

"The Dream" and "The Body"

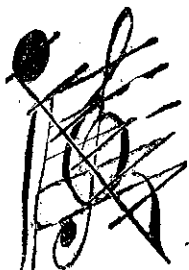
"If we offend it is with our goodwill," declaims Quince, who stood not on his points. "That you should think we come not to offend but with goodwill." That speech of Quince's, "tangled like a chain; nothing impaired but all disordered," is, of course, the prologue to the play within Shakespeare's fantasy, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. A BBC version of *The Dream*, with Sir Ralph Richardson as Bottom, and with the complete incidental music of Mendelssohn, will be broadcast from the YC stations at the following times: 2YC, Sunday, March 6, at 8.0 p.m.; 3YC, Thursday, March 3, at 8.15 p.m. Station 4YC will play the first part on Wednesday, March 2, at 7.55 p.m., and the second part the following night at 7.30 p.m. Station 1YC will also broadcast the play in two parts—on Wednesday, March 9, and Saturday, March 12, at 9.30 p.m.

The production is by Val Gielgud, the BBC Head of Drama, while Laurence Payne and Monica Grey take the parts of the king and queen of the fairies, Oberon and Titania.

From the enchanted wood near Athens we move to an inner suburb of North London, where we find Madge washing her face before tea, fortyish, kindly, inoffensively stupid, but still quite pretty; and her husband Henry (she calls him Boocles), who likes Garibaldi biscuits and spraying for greenfly on his flowers. They are both perfectly content. But then Diver, the new boarder in the house next door, comes in to borrow a screwdriver and stays longer than necessary. He also is fortyish, hiding his basic insecurity behind a heavy ginger moustache, a hearty manner and a leer. The play, called *The Body*, tells the story of Henry's growing suspicions about Diver and Madge, coming to a climax after he had made a round of the bars. *The Body* is adapted by C. Gordon Glover from the novel by William Sansom, produced by Earle Rowell in the Auckland studios of the NZBS, and with Rilla Stephens, Charles Sinclair and Athol Coats in the leading roles. It will be broadcast in ZB *Sunday Showcase* at 9.35 p.m. on Sunday, March 6.

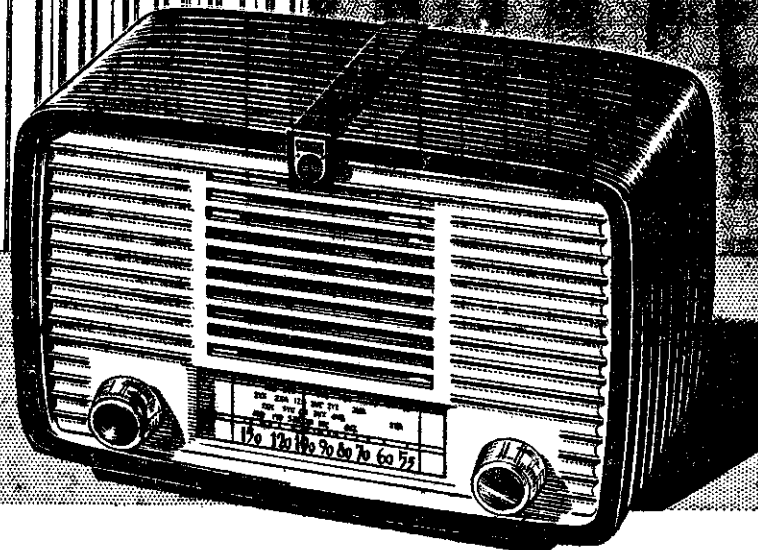
N.Z. HIT PARADE

FOR some years now, several regional stations of the NZBS have conducted local *Hit Parade* programmes compiled from actual public voting in the districts served by these stations. Each fortnight all the votes from these local *Hit Parades* have been totalled up in Wellington for *The New Zealand Hit Parade*, which aims to give a survey of the favourite songs of the moment throughout the country. *The New Zealand Hit Parade* is to begin again from 2YA on Thursday, March 3, at 7.35 p.m., with a round-up of possible hit songs of the year. The following week, votes will be counted and Edition Number One for 1955 will take the air. Thereafter, the *Parade* will be broadcast fortnightly on Thursdays at 7.30 p.m., with a repeat the following Wednesday afternoon at 3.30.



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