



WELLINGTON'S Harmony Serenaders: From left, John Hoskins, Margaret Richmond, Joyce Izett, Eunice Scott, Jeanne Thompson, Henry Rudolph. At the piano, Allen Wellbrock

Songs in Four-Part Harmony

REGULARLY on Monday evenings since August 8, the Harmony Serenaders, a Wellington group of entertainers, have been providing 2YA's listeners with a pleasant session of the song hits of the day, presented in novel arrangements. The singers and accompanying players specialise in an easy, natural style, bringing out the melody rather than obscuring it with the instrumental and vocal excursions which are part and parcel of many modern recordings from overseas. During the studio broadcasts recordings were made of the sessions, and they will be heard shortly from other NZBS stations.

The Harmony Serenaders, who appeared in 2YA Concert Party programmes during the war years, became widely popular with the Armed Forces and took part in some 500 camp concerts. The original combination consisted of Merle Gamble, Sylvia Devenie, Yvonne Andrews and Doreen Calvert. Two of the members left—one to be married and another to go overseas—and the Serenaders broke up. Recently the group was revived by the founder of the original party, Henry Rudolph, and now the members are Joyce Izett, Margaret Richmond, Jeanne Thompson and Eunice Scott, with Allen Wellbrock and Henry Rudolph as pianists. Henry Rudolph also plays the piano-accordion and vibraphone. The compère is Ron Pritchard.

John Hoskins, the soloist, is a baritone with an unusual range, but he consistently uses a low pitch to provide a contrast with the background voices of the girls who sing in four-part close harmony, without departing too far from

the orthodox. The instruments are used to heighten the effect.

One of the Harmony Serenaders' most successful items is a special arrangement of the currently popular song "Buttons and Bows" (an overseas recording of which was placed at the top of the list in the recent anniversary competition of Hit Parade, heard from the Commercial stations).

Health Stamp Campaign

THE 1949-1950 Health Stamp Campaign, which this year celebrates the 21st anniversary of the foundation of the Health Camp movement in New Zealand, will open officially on Monday, October 3. This Sunday, October 2, a semi-documentary recorded programme on the birth and development of health camps in the Dominion, prepared by Bryan O'Brien, will be heard at 6.0 p.m. from the four ZB stations and Station 2ZA. In it listeners will be shown why they are asked to buy health stamps and the exact uses to which the proceeds of the stamp-sales are put.

On Tuesday, September 27, listeners to the Main National stations heard a fifteen-minutes' talk on the coming-offage of the Health Camp movement by the Hon. F. Hackett, Postmaster-General. Station 2YA will present an edited version of the official opening of the campaign at 7.0 p.m. on October 3, and the progress Wellington area sales of stamps will be given. At 9.0 a.m. 1YA will broadcast the Auckland opening ceremony.

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