

LET IT RAIN!

Jupiter Pluvius Did Not Deter 2ZB When Broadcasting The Centennial Mile

AND it rained—and it rained—and it rained! How it rained in Wellington on the day of the Centennial Sports Meeting in the Basin Reserve. The Centennial Mile was the big race of the day, and the result was eagerly awaited by sportsmen.

Once again 2ZB was to the fore in entertainment for listeners. "Griffo," 2ZB's sports announcer, and Rion Voigt, who has done a number of interviews from 2ZB with visiting sportsmen, braved the elements to give listeners over the ZB network a commentary on the Centennial Mile.

In mackintoshes, gumboots, and somewhat inadequately protected by an ancient umbrella requisitioned from 2ZB, the announcers worked under great difficulties. Paddling round in the puddles clutching a hand "mike" in one hand, and brandishing the battered

umbrella, "Griffo" gave the listeners a graphic account of Boot's great race.

The relay was excellent. The sudden change from Rion Voigt's quiet tones to "Griffo's" quick machine-like bursts of comment held the listeners' attention, and, as the race progressed and became more exciting, their voices became louder and quicker, till, at last the tape was reached, and listeners were able to breathe again.

In the few minutes it took for the race to be run, "Griffo" and Rion crammed in a lot—it almost makes one think that rain drops trickling down one's back are an incentive to good broadcasting. However, the rain made it difficult at times for "Griffo" to give the accurate placings of the competitors on the far side of the track.

After the race, and in spite of the increasingly heavy rain, each competitor was interviewed at the "mike."

"Mamma Bloom" Is a Popular 2ZA Feature

WHEREVER radio programmes are discussed, nowadays, you are sure to hear a good deal of comment about 2ZA's feature, "Mamma Bloom's Brood," but unless you have listened to this session, you may wonder why the doings of an average Jewish family are causing so much interest and favourable comment.

Actually, the reason is not hard to seek. Nowadays, life is so often presented to both young and old in articles, plays and romantic novels as though all its adventures came at the beginning, and the rest of it was a complete blank.

Of course, it takes a whole lifetime to learn about heartaches and disappointments and failures which beset our way; a lifetime to recognise the sweets, and to appreciate them, and when these things are brought within one's experience in the pleasant and acceptable manner of "Mamma Bloom," it is a rare treat.

"Mamma Bloom" is a wife and mother of a family in whose daily routine there is a close resemblance to that of the average listener. If you have not heard her with her quaint malapropisms and her sound philosophy, you should make a point of listening to 2ZA at 6 p.m. on Sundays and 7 p.m. on Mondays and Saturdays. You will be in good company. Even the announcers listen to "Mamma Bloom"!

★ GRAN'S KNITTING CIRCLE ★

THE innovation of a weekly knitting session by Gran of 1ZB has created a great deal of interest among her listeners, as is shown by the large amount of mail received—some letters containing knitting hints, others offering new patterns and ideas. Many contained requests for small quantities of wool to finish garments which were almost completed, but were held up by wool being unobtainable.

However, most of those troubles were soon eliminated by 'phone calls from listeners who could supply the wool, and "Gran" once again breathed freely with the satisfaction that her "theme" song had once again held sway. This is just another of "Gran's" goodwill gestures.

A knitter herself, she understands how oft-times a little help is welcome and appreciated. And as she says herself—"That's what Grandmothers are for—to give help!"

"So listen in," says Gran, "on Tuesdays during the Home Service Session for the special knitting chats. You may have that skein of wool your country sister needs to finish that shawl. Remember my theme tune—'If everyone did everyone a good turn every day,' and in so doing you can do your share of helping to make it—even at the moment—'a happier old world.'"

Meet the LADIES



A VERSATILE person is "Jill" (Miss Annas Gale) of 3ZB Christchurch, for she is equally popular in a children's session, a session for ladies, an Outside Broadcast, or in her fine vocal sessions.

A Christchurch girl, "Jill" joined the Commercial Broadcasting Service after spending several years in radio in Australia where she broadcast from Station 2UW, achieving her greatest success in the Kraft Parade, one of Sydney's biggest "live" artist shows. At 2UW she also created the "Women's Magazine of the Air."

She was first appointed to 3ZB when that station opened, where with "Jacko" she organised a first-class children's session and did general announcing. Thence to similar work at 4ZB where, in addition, she developed the Home Service Session with great success. A special appointment to 5ZB, the Exhibition Station followed, and listeners to ZB stations are now hearing the "recorded tours" in which she and "Mac" described the Exhibition. Now back at 3ZB she conducts the Home Service Session at 2.30 p.m. from Mondays to Fridays.

"Jill" is one of those fortunate people who can sing and play the piano equally well. Her charming soprano voice has now been heard from all ZB stations except 1ZB. She received her early pianoforte training at the Sacred Heart College, Christchurch, later finishing under Alfred Bunz, as an A.T.C.L., and L.R.S.M. An excursion into the vocal arts was even more successful under New Zealand's own Hubert Carter with whom she made her debut as "Juliet" in "Romeo and Juliet." Later her artistry earned praise in other outstanding performances, including Marguerite in "Faust," Michaela in "Carmen," the title role in Mendelssohn's "Lorelei," and Germaine in "Les Cloches de Corneville," under the auspices of the Royal Musical and Christchurch Operatic Societies. She also acted as soloist with other leading musical combinations in the Cathedral City. In Sydney she achieved high honours at the New South Wales Conservatorium of Music, being hailed by prominent critics as the pos-

session of "a fine voice of pure lyric quality, displaying a decided flair for opera." Incidentally, "Jill" holds her musical degrees for both singing and pianoforte.

"Jill" has also sung from 4ZB and 2ZB with Wide Range orchestral accompaniment, which enhances the splendid qualities of her voice. An interesting broadcast in Wellington was her singing from the stage of the Majestic Theatre to the accompaniment of Wide Range played in 2ZB's studio.

Tennis and swimming are her favourite sports, but she confesses to a liking for cooking, reading, gardening, and, of course, music.

(This series will conclude next week with Aunt Daisy)

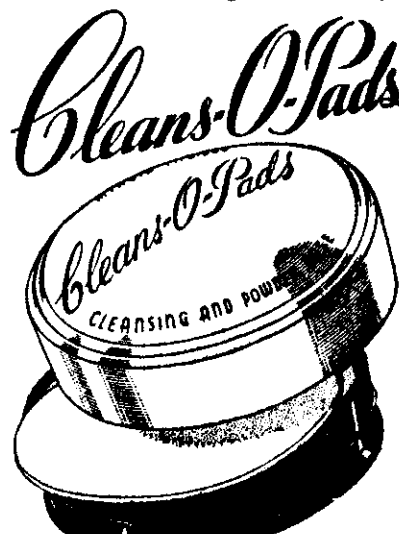
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