

Farjeon, who had none, was manager, sub-editor, contributor and frequent compositor.

"My father had a great admiration for the Maoris," Mr. Farjeon continues, "and during one visit from them he taught one of their chiefs how to play chess. When the chief paid his next visit, he produced his own chessboard and pieces, which he had made himself, and very nearly beat my father, who was an excellent player. I myself possess a greenstone which the Maori chief gave him." Mr. Farjeon adds that his story "The Man Opposite" is one of over 200 short stories he has written. Several of them have been broadcast before by the NZBS.



★ THE Novelettes, a Christchurch vocal group, are at present being heard in a series of broadcasts from all YA stations at 7.30 p.m. on Saturdays. The group was formed in 1948 by Anita Ledsham, who is seen above as she takes a rehearsal in a 3YA studio. Their voices in light harmony have been heard frequently from 3YA, and by thousands of military trainees who have enjoyed their items in past years at Burnham Military Camp concerts.

NOTE on this page a week or two ago about long-distance requests from the men at the Campbell Island meteorological station mentioned the fact that 2XG is now calling Campbell regularly. It appears that 2XG has taken over from 2XA Wanganui, because the meteorologists on Campbell have been called in 2XA's Thursday night Request Session for some years. In recent weeks requests from them have been scarce, and it seems likely that reception of 2XA has deteriorated. However, 2XA also calls each Thursday night the meteorological men on Raoul Island in the Kermadec Group. At one time some of the men at Raoul Camp came from Wanganui, and when they got there they found they could receive their local

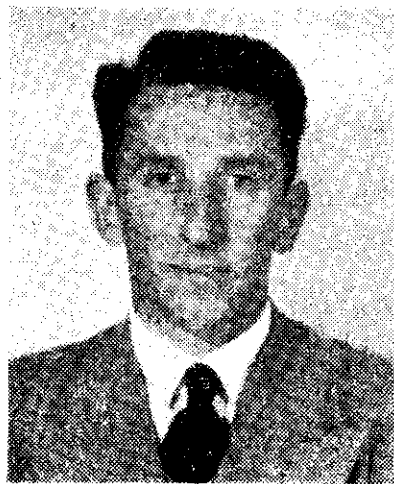


GEOFF NORTHCOTE
Roses in the morning, Rugby in the afternoon
N.Z. LISTENER, APRIL 7, 1955.

station very well. Consequently a stream of cabled requests flowed from Raoul, and when the men were relieved the new inhabitants took over. The Chathams were also at one stage on 2XA's request list, but the particular family who were called have now returned to New Zealand.

★ WHEN the whistle blows for half-time on Palmerston North Rugby fields the man with the whistle is likely to be Geoff Northcote, a well-known referee who is probably better known to listeners as the conductor of 2ZA's Saturday morning Garden Session. Geoff is a horticulturist whose main hobby is refereeing. He has been longed to eight Referees' Associations throughout the country, and has carried the whistle for many important representative games during the last few years, including matches with international touring sides. He was born in England, came to New Zealand when he was 16, and spent his early years in this country working for 10/- a week on dairy farms, sheep farms and orchards. After serving with the 2nd N.Z.E.F. in Egypt and Italy, he took up a rehabilitation bursary at Massey Agricultural College. There he gained his Diploma in Horticulture, and was for four years orchard instructor at Nelson and then horticultural instructor in charge of the Motueka district for two and a half years. He now works for a seed company in Palmerston North. Geoff is no stranger to radio. While living in Nelson he gave several talks on agricultural and horticultural subjects from 2KN. Geoff is a keen home gardener himself, and has judged the Produce sections at many A. and P. Shows and the Rose Sections of various Horticultural Society Shows.

FILM reviewing has its occupational hazards, according to Wynne Colgan. "I was once invited to 'step outside a minute if you don't like it' by a hulking patron who kept drumming his feet on the back of my stall," he said to us recently. Wynne, who is Auckland's deputy-City Librarian, is vice-president of the Auckland Film Society. He be-



WYNNE COLGAN
Art from the sausage machine

came interested in film criticism while at university, and has been reviewing films from 1YA for the past five years. "You often hear people bewail the fact that better films aren't made," says Wynne. "Remembering though that the movies are a mere 50 years of age, and also an art form that's at the same time a mammoth industry, the wonder is that so many good productions do slip through the sausage machine." What are some of these good films? Here are the ones that Wynne rates highly: *Orphée*, *The Ox-Bow Incident*, *Battleship Potemkin*, *On the Town*, *Les Enfants du Paradis*, *City Lights*, *A Night at the Opera*, and *The Way to the Stars*. Wynne has a high regard for films made in non-English-speaking countries. He would like to see more of them exhibited in New Zealand, particularly films from Scandinavia, and some Japanese films, too.

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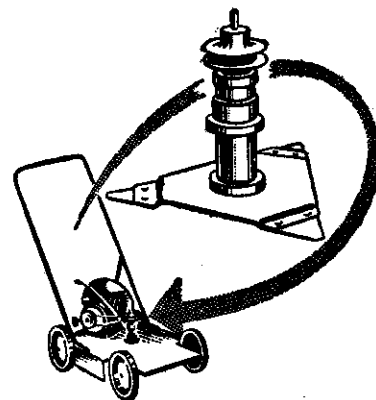
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