



# NEWS FROM THE ZB STATIONS

**N**EW ZEALAND children who love to listen to the adventures of their favourite flying ace, Peter the Pilot, will welcome the news that he will begin a new series of broadcasts, of an even more adventurous nature, very shortly.

This series, which will be heard on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5.30, will start at 2ZB and 4ZB on March 26, and at 1ZB and 3ZB on April 2.

## "The Inns of England"

Listeners to 1ZB will shortly hear a new feature, "The Inns of England." Presented by Kenneth Melvin, this feature is a racy commentary on the fading glory of England's old hostleries, inns and taverns. A wealth of romance, adventure and crime, associated with the roadside tavern, is found throughout English history. Jeffrey Farnol has woven some of this material into his Georgian novels; George Borrow's immortal gipsy stories have the same setting; and so have the legends of Dick Turpin and his Black Bess. Tales like these will be told against a background of drinking songs, hunting songs, folk songs, and traditional English melodies. Nothing quite like this new feature has been broadcast over the Commercial stations, and the feature is specially welcome in that it is a New Zealand production. The first broadcast from 1ZB is scheduled for Friday, April 5, and thereafter on every Friday and Saturday evening at 7.45.

## Young Poetess

A real champion of youth and an admirer of its triumphs is 2ZB's Bryan O'Brien. With the eye of a Hollywood talent scout, Bryan seeks out the local lads and lasses who are making good and lets the public know about them. His latest protégé was Gloria Rawlinson, young New Zealand poetess, whom he interviewed at 2ZB's mike on a recent Sunday evening. Gloria's work is already well known, especially her book, "The Perfume Vendor," but in the interview she confessed that she likes writing short stories best and proposes to publish a book of them soon. During the broadcast she recited her poem, "Lehl the Shepherd," and Bryan gave a splendid rendering of "Sky Boy."

## Advice for "New Chums"

A tour round any suburban area in Christchurch might lead one to imagine that the local gardeners must know all there is to know about shrubs and

flowers. Yet in admiring the colour and artistic layout of one man's garden one might fail to notice the newly-wed next door perspiring between the handles of a brand new wheelbarrow or awkwardly handling his shiny new garden tools in his first attempt at breaking in the virgin soil, while frenziedly attempting to make his garden suddenly burst into flower so that it may compare favourably with his neighbour's. But "David," of 3ZB, after many years as a practical gardener, knows that the front garden cannot just burst suddenly into flower, or the vegetable patch suddenly become productive. He therefore conducts for



Recognise him? Yes, it George Vryer, whose rich deep basso voice is heard from 1ZB

the benefit of the "New Chum" a special gardening session in which he helps the uninitiated past the pitfalls that beset the raw amateur. This "New Chums" gardening session each Thursday evening is in addition to David's usual gardening session at 6.45 p.m. on Monday.

## Sessions by Airini

The pleasant voice of Airini Grennell is now heard over 4ZB every afternoon in the week, Monday to Friday, from 4 to 5 p.m. This recent innovation is pleasing many radio fans. Airini chooses her own programmes for this hour and

annotates the recordings she plays. In addition to these sessions she is also heard on Friday evenings in a half-hour of new recordings.

## The "Perfect" Programme

Probably inheriting some of the qualities of his famous grandfather—Mr. "Kiltie" Smith, who was widely known throughout the Hawke's Bay-Bush district in the early days—young Doug, Smith, who arranges programmes for 2ZA, takes a keen interest in public affairs. Brought up in the Pahiatua District, and later attending Wellington College where he distinguished himself especially in public speaking, Doug, determined to make the most of his ability, and it was not long after leaving college that he was given the opportunity of taking part in numerous plays produced by the National Broadcasting Service. He secured a position in the National Commercial Broadcasting Service towards the end of last year, and from that time he has been endeavouring to build up a programme at 2ZA which he hopes will get as near as is humanly possible to please everyone. Judging by some of the letters of appreciation received he is on the right track. One listener wrote in from Hamilton to say that he knew of no other station in New Zealand which gave such enjoyable programmes, while another person writing from the Palmerston North Public Hospital thinks they compare very favourably with Radio Luxemburg and Radio Normandie! Doug, admits that he finds these statements very hard to believe.

## "Quads" Birthday

When the famous Johnson Quadruplets of Dunedin celebrated their fifth birthday, 4ZB gave an exclusive broadcast of the birthday party at 2.15 in the afternoon. Listeners were delighted by the homely atmosphere of the broadcast, which was handled by Lionel Seats and "Peter." The voices of Bruce, Kathleen and Mary Johnson were all distinctly heard by the thousands of listeners, although Vera was a little shy of the microphone. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson spoke during the broadcast as also did the grandfather of the "Quads," Mr. Miller. Mrs. Johnson told listeners that there had previously been an occurrence of quadruplets in the family, but it was very many years ago. The quadruplets, in that instance, did not live for very long.

## SUNRISE SERVICE Broadcast on Easter Sunday

**I**N TENSE interest is being manifested in the Easter Sunrise Service to be held on Mount Victoria, Wellington, on Easter Sunday, March 24. Those attended last year's Service have recalled its beautiful simplicity and the impressive sight presented by the thousands who gathered about the Cross on the hilltop. This year's Service will be presided over by the Controller of the Commercial Broadcasting Service (Uncle Scrim) and the clergy taking part will be the Rev. H. C. Edridge (Baptist), the Rev. Dr. J. Gibson Inkster (Presbyterian), Captain Elliott Major (Salvation Army), the Rev. Percy Paris (Methodist), and the Rev. Harry Squires (Anglican).

The singing of the hymns will again be led by a combined choir under the conductorship of H. Temple White, and the choir will render the "Hallelujah Chorus." The combined bands of the Wellington Boys' Institute and the Salvation Army will accompany the singing.

It has been ascertained that the sun will rise from behind the eastern hills at 6.27 a.m., and the beginning of the Service has therefore been fixed for 6.15 a.m., the public being invited to gather shortly after 6 a.m.

The big white Cross illuminated at night will again be associated with the Service. Towering above the city and standing out clearly against the darkness of the night, it conduces to a thoughtful appreciation of the significance of Easter.

To convey the public to the Service, special bus services have been arranged by courtesy of the Tramway and Railway authorities. The details of these will be broadcast frequently by 2ZB on the day before the Service. The Traffic Department has made special arrangements for the parking of cars.

This year, with many nations of the world engaged in war, the story of the Risen Christ assumes a new significance.

Drawing aside for a brief period from the more material business of life, the Commercial Broadcasting Service in all humility dedicates this Service to the people of New Zealand and invites them to attend it, or to tune in to the network broadcast.

THIS IS THE COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING SERVICE