

MEET MR. KIPPS

New NZBS Production

H. G. WELLS, who died in 1946, was a humorist as well as a reformer, and his days of lightheartedness will be recalled shortly when the four ZB stations and Station 2ZA present, as a serial for Sunday listening, his famous story *Kipps*. The tale, which has been adapted for radio by Lance Sieveking, has been produced in ten episodes by the production supervisor of the NZBS (Bernard Beeby) in the Auckland studios of the Service.

Kipps is the tale of a simple young man who takes a job in a draper's shop. A little later he falls in with a bibulous but quite charming old actor, Harry Chitterlow, who is responsible for the discovery that young Kipps has been left a fortune. Ready to capitalise on this happy event is the Walsingham family, one of whose members, Helen, is used as a bait to hook Kipps' new-found fortune. Helen and her people are allegedly above Kipps in social standing and there follows a reversal of the Pygmalion theme when Arthur Kipps is initiated into the somewhat spurious social order of the Walsinghams.

Helen's brother, Monty, a solicitor, becomes Arthur's financial guardian, with the result that Kipps's fortune disappears, and Monty with it. All ends well, however, with the arrival of Harry Chitterlow, whose play Arthur had helped to finance. The play has become a great success and Kipps finds another fortune and a wife, Anne Pornick, his childhood sweetheart.

The cast is as follows: Kipps (Edward Hegan), Anne Pornick (Barbara Scott), Uncle Kipps (Athol Coates), Aunt Kipps (May Lovatt), Mr. Carshot (Marshall Hobson), Mr. Pearce (Alec McDowell), Shalford (Joe Allan), Chitterlow (Bernard Beeby), Helen Walsingham (Mollie Donald), Mrs. Walsingham (Zoe Bartley-Baxter), Monty Walsingham (Keith Piper), Chester Coote (Sydney Musgrove) and Mrs. Binden-Botting (Mollie McKenzie).

The first episode of *Kipps* will be heard from 4ZB at 8.0 p.m. on Sunday, February 20; 2ZB at 8.0 p.m. on February 27; 3ZB at 8.0 p.m. on March 6; 1ZB at 1.30 p.m. on March 20, and 2ZA at 8.0 p.m. on April 3.

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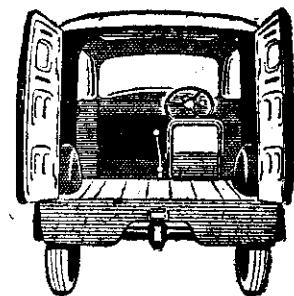
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