

A Run Through The Programmes



then he has been a don at Oxford, and has written books. He was a member of the Alls-water Commission on the Future of Broadcasting. Don't miss Lord Elton.

Marsh for Mystery

In another paragraph on this page we mention Herrick as a contrast between England four hundred years ago and Britain now. For another contrast, between us now and them then, 3YA also provides the necessary item. Herrick and his friends wrote when words themselves were almost new, and rhymes cheap at a penny a dozen. Now all the words are worn out. We no longer write in rhyme. We use the same vocabulary, but we use it to describe new things; among these the art and craft of murder, arson, burglary, bigamy, and other developments in the modern organisation of crime. Our own notable exponent of the new literature, Ngaio Marsh, will talk about "Detective Fiction" from 3YA at 7.40 p.m. on Tuesday, July 30.

Landmark?

When you listen to "Arctic Rescue" at 9.29 p.m. on Sunday, July 28, from 2YA, Wellington, you will be hearing a show which may be considered a landmark: for many radio experts declare that it is this type of production—the reconstruction of an actual event—which will be the true radio drama of the future. Written by the celebrated "Taffrail," this is a chronicle, part fiction, mostly fact, of a shipwreck which occurred off Bear Island, which lies well north of the Arctic Circle, in November, 1931. The "Howe" went ashore on the west side of the island, and the rescue involved crossing the barren island in the face of a gale. This is a National Broadcasting Service production.

Happy Herrick

No greater contrast between the present and the past could be drawn than O. L. Simmance will make with his reading from 3YA on Wednesday, July 31, at 8 p.m. His author this time is Herrick, who lived in what we now regard as the bravest days of England's history. Around him the world was growing out of childhood into husky adolescence, but for Herrick life remained a time for cream and cheese, milk and milkmaids, peaches and roses, on the trees and bushes and in the milkmaid's cheeks as well. History tells us about Danegeld and Doomsday, the Armada, Flodden, and the Irish question. But it takes a Chaucer to tell of the Canterbury pilgrims, and Herrick to give us haw-

thorne hedges and milady's silks a'flowing. Herrick was a romantic, almost pure and very simple: a good antidote for totalitarianism.

Slang Harangue

However it may be resisted—in the schools, by the radio, newspapers—however much it may be ignored by the dictionaries, slang sooner or later establishes its place in the language of a nation. For its expletive or descriptive effect, slang must have vigour, it must be fit for its job (our artist suggests one of its more common uses), and if it is



good slang it will be good enough to last until in the end even the haughty "Oxford" will have to print it and explain it. Slang is, in fact, a prime source of new language. But how do these new words take shape, where and when do they begin? These questions Sidney Baker has been asking himself for many years. He is now collecting his answers for a dictionary, and is being generous enough to make progress reports available. Some of these will be given in a series beginning at 2YA on Sunday, July 28, at 3 p.m. Mr. Baker's work is described in our "People in the Programmes" page.

Anti-Christ?

Largely because he had written "Thus Spake Zarathustra," Nietzsche, then many years dead, was in 1914 called "the mind that caused the Great War." Zarathustra expounds the philosophy of the superman, and it has been called the philosophy of Anti-Christ. Whether this is true or not, Richard Strauss, in writing his tone poem "Thus Spake Zarathustra," has embodied some of the strange brilliance of the writing in his music. The Strauss composition is to be heard from 3YA, Christchurch, at 3 p.m. on Sunday, July 28.



SHORTWAVES

I TRY to picture the shape of the world economy after the war is over — whoever wins — and I'm dumbfounded by what I see. — *Stuart Chase, economist.*

MELVYN DOUGLAS has been assigned to the lead in Columbia's "Ode to Liberty," which has been re-titled "He Stayed for Breakfast." — *"Daily Express," London.*

IN his birthday eulogy of Hitler, Dr. Dietrich, the German Press chief, declared that the Fuehrer is a genius who is living a century before his time. There must be a billion people in the world who wish he hadn't hurried. — *"New Yorker."*

HITLER calls up Musso on the long-distance. In order to put the Duce at ease, Adolf says, "While you can hear my voice there can be no danger." The Duce replies: "Good, but when there is danger you won't hear my voice." — *Budapest joke, reported in "The Leader."*

THE most fanatical supporters of Hitler are women who have let their emotions outrange their understanding. — *"Sunday Graphic."*

A DEMAND for talking parrots, mostly by women whose husbands are away with the forces or whose children are evacuated, is reported. — *"Evening Standard," London.*

A BLIND BEGGAR in Central Park, New York, this spring was given more coins than any other blind man in the city. Practically every passer-by put a coin in his cup, some even turning back to make their contribution. The sign he carried on his chest said: "It is May—and I am blind." — *"Reader's Digest."*

MOTHERHOOD is the chief task of German women. The Fuehrer has given us enormous tasks to fulfil in Central Europe, which can only be accomplished if we have a sufficient number of children of excellent racial stock. — *Dr. Frick, Reich Minister of the Interior.*

SEND Lloyd George to Moscow at the head of a trade mission. He and Stalin would have much in common, and it might prove an interesting experiment. — *Beverley Baxter, M.P.*