

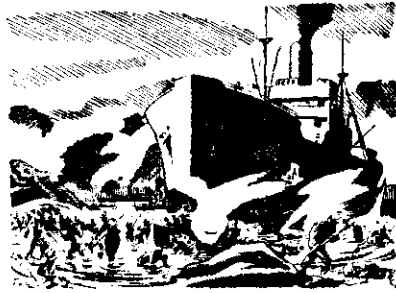
FORTY YEARS AFTER

WHEN the Turks took over the Anzac dug-outs they found notes like "Remember, Johnny, you didn't push us off. We went." And those words typified the courageous, tragic, calamitous Gallipoli campaign which cost the Anzacs alone 23,000 casualties, 10,000 dead: a campaign in which the attacking forces had four enemies—the Turks, dysentery, thirst and the Peninsula's natural defences.

The programme commemorating the Gallipoli Campaign starts simply enough. "We present *The Magnificent Failure*, a programme to mark the anniversary of the Anzac landing on Gallipoli, forty years ago today, on April the 25th, 1915." It goes on to tell of the landing on the peninsula after the Turks had had warning and time to prepare their defences. It tells of the Turkish massed daylight effort to dislodge the Anzac line on May 19 when the rifles grew hot but the defence held.

The programme tells of the queer nine hours armistice following the Turkish offensive, when the dead were buried. "By four in the afternoon the work was done. The burial parties exchanged souvenirs: then each side returned to its own trenches. For the next half hour there was no sound at all. At 4.30 both sides fired tremendous salvoes at nothing in particular: then silence settled once more." It tells of the passing of May and June and July when the fighting never stopped and the crosses on the hillside grew. The place was black with flies; dysentery broke out. The men were lousy; chloride of lime bubbled and stank.

It tells of how the New Zealanders took the vital Chunuk Bair but lost it again because they were too few and too exhausted to hold it. For the second



time, victory was close, but the help from Suvla never came. It tells finally of the evacuation, that gigantic bluff when 20,000 men were taken off the peninsula without Johnny Turk knowing and without a casualty.

Written by Asquith M. Thomson, and produced in the Wellington studios of the NZBS, *The Magnificent Failure* will be broadcast on all YAs and on 3YZ and 4YZ at 7.30 p.m. on Monday, April 25.

The Magnificent Failure will be preceded and followed by two Anzac programmes from the BBC. Details of these were not available as we went to press, but the first, to be heard in the Main National Programme at 9.30 a.m. this Sunday (April 24), will be a programme of reminiscences. The second, *Dardanelles: The Campaign Reconstructed*, from all YA and YZ stations (except 3YA), at 8.0 p.m. on Anzac Day, was specially prepared to mark the 40th anniversary of the Gallipoli landing. Other Anzac programmes from individual stations will include several commemorative services.

The Commercial Division's Anzac Day programme, written and produced by Alan Sleeman and entitled *The Pride of Nationhood*, will be broadcast from 1ZB at 4.0 p.m., 2ZB at 7.0 p.m., 3ZB at 6.0 p.m., 4ZB at 6.30 p.m. and 2ZA at 8.15 p.m.

Memorial to Pacific War Dead

AT a small cemetery near Bourail, New Caledonia, 287 soldiers are buried, all but two of them New Zealanders. They were brought down there from various South Pacific theatres of war where they died—from the Solomons and Guadalcanal, and one or two from New Guinea. A monument commemorates more than 200 New Zealand soldiers and airmen who