo in the far North to a mining town on the West Coast of the South Island. The whole idea this year will be to emphasise the way in which New Zealanders spend—or have spent—Christmas, rather than reproducing the Christmas manners, styles and customs of other lands. Full details of the sessions will be announced later, but in the meantime, here is some idea of what the Commercial Division of the NZBS has been planning.

With the co-operation of the Army Archives section of the War Histories branch of the Department of Internal Affairs, there will be accounts of Christmas Day in the battlefield during both World Wars, giving the reactions of New Zealand soldiers, their thoughts and their feelings at that season, while in the front line.

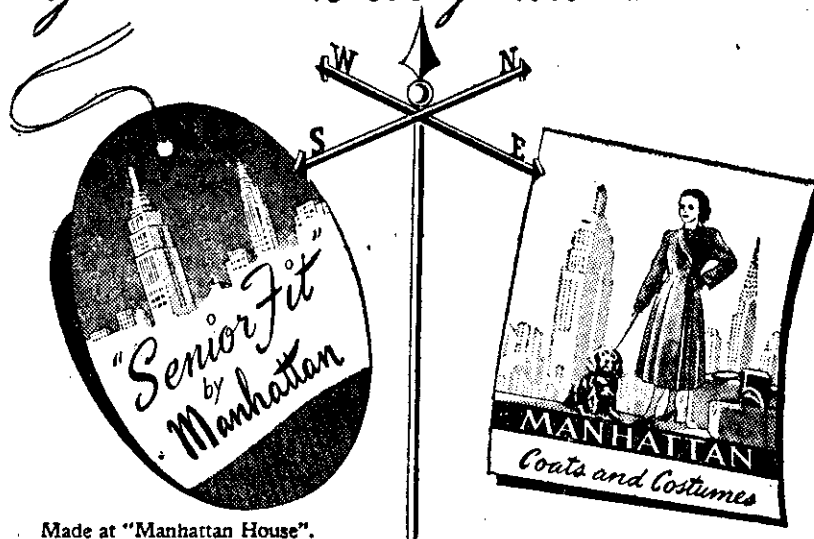
Women listeners will have a session to themselves, with the four ZB stations forming a link to greet each other,

and with each of the four main cities contributing something to the programme. Another project which is well under way will be a session of general appeal—an attempt to give a complete radio picture of the New Zealand Christmas from the high country to the sea coast, the farm to the city. Listeners will be introduced to the celebrations in a Maori village home, and learn how the men of the Forestry Department observe the festival.

Dunedin's Centennial Celebrations, still on the active list, will not be forgotten, for the Mayors of the other cities will use the radio to greet the Mayor of Dunedin and to congratulate Otago on the success of its full year of festivities. The usual good wishes to those maintaining essential services during the holiday will this year be extended in actuality broadcasts from tape-recorded interviews.

The day's programme will culminate in a dramatized programme in which a small boy representing Youth will talk to Father Time as the latter thumbs over the Christmas files of newspapers covering 80-odd years. Such programmes, of course, represent only a few of the highlights. Fuller details of the sessions with titles and times of broadcasting, will be given next month.

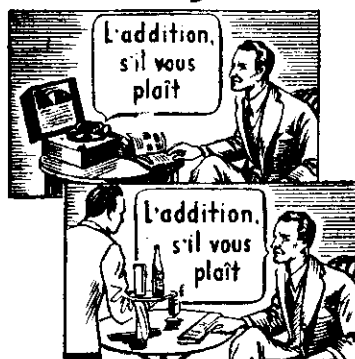
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