

A Run Through The Programmes



gether, covering the principal personalities in pre-Colony times and the early years of government.

Understanding Europe

The roots of European civilisation go back a very long way. Europe is what it is because the Greeks defeated the Persians, because the Romans defeated the Carthaginians, because Christianity spread westward, and because hoards of invaders came out of Asia. It is quite impossible to understand the rivalries and conflicts of to-day without some knowledge of the trend of this history. The NBS is planning a series of talks to make it easier for listeners to understand what has led up to the present situation in Europe, and it is intended to take Europe in sections such as, for example, the Mediterranean, the Baltic, the Iberian Peninsula, France, Central Europe, and so on, and sketch in the main facts that make up the life of these regions. What the NBS has in mind was indicated in the talks on Poland which were given shortly after the outbreak of the present war at 2YA and 3YA. The first region to be dealt with in the present series will be the Baltic, which George Bagley will talk about in a number of broadcasts from 3YA, beginning on January 24. The title of the whole series, which will be broadcast from the various stations, will be "Understanding Europe."

Romany

"Gipsy" is a word which, for many people, conjures up a picture of a nut-brown, ancient hag asking to have her palm crossed with silver. Yet, if you read Borrow on the Spanish gipsies, or Starkie, or any of the numerous books which have appeared in recent years, you will see that the inheritance of the Romany road may be a fine one. Gipsies have wandered in most of the continents of the earth. In Russia you will find their bands, playing the balalaika; through central Europe they have for centuries pursued their carefree, precarious existence; they roam in France and Spain, and their music is made in Italian fields and groves. None more international than the true gipsy—for the whole world is his country, and he desires no more than food and his camp-fire. Dvorak, great Czech composer, probably envied them their joyous freedom when he wrote his gipsy songs. A group of gipsy songs by Dvorak is to be presented from 2YA Wellington, at 8.20 p.m. on Tuesday, January 23.

Food for Families

However practically-minded Dr. Elizabeth Bryson may be about food, we expect she will have some difficulty steering the safe middle course when she comes to talk from 1YA on Thursday, January 25, at 7.40 p.m., on Food and the Family. For the practical dietitian must not only reconcile her rules



for diet with the refusal of the human being to take any notice of them: she must also, in this case, reconcile her principles with the impossibility of ever persuading any family to agree on anything. Mother, wise in her way, will probably agree with all that's said, but daughter has not yet heard the latest opinion of the Hay system and will want carbohydrates when the others are having protein. Father of course can only say "Tut, tut," while the rest fight for anything that's going. But Dr. Bryson has a way with her and Auckland, as we've mentioned before, is becoming food-minded.

National Birthdays

There used to be heated arguments between Auckland and Wellington about the date of the foundation of New Zealand. Wellington claimed that January 22, the date of the arrival of the Aurora, the first of the New Zealand Company's ships, was New Zealand's birthday, as well as Wellington's. Auckland contended that New Zealand wasn't a British colony, and that the real birthday was at the end of the month, when Hobson arrived at the Bay of Islands. Happily these differences have been smoothed over. In the centennial celebrations, the keeping of January 22 is treated as a national affair, and the same status is given to the gathering at Waitangi in February to mark the anniversary of the Treaty of Waitangi. Dr. G. H. Scholefield is to speak at 2YA on January 22 about the significance of the Aurora's arrival.



SHORTWAVES

IT is among the Purveyors, among writers who have regarded themselves, not as prophets revealing truth, nor as beings dedicated to producing something perfect, but as men supplying a need of the moment, that some of the greatest names of all are found: Shakespeare, Molière, Balzac, Dickens.
—Desmond MacCarthy.

HE (the reviewer) is not thinking of the novel as a novel, nor even about the general reader, though he pretends to do so himself; he is thinking about the writer and about all he knows to have been in the writer's mind, the faith, and the effort.—
Storm Jameson.

I CAN project myself into any age, environment, condition, situation, character or emotion that interests me deeply. I need never have experienced it or seen it or, to my knowledge, heard or read about it.—
Edna Ferber.

NEARLY all literary art is amateurish.—
Arnold Bennett.

THE world is at its last gasp.—
Julian (4th Century A.D.).

SOMETIMES it is not easy to be the child of a famous father.—
Lady Eleanor Smith.

THINGS above are better than things below; but all creation together is better than things above.—
St. Augustine.

MAN is a failure as a political animal. The creative forces which produce him must produce something better.—
George Bernard Shaw.

I HAVE three besetting sins . . . impetuosity, self-consciousness, and a lack of interest in anything not immediately connected with myself or with the theatre.—
John Gielgud.

SLOWNESS is beauty.—
Rodin.

TREAT all men as your equals — especially the rich.—
Maurice Baring.

BLESSED are the pure in heart, for they have so much more to talk about.—
Edith Wharton.