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CLASSIC RACES RE-RUN

*Novel "Audience Participation" Session
From Commercial Stations*

THE familiar voices of four of New Zealand's leading sports commentators are heard in the novel "Racing in Retrospect" session now being broadcast from the Commercial stations 1ZB, 2ZB and 2ZA. The commentators are Gordon Hutter of 1YA; S. V. McEwen, 2YA; F. A. Jarret, 3YA; and "Whang" McKenzie of 4YA. Their voices are heard in descriptions of classic races of the New Zealand turf during the last five years or so. The recordings were made available through the co-operation of the NBS.

Besides reviving actual race commentaries "Racing in Retrospect" is an unusual audience participation programme. From a studio audience three "competitors" are chosen, preferably men with some knowledge of racing. To them and to the listening audience a recorded commentary is played, each competitor drawing for first, second and third place horses.

As the recording is played the competitors concentrate on trying to select the eventual winning, second and third horses, as the case may be. When the horses are about to enter the straight the recording is stopped and the competitors are then required to nominate their horses. Their selection made, the recording is played through to the end.

Both "Gallops" and "Trots"

Prizes are paid to whoever has made a correct choice and prize money left unclaimed is "jackpotted" up for the following week's session. Two commentaries are played every session, and followers of both "gallops" and "trots" are catered for.

"Racing in Retrospect" should have an especial interest for racegoers who were present on the course during the running of the races described. They gained perhaps a fleeting glimpse of part of the race from a crowded grandstand



"WHANG" MCKENZIE

Mis community sings are always popular

or paddock. Now they will be viewing the whole of it through the commentator's binoculars.

The Men Who Speak

The voices of the men who do the commentaries are known to thousands of listeners throughout the country. Gordon Hutter has been described as the doyen of New Zealand commentators.

He started off at the old 1YA in Symonds Street in Auckland, in 1923, giving humorous recitations, and it was four years later that he first tried his hand at a sporting commentary. Since then he has been present at nearly every major sporting event in the Auckland Province, and has "covered" every conceivable sport.

S. V. McEwen is another versatile commentator, and is one of the best informed students of racing in New Zealand, contributing racing articles to several Dominion publications. He was editor of "The Referee" for many years, and made a speciality of stud problems.

Racing commentator at 3YA for the past ten years or so has been F. A. Jarrett, who is now in camp at Burnham. An accountant by profession, he is well known in racing circles, is a judge at Forbury Park, and has also judged at numerous provincial race meetings in Canterbury. He was once a keen club cricketer, and has also done service on the executive side of that game.

"Whang" McKenzie has been broadcasting from 4YA for nine years, and on occasions has had to give expert commentaries on Rugby, Association football, racing, hockey, athletics, cycling, cricket, hockey, bowls, and once even on a quick-step competition.

He is widely known in the Rugby world, and created a record by acting as secretary to the Referees' Association for 20 years. Popular in Dunedin are his community sings, by means of which he has raised many hundreds of pounds for various charities.



S. P. Andrew photograph

GORDON HUTTER

Doyen of New Zealand commentators