

(continued from previous page)

appeared on our lee bow, making about 17 knots. We had no chance to do anything, but she missed us. She would have cut us clean in half, needless to say.

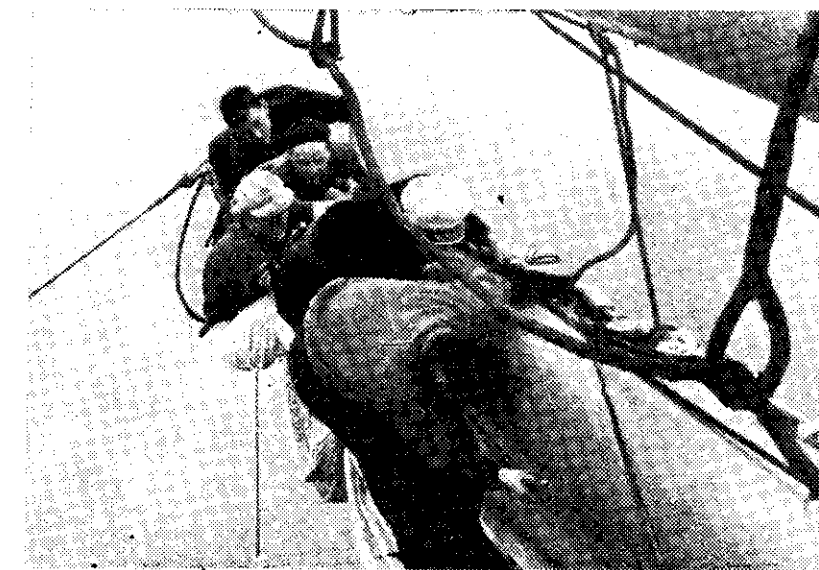
"Even so, one of the greatest thrills on board a sailing ship is the day when you manage to get half a bucket of rain water, and then you have a wash. That's a really important occasion."

Eyes and Ears

To round off his experiences on board, Mr. Renner told his prize story: A sailor who could not read used to receive letters from his wife. On board there was a cabin-boy who could read, and the sailor employed the boy to read his wife's letters out to him. But in case there was anything private in the letters, the sailor always put his fingers in the cabin-boy's ears!



F. MARTYN RENNER
Helped to prepare the broadcast



Music In The Bush

NOW promoted from the rank of corporal to be Warrant-Officer in Music, the former Christchurch pianist, Peter Cooper, visited New Zealand recently on leave from the A.I.F. Not long ago, Warrant-Officer Cooper became attached to the Army Education Service of the Australian Forces, and until he came away,



PETER COOPER
Warrant-Officer in Music, A.I.F.

was working on a scheme for musical entertainment and education at a station "somewhere in the bush."

The Listener interviewed him three years to a day after he left New Zealand as a civilian to study the piano in Australia. Before he joined the Army, Peter Cooper did the rounds of concert halls, suburban music clubs and concerts, and the work of which he is most proud was his accompanying for Dorothy Helmrich, the famous lieder singer, who visited New Zealand earlier this year.

"But there are no concerts for me now," he said. Musicians "in the bush" were widely scattered, virtually at action stations, and it had not yet been possible for him to assemble groups of performers. The gramophone is, therefore, the mainstay of his work, but as soon as he can get a piano, he will put it on a truck and go round with it to men at their posts.

New Zealanders will envy the musical activity of Sydney as Warrant-Officer Cooper described it. During a recent Beethoven Festival, when all the Beethoven Symphonies were played, and all the Concertos (Thomas Matthews and Eileen Ralph took solo parts), the Conservatorium Hall was booked out in advance for the whole series, and on one occasion, 2000 people sat in the gardens outside and heard the concert through an amplifying system.

Peter Cooper has just completed a recital tour of main National stations in New Zealand.

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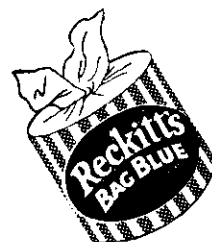
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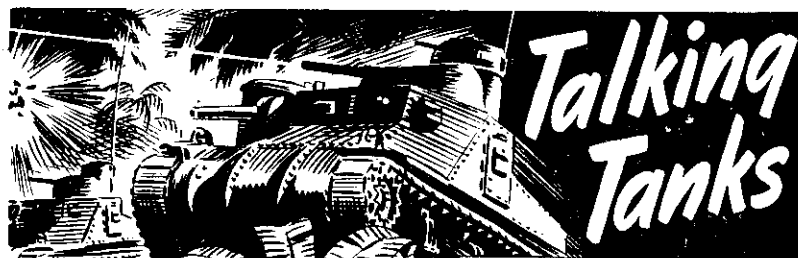
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