## The Spectrum and Us

AN American lighting engineer once invited some friends to a dinner party. The food was magnificent, but as the guests sat down the lighting changed. Steaks turned a bilious grey, the celery pink, the milk blood-red, the eggs blue and the coffee yellow. The dinner was a sickening failure, but the engineer's experiment an outstanding success. He had proved, if proof were needed, that we eat, in part, with our eyes.

There are, however, many more pleasant illustrations of the effects of colour. Some of these will be given shortly by Valerie Scott, of Wellington, in a series of recorded talks to be broadcast in Women's Programmes from X stations. Entitled Colour in Everyday Life, the series deals with colour as applied to the home, to clothes, to food, and to enlivening social occasions. There are even a few hints for harassed mothers: "If you have difficulty in making your child drink milk, add a few drops of cochineal. No child can resist the novelty of pink milk."

Miss Scott, who is engaged in advertising and publicity work, is deeply interested in the effects of colour on people, and claims to have read most of the available literature on the subject. Outside of her work, this knowledge assists in her leisure occupations of stage designing for the theatre and the making of pottery.

Colour in Everyday Life starts first from 2XP, New Plymouth, on Tuesday, June 8. At fortnightly intervals thereafter it will start from Whangarei, Gisborne, Wanganui, Nelson and Timaru. In each case it will be broadcast in the Women's Session.

(continued from previous page) twenty years, and I have never seen so many silver fish before. They are in the kitchen cupboards, the safe, and anything left uncovered, cereals, etc., they invade; also milk in the safe. We also seem to have a number of cockroaches which invade our food. They are worse than I have ever seen them. We had a lot of wet weather in the West Coast last year and I wonder if this is the cause of these insects becoming such a pest. I should be very grateful if you can give me some help through The Listener. "Moths," Ross, Westland.

I certainly do sympathise with youyou seem to have done everything possible to get rid of the pests. Why not apply to the Health Department, so that they can send an officer to properly fumigate before the next batch of motheggs can hatch Sprinkling the haunts of cockroaches with chloride of lime is said to be good; as well as 10 per cent DDT powder, which also helps against moths. Another spray for carpets is made by well mixing 4 oz. pyrethrum powder in a quart of kerosene, leaving it for about 8 hours, strain, and then add 3/4 oz, of oil of wintergreen from the chemist. But I do think you need an expert from the Health Department in

## DANGEROUS LOCALITY

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