

RADIO IS THE HARDEST

It's Not Easy To Be Funny Over The Air, Says Barrett Lennard

BARRETT LENNARD, who plays the part of an English "Johnnie" in the comedy serial "Oh, Reggie," now being broadcast from the ZB stations, has been making people laugh, on the stage and over the air, for more years than he can remember.

His early background is Canadian, but after some years on the stage in America and Canada he came to Australia as principal comedian for J. C. Williamson's. His first show was the famous musical comedy "Katja," in which Marie Burke played the title role.

Cecil Kellaway, Australian comedian, now in Hollywood, was also in the company, and according to Lennard one of



★ A MOST SUCCESSFUL community sing was held in the Auckland Town Hall recently when 12B went on the stage and air in aid of the Makogai lepers and the Progressive Education Centre. The function also served as a welcome home to Uncle Tom who returned the other week after a holiday in Australia. Community singing was led by Dudley Wrathall (shown above)

the biggest hazards was the ever-present danger of being involved in a practical joke thought up by the irrepressible Kellaway.

Lennard toured Australia with the "Katja" company, and was fortunate in escaping without a scratch from a serious train accident on the Brisbane line. Several members of the company were injured, some seriously.

Australian stage audiences, Lennard thinks are among the toughest in the world. They are inclined to give a visiting comedian an enthusiastic welcome, then sink back in their seat as though to say "Now make us laugh if you can."

Radio is the hardest work of all for a comedian—"You have to put all comedy into your voices; you can't rely on make-up, actions, or expressions for a laugh."

"Oh Reggie" is heard at 7.30 p.m. every Thursday from all the ZB stations.

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