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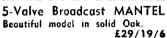
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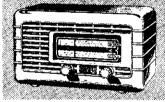
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THEN television started in the United States a lot of radio people threw up their hands and thought radio's days were over, with the result that standards dropped," Honey told us the other day, "But they're still selling ten million radio sets a year, and the radio companies realise that radio will always be there." Music and news predominated in most of the stations, with spot advertisements, he said. Americans were very news conscious, and many of the stations which were actually owned by newspapers



N.P.S. photograph ERIC HONEY He brought back a bride

broadcast the latest news every hour. "Generally speaking, radio is still listened to at night, and it should be able to hold its daytime audiences also,

as there are a vast num-BACK FROM ber of car radios in use. An NBC executive in BOSTON New York whom I talked to said that radio was in a state of transition, that it still had a future, though he wasn't sure what the pattern would be."

Eric Honey, who is the NZBS Staff Training Officer, had just returned from Boston when we saw him. He had gone over to marry his American fiancée. "We were married in an old church that the British had used as a barracks during the Revolution." he said, "Afterwards I visited New Hampshire, Martha's Vine-yard, New York and Washington. I drove about 1500 nerve-racking miles by car through traffic that was like mobs of jet-propelled sheep, the cars all tightpacked and doing 50 miles an hour on the good roads." He said that the programme which had impressed him most in American television was Omnibus, a non-profit educational series produced 26 weeks a year and financed by the Ford Foundation. Omnibus was put on to prove that sponsored TV could be of a high standard, he said, and it in-cluded such things as the trial scene from Shaw's Saint Joan or a talk on architecture by Frank Lloyd Wright It appeared every second Sunday, ran for 90 minutes, and had a very large audience. Each Omnibus show cost about 60,000 dollars to produce.

AST year Station 2XP broadcast a number of panel discussions on such local New Plymouth problems as

NEWS OF BROADCASTERS. ON AND OFF THE RECORD

whether Pukekura Park should have a sound shell or not. The inspiring genius behind the discussions was L. M. H. Cave, Taranaki-Wanganui tutor of the Victoria University College Regional Council of Adult Education, who has been an active broadcaster from boto 2XP and 2XA in the past few years.

AT 2XP

He was also the man TOWN FORUM who originated the idea of the social sur-

vey of Hawera last year, when a team of V.U.C. Psychology Department research workers visited the district. Next week 2XP is beginning another series of forum discussions on local topics-and once again the man behind the scheme is L. M. H. Cave. But this time something new has been added. In co-operation with T. F. A. Shankland, 2XP's Station Manager, he has worked out the idea of listener participation in the discussions. Listener groups have been organised, and their findings and recommendations on the previous week's forum are summarised in the first five minutes of each succeeding broadcast. The first broadcast of Town Forum of the Air will be at 8.15 p.m. on Wednesday, April 20, when the question to be discussed is "Should the New Post-primary School be Co-educational?"

"THE first thing I ever did was a fairy in Peter Pan at the Wellington Opera House when I was about seven," says Melanie Paul, who played the part of Mary Carlton in an NZBS production of The Middle Watch, broadcast recently from the ZB stations in Sunday Showcase. She also plays the part of Cherry in Mister Mysterious, now being

heard from YA and YZ SHOWCASE stations. Melanie is a ACTRESS Wellington girl who has spent much of her act-

ing life abroad. When she went overseas she did a good deal of broadcasting in Sydney, and in London played the juvenile lead at the Richmond and Woolwich Royal Artillery Theatres. She then went into Noel Coward's Ace of Clubs to understudy the straight parts. and also danced. After doing some work on television she toured Italy for five



MELANIE PAUL Fairy Godmother

N.Z. LISTENER, APRIL 15, 1955.