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New Assistant Director

THE newly-appointed Assistant Director of Broadcasting, J. H. E. Schroder, of Christchurch, should be already well known to many listeners for his talks and radio commentaries on world affairs. He was born in Hokitika, and at present is Associate Editor of The Press, Christchurch. Mr. Schroder was educated at the Hokitika District High School and Canterbury University College and is a member of the University College Council. He represented his school at cricket, football and tennis and Canterbury College at cricket



J. H. E. SCHRODER

and tennis. He also represented the West Coast at cricket. He was a Somes Exhibitioner at College House, Christ's College upper department and graduated from Canterbury College in 1919. Then he became a master at the Christchurch Boys' High School, where he was senior English master from 1921.

In 1927 Mr. Schroder left school-teaching for journalism and was anpointed Associate Editor of The Sun, Christ-church, which ceased publication in 1935. He was elected to the governing body of Canterbury University College in 1929 and is a member of the University College Council. While with The Sun and The Press Mr. Schroder gained a wide reputation for literary criticism. In 1938 his Remembering Things, a collection of essays, was published by J. M. Dent, of London.

MOVEMENT BY NIGHT

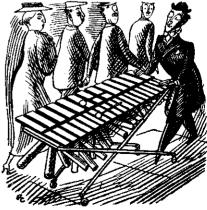
DURING the next few weeks travellers along some of the North Island highways may see a six-ton motor vehicle making its way by night from one town or city to another. This will be the music-truck of the National Orchestra of the NZBS; yet there won't be so much as a peep out of it, except perhaps from the electric horn, for it will carry a cargo of orchestral impediments, but no players.

Few performers mind carrying a violin, 'cello, flute, piccolo or trumpet case under the arm; in fact, quite a few musicians are obviously proud of their trademarks on short walks to rehearsal or to the theatre. But when it comes to taking a double-bass, the larger of the brass instruments, or possibly the harp on a long trip, pride in personal luggage is offset by inconvenience.

Immediately a night's performance is over, the truck is loaded up with music, music-stands, platforms, rostrum, the larger and more unwieldy of the instruments, and supplementary and spare lighting equipment, and driven through the night to the next town on the orchestral itinerary, on a sort of theatre-to-theatre plan. This saves multiple handling and ensures special care being taken of instruments whose value can run into a substantial sum.

In the orchestra's stock-list are musicmaking appliances and adjuncts ranging from the big drums of the percussion department to fragile violin-mutes. In the string section alone there are instruments of considerable worth, including a Gagliano, a Guadagnini, a Rugerius, and a G.B. Stradivari (violins) and a Gagliano 'cello. These, of course, will not jog along in the truck, but stick closely to their owners' sides.

The orchestra's itinerary for the first part of the 1949 season (already opened at New Plymouth) includes Hawera, Wanganui, Palmerston North, Hastings, Napier, Gisborne, Hamilton and Auckland, and the players will return to Wellington late next month to prepare for the South Island season. This year a much greater mileage than usual is being covered—by bus, train, service-car and railcar—for, to be fully appreciated, symphony players should be seen as well as heard.



"Obviously proud of their trademarks"