

# "SHIPS AND THE SEA"

"SHIPS and the Sea," a programme heard on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, at 7.30 p.m. over the ZB network, reflects considerable credit on the Commercial Broadcasting Service, for it is one of their own productions featuring Peter Whitechurch, who narrates many epic stories of the sea.

A great deal of research has been done to produce the programme, as listeners should realise when they tune in to it. It will, in the main, feature tragedy, but through each story will run the heroism typical of British sailors when faced with disaster.

The session features famous shipwrecks, together with such famous stories as the life of Sir Ernest Shackleton, one of the 20th-century's sea heroes. New Zealand shipwrecks will be dealt with, including the story of the Union Company's Penguin and of the Wairarapa — two of the highlights of maritime history in New Zealand.

We have had ample proof recently of the phlegmatic qualities of the British race. We seem to be a race which can calmly receive news of awful and tragic portent with an equanimity which is at once infuriating and unintelligible to foreigners.

## Loss of the Victoria

Certain sea disasters stand out, however—such as the tragedies of the Titanic, the Morro Castle, of L'Atlantique, and the Lusitania—because of their immensity.

In such a category as this must be placed the loss of H.M.S. Victoria. The Victoria was a battleship of 12,000 tons. For her day—sixty years ago—she carried a really formidable armament. She was comparable with the Rodney, Hood, or Nelson of to-day. Instead of the "battleship grey" we have come to expect as the only colour for naval ships, she was a beautiful shining white, her upper

works laced with gold. As solid as a rock—seemingly unsinkable—she was the pride of the British Navy.

June 22, 1893 was a beautiful day, with hardly a breath of wind, the sea as blue as only the Mediterranean can be, and with the sun shining brightly overhead—but there was tragedy in the air.

Peter Whitechurch will give listeners interesting details of this great tragedy, in which 359 men were to die. Among those saved was an officer whom the world later honoured as Admiral Sir John Jellicoe.

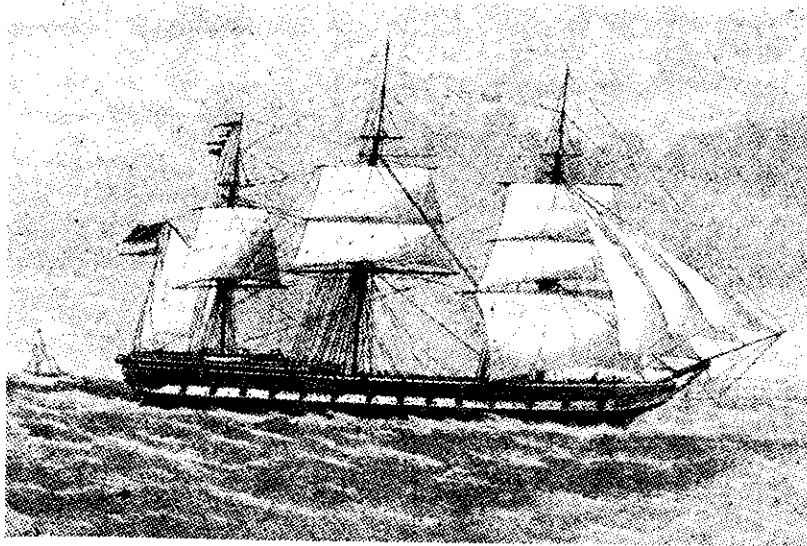
The name "John Company" probably means nothing to the majority of listeners

to-day, but when the first pioneers were arriving in New Zealand, a little over a century ago, that name spelt romance and travel.

It conjured up a vision of beautiful sailing ships, and of the Indies, the land of spices and silks. Volumes have been written about these East Indiamen, and they all tell of stately four-masted ships plying a brisk trade between England and the East.

Peter will relate to listeners the story of the Kent and her tragic end in the year 1825. The rescue of most of her crew and passengers by the Cambria and the heroism displayed by the gallant men of both ships is a story of which British people can be proud.

"Ships and the Sea" is broadcast by the ZB stations at 7.30 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.



PETER WHITECHURCH will tell the story of the immigrant ship Cospatrick in one of his sessions, "Ships and the Sea," a new CBS production.

# THE ALOHALANI HAWAIIANS

## Session Of Island Melodies

EARLY Hawaiian history is entirely legendary. There was no written language, and the islands' history therefore can only be traced through ancient "meles," or songs, and poems.

In the early days every high chief had his retinue of professional bards. Like the minstrels of England, these kept alive the traditions of wars and of heroes, chanted love songs and dirges, and composed poems in honour of the chief.

The tourist knows the Hawaiian Islands for their beauty, and as he listens to the "Alohalani Hawaiians" at 11 a.m. on Tuesday or Thursday from 2ZB he may perhaps imagine he is once more coming in sight of Honolulu.

He will be charmed with the mournful notes of Hawaiian songs — the music that nearly always ends with "Aloha-oe," that lovely song of farewell written by the late Queen. This song is most popular of all, most characteristic of Hawaii.

Tune in to this captivating session at 11 a.m. on Tuesday or Thursday at 2ZB. Watch other stations for times.

From Station 1ZB Bryan will relate the story of Michelangelo. He will narrate how Pietro, son of the great Lorenzo Medici, contemptuously asked Michelangelo to fashion a statue in snow. Lorenzo Medici had encouraged the art of the young boy, but when he died Pietro found other favourites.

Not to be daunted, Michelangelo set to work on the snow man and prayed that his art should awaken in Pietro some of the great instincts of his father. The story tells of the impression he made and of Pietro's recognition of his art.

Bryan began his session at 2ZB with animal stories over three years ago, and these have always been popular. This week from that station he will tell the unusual story of the Australian Dingo.

At 3ZB Bryan tells the story of another great artist Leonardo da Vinci, who excelled not only in painting and sculpture, but also in music, science, and mathematics.

The story of Bach listeners will hear from station 4ZB.

Tune in to hear "Storytime with Bryan O'Brien," 5 p.m. Sunday next.

## BRYAN O'BRIEN'S "STORYTIME"

THE CBS has received many congratulatory letters since it was decided that Bryan O'Brien should broadcast his Sunday stories over all ZB stations.

For listeners' information the stories which are to be broadcast at 5 p.m. on Sunday next (5.30 from 1ZB) are as follows:—



"TINY" MARTIN, who conducts 2ZB's morning session



The Navy Queen (Jessie McLennan of 4ZB) with the winner of the Cooking Competition at a Community Sing for the Patriotic Funds in Dunedin