ONE OUT OF THE BOX FACTORY FAUGUSE

Harry Roy Practised The Banjo To Keep Him Cheerful

25 years ago that he would someday conduct the most popular dance band in England, he would have laughed heartily. For at that time (just before the Great War) he was more concerned with making cardboard boxes.

Harry Roy, who is 40 years of age, was born Harry Lipman, but changed his name by deed poll. When he was

Harry Roy and his band are featured in the Famous Dance Bands session from Station 2ZB on Wednesday and Saturday nights, February 5 and February 8, at 10.0 p.m.

15 years of age he left school to join his father's business, a card-board box factory in London, The war, however, brought difficult times. His brother Svd (now his manager) joined up, his father died, and eventually the 200 working people in the factory dropped to four. Young Harry did all the business, working in the factory with his sister and two girls during the day and attending to office routine at night.

All the time he was practising on his first musical instrument, a banjo. "I needed something to keep me cheerful" he says now. "In spite of our hard work we lost a fortune during the war."

After the war the brothers organised their first dance band which they called "The Darnswells," a pun of which Harry Roy is still proud. They had the

Sowing Wild Oats

(Continued from previous page) a definite objective. As I was about to depart the man held me in conversation and finally took me as his partner in a fencing contract.

Home Again

When the job was finished I caught the first boat for Maoriland with the firm intention of never sowing wild oats again. In later years I travelled over-seas with the N.Z.E.F., but that was a different matter; what with military police and military law there was not much chance of oat-sowing escapades.

If there is one outstanding fact which travels have brought home to me it is that New Zealand is a paradise on earth for those who love the open spaces and are not wholly wrapped up in getting rich. If I go to a city for a while it is not long before the mountains where I live are calling me back.

Australia is a fine land, and her generous people I will never forget; but New Zealander as I am, I love my own land better than any on earth, and the sowing of wild oats in other parts intensified that love tenfold.

P anyone had told Harry Roy | usual ups and downs of a small, struggling band, but one day a West End restaurant asked the brothers to form a special combination. It prospered and another and better band was formed, which for four years played at London's Cafe Anglais.

> Recent history has been success after success. Roy has toured widely, visited South Africa and Australia, and he also found time for a highly publicised romance with a daughter of the Rajah of Sarawak.

> Since the war Harry Roy and his band have been doing Trojan work entertaining the troops in various parts of England.



HARRY ROY

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