



"How's this for a change? There's this sweet, unspoiled girl trying to forget her criminal career so she becomes a nurse and meets this atom scientist who's lost his memory and become a lawyer who's lost his memory and become a schizophrenic doctor—"

doing these things is, at least, pleasantly instructive to the listener and, at best, helpful to the poet himself.

—Westcliff

At Great Ormond Street

DOCUMENTARY, when its facts are reinforced by its appeal to the heart, is one of the most exciting forms of radio. Such was the BBC's *Children in Hospital*, the story of the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children. It was at times unbearably moving, but the emotional stress was lightened towards the end of the programme by vistas of the amazing progress in medicine, and also by excerpts from such incidental aspects of hospital life as spelling quizzes and percussion bands. Nor was the mistake made of glorifying the institution *per se*—there were references to letting the children home as soon as possible, and to the importance of parents' daily visiting. The only thing I found unconvincing was Emlyn Williams's Charles Dickens, but then Dickens was an unconvincing character even to his contemporaries. And on the one occasion when I thought I might pick a genuine hole (when a six-months-old baby cried like something much younger) the mother forestalled me by saying, "That's not his usual cry. Doctor, but then he really isn't himself."

—M.B.

The Home Paddock

THE development of adult education in other countries is a subject that crops up fairly regularly in the Women's Sessions, and by now constant listeners

N.Z. LISTENER, JULY 2, 1954.

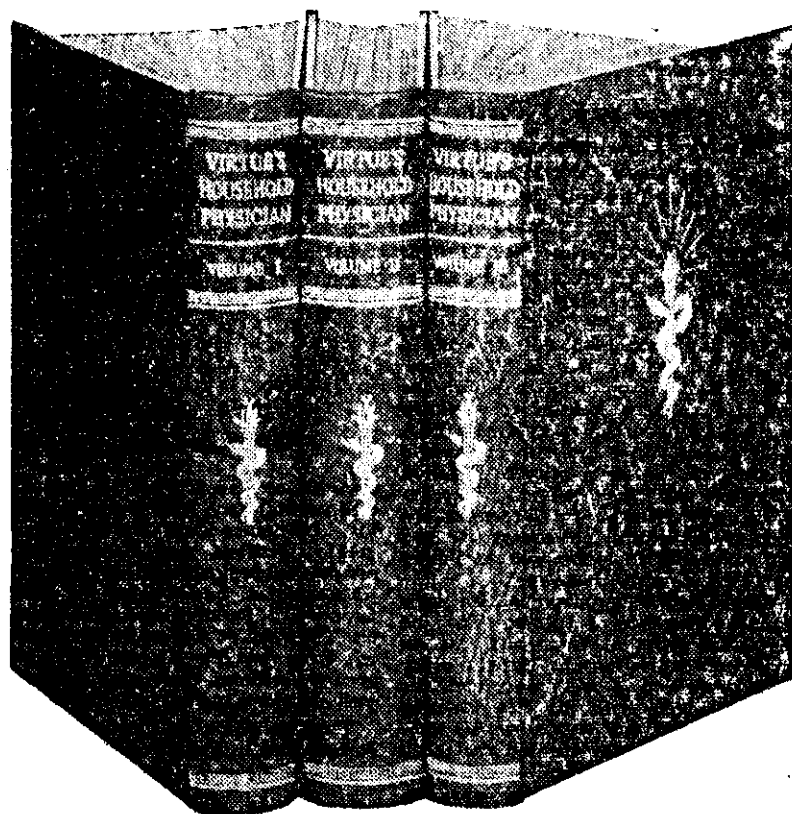
must have acquired a vivid picture of services available overseas, with perhaps something of the feeling that the grass in the next paddock is always greener. But with Joan Faulkner Blake's series *Living to Learn* our attention is focused on (of all places) our own country and the work being done here by Adult Education. The information she gave was impressive in its tale of individual and concerted energy and endeavour, and its constant seizing of the thin edge of a wedge of interest in an attempt to broaden community life. Her picture included failures, but these only helped to highlight the successes, and these, together with the humorous comments of the speaker, are what one remembers best of this enjoyable series.

Country Calendar

IN a country such as this, where the nearest farm is probably only a stone's throw from the tram terminus, a programme such as *Country Calendar* has more than a purely rural appeal. This was not wholly realised last year, when, to the city-dweller at least, an otherwise interesting programme was frequently dulled by the inclusion of purely technical talks. This year, however, *Country Calendar* has reverted to what I seem to remember as its original form, a series of talks with a country angle, but of wider appeal. At present, for example, we can hear Agricola's interesting series on architecture and landscape gardening, or Bert Dreaver's charming talks on Central Otago. And the technical farmer is still catered for by a Department of Agriculture talk in another part of the evening programme.

—Loquax

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