



A NIGHT AT THE OPERA: Like thousands of other New Zealanders, the Wellington cartoonist "Mack" recently spent a night at the Opera. He took (and the apparent chaos and confusion, as it seems to a layman) during a performance of "Madame Butterfly." He wandered at will among the flats and platforms, p the cast. His composite impression of the back-stage scene shows, in the top left-hand corner, Lieutenant Pinkerton (Leo Piccioli) putting on the finishing touches, and (hand to chin) is Bruno Notri, the stage manager, who moves about behind the stage, carrying the musical score and humming the melody throughout the performar be either property wine, or the real thing. Gazing out to sea with the telescope (lower centre) are Madame Butterfly (Mercedes Fortunati) and Suzuki (Maria Hude of the illustration. The back-stage atmosphere is completed by sketches of the players of minor roles, the electricians, stage-hands, floodlights and pieces of property see Piccioli, and Aldo Ferracuti.