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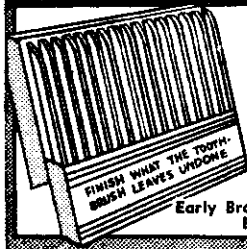
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"THERE you are, you see: to keep alive you've got to keep alert," said Harry Botham with a grin as he left *The Listener* office the other morning. His politeness in including the



HARRY BOTHAM
"Safety should be a habit"

whole staff in a Goodbye had led him into a near miss with the knob of an awkwardly placed door. The grin was because Harry Botham is a Safety Consultant. This cheerful, interesting expert on matters closely affecting every man, woman and child has been concerned with Safety all his life and he has reached the age of 44 with only one accident to himself—an ear injury acquired in an air raid on London during World War II.

Here, first of all, are some of the appointments Mr. Botham held in Great Britain before coming to New Zealand four years ago: H.M. Inspector of Factories, Safety Engineer for Miles Aircraft Ltd. with 5000 employees, Technical Officer for the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents; member of the Institution of Industrial Safety Officers, the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene, and the Institution of Engineering Inspection. He is an Associate Fellow of the New Zealand Institute of Management, and other appointments include those of New Zealand Technical Advisory Officer (Division of Occupational Health, Department of Labour) and Industrial Safety Officer (Department of Labour). Today he is mainly occupied with Dominion-wide safety surveys and promotional work on safety and health. He is manager of the National Safety Association of New Zealand which is conducting a campaign through the YA and ZB stations.

Harry Botham was educated at the Duke of York's Royal Military School and then followed four years' service in the Royal Artillery. He held an instrumental scholarship (double-bass) at Trinity College of Music and for some years after that was a professional musician.

"How did you come to take up public safety research?" I asked.

"As a voluntary worker in the British Red Cross Society I handled numerous casualties. I asked myself, *Why* all this pain, suffering and blood? That led me eventually into the field of industrial accident prevention."

Harry Botham has three children, all girls. Two are with him and his wife in

Open Microphone.

New Zealand, and the other is in England. "The family discusses all sorts of safety questions with me and my wife sometimes accompanies me on inquiries. They've got the habit of looking for potential dangers—simple things such as a tack sticking up from the floor or a bit of curled lino—and they make sure that I put them right. They follow, too, the various other safety activities now being carried out in New Zealand," he said.

Safety is a very personal thing to Harry Botham. "It should be as much a habit as shaving; everyone should be his own safety officer."

Life-saving is, appropriately, one of Mr. Botham's hobbies, and summer sees him now and then in cricket whites. He is a double-bass player in the Wellington Studio Orchestra and on occasions he deputises for the regular conductor, Terry Vaughan.

"GOPHER" (Highfield, Timaru), asks: "What is 'The Creep'?" "The Creep" is a form of ballroom dancing popular in certain parts of England (and perhaps elsewhere)

CRAWLY

just now. From published photographs I have seen, its male participants appear to be long-haired youths wearing drape jackets and Edwardian pipe-stem trousers. The females don't seem to affect any particular uniform. The name comes, presumably from the fact that the steps consist of just shuffling or creeping round the dance floor.

"G.M.V." (Christchurch) asks for information about two pianists, Winifred Atwell and "Joe Fingers Carr."

Seven years ago Winifred Atwell left her native Trinidad for England to complete her studies at the Royal Academy of Music. She intended to continue a career on the concert platform, but engagements were

FLYING FINGERS

hard to get. Suddenly she was called on to take the place of a variety star at a charity concert. She offered her own variety turn and was an immediate success. Since then she has shown that she can play the classics as well as

popular music and that she has an attractive singing voice. Her father was a chemist, and she, also, has a degree in the subject. Although music now takes up all her time she finds her training in pharmacy still handy; and when minor mishaps occur in the theatre, she makes skilful use of her first-aid box.

All I've been able to discover about "Joe Fingers Carr" is that that is the nom-de-plume of Lou Busch who is married to the American vocalist Margaret Whiting. Busch hails from Louisville, Kentucky, and he started out with Clive McCoy; later he became chief arranger and pianist with the Hal Kent Band. Mr. and Mrs. Busch live at Beverly Hills, California, and they have one daughter, Deborah Louise.

"R.A.J.G." (Arthur's Pass): The photograph you saw in *The Listener* of February 19 was one of Jan Peerce, as stated, and he is, as you say, not unlike Robert Merrill. I can find no record of Peerce having died.

Josef Locke was born in Londonderry 36 years ago, one of a family of ten.

Although he SINGING POLICEMAN sang in a church choir, none of

the members realised that in their midst they nurtured a prodigy. When he was 16 he added a couple of years and joined the Irish Guards. Then he volunteered for the Palestine Police. After that he returned to his native Derry and joined the Royal Ulster Constabulary. He kept on singing and soon became known as the Singing Bobby. In Belfast one day he saw a notice outside a theatre announcing that auditions were being held. He looked carefully to the right and to the left. Everything was quiet and law-abiding, so in he popped. A quarter of an hour later he emerged with his first contract in his pocket. Locke decided to make singing his career. At one show he sang for 35 minutes. Two of his songs were in complete contrast; one was "On With the Motley" from *Pagliacci* and the other the bedtime song of Christopher Robin. He is exuberant, friendly, and easy-going, and his happy-go-lucky



JACK BUCHANAN introduces Bob Hope in a BBC variety programme called "The Forces' Show." Both comedians are famous the world over.

BBC photograph