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title *The Elephant and Society*—"I don't mind (the New Zealand intelligentsia's) excessive concern with society," the Professor said, "but I wish they would show a little originality in their titles"—it does give some idea of the aim of the congress which is, in the words of the Students' Association, "to show the interaction of responsibility in the 20th Century community, especially of the University towards the community and vice versa, and of the student towards both."

Altogether 16 three-hour sessions are planned, each starting off with a lengthy address or paper delivered by one of the guest speakers. In the second hour of each session the congress will divide into discussion groups working under chosen leaders, and in the third hour the guest speaker and group leaders will conclude the discussion in "open forum" style.

Besides the address mentioned above, Sir David Smith and Sir Thomas Hunter will speak on "The New Zealand University," G. H. Ormond Wilson, M.P., and J. Marshall, M.P., will discuss "New Zealand's Political and Economic Future," A. B. Thompson will talk on "Some Aspects of Educational Planning," H. McQueen on "The Maori Today," James Bertram on "Writing in and for New Zealand," A. D. J. Barker on "The Listener's Approach to Music" and "An Attitude to Science," E.

Plischke on "Design and Living," and the Rev. Luke H. Jenkins on "The University and Religion." The opening session will be addressed by the Minister of Education, the Hon. T. H. McCombs.

Since the students are on vacation, however, care will be taken that intellects are not unduly strained. The setting of the congress would in fact make an ideal picnic spot. It is an old Air Force convalescent camp at Curious Cove in Queen Charlotte Sound, and during the nine days of the gathering (from January 21 to 30) there will be plenty of opportunities for recreation of all kinds, including fishing, swimming, boating, and other pastimes.

To provide organised sport, loads of equipment and a recreation expert from the Department of Internal Affairs will be there, while evening entertainment will take the form of film shows (with material from the National Film Library and the Film Institute), recitals of recorded music, and the organisation of "brains trusts" from among the guest speakers. Concerts, bonfires and an all-day picnic will add to the general fun.

The student representatives have been selected mainly for their work in the various cultural, political, and associated groups at their own colleges, while the cost of the congress is being met partly from the individual students concerned, partly from funds raised by the colleges, and partly from other sources.

SANG WITH MELBA

Rosina Buckman Dies in London

ROSINA BUCKMAN was one of the few New Zealanders to achieve world fame in grand opera, and in the years between the wars she sang with the leading British opera companies and made several overseas tours, both in opera and as a concert artist.

After early New Zealand appearances in Alfred Hill's opera *A Moorish Maid* in 1905, she went to England and studied with George Bredeon in Birmingham.

She was successful first as a concert singer, but then, according to one story, her refusal of a part in Mozart's *Magic Flute*—she declined it on the ground that she had no operatic ambitions—led to no further important engagements being offered and she returned to New Zealand.

Later she sang in Australia with a touring light opera company, and attracted the attention of Dame Nellie Melba. She joined the Melba Grand Opera Company in 1912 and returned to England in the same year at the urging of John McCormack. She soon secured an engagement at Covent Garden and a long contract with the Beecham Opera Company. She also sang with the English Opera Company, the National Opera Company and during 1919-20 she was principal soprano at Covent Garden. Among her greatest roles were those of Aida, Cho-Cho-San, and Isolde—the latter probably her greatest and one of the best English performances ever given. In 1919 she married the tenor Maurice d'Oisly.

Latterly she had suffered from thrombosis, and had been a patient at Battersea General Hospital for about a year when she died there on December 30.



ROSINA BUCKMAN in the part of Cho-Cho-San

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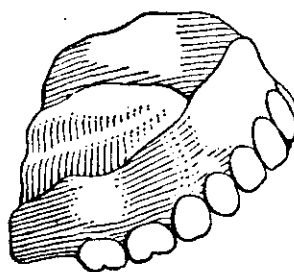
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