

# BILLY BUNTER ON THE AIR!

## Greyfriars Schoolboys In Radio Serial

**G**OOD news, you "Magnet" fans: Bunter, Wharton and Co., the boys of Greyfriars School, are not dead yet! They've been yarumpling around in the Fifth Remove for nearly half a century, and we'd all thought the wartime demise of the "Magnet" Magazine had finally despatched them. Then came reassuring news that publication of the "Magnet" was only deferred for the duration. Now comes better news still: They're all going on the air in a radio serial which starts on October 28, from 2YD Wellington. It will run for 13 weeks, two sessions weekly, each Monday and Wednesday at 7.35 p.m.

They are the same fellows the "Magnet" has immortalised. There is the same talk of "you chaps" and "fathead" and the same plaintive Bunter, unwilling partner of Wharton and Co. in a

thousand escapades. But Bunter on the air is, if possible, even better than Bunter in print. Instead of reading about his squeaky voice, you hear it.

The first episode discovers the chaps making preparations for an Atlantic crossing. The Easter hols. are coming, y'know, and Vernon-Smith's pater has just bought a ranch. It's the Kicking Cayuse Ranch, in Texas, of course, and the fellows are eagerly anticipating the Wild West, with six-guns and howling cowboys wearing leather pants and wide hats. It's going to be great, what ho!

But there's a catch. There would be. Vernon-Smith receives word that Buckskin Bill (William Buck to you), is in England and will travel with them. Vernon-Smith is a bit anxious about this piece of news, and consults the Famous Five. They decide they will have to put up with it. Buckskin Bill is expected at the school any minute. This will make Greyfriars sit up, by Jove!

### Bunter is in Trouble

Meanwhile, Bunter has been in trouble. Skinner and Snoop are at the bottom of it. Skinner has deceived Bunter; and Bunter, unusually angry, summons enough courage from his rage to dot Skinner's eye. It turns a beautiful blue-green-black. Before Skinner can recover, Bunter comes to his senses and scuttles into hiding. He chooses the visitors' room, because no one would think of looking for him in this sanctum.

He is looking fearfully through a crack in the door when he hears footsteps along the passage. He dives behind a desk. "Oh! Oh dear!"

Enter the Head: "Well, my good man, and what can we do for you?"

The visitor: "Y' gotta a guy here name of Voinon Smit?"

"That is the name of one of my pupils."

So it goes on. The visitor turns out to be Two-Gun Saunders, from way-out-west, masquerading as Buckskin Bill. Vernon-Smith is summoned to the room. Two-Gun Saunders attempts to frighten him into deferring his visit to Kicking Cayuse Ranch. Smith, interested by evidence of dirty work, decides that the Famous Five simply must go, and says as much, at the risk of "getting the daylight let into him" by the heavily-armed stranger. Smith, by the way, has recognised him for an impersonator.

Saunders starts talking tough. "Keep cleara dat boig, see?" But Smith will have none of this. He refuses. Saunders is about to strike him over the head with the butt of his shooter when Bunter ("This is awful") comes to light. And then—but wait and listen . . .

# LESSONS IN MORSE

## (3) Practice With Difficult Letters

**T**HE third signalling lesson was broadcast from Stations 2YC, 1ZM and 3YL on September 23, 24 and 25.

At this stage of the training the Morse Code should have been memorised. In the event of difficulty being experienced in receiving certain letters, it is suggested that the phonetic method of memorising referred to in Lesson 2 be persisted in. Take a word, or, better still, a sentence, and "ditdah" the letters over in your mind. The adoption of this procedure will help you to recognise the characters quickly during receiving practice.

For real progress each trainee should be able to set aside ten to fifteen minutes daily for sending practice.

### Change In Time

As from September 30, and until further notice, the transmission of signalling instruction to Air Force trainees will begin at 10 p.m. instead of 6.35 p.m.

As daylight saving comes into force on September 29, the reception at 6.35 p.m. will not be satisfactory, and this change is made with the intention of ensuring the best possible reception during the summer months.

These rules must again be emphasised:—

- (1) A relaxed grip.
- (2) Free vertical wrist action; and
- (3) Sending slowly, concentrating on the correct formation of the letters.

(The remainder of the lesson was taken up in receiving practice, particular attention being given to the more difficult letters, such as "L," "F," "X," "Q," "Z," "C," "Y," etc.)

## A LITTLE STATION GOES A LONG WAY

The excellent carrying strength of Invercargill's Station 4YZ is indicated in recent reports on the "Listener's Own Session," broadcast each Tuesday, and scheduled for next week at 7.45 p.m.

Programmes for broadcast are sent from as far north as Whangarei, Auckland and the Bay of Plenty. Several families in the Bay of Plenty listen to it every week. Taihape and towns in the Waikato send reports of good reception. Hawke's Bay, Wanganui, Wellington, Nelson and Blenheim are usually represented in the "Listener's Own" mail. Recently a letter about the session was received in Invercargill from Samoa.

In the local field the station is also getting a good response to its programmes. It is now using juvenile artists in the studio for the children's session on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. An appeal for talent was broadcast, and more than 200 came in.

Station 4YZ recently lost the last of its original staff when Miss F. G. Hinchley left to take up nursing in Wellington. Others on the original staff were R. T. Parsons, who resigned to go into business locally, Cecil Parsons, now overseas with the N.Z.E.F., and J. F. Skedden, now on the NBS staff in Christchurch.

## CALM YOURSELF Mrs. JACKSON



**N**ow, Mrs. Jackson, it doesn't help anyone if you get all jittery. Your job just now is to get your nerves in hand. Thousands of women like you are taking Clements Tonic, and finding it helps them to keep calm and confident. Clements Tonic feeds the body with those strength-giving elements—Phosphates, Iron, Calcium and Quinine—which, in combination, enrich blood, brain and nerves. After a bottle or two of Clements Tonic you will feel wonderful in mind and body and have "nerves of steel".

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