



Dulcet Junior Choir

ONE of the musical features of Christchurch is the annual concert of the popular Dulcet Junior Choir (seen above). These concerts are of about two and a-quarter hours' duration, and the whole of the work performed is memorised by the members, leaving them free to concentrate on the conductor, A. G. Thompson, B.A., L.R.S.M. A notable point about their work is that the vocal and instrumental solos and all the accompaniments—sometimes difficult—are carried out by the young members of the choir.

The objects of the organisers and conductors—Mrs. and Mr. Thompson—are that the young members of the community shall have an opportunity of expressing themselves in good music, and that the various musical societies and choirs shall have in the future the benefit of the training now given to the juniors.

The Dulcet Choir comprises boys and girls between the ages of 11 and 18 years, with an average of approximately 14 years. Practices are held once a week

PEOPLE IN THE PROGRAMMES



A Professor's Talk

PROFESSOR F. G. SOPER, D.Sc., F.I.C. (above), who will talk on modern trends in scientific thought, with special reference to chemistry and medicine, in the Winter Course series from 4YA on Tuesday, June 25, arrived in New Zealand four years ago on appointment to the Chair of Chemistry at the University of Otago. This appointment followed research and lecturing experience mainly at the University College of North Wales, Bangor. He is Director of the New Zealand Wool Manufacturers' Research Association, which was formed three years ago, and President-Elect of the Chemistry Section of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science, for its Adelaide meeting. In the last war he served overseas in the Royal Artillery, and is now a member of the Defence Scientific Advisory Committee.



Experience And Success

IN the seven years in which she has been singing, Alison Cordery, the Christchurch soprano (above) has had experience in Australia and England as well as in New Zealand. Beginning her tuition under Lucy Fullwood she had many successes in the Christchurch Competitions, finally annexing the Ladies' Scholarship in 1935. Since then she has studied with Will Hutchens, Mus. Bac., and in 1938, while in England, took lessons from Dorothy Helmrich, well-known singer, who is at present in Australia broadcasting for the ABC. On her return to New Zealand Alison Cordery won the Grand Opera Aria Contest at Christchurch in 1939, and later travelled to Australia, where she gained second place against 147 entries in the Grand Opera "Sun" Aria Contest. In Christchurch she has sung for many local societies and is president of the Eroica Club.

Land," was of sufficient excellence to warrant its publication by a big London music firm. It will be heard for the first time during the Wellington Centennial Music Festival — on the evening programme for this Saturday, June 22.

The work, which was written and published in 1938, with the dedication: "Dedicated to the Royal Wellington Choral Union on the eve of the one hundredth birthday of that 'delightful land,' New Zealand," is a most fitting one for the Centennial programmes. The words are compiled from the Bible, and the work ends with the phrase from Malachi, "And all nations shall call ye blessed, for ye shall be a delightful land." There are moments of triumph for the chorus, but the middle section is soft and restrained, taking as its theme the admonition of the Scriptures to peaceful living.

The work is scored for chorus and small orchestra—that is, flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, horn, two trumpets, trombones, timpani, organ, piano, and strings.



Spencer Digby photograph

WINIFRED BOURKE (pianist) gave a recital from 2YA, Wellington, on Monday of this week (June 17)



KEITH HARRIS (above), who will be performing from 4YA on Saturday, June 29, was born in 1915 and began broadcasting in 1931 with a Trio called the "Symposians," who were heard regularly from 4YA until the trio disbanded at the end of last year. He had his first classical music training on the clarinet with the Dunedin Junior Orchestra, and later played in 4YA Concert Orchestra under Gil Dech. In 1937 he joined Dick Colvin's Band, as alto saxophone doubling clarinet and trombone, when this band first went on the air. He has been with it ever since

from 6 p.m. to 7.15 p.m.—an arrangement which interferes little with school home-work.

In forming this type of city choir a few years ago Mr. and Mrs. Thompson hoped that their action might be followed by others interested in the development of choral music, and that in each city someone would take the responsibility of forming a training ground for

future members of New Zealand city and church choirs.

A study of the studio programme to be broadcast from 3YA on June 28 will give an indication of the class of music that these young people enjoy singing. This studio broadcast will be given by about 50 members, which is half the full strength of the choir.

"A Delightful Land"

IT is hard to imagine a more modest or reticent composer than Wellington's Stanley Oliver. He is, for example, disarmingly frank in saying that his composing activities are only indulged in "every summer holiday when I write a piece or two for fun." But his work for chorus and orchestra, "A Delightful