

# WONDERFUL RESPONSE

## £2,150 Contributed To Bomber Fund In 2ZA's Appeal

**A**FTER an appeal to the public for donations on Sunday night, September 1, Station 2ZA received £2,150 in contributions for the Commercial Travellers' Rehabilitation and Bomber Fund, proof of the large listening audience that the Commercial Broadcasting Service's junior station must have.

From 8 o'clock to midnight telephones were ringing constantly, and listeners were phoning to donate whatever sum they could afford, be it 6d. or £5. In four hours £2,150 had been given.

The appeal was run along the same lines as that conducted recently by the ZB stations for the Sick, Wounded and Distress Fund, when the response was tremendous.

### Twenty Lines Busy

John Brown, Station Director of 2ZA, had to get busy and organise a system whereby listeners could ring the station without confusion, and without having to wait several minutes for a connection. And it is to the P. & T. Department that great credit must go, for they installed 20 telephone lines, and all outside exchanges were open in the Palmerston North District. These people worked voluntarily, and willingly. Mr. Brown says: "I cannot express my appreciation of the manner in which the P. & T. Department co-ordinated with us; without their assistance we could not have possibly dealt with so many 'phone calls. Their work was un-

tiring, as was that of the Commercial Travellers' Association, and of my own staff, too. It was all done in a most co-operative spirit."

Station 2ZA was equipped and ready at 7.45 p.m. The Mayor of Palmerston North, A. E. Mansford, opened the proceedings with a short appeal to listeners to assist to their utmost "The Rehabilitation and Bomber Fund."

### Up and Down the Country

At two minutes to eight o'clock the first donation was received, and from then until two minutes past midnight listeners steadily phoned, some calls coming from as far south as Invercargill, and some from as far north as Dargaville.

Among those who made appeals to listeners over the air were: Jack Grant, President of the Palmerston North Rotary Club, C. Chicatto, who spoke on behalf of the business people, L. Collinson, President of the Manawatu Racing Club, and Bert Jacobs, President of the R.S.A. (Vice-President of N.Z.R.S.A.). J. Hodgkins, M.P. for the district, also gave an address.

Percy Aitken, President of the C.T.A., paid a tribute to those who had given up their time to the job, to Station 2ZA for its generous donation of time on the air, and to listeners who had made such a ready response to the appeal.

There was a crowd in the studio and after Mr. Aitken's speech of thanks they began "For They Are Jolly Good Fellows," thus paying another tribute to 2ZA's willing assistance.



Two of the lads who assisted in 2ZA's bottle drive—with obviously good results! The largest and smallest bottles collected. The proceeds were for the local Red Cross

## CHILDREN'S SESSIONS AT 3ZB

"**R**ADIO 3ZB, the time is 5 o'clock, and we bring you the Children's Session," is an announcement that is looked forward to by thousands of kiddies and grown-ups too, because it means the time which Longfellow so aptly described:

*"Between the dark and the daylight,  
When the night is beginning to lower,  
Comes a pause in the day's occupations,  
That is known as the Children's Hour."*

To the young listeners of to-day, the Children's Hour is the time of enchantment, when the magic of radio can whisk them away into fairyland, or the land of adventure—the time when young folk can meet at the "mike" and exchange their views with other youngsters on subjects that appeal to them. When the curtain goes up on the Children's Session at 3ZB each Monday, the babble of young voices tells a tale of studio activity. It's "Garden Circle" night when all the members forgather in the main studio to discuss their gardening problems and seek assistance from Mr. Garden Man, who knows all the answers. Even Miss Six-Year-Old is there with her little questions—all very important too.

### Problems and Questions

When the "Garden Circle" finish their business, the very young folk must have their musical interlude, and then of course problems are discussed by members of the "Young Folks' Forum," which has proved very popular since its inception. Uncle Tom and his Choir then take the air with happy good-night greetings.

Tuesday evening's session gives young folk an opportunity of gaining the information they seek, because that is the night when Gracie and Jacko, by means of their "Magic Bell," are transported to the Enchanted Forest to meet Wise Owl, who as his name implies, is the wisest of all the forest birds, and can answer any questions asked of him.

At 5.15 the Junior Players take the stage to recall those favourites of the nursery—Grimm's fairy tales. Five thirty is the signal for the entry of members of the "Musical Army" who show how they have progressed on harmonica, steel guitar, mandolin, piano-

accordion and any of the other instruments which these hundreds of young folk have found pleasure in learning.

### Chance for Young Talent

Wednesday has its section reserved for those youngsters who would like to sing or play over the air, and many talented young folks present themselves for audition. Again the Junior Players make their appearance, as chapter after chapter of the "Sandman" is unfolded for the entertainment of listeners. Uncle Tom's lullaby is a fitting conclusion to all Children's Sessions.

And so we come to 5 p.m. Thursday, and perhaps a trip with Gracie and Jacko on the "Magic Carpet" with the genie as guide. What fun these journey are, as the Magic Carpet flies through the air to lands far away, where the travellers meet strange people and strange adventures. It seems almost a shame to come back to the studio, but there are sure to be some young stars of the future awaiting to be heard; and then, too, pupils of the Group Teaching Association must report progress.

### Busy on Fridays

Friday is a very busy night at 3ZB, when Wise Owl answers more questions and then taxes his brain to find a correct solution to all the riddles that are pressed upon him. As soon as Wise Owl flies away, the young folk must have their bedtime musical story, so that they may be content to allow big brother and sister to listen to the "Children's Radio Newsreel" with its abundance of interesting news items.

Saturday is kiddies' night—school work forgotten, the children flock to the studio to see the Talent Circle perform. Children from six to fifteen make their appearance from time to time in song, music and dance, and provide a most interesting first act for the Children's Session. Then it's time for another chapter of the "Sandman," and before they say "good-night" a regiment of the Musical Army, as many as 100 in number, provides an entertaining and attractive programme.

Five-forty-five on Saturday—and it's signing-off time for another week of Children's Sessions.

## DUNEDIN'S RADIO QUEENS

### 4ZB Personalities Prominent In £100,000 Drive

**S**INCE the Great War of 1914, radio has emerged from the position of a new and experimental means of communication to something which is part and parcel of everyone's life. It was inevitable that, with the re-opening of hostilities between the Allies and Germany last year, radio should immediately challenge the printed word as our first line of information. However it is not only as a news medium that modern radio broadcasting has an important war-time role to play. The folk who serve the public day in and day out at the microphone become welcome guests in nearly every home, and their friendly voices are good company throughout the day for housewives as they busy themselves with household tasks. They are not merely well known names—they are on speaking terms with thousands of people, and so it has come about that in choosing three "leading ladies" for the great £100,000 Otago Queen Carnival, the Dunedin citizens in charge of patriotic activities selected two of their Queens from the local Commercial Station. Jessie McLennan and Airini Grennell represent the Navy and the Army respectively, with Mary Pratt, well-known contralto, as the Air Force Queen.



Jessie of 4ZB, who has been selected to be Navy Queen

Dunedin listeners remember with pleasure Miss Pratt's recent appearance before the 4ZB microphone in a group of patriotic songs, and

there is every indication that the friendly battle for supremacy between these three popular women will make certain the attainment of the committee's goal of £100,000.