

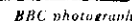
EXHIBITIONS of things New Zealand are no novelty in central London. Our more obvious exports are well advertised and the English public is (very properly) kept well informed of the merits of our butter and our lamb. A few days ago there opened just off Piccadilly an exhibition of our less well publicised wares, several hundred books, written, printed and published in the Dominion. It remains open for a couple of months, and if the interest shown in the first few days keeps up at its present pace, New Zealand writers may look modestly forward to the day when they are as readily available in Charing Cross Road as on Lambton Quay. An exhibition of this type cannot make good writers into better writers; but it can bring our writers to a wider public, who are only too ready to give new names a trial. After that it is up to the writer himself.

It is over a year since the exhibition was first planned by the Advisory Com-

mittee of the New Zealand Literary Fund. The original plans were very modest—a show of some 30 books that had been sponsored by the Fund. The High Commissioner in London, Sir Frederick Doidge, willingly agreed to hold the exhibition in the lounge of the offices in the Strand. At this point someone in the committee grew ambitious. Why confine the exhibition to a few dozen books? Why not make it a full exhibition of recent writing in New Zealand? Such an exhibition would overflow the modest limits of the Strand offices, but that was a problem that could wait. Publishers in the Dominion provided copies of volumes from their lists. The Department of Internal Affairs added a set of the now precious and unobtainable Centennial Surveys. A great case-load of books was loaded on the Rangitata—and an airmail letter sent off to say more would follow. English publishers provided books written by New Zealanders and published in London. Within a few months the exhibition of 30 had grown to 300.

At this point the High Commissioner enlisted the help of the National Book League, in their room at Albemarle Street, past masters of book exhibitions, and it was there the exhibition opened. With his usual generosity, Rex Nan Kivell, the Director of the Redfern Galleries, and a New Zealander of great distinction in the world of art, gave us the free run of his remarkable collection of early prints and books, and when the exhibition was opened we were able to show the finest work of the Caxton Press side by side with the early printing of Colenso, and *Art in New Zealand* alongside lithographs from Heaphy originals. For New Zealanders in England the exhibition has been thoroughly

At the opening ceremony one fact emerged which astonished everyone present, including the organisers of the exhibition. This is the first exhibition of its kind to be organised in London by any country in the British Commonwealth. There have been book exhibitions to which Commonwealth countries have contributed, but for a complete and self-contained exhibition the Dominion scores a modest first. What is, I think, important, is the nature of the books chosen. Apart from the historical material, they are meant to represent run-of-the-mill publication in the country. It is very easy to choose a few selected books of high quality, well printed and beautifully bound. We have several of that type—fine bindings by the Government Printer and the Caxton *Ancient Mariner*. What the organising committee had in mind was something different, an exhibition of the ordinary work done in the country, both on the literary and the production side. A special stand exhibits the books (now over 40) that have been sponsored by the Literary Fund, ranging from the Pegasus poets to Anthony Alper's just



SIR WILLIAM HALEY

As I write these words, the morning papers are carrying pictures of New Zealand lamb at Smithfield, and the British Industries Fair has opened at Earls Court and Olympia with a magnificent stand showing New Zealand wool. The country cousins have come to town with a justifiable pride in the produce that is the basis of their economy. But off Piccadilly the volumes of poetry and biography, the short stories and the novels, are a reminder that there is another side to the country. New Zealanders have always had a mind of their own, and the book exhibition is a timely and graceful reminder.

"It will be a knightly occasion on Thursday, June 10, when in honour of the official birthday of the Queen, one of London's recurring displays of pageantry will take place," says the BBC's Overseas Press Bulletin. "The Brigade of Guards will carry out the traditional Trooping the Colour on the Horse Guards Parade. The Queen herself, on horseback, will take the salute at this solemn and colourful ceremony, when the colour to be carried will be that of the 1st Battalion of the Coldstream Guards. And the Queen in tunic of scarlet crossed with the blue riband of the Garter will wear in her black tricorn hat the red plume of this regiment. The Duke of Edinburgh will ride as Colonel of the Welsh Guards. Richard Dimbleby will describe the spectacle for listeners to the General Overseas Service of the BBC, at 10.30 p.m., N.Z. time."

N.Z. LISTENER, JUNE 4, 1954.

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1. Compunction about the code?
5. Her coral strand is referred to in a well-known hymn.
8. The willowy form of Rosie found in a basket.
9. Accuse of 25 across.
10. "Under the greenwood ——
Who loves to be with me"
(Song from "As You Like It").
11. Precious stone containing yeast.
13. Tinsel (anag.).
14. "You spotted —— with double
tongue" (Song from "A Midsummer
Night's Dream").
17. Unavailing, and apparently in stock-
inged feet.

19. "Pretty in amber to observe the forms
Of hairs, or straws, or dirt, or grubs,
or worms!
The things, we know, are neither
—nor 3 down,
But wonder how the devil they got
there" (Pope).

20. Confused coster.

21. Mountain nymph.

22. Two-fifths is masculine, three-fifths
feminine, four-fifths masculine and
the whole could be either.

23. "It is the little rift within the —,
That by and by will make the music
mute" (Tennyson).

24. Double-necked lute
of the 17th Century.

25. Put us in front of
her and we'll follow
her.

26. Haggard horseman?

27. No rates (anag.).

No. 698 (Constructed by R.W.H.)

1		2		3		4		5		6		7
8						9						

No. 698 (Constructed by R.W.H.)

1. Twisted roots.
2. Girls of sad mien?
3. See 19 across.
4. Elgar's variations.
5. I'm put over a broken snare.
6. The end of an incendiary
7. The faithful companion of Aeneas.
12. His name was Simon, and the song says he kept a good store of malmsey and malvoisie.
13. A head-rest turned into a shell fish.
15. Chess pieces.

