

HE BUILT THE HOUSE OF PETER MACGREGOR

*But Leading U.S. Radio Writer
and Producer Has A New
Job Now*

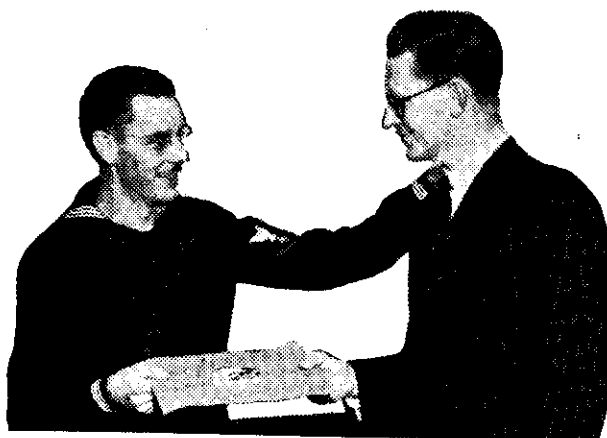
BEFORE meeting Dr. Kimbell S. Sant, author and producer of *The House of Peter MacGregor*, Academy Award, and many other well-known radio features, you must rid yourself of all preconceived notions of Hollywood author-producers. Dr. Sant is not worldly-wise, does not smoke cigars, and appears to prefer listening to talking. He is at present in the uniform of the U.S. Navy, and was a recent visitor to our shores. He has quick brown eyes behind rimless glasses, a diffident manner, and a lot of enthusiasm for the job he's doing at present.

"How are the C. P. MacGregor Studios getting on without you?" we asked, impressed by the long list of Sant features that had been reeled off for our benefit prior to the interview.

"I guess they're managing all right. There's only one indispensable man in the U.S.A., and that's President Roosevelt!"

Dr. Sant is finding his work in the navy one of the most interesting experi-

KIMBELL S. SANT is presented with a recording of one of his features by C. G. Scrimgeour, Controller of Commercial Broadcasting



ences of an interesting life. "I'm meeting people from all over the world, and it's a great education."

"Are you writing scripts for the boys to perform on board?" we wanted to know.

"No," replied Dr. Sant. "I haven't thought about it. I've almost forgotten what it's like to write scripts. At present I'm a Pharmacist Mate Third Class" (he displayed his stripe), and I'm concentrating on my hospital work. I once did a medical course, and I'm finding my knowledge very useful—I'm now chief surgical technician on the ship."

It's a "Tough Job"

Script-writing is a tough job, according to Dr. Sant. "Ninety-nine per cent hard work and one per cent inspiration, and no 40-hour week, either." But it's work he enjoys. He spoke with enthusiasm of the new MacGregor feature *Hollywood Radio Theatre*, which is at present in production, and which features stars such as Anita Louise, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Edna Best and Mary Astor. Like *Academy Award*, it is a series of self-contained comedy dramas, and without hesitation, Dr. Sant proclaimed it "the best thing we've ever done."

Radio in the U.S.A. is now 100 per cent geared to war, says Dr. Sant. It's taking very seriously its job of keeping up U.S. morale. There are, of course, features dealing directly with the war, such as *This is War!*, but even the features intended purely as entertainment are being used to make listeners war-conscious. And a great deal is done to provide radio entertainment for troops overseas. *Command Performance* is one such feature. A homesick Connecticut soldier who wants to hear a Connecticut train whistle has only to write to the sponsors of *Command Performance* which can be heard, when weather condition permit, in the ZB's Sunday evening *American Hour*.

Film Stars in Radio

We expressed surprise that so many well-known film stars consented to take part in radio dramas.

"Generally speaking," said Dr. Sant, "the better the stars, the more enthusiastic they are about it. The thing they like about radio drama is that it's all acting. It's the sort of thing that demands hard work and good solid ability—you

can't get away with shoddy acting just because you've got the right kind of curves."

"Yet it seems rather a pity that the right kind of curve should be wasted," we remarked. "Surely radio should give a chance to people with good voices and good acting ability minus appearance?"

But Dr. Sant suggested that after all, we should look to the future and television, and that anyway, it made things pleasanter for the producer. And contrary to general opinion, film stars were not as a whole temperamental or inclined to satisfy their own whims at the expense of the show. And they knew the meaning of hard work.

