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## "FOR MY LADY" NBS Sessions For Everywoman

A MODERN poet once called his wireless set a "fount of the fabled music of the spheres." The average New Zealand woman listener would never dream of using any such high-flown phrase, but experience teaches us that there are no keener appreciators of radio than women.

There are times when even the most hardened radio critics (and aren't we all radio critics?) pause in their fault-finding and acknowledge that things might be very much worse. With all the grumbings and the growlings there is a way of getting the best out of wireless programmes—if only we have the good sense to use them in the right way. The wise listener is the one who knows what to listen to—and for women that means

a new series of week-day morning programmes commencing at 1YA, 2YA, 3YA and 4YA on Monday next, February 3.

The series has a title of three simple words that can be memorised in a moment—"For My Lady"; and for my lady the programmes have been planned and executed. In the main they are designed to present the stories and art of hundreds of different musical and other artistic personalities. The sub-headings or group titles of a few of the features will give women listeners some idea of the wide range of interests to be covered in the first few months. Here they are: Famous Pianists, Queens of Song, Makers of Melody, World's Great Artists, Tenors and the Girls They Sing About, Famous Violinists, Popular Comedians, Maori Music, Popular Instrumental Ensembles, Musical Miniatures, Popular Cinema Organists, Lovers' Lilts from the Operas, Famous Choirs, Let's Gossip to Music, Popular Baritones and Basses, Vocal Ensembles.

In addition at all four stations on two mornings in the week chapters of the following serials will be presented in sequence in the "For My Lady" sessions—"Your Cavalier," "Dombey and Son," "Martin's Corner," "Great Expectations," "Ernest Maltravers," and "Oliver Twist." Lovers of Dickens all know that Oliver Twist asked for more. In anticipation of

a similar demand from women listeners, the NBS has in preparation numerous further series of "For My Lady" sessions.

The best way to enjoy the new sessions is to watch the columns of *The Listener* and plan morning programme listening from 1YA, 2YA, 3YA and 4YA.

### NGAIO MARSH READS NEW THRILLER

A NOVELTY of interest in NBS programmes will be the serialising of Ngaio Marsh's new detective story "Surfeit of Lampreys," now being published in England under the title "Death of a Peer."

The story will be broadcast by Miss Marsh herself, already known to listeners as an accomplished speaker. This New Zealand novelist has reached the front rank of writers of detective stories. "Surfeit of Lampreys" was published in the United States towards the end of 1940, and scored an immediate success. London publication was set down for this month, so the broadcasting of the serial will anticipate the arrival of the book.

The NBS plans to begin the broadcasts in February, from 2YA.

### ★ Opera Tour of New Zealand? ★

IT is almost certain that a grand opera company will begin a tour of Australia and New Zealand for J. C. Williamson's about May this year, says an Australian journal.

Williamson's have been eager to organise a season of grand opera for a long time, and was negotiating last year with the Fortune Gallo Company, an Italian group, to come here.

Italy's entry into the war removed any possibility of a visit from this company, so the firm turned to American companies. It is understood that the company to visit Australia will be either the American Opera Company or the New York Opera Company.

There are still a few points to be settled—including the matter of dollar

exchange—before the company leaves America, said Harold Bowden, General Manager of J. C. Williamson Theatres.

About 30 persons, including principal singers, two conductors and a producer, will make the trip from the United States. The rest of the company will be engaged in Australia. It is planned that the company will open in Melbourne.

Negotiations for a visit from the Jooss Ballet Company are even further advanced than those of the grand opera company, and it seems likely that these dancers will be in the Commonwealth in March.

One of the difficulties—German members of the company—is being overcome by replacements with Americans.

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