

palm-grove somewhere beyond the Kermadecs"

(continued from previous page)

(4) NARRATIVE POEM: 1st prize. 2nd prize, 5 guineas. (Not more than

(1) NARRATIVE guineas. (Not more than 500 lines).

(5) LYRIC POEM: 1st prize, 10 guineas; 2nd prize, 5 guineas. (Not less than 20 lines and not more than 50 lines).

The Army Education Welfare Service and the National Broadcasting Service are not rash enough to offer advice to competitors about the writing of poetry (except to indicate the difference between a Narrative and a Lyric Poem), but they do give some pointers about the radio play and the short story. They set out the differences between writing for the stage and for the microphone, and what the judges will look for in the entries, and they have a little to say about the art of the short story.

Enries close on December 1, Competitors may get particulars from local Army Education Welfare offices, or Head-quarters, A.E.W.S., Featherston Street, Wellington.

BOOK REVIEWS

A NEW ZEALAND POET

POEMS. By J. R. Hervey, Caxton Press, Christchurch.

ONE result of the Centennial Literary poetry of the Rev. J. R. Hervey to a wider public. His subsequent work has underlined the verdict of the judges who placed him first in the poetry section. He is in the first rank of our poets, and we have some good ones. His style is so much his own that his poems hardly require a signature. There is a gravity of tone about them, a prethemes, and an austerity of outline, which proclaim the author. But that is ing in the austerity, fire in the snow as it were, and though he is much occupied the threats of time." We find here the goes free, and not the mourners striding how to teach.

away. Some of the occasional poems are striking successes in a particularly difficult field. The 23 lines about the year 1942 illustrate the power of verse to tell us much in little Many of Mr. Hervey's lines and phrases are memorable for their grave felicity or power: "the leaden utterance of waves"; larks making a "dreaming coof with song": the rainbow "throwing flame on the whirled offensive" of the storm; snowcovered hills "bleak from the conspiritorial midnight"; "the lonely song falls like a shattered gull." Like some other poets, Mr. Hervey is inclined to pack too much imagery into a small space, and he should heed the old advice to simplify, simplify. A phrase like "in the pomp of passing synopsis" is overscholarly: it pulls the reader up with a jerk. But he has force, beauty, and in-tellectual content. "New Poems" is published in the worthy kind of format we associate with the publishers, the Caxton Press. ---A.E.M.

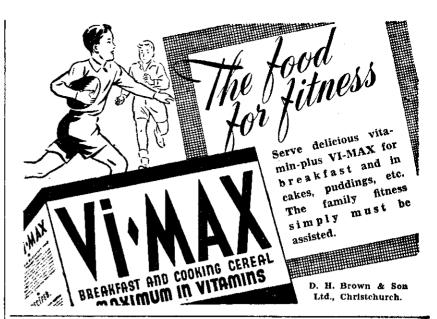
BBC YEAR BOOK FOR 1943. Broadcasting House, London.

THE BBC Year Book for 1943 is a little slimmer than some of its predecessors, but almost as full of meat. Also, it sells at the same low London price - half a crown. There are 124 pages of letterpress - 128 with the excellent index-and about 30 pages of first-rate illustrations; and that is only half the story. It is necessary to add that the letterpress includes special articles by Sir Cecil Graves, joint Director-General, by Edward R. Murrow. European Director of the Columbia Broadcasting System of America, by Sir Noel Ashbridge, the Chief Engineer of the BBC, by the Controller of Programmes, the Controller of News, and the Controller of the European Service, and that the illustrations include excellent photographic studies of General Smuts, Sir James Jeans, the Very Rev. J. H. Hertz, Chief Rabbi, Sir Max Beerbohm, Mr. Eden, the Duke of Gloucester, and the Archbishop of York. Those who want more at the price are greedy, but there is more, a great deal more, for those who believe that with all its faults, the BBC is doing the best broadcasting job in the world,

FOR GARDENERS

COMPLETE NEW ZEALAND GARDENER. By J. A. McPherson, N.D.H. (N.Z.). Director Botanic Gardens, Christchurch. Whitcombe & Tombs Ltd.

T would be rash to say of any gardening book produced in New Zealand Competitions was to introduce the that it is the best yet, but if there is anything better than this war-time edition of Mr. McPherson's book, it would be hard to think what it is. There is certainly nothing better that can be bought at present for 6/6. Though New Zealand has been well served by gardeners, silent and articulate, and expects a good deal from any one who offers it a gardening gospel, Mr. McPherson occupation with sombre and tragic meets all demands. If you want to know more than he has to tell you-well, perhaps you want to know too much, You not all. There are beauty and deep feel- at least want to know more than the other 99 in your 100, who will not only be delighted to find so much informawith death, it is significant that Mr. tion in a single volume, but grateful to Hervey, in three of the poems in this have it so clearly and attractively new volume, makes laughter men's arranged. Most gardening books are ultimate ally, "laughter that subjugates good in the sense that they are packed with useful information. Here is a book unusual point of view, the surprising in which the information is printed in twist to life, as in the poems about the type big enough to read, and arranged funeral, where it is the dead man who and illustrated by a gardener who knows







one sure way to free yourself from their painful, poisonous grip.

their painful, poisonous grip.
They are caused by germs which release deadly poisons in every part
of the body. The first signs are
vague pains in the joints and
muscles. Sometimes the joints
"crack" when flexed or bent. Pain
grows more acute, until the burning. nagging ache becomes unbearable.

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If you suffer from treatment of rheumatic disorders. any one of these complaints, there is to free yourself from poisonous grip.

d by germs which reotsons in every part The first signs are

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passages of nose and throat from infection in crowded places by sucking slowly

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New Zealand Listener, July 23