

THE Tory Channel whaling tug Tuatea heads for home with a sizeable humpback whale lashed alongside

There She Blows!

WHALE-CATCHING equipment has improved somewhat since the days of Captain Ahab, but whaling is still an exciting and dangerous occupation, as Anthony Bartlett, of the NZBS Talks Section, found when he spent a few days recently with the whalers of Tory Channel. Mr. Bartlett took a portable tape recorder with him, not only to the whaling station but out to sea in one of the fast, flat-decked chasers, so what listeners will hear in Whale Hunt from all YA stations at 9.30 a.m. this Sunday (August 29) is a series of on-thespot recordings with just enough additional comment by Mr. Bartlett to tie the story together.

Whale Hunt starts at the lookout hut from which the whales are first sighted, then goes straight down to the 35-feet chasers which roar out at about 20 knots in pursuit of the whales. This should be for listeners the most exciting part of the programme. It then follows the chase right through to the kill, and the moment when, with the air line in the giant carcase, a member of the crew grabs the whale's tail and fixes the hawser which ties it to the chaser. To round off the story Whale Hunt visits the factory ashore and interviews some of the people who work there.



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