"Tickled Pink"

Dr. Sant is, in his own language, "tickled pink" that so many New Zealanders should be familiar with his radio productions. Several people to whom he has been introduced had hailed him as the author of *The House of Peter MacGregor*. And the other day when putting through a telephone call he had difficulty in making the girl at the switchboard hear his name, until he said, "You know, *The House of Peter MacGregor*." But even then, his call took some time to go through, as 14 people in the office insisted upon speaking to him.

Dr. Sant's home is in Beverley Hills, a "very expensive place to live." Dr. Sant commented. But in Hollywood if you aim to be someone, you have to live as if you thought you were. But in spite of the advantages of being in a position to observe such world-famous figures as Myrna Loy (who, by the way, has too many freckles), Dr. Sant says that after the war he hopes to come and settle in New Zealand.

"Why?" we asked, wondering if Dr. Sant could possibly have been attracted by our earthquakes.

"Because these are my kind of people and this is my kind of country," said Dr. Sant. "I feel at home here."

"But what about your wife?" we asked. "How will she like the idea?"

"That's all right," said Dr. Sant. "She's a swell person. She always wants to do what I want to do."

So much, we thought for all this talk about Hollywood marriages.

"And, of course," said Dr. Sant, "I always want to do what she wants to do."

We went away with the impression that Dr. Sant, too, was a swell person.

CHINA'S NEW WORLD

(Continued from previous page)

co-operative I have been to, a part of the building, however simple this may be, is set apart as a classroom where the members learn not only the principles of co-operation and how to read and write, but elementary history and geography and arithmetic, and the general business of being a citizen in the modern world.

Parts of One Body

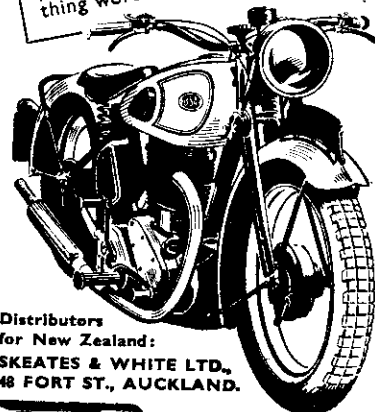
I have seen a group of co-operative members explaining to others by a simple play what working together means. They wore masks over their faces. One mask had a large "eye," another was nothing but "nose," another mask was "mouth," another was "hand," another was "ear," another was "foot." Each in turn claimed to be the most important member of the body. It was no good having a hand to eat with if you hadn't got a foot to take you to market to buy your rice. It was no good having a hand or a foot if you hadn't got an eye to see where you were going. Then "ear" interrupted. You can't live in China these days without an ear, for without an ear you can't hear the *chingbao*, the siren. The problem was solved by the arrival of "mind." Only by working together, he argued, can you be a body at all.

There are seven regions, each with its director. Each region has from five to 20 depots. In this way in every part of Free China refugees or local workers who have lost their employment have been started in the same way as the soapmakers in Chungking. They are making machinery, cigarettes, paper, pottery; there are co-operatives for gold washing, coal mining, weaving, and for munitions of war. They have carried out one big project; an order for the army for a million blankets.

BSA

Motor Cycles
-Chosen by the
World's Experts

We regret that today you are unable to buy a B.S.A. Motor Cycle. The Empire needs these wonderful machines, but the time will come when you will speed along the road on your own B.S.A. In any case, a post-war B.S.A. Motor Cycle is something worth waiting for.



Distributors
for New Zealand:
SKEATES & WHITE LTD.
48 FORT ST., AUCKLAND.

BSA

MOTOR CYCLES

MAKE MONEY

Learn at home to Design
Showcards, Tickets, Posters,
Commercial Art. Earn 5/-
to 10/- per hour. Free illus-
trated booklet shows you
how to begin. Write to-day.

McKAY'S ART STUDIOS
P.O. Box 367, WANGANUI

THIS REMEDY ENDS ALL SKIN TROUBLES



Such a pity to allow spots, pimples, sore patches or blemishes of any kind to worry you when the healing touch of D.D.D. Prescription will clear them all away. When all else fails, this soothing, anti-septic liquid puts an end to eczema, dermatitis, psoriasis, ulcers, bad legs, spots, boils or septic sores. D.D.D. Prescription provides valuable first-aid in cases of burns, scalds and open wounds. Always keep a supply handy.

D.D.D. Prescription is sold by chemists everywhere at 2/6, 5/11 and 7/6 a bottle. 67

D.D.D. PRESCRIPTION