

## NEWS OF BROADCASTERS. ON AND OFF THE RECORD

Theatre Orchestra and was associated with Jack Davey and an unknown singer called Joy Nichols. Returning to New Zealand in 1942, he joined the Kiwi Concert Party under Terry Vaughan, playing in small instrumental groups. George left the Kiwis in 1945 to join Chips Healey's Radio Dance Band in Auckland, and has since played there under every leader doing radio dance band work.

His own group, the Cubanairs, includes pianist Crombie Murdoch, Frank Gibson (percussion) and Lockie Jamieson (Latin effects), trumpeter Jimmy Warren, Neil Randrup, who doubles on flute and clarinet, and vocalist Les Humphreys. His object, says George, is to present a highly-polished combination playing mambos, sambas, guarachas and rumbas exclusively for radio.

THAT grand old game of "General Post" still has its devotees. At least they have started playing it with enthusiasm in the Women's Session of the Service. It all started because Margaret Isaac, who conducts 2ZA's Shopper Session, went to England. To succeed her, Pamela Rutland,



RONA CUTHILL

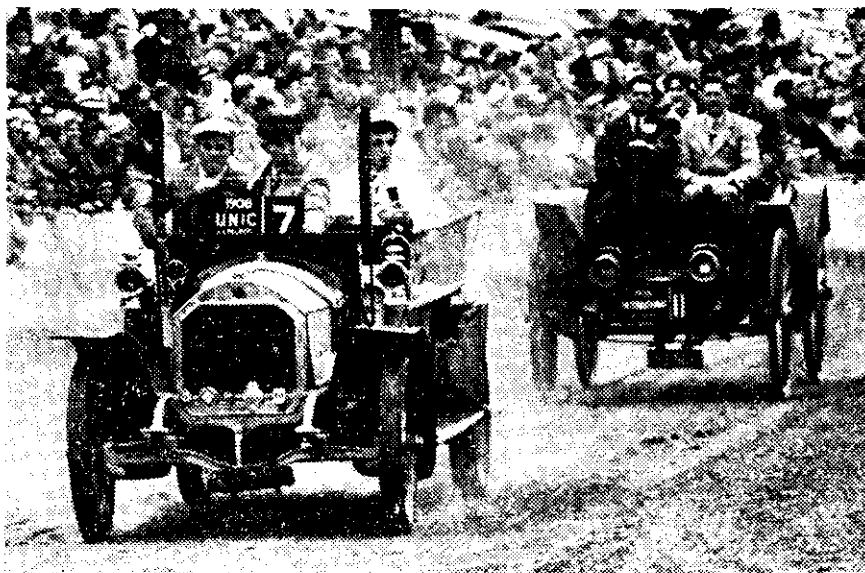


JUNE IRVINE

of the Auckland Women's Session, travelled to Palmerston North. Barbara Basham having left 2YA for Head Office Talks, Rona Cuthill from Whangarei was chosen to take her place. Pamela Kemp, an ex-2XG announcer, has moved up to Whangarei, and June Irvine, who used



THE SONG of a crooning mutton bird is recorded at the entrance to its burrow by Ken Green, of 4YA, for his recent broadcast on "The Sooty Shearwater." The programme was made during a visit to the Titi Islands of a scientific expedition led by Dr. R. A. Falla, of the Dominion Museum. The photograph was taken by T. Riney, another member of the expedition



VINTAGE cars from many parts of the South Island took part in the Vintage Car Rally during the recent Festival Week in Dunedin. Prudence Gregory, of 4ZB, rode along in a 1908 Unic (the leading car in the photograph—the second is an International). The Unic, owned by the Palmer brothers, of Christchurch, came third in aggregate points. Eighteen vehicles completed the run of 24 miles from the Showgrounds to Brighton and return, and the programmes recorded by Prudence Gregory on the trip were subsequently broadcast in 4YA and 4ZB Women's Hours.

formerly to do the Shopping Reporter's Session at 2XG, has returned to her old announcer's desk after a holiday spent in England.

PEI TE HURUNUI JONES, whose talk on "The Maori as a Poet" is being broadcast at present from YC stations (4YC, Thursday, March 10), is regarded as the leading Maori scholar of today. He was born in Coromandel in 1898, but has lived for many years in Taumarunui, where he has been active in Maori land affairs.

MAORI SCHOLAR He has been a member of the Geographic Board, the Polynesian Society and the P.E.N. He has contested the Western Maori seat several times as an Independent, and in recent years has acted as interpreter at Maori receptions. His publications include *Mahinarangi*,

*Tangata Whai-rawa o Weniti* (the first Maori translation of *The Merchant of Venice*), and *King Potatau*. In his youth Pei te Hurunui Jones was a great athlete. He was an amateur runner, played Rugby for King Country and Wanganui, was tennis representative for Wanganui, King Country, Auckland and Waikato, and New Zealand Maori tennis champion from 1924 to 1928. In his broadcast Mr. Jones describes the various kinds of Maori songs, lullabies and laments, with examples. He also discusses the attitude of the Maoris to their poetry, which, he says, has taught them a view of life, and through the influence of proverbs and traditions has permeated their society.

THE song cycle *Farewell, Earth's Bliss*, which Donald Munro will sing with the Alex Lindsay Quartet from YC stations next Wednesday, March 9, is the work of one of the most promising of the younger English composers, Geoffrey Bush. Like the cycle of four songs from Herrick's *Hesperides*, which Donald Munro recorded for the BBC and later for the NZBS

SONG CYCLE (and also sang with the National Orchestra), *Farewell, Earth's Bliss*, was written for Mr. Munro. It is a setting for baritone and strings of a sequence of seven songs by George Herbert, Thomas Dekker, John Fletcher, Shakespeare, Richard Edwards and Robert Herrick. It was written in 1950, and this is its first performance.

Now in his middle thirties, Geoffrey Bush joined the choir of Salisbury Cathedral when he was only eight. He went to school at Lancing College, where he won a classical scholarship and, later, the Nettleship Scholarship to Balliol College. There he took his Doctorate in Music when he was 26. Among his compositions are a Divertimento for Strings, a Concerto for Oboe and Strings, a Sinfonetta Concertante for Cello and Small Orchestra, a Rhapsody for Clarinet and String Quartet, a Violin Concerto, and a one-act opera, *The Spanish Rivals*. His latest work is a symphony, which was performed at last year's Cheltenham Festival.

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