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# THAT ELUSIVE BIRTHDAY,

*When The Commonwealth Celebrates  
For The King*

**D**URING the long reign of George V, June 3 became so well known as the King's Birthday holiday that even the weather heard about it and, in New Zealand at least, produced what the pessimists called the inevitable rain. But when Edward came to the throne, and then George VI., the usage of twenty-five years was suddenly disturbed. We have hardly yet recovered. And this year another change throws the habit out of gear.

His Majesty was born on December 14, but he expressed a wish that no celebration should be held so close to the Christmas holidays. Accordingly, in New Zealand we officially fixed the date for the first Monday of June. The same month suited Britain, where the holiday could be taken in high summer.

Now, with the disruption of the war, the Birthday has been deferred, and will now be celebrated on November 25.

### Special Radio Programmes

To commemorate the event this year, when the place of the monarchy in the British Commonwealth of Nations has come to appear specially significant, 2YA has arranged to present on the King's Birthday a special forty-nine minute programme arranged by the NBS.

It will cover some of the King's many activities and present a clear picture of the place he has taken in the life of the Nation and the Commonwealth.

From a carefully compiled stock of records the NBS will select such features as: the King broadcasting to the Empire, the King at a boys' camp while he was Duke of York, and the King at the ceremony of Trooping the Colour.

The programme will tell how the Loyal Toast is drunk by the fighting services, and will include one or two songs bearing on the subject.

It will conclude with Elgar's arrangement of the National Anthem.

The other three main national stations will also present special evening programmes suitable to the occasion. Details are given in our programme section.



★ **STATION 2YA IS PLAYING A LIVELY PART** in sporting activities in Palmerston North. Early this year a team of young men from the Palmerston North Y.M.C.A. decided to associate themselves with 2YA and contest the local basketball competitions. The team developed into a solid combination, and ultimately ran out winners of their grade competition. Here is a picture of the 2YA Basketball Cubs, and seated on either side of the championship shield are John Brown, station director at 2YA, and W. Pere Andre, who acted as coach of the team.