

# "THE LOST EMPIRE"

**B**EGINNING at 12B on Sunday, August 11, at 9.5 p.m., and later at all other ZB stations and 2ZA, the Commercial Broadcasting Service will bring to radio a new serial of the adventures of Nikolai Rezanov. This is an unusual programme, a story of intrigue, of plot and counter-plot laid in Russia's glamorous capital, St. Petersburg, during Russia's most stirring period—the reign of Catherine the Great.

The story moves to distant, legend-haunted corners of the world, to bleak Siberia, primitive Japan, to Alaska in the days when Russia owned it, and to Spanish California. It is the

cisco, this tale of adventure carries the listener in a never-failing sequence of exciting events. The Lost Empire is that part of North America which was once held by Russian adventurers, who, under orders from Catherine the Great, sought new lands and new trade, while Napoleon's armies harassed Europe.

Catherine's Captain of the Guard and personal favourite, Nikolai Rezanov, was given absolute control of the expedition, and this man is the hero of the radio story. Against overwhelming odds, he battled his way down the west coast of America to the small Spanish Settlement of San Francisco. While endeavouring to promote friendly relations with the Spanish, and further a better understanding for trade, he fell in love with the



**NORMAN FIELD:** He portrays the Siberian fur merchant in "The Lost Empire." Perhaps he is known best for his remarkable role of Peter MacGregor in "House of Peter MacGregor." This one part can speak for his ability as an actor. He will now be heard at 9.5 p.m. at Station 12B on Sunday, August 11; at 22B on August 18; with 32B and 42B to follow.

story of the time when Imperial Russia reached out to hold and possess America's West Coast.

For the first time in any radio programme the tale of this little-known phase of American history will be told. "The Lost Empire," comprising the adventures of Nikolai Rezanov, is based upon the recently-published biography of Rezanov, by Hector Chevigny.

From the intrigue-ridden Court of Catherine of Russia, to the Mongolian frontier; then across to Alaska and down the Western Coast of America to what is now San Fran-



**FREDERICK SHIELDS,** who plays the part of Nikolai Rezanov in the new feature "The Lost Empire."

pretty daughter of the General in charge of the fort. Marriage was impossible without the permission of his Empress, so he decided to return to Russia for assistance and advice.

The many scenes of love, intrigue, paths and stirring adventure, as contrasted with the splendour and waste of Court life, provide as vivid and tense situations as have ever been attempted in radio.

The entire story is packed with interest. Authentic historical background is combined with unusual geographical settings, thereby tying up fact with entertainment. At once the play becomes of "general appeal"—children will love the adventure and travel, women will eagerly follow the romance, while men will admire the courage and bravery constantly depicted throughout the story.

Tune in to Station 12B at 9.5 p.m. next Sunday night, August 11.

On Monday, August 12, the world-famous organist, Sydney Torch, will play "Isn't It Heavenly?" "Torchlight Music" and "Lullaby of the Leaves." On Wednesday, August 14, Al Bollington will preside at the Console, playing "Bolero," and other numbers; and on Friday, August 16, Reginald Foort will entertain. His programme will include "Musical Trip Round the British Isles," "In The Chapel in the Moonlight," and "Le Cygne."

## "MAN IN THE MAKING"

New 12B Session

**A** UNIQUE session had its initial broadcast from 12B last Tuesday when Brian Knight presented "Man in the Making."

It is Mr. Knight's ambition to arouse interest, particularly in young people, to fit themselves for another position should the need arise.

In these days when a job may seem secure one day and not exist the next, it is wise to be able to turn to another calling.

Mr. Knight pointed out that most jobs have a kindred training of some kind, so that most people can train for another job in their spare time.

Mr. Knight who has graduated B.A. at Auckland University College, is a well-known educationist and child-psychologist in Auckland.

He has offered his help to young people needing vocational guidance and advice about post-school education.

Mr. Knight will be heard each Tuesday evening at 10 p.m.

