

# SHE PREFERS MIKES TO FOOTLIGHTS

## 2ZB's New Woman Announcer

**W**OMEN announcers, like women conductors and women taxi-drivers, are a wartime necessity. And an agreeable one, listeners will probably conclude after listening to Miss Rae Sanders, better known as "Carol," who has for the last three months been a member of the announcing staff of 2ZB.

Miss Sanders went to Sydney five years ago to study at a school of drama, and after a year in Sydney gained a footing in radio. She conducted women's sessions over 2UE, acted in various serials from 2GB, and was one of the most popular stars in 2GB's Youth Show.

In view of her many successes in Sydney we were surprised that Miss Sanders should return to New Zealand. "I didn't really intend to stay here," said Miss Sanders. "I meant to come just for a six weeks' holiday to see my family, and they persuaded me to stay. And now I'm very glad they did."

Miss Sanders' first job since her return to New Zealand was singing in a Wellington cabaret. "I love singing with band accompaniment," said Miss Sanders, "but I was always so envious of the people who were dancing. And I found the late nights rather a strain."

### The Black Spots

Miss Sanders has always liked the idea of doing straight announcing, and now that she actually is an announcer she is just as keen. The only black spots in an announcer's life, according to Miss Sanders, are the mornings you have to get up very early. "I'm up at a quarter to six the three days a week that I'm on the early session, but on those days I'm through by nine and have the rest of the morning to myself."

"Doesn't being an announcer rather break up your social life?" we asked.

"I suppose it does. You get a lot of free time when no one else is free to enjoy it with you, and you work at night and on week-ends. But that doesn't worry me at all. I've had to turn down lots of social engagements for the sake of my

job, but then I like my work so much that I've always felt it was worth some minor sacrifices."

Miss Sanders thinks it regrettable that so much imported material should be heard over New Zealand radio stations. "Of course it's very difficult to do much serial or drama production in New Zealand at present because there are so few men available, but after the war I imagine that more will be done."

### Prefers Radio Drama

Before her appointment as announcer to 2ZB, Miss Sanders was heard in several YA sessions, notably, "Remember?" with John Parkin, in which she sang old-time song hits and enjoyed herself very much. She is still to be heard in 2YA Wednesday afternoon educational sessions, though it is difficult to recognise Miss Sanders in the lisping Miss Araminta.

While in Sydney Miss Sanders played in many productions on the legitimate stage, but in New Zealand she intends to concentrate on radio productions.



RAE SANDERS

"At the moment I'm much more interested in radio drama," she confessed.

We expressed surprise that one accustomed to the glamour of footlights and first nights could ever be content with microphones and radio premières.

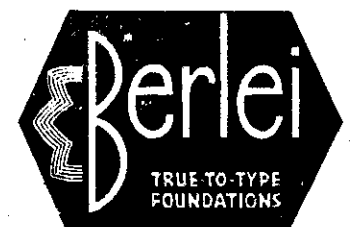
"I think there's much more scope in radio drama," said Miss Sanders. "There's so much you can do without doing anything, if you see what I mean."

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