

OSWALD WAS ABSENT

Tale Of An Unobliging Sea Elephant

GIVING a broadcast description of a sea elephant disporting himself on a popular beach is all very well when the sea elephant is there, but when the sea elephant has disappeared before the broadcast, certain difficulties are presented, and an announcer would be excused for looking worried.

That is what happened in Dunedin the other day, when station 4ZB received word that a sea elephant 15 feet in length had taken up residence on St. Kilda Beach. In record time relay apparatus was set up in preparation for a 15-minute broadcast, and Jack Bremner and Don Donaldson were on their way to the beach.

They found, however, that "Oswald," as the sea elephant had been christened, had put to sea again some minutes before their arrival, and not knowing how to charm him back, they had to think quickly. It was out of the question to cancel the relay, as announcements about it had been made over the air.

However, the relay took place at the appointed time, thanks to the fact that 4ZB's two announcers had had a chat with the curator of the Dunedin Museum before leaving town, and were able to pass on some interesting information about "Oswald" and his kind. They explained, for instance, that the nearest breeding ground of the sea elephant is at the Macquarie Islands, showing that they are capable of swimming vast distances. They gave a full account also of the differences between ordinary seals, sea lions and sea elephants.

The result is that should another sea elephant ever visit Dunedin, many sightseers should know something about him.

Musicians In British Army To Form Own Orchestra

To promote the playing of good music in the British Army a full symphony orchestra composed of men of all ranks has been formed in the Southern Command. It includes professional musicians who, before joining the Army, played with the London Symphony Orchestra (Sir Thomas Beecham's Orchestra), the Halle Orchestra, Manchester, and the Scottish Orchestra. All the 60 players use their own instruments.

The adviser and producer, Herbert Lodge, was formerly musical director of the Margate and Worthing Corporations, and he has taken an active part in the formation of the orchestra. They hope to give a concert once a month, and may be able to visit different parts of the Command.

Democracy Begins At Home

(Continued from previous page)

nor Nazism, or Communism. Only true Democracy can get us out of the mess. And it must be true Democracy—not the thing that, for a long time, has been masquerading as such. And Democracy, like charity, begins in the home. It is on the quality of the individual home that our whole standard of living rests. The individual home breeds national misery or happiness according to its quality. The system of the future must base everything on keeping that quality high, on giving to every living soul a background, not merely of material adequacy, but of order and grace and beauty besides. Only then our children may have a chance of rebuilding, in their generation, the shaken world of their fathers, and making of it a home worthy of the state of man.

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CLOSES: 5th APRIL, 1941. DRAWN: 17th APRIL, 1941

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OBJECTS:—To raise funds to the extent of the profits available for the objects to be specified by the Hon. Minister of Internal Affairs.

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