## "SONG HITS OF TO-MORROW"

**T**HIS programme, which is broadcast by Reg. Morgan instead of his usual programme, "Songs at the Piano," on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at 3.30, is becoming deservedly popular.

Listeners are given a musical treat, for they hear Reg. sing songs which are entirely modern, and copies of which are not yet available to the public. Reg. is in touch with song publishers overseas and receives advance copies of songs from them. Thus, the "Song Hits of To-morrow" become the entertainment of the day from Station 22B.

On Tuesday last, August 6, his bracket of songs was:

"Meet the Sun Half Way,"  
"When You Wish Upon a Star," and  
"Wooden Shoes."

For Thursday, August 8, Reg. will sing:  
"Too Romantic,"  
"The Moon and the Willow Tree,"  
"The Pessimistic Character."



**THIS bright-looking lad, Morgan Fabey,** is a featured performer in 42B's Children Hour. Morgan is a recent arrival from Christchurch, where he won many first prizes at the annual competitions.

## THEY CLOSED THE SHOPS!

When 42B Visited Gore For Town's First Broadcast "Sing"

**A**CCORDING to the "Mataura Ensign," on Friday, July 19, Gore had its first broadcast community sing. "It was a novel event for the town, but none the less successful on that account. Shortly after 7.30 o'clock, not one seat was available in the Princess Theatre and extra chairs were crammed into every corner of the hall," said the paper.

That Friday was certainly an historic day for Gore. All the farmers came to town and many visitors came from Invercargill to see their radio favourites in person. Although Friday is the late night in Gore, all shops were shut at 8 p.m. for this auspicious occasion.

The articles put up for auction by Lionel Sceats at the "sing" were remarkable in their variety, ranging from tea, eggs and fruit cake to budgerigars and canaries, with kitchen utensils, babies' outfits, rugs and dogs also on the list. Other items included breakfast foods, potatoes, carrots, and swedes, hot water bottles, Angora rabbits, a wrinkle-remover and a Shetland pony which was ridden on to the stage and realised £12, and a 4-ton load of mill blocks. The programme met with public approval from start to finish with Jimmy McFarlane in fine fettle as song leader and "Spud" Murphy excelling himself as comedian. Peter Dawson, Rita Holmes as accompanist, Jack Bremner, Ted Heaney as accordionist, and Lionel Sceats were all given an excellent hearing.

Donations were acknowledged over the air and as the responses came to hand by telephone, they were announced to the audience. These sums ranged from 5/- to £100 and totalled over £650. The Mayor of Gore, A. T. Newman, thanked 42B for their wonderful effort, and in reply, the Station Director, Merton Bullivant, congratulated the local committee on its splendid organisation.

At the conclusion of the Community Sing the 42B party and the voluntary workers associated with the Gore Patriotic Committee were entertained at supper.

The local residents insisted that the 42B artists repeat some of their numbers and the radio personalities were kept going until the wee small hours of the morning. Nevertheless, it was a happy party which returned to Dunedin on Saturday morning after raising £1,000 for the Gore Patriotic Funds. It's not every day that the shops in Gore are closed at 8 o'clock when 42B comes to town.

## FAVOURITES IN SONG

**O**N Sunday next at 7.15 p.m., 32B listeners will be entertained by a special programme of Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy singing favourite numbers from some of the films they have appeared in together.

Among the selections will be "The Indian Love Call" (duet) from "Rose Marie."

Nelson Eddy will sing "Neath the Southern Moon" ("Naughty Marietta") and Jeannette will sing "Lower Come Back to Me" ("New Moon"). "Farewell to Dreams" by Romberg, will be another delightful duet.

## AT THE CONSOLE

**T**HE organ is one of the most beautiful of musical instruments, and some of the world's greatest music was composed for it. Organ music, particularly that of the Hammond and Wurlitzer organs, is particularly well adapted for radio, and 22B's new session, "At the Console" is one of the most popular of afternoon sessions. Finlay Robb conducts the session.