



# FIRST "SILLY SYMPHONY" OF THE AIR

"Christmas on the Moon" For CBS



A TECHNIQUE similar to that introduced to films by Walt Disney, has now been introduced to radio; the first "Silly Symphony" of the air is "Christmas on the Moon," which had its premiere at Station 4ZB on October 6.

Walt Disney has created such well-known figures as Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, and all the little characters of "Snow White" and "Pinocchio," and it is felt that the fanciful people and animals in the radio fantasy, "Christmas on the Moon," will also

quickly find their way into the hearts of listeners.

The "pre-audition" of this delightful fantasy at the Head Office of the CBS was enthusiastically received, even by the most hardened radio critics, for the artistry of the production has resulted in a play of unusual charm and merit.

The story tells of the adventures of "Jonathan Thomas," a little lad six years of age, who went to the moon one night. He got himself in a terrible fix—he was chasing his teddy bear "Gus," and Gus ran away to chase two animals up to the moon.

Poor Jonathan Thomas nearly broke his heart because he and Gus had never been

apart. He hunted in vain on the moon, and when he came to return home he couldn't remember the way. He knocked on the door of the Man in the Moon.



Now, the Man in the Moon was a very kind old fellow, and he gave Jonathan Thomas some breakfast.

While Jonathan Thomas was breakfasting there was a frightful shouting and banging, and the little people of the moon came to accuse Jonathan Thomas of kidnapp-

ing Santa Claus. They called him a spy, and a terrible guy, and finally he promised to obey all the laws and find Santa Claus.

Without Santa Claus there would be no Christmas, people would be sad, and things would be in a bad state. No Christmas presents for the little people.

The Man in the Moon offered to go with Jonathan Thomas to look for Santa Claus, and they set out on the Man in the Moon's horse.

"Christmas on the Moon" will begin at Station 3ZB on October 14, at 2ZB on October 21, and at Station 1ZB on October 28. Time, 6.45 p.m. at all stations.

## "BETTY AND BOB"

Two People With Thousands Of Friends



Arlene Francis ("Betty") and Carl Frank ("Bob") seem to find something to laugh at in their script!

WHAT interests people most in a story? What fascinates them? The answer is to be found in the great stories of all time. The writers of those stories wrote for and about the people who read and listened to their stories. They dramatised the common problems of humanity.

The "Betty and Bob" story, which is broadcast over the ZB stations at 2 o'clock each Monday to Friday afternoon, has these qualities. For over a year in New Zealand, and for eight years over the NBC in America they have been "ordinary folk" who "lead ordinary lives." Millions of people have been entertained, enlightened, and inspired by the story of their struggle for happiness. And today we find them at the most exciting period of their lives.

Betty and Bob are now the parents of twins, a boy and a girl, and are the owners

of a crusading newspaper in a typical American city. All the good causes of American life are their causes. Into their lives come the characters and conflicts, the good and evil, the underworld and the upperworld, the strong and the weak, of a typical city. Their newspaper "The Trumpet," is the pulse of the community.

When the story opens, Betty and Bob are returning to their home in the country so that Bob can convalesce from a serious illness. Bob is restless in the country, constantly longing to get back to his paper in the city. Suddenly the news comes through that startling things are happening in the city. There has been a complete and unaccountable change in the city government—the city manager and the police commissioner have resigned.

Betty and Bob, knowing that they were honest and capable men, realise that the forces

"STORYTIME with Bryan O'Brien" what has hitherto been a 2ZB programme at 5 p.m. on Sunday evening, is now to be heard over the CBS network. The session will be relayed from all ZB Stations at the same time on Sunday evening.



BRYAN O'BRIEN

The CBS has decided to take this step, because of the popularity of the feature. Bryan O'Brien has received many congratulatory letters from all corners of New Zealand, proving beyond a doubt that young

and old alike tune in to 2ZB specially to hear the session.

Like any true storyteller, Bryan brings two qualities to his work, simplicity of language and sincerity.

A letter last week from a young lad of eight requested Bryan to "tell us an adventure story this week; we liked your stories about the painter and the musicians, but we do like your adventure stories, Bryan. If you can't, it doesn't matter!"

Bryan proved obliging, and the following Sunday he narrated the exciting story of "A Crocodile."

The CBS feels sure that listeners will greet the new decision with delight, and will tune in to "Storytime with Bryan O'Brien" next Sunday evening at 5 p.m.

of corruption, which they have been valiantly fighting, have gained a victory.

So they return to the city. There they meet Ellsworth Jameson, the new city manager, and his strange and restless daughter, Margaret. Betty and Bob sense in Margaret a lack of respect for her father, even a sense of shame.

Being suspicious of Jameson to begin with, Betty and Bob feel that through his daughter they may learn the true circumstances of his becoming city manager, and just who his political bosses are.

Betty attempts to win the friendship of Margaret, and finally persuades her to be sponsor in a playground campaign which "The Trumpet" is promoting. Slowly Betty wins the confidence of this bewildered, tormented girl. And one night, following a quarrel with her father, Margaret bursts into the Drake home, and tells the whole sordid truth of her father's career, of political intrigue, of her mother who died of a broken heart, of her father's servility and terror, of her hate.

"Betty and Bob" is a thrilling story. It is broadcast each afternoon from Monday to Friday at 2 o'clock over the ZB Stations.

## "REGGIE'S" DEBUT

COMEDY is in demand these days, and the ZB Stations promise listeners plenty of laughs in "Oh, Reggie!" which takes the air this week. This serial tells of Reginald Fysh, ne'er-do-well son of a London stockbroker, who decides to go to Australia and "make good."

His father says: "Your mother and I don't want to be hard on you. But when you arrive at the age of 24 with no further thought or ambition than to let cab-horses loose, overturn milk-cans, and spend the night in gaol, just for fun, then something has got to be done."

Unable to stand the family's "insults" any longer, Reggie borrows £200 from his grandmother, and takes passage to Australia.

To his amazement, he discovers on board ship that the old family servant Merryweather, has decided to join him, having had secret yearnings in this direction for many years past.

Reginald Fysh is portrayed by Barret Lenard. Lou. Vernon is Merryweather.

"Oh, Reggie" will be heard from 1ZB each Thursday at 7.30 p.m., from October 10. Other stations will follow.