

De Witt's Pills

..how they may help you

If the kidneys do not carry out their work properly, you cannot maintain good health. The reason is that the kidneys cleanse the bloodstream by filtering impurities from the system. If, however, they become sluggish, these waste matters remain in the body.

Sluggish kidneys, therefore, may be the cause of many of your rheumatic symptoms, back-aches, joint and muscle pains.



Many people have found that when faulty kidney action is suspected, De Witt's Pills, taken regularly, help to restore the kidneys to normal healthy activity. Prices 4/- and 7/- (inc. tax).

DeWitt's PILLS

can be used with confidence

A product of E. C. De WITT & Co. (N.Z.) Ltd.
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OLD INDUSTRIES THROUGHOUT AUSTRALIA

CHIEF MAN & ENGINEER

DURING their visits to this country many touring pianists, other instrumentalists, and singers, have met Allan Young, whose association with broadcasting goes back to 1933



Spencer Digby photograph
ALLAN YOUNG

when he was appointed to the staff of 3YA. And many a local artist has benefited from his kindly advice and help. At the end of last month he retired from his position of Supervisor of Programme Organisation for the NZBS to give much more attention, no doubt, to his favourite pastime—bowls—a game in which he has won high honours. In earlier days Allan Young frequently acted as station manager at 3YA, and he undertook special assignments, for example, the radio commentary on the departure from Lyttelton of H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester. To the children he used to be known as Uncle Allan.

A good deal of announcing came his way at Christchurch, and he will forgive me, I know, if I mention his famous description of a wool sale in which he told anxious farmer listeners and others how much their "corrugated ewes" had brought. During the war he used to be acting-manager of Station 2YA.

Allan Young was born at Cheviot, North Canterbury. From 1910 he was keenly interested in amateur theatricals. He played a leading part in the old Christchurch Comedy Club and in several musical organisations. In 1919 his round, rolling vocal tones won him the men's elocutionary championship, and the gold medal of the Christchurch Competitions. From 1912 until he joined the Broadcasting Service Mr. Young was in the music business in Dunedin and later moved to Oamaru as manager of a well-known firm. There he stayed until 1933.

NOT very long ago a strap-hanger on a Wellington tram astonished fellow passengers by using two straps as a gymnast uses the "rings," making a full head-over-heels turn. This feat accomplished, he gravely took a bow and a seat. But the latest

TRAMS TUNE UP about strap-hangers is that the executives in Milan (Italy) put the straps to a more aesthetic use. As they sway along their city journeys they are treated to soothing melodies. Music producing units are installed inside over-

Open Microphone

head metal tubes from which metal arms extend. As the standing passenger grabs one of these arms for support, the mechanism starts grinding out its canned tunes through a small sound box slightly above ear level. Each arm unit has a different set of tunes, so that strap-holders can get a varied programme by circulating up and down the aisles of the car. "Commercials" are sandwiched in between the musical selections.

THE British comedian Eric Barker, who appears in the BBC's *Variety Ahoy!* (now going the rounds of the main National stations) is a little over 40. He started his career in his father's wholesale paper business, but didn't like it, so he went into repertory theatre, concert party work and eventually radio. Barker has written short stories, novels, plays and radio scripts. With his wife Pearl Hackney and their one daughter Petronella, he lives in a secluded part of the North Downs of England. He does a bit of gardening and makes a hobby of collecting pipes and antique furniture.

ANNA RUSSELL continues to break recital records in America. This versatile entertainer who also writes the inimitable text and music of her satiric programmes, has appeared repeatedly in the main cities. Her

ANNA RUSSELL current season schedules three concerts for Boston, Philadelphia two, San Francisco four, New York four, San Antonio two. Los Angeles

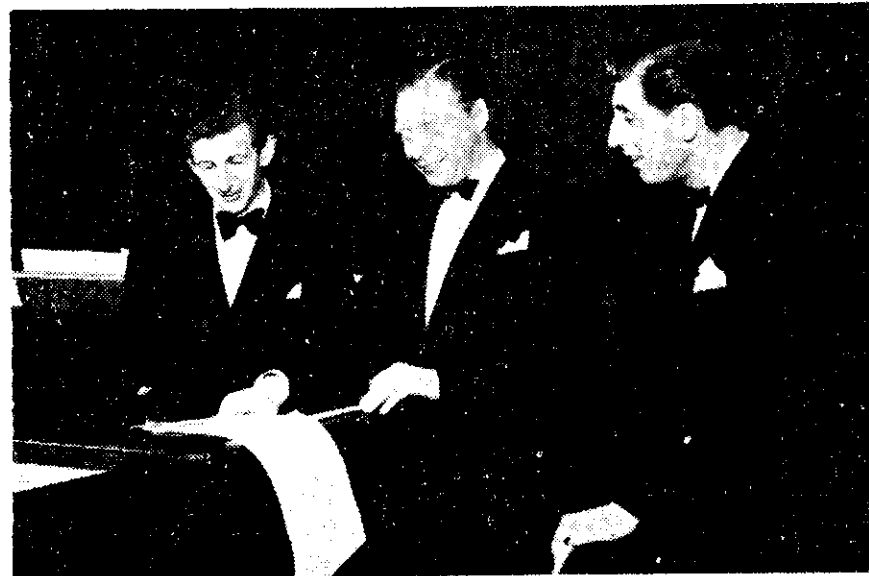
two, Chicago three. During 1954-55, *Musical Courier* announces, Miss Russell will embark on a far-flung tour of



ANNA RUSSELL

Great Britain, New Zealand and Australia. Listeners to 2ZB at 5.30 p.m. on April 16 (Good Friday), will hear her in *Anna Russell Sings Again*—"The Ring of the Nibelung," "Introduction by a Women's Club President," and "How to Write Your Own Gilbert and Sullivan Opera."

LILY PONS, born at Cannes, started her musical studies as a pianist. She spent a few years playing ingenue roles on the stage before she decided to study



ABOVE are Cyril Stapleton, musical director of the BBC's Show Band, with Johnnie Stewart (left), who produces all the Show Band programmes, and Rikki Fulton, compere. The band, which has a large following, presents popular music of the day in a sophisticated manner, but does not scorn the simpler numbers that many listeners love. Stapleton, who first broadcast from the BBC's Nottingham studios when he was only 12, began his professional career as a solo violinist. At 18 he joined Henry Hall and his BBC Dance Orchestra. He had his own dance band for some time before becoming director of the BBC's Show Band in 1952. The band's producer Stewart has been with the BBC since 1937, barring five years in the R.A.F. during the war. He worked in the Features and Drama departments before joining *Variety*, where he specialises in jazz, dance music and large musical productions. Fulton hails from Glasgow. He gained his early broadcasting experience in Scotland, where he broadcast in almost every type of programme from schools to religion, and sports reports to "Children's Hour"

N.Z. LISTENER, APRIL 9, 1954.