

the cornet, using the "wrong" hand. Naturally left-handed, he was forced by the design of the instrument to manipulate the valves with his right. "I've often regretted that I didn't ever get a left instrument, but it's not worth while now," he says. "Of course, if I ever lost the use of my right hand I'd persevere and learn with the left." That he could do so readily seems clear. Years ago, in Westport, Ken Smith broke a bone in his right wrist. He was booked to appear at a concert, and actually did so, his wrist encased in plaster and the left hand performing the duties of the right.

On the question of the lip's importance to a cornetist, Mr. Smith did some debunking of accepted ideas. The story of a person's lip "going," he says, is an excuse. "The strength for playing is on the same principle as for a singer—correct use of the facial muscles and the diaphragm. If you tire in the course of playing, the lips shouldn't become tired, but they lose their sensitivity. If my playing is not up to scratch, it means I have become tired elsewhere and lost the sensitivity to do those little things which make music far more enjoyable. In fact, this sensitivity is essential to beauty in music. It is the essence of the art of delicate and soft playing."

Ken Smith's recipe for the attainment of "the art of delicate and soft playing" lies not in tuition, but in learning. His only tutor, his father, taught him the essentials, but he has studied at no school of music; under no eminent masters of his instrument. "Practice and performance," he says, "have taken up 95 per cent of my spare time. I may have practised for four hours during the day, but if I have a spare hour in the evening, rather than go to books I go to my instrument."

Asked about his own preferences in music, Ken Smith sprang another surprise. "My great interest in music lies in chamber music, and particularly in the works of Mozart and Beethoven." He was also interested, he said, in brass ensemble playing, which he thought had "tremendous possibilities," and which was "a neglected field of musical endeavour."

From a man who has proved wrong such authoritative pronouncements on the cornet as that it has "vulgar tone, boorish origin," it is perhaps not surprising to hear that his plans for St. Kilda Band are hardly conventional. "My first endeavour," he says, "will be to produce the highest quality of music from the band, and not keep to what has been the brass band repertoire over the last decade."

An Odd Notion

"THERE are some very serious-minded people in the world who cherish the idea that novel reading is a flippant pastime, hardly deserving the attention of one who is truly devoted to the things of the mind. I suppose this odd notion partly derives from Victorian days when, in the strictest families, novels often had to be slipped under pillows or hidden in cupboards and were certainly never for Sundays; and even among enthusiastic novel-readers novels were thought of only as a relaxation. Even today some intellectual snobs still put the novel bottom of the list of art-forms."—Helen Garrett, in an NZBS Book Shop talk.

N.Z. GOVERNMENT

1954 NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT LOAN

ISSUE OF £30,000,000

3 ³/₄ % STOCK

IN THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS...

- ① Term—5 years—maturing 15th Sept., 1959, at £100%
- ② Term—11 years—maturing 15th Sept., 1965, at £98%
- ③ Term—15 years—maturing 15th Sept., 1969, at £97-10-0%
- ④ Term—20 years—maturing 15th Sept., 1974, at £97%

INVESTORS MAY SELECT AT THEIR OPTION
THE MATURITY DATES THEY PREFER

OBJECTS OF LOAN: The proceeds of the Loan will be used in part for the repayment of existing Loans but principally for essential development works throughout New Zealand.

Important development works, vital to the country's progress and prosperity, include Houses, Schools, Post Offices, Electric Power Stations, Land Development, Mines, Roads, Bridges, and Railway and Telephone equipment.

TERMS OF ISSUE: Payment for stock may be made in either of two ways—

- (a) Cash in full with application,
- (b) In instalments, £10% on application, £40% on 2nd August, 1954, and balance on 1st October, 1954.

Interest will accrue from date of lodgment, with payments half-yearly on 15th March and 15th September. First interest payment 15th September 1954, on applications which are paid in full by that date and on 15th March 1955, on applications fully paid after 15th September. All applications or instalment subscriptions are free of Inland Exchange. An Authorised Trustee Investment.

YOUR MONEY EARNS INTEREST FROM THE DAY IT IS LODGED SECURITIES

Stock will be issued in either of the following forms:—

- (1) Ordinary stock, transferable without payment of any fee or stamp duty unless by way of gift.
 - (2) Death Duty Stock—may be tendered at par in payment of Death Duties, or at par in payment of Income Tax or Social Security charges in respect of the holder's estate. Not transferable, but may be exchanged for Ordinary Stock.
- This Death Duty Stock gives prudent investors with available cash the desirable opportunity to provide now for taxation charges accruing at the time of death.

REBATE OF INCOME TAX: Where applicable, a rebate of Income Tax will be granted to investors to ensure a minimum net return of 2 per cent interest per annum on the nominal value of stock in this issue after payment of Income Tax and Social Security charge on such interest. For the purpose of calculating the rebate, the interest on this stock will be deemed to be the final increment of the investor's income.

This means that any subscriber to this Loan who is paying more than 7/10 in the £ Income Tax plus

1/6 Social Security Tax will be assured of a rebate of tax on the interest derived from this stock.

CONVERSION: Holders of 3% stock maturing 1st August 1954, and of 2½% stock maturing 15th August 1954, may surrender such stock at par as from 31st May 1954, in payment for stock of this issue.

Fractional amounts of £10 of the 3% and 2½% 1954 maturing stock remaining in the names of stockholders after conversion will be paid to them in cash as soon as practicable after closing date of this Loan.

Absolute Security of Investment—

Copies of Prospectus and Application Forms may be obtained from the Reserve Bank of New Zealand, any Branch of any Bank, including Trustee Savings Banks, District Treasury Offices, any Postal Money Order Office, or any member of the Stock Exchange.

1.4A