

NEWS FROM THE ZB STATIONS

AFTER the excitement of Centennial Celebrations at Waitangi, Lou Paul, 1ZB Maori announcer, is back in Auckland. Although he had intended to spend his leave in the North, he returned to Auckland to see if there was "anything doing." We don't know whether it was the autograph hunters, the big fish, or merely the unseasonable weather that turned him away from the Bay of Islands.

Cut It Out!

Guy Nixon, tired of the humdrum existence of an announcer, decided rather hurriedly that something must be done forthwith, and, having finished his duties on the 1ZB Breakfast Session on a recent morning, he repaired to the hospital where, approximately eight hours later he had his appendix removed. Those who know Guy's infinite capacity for surprises, accepted this as just another of these things. Listeners will be pleased to learn that he is improving rapidly.

Not Guilty

Seated in the quiet of his office, a certain officer at 3ZB received a severe shock one morning recently when a decidedly aggrieved voice suddenly shouted in an accusing tone, "You've been drinking my beer."

Quite apart from the moral implication, the fact that, as with all Government Departments, such liquids are strictly barred from the premises, caused him a certain amount of consternation.

The explanation was quite simple, however. The loud speaker in his office happened to be on the audition channel with the volume control full on, and somebody in the control room had de-

cided to play the second side of Flanagan and Allen's record "Splitting Up."

The officer concerned now keeps his volume control turned off.

Baby Contest

Aunt Daisy visited Palmerston North recently to attend and speak at a meeting arranged in connection with the St. John Ambulance National Centennial Baby Contest. Mr. Falconer, very prominent in St. John Ambulance circles in Wellington, was a member of the party which travelled to Palmerston North in the special official Baby Contest car. This contest is arousing great interest in infant circles. A great deal of the success of the contest can be attributed to the unflagging efforts of Aunt Daisy.

European Background

A new feature now on the air from 1ZB is "European Background," which takes the place of "Men of the Moment." It is pre-

sented by Kenneth Melvin, so the radio audience is assured of interesting listening. "European Background" deals with the present European situation.

The opening broadcast was "What Are Our War Aims?" Among the persons who came into this particular session were the Rt. Hon. Neville Chamberlain, the Rt. Hon. A. Duff-Cooper, Sir Norman Angell, Wickham Steed and Pierre Cot, former French Air Minister.

Views from the Stage

Listeners to "Marina's" session from 1ZB between 11.30 a.m. and 12 noon, are assured of something of an unusual and interesting nature. Among the most interesting of recent broadcasts were interviews with the three principal ladies of the J. C. Williamson dramatic company which has just concluded a successful season in Auckland. The first was with Doris Packer, who will be remembered for her performance as the authoress in "The Women." Miss

Packer's views regarding the theatre in New Zealand were most encouraging. She said: "With professional handling, there is talent here to equal any in any other part of the world."

Jane Conolly, in her interview with "Marina," departed from theatrical interests, and waxed enthusiastic about New Zealand's beautiful scenery and the hospitality of the people here. One interesting point she mentioned was the physical difference between the Australians and the New Zealanders. She said: "The New Zealand girls have clearer skins and the men more ruddy complexions and the set of the eyes is generally wider here than in Australia." She found the number of bowler hats worn by men in Wellington very amusing.

Just Missed Television

Of greater interest to New Zealanders, perhaps, was the interview with Lynda Hastings, better known in Auckland as Lynda Murphy. Mrs. Hastings is well known in both Auckland and Wellington as one of the best amateur performers in New Zealand, and we can be justly proud to think that she can hold her own with such a first-rate performer as Doris Packer. Originally an Aucklander and now a resident of Wellington, Mrs. Hastings has recently returned from a trip to England, where she broadcast from the BBC, and received one of the highest of compliments, being asked to attend an audition for a television broadcast from St. James Palace. Unfortunately, her boat sailed three days before the day set for the audition, and to use Mrs. Hastings' own words: "I missed what I consider would be the most thrilling experience of a lifetime."



The Three Lester Sisters, young singing stars of "Dr. Davey, the Happiest Man on Earth," which is heard from all ZB Stations on Tuesdays at 9.15 p.m.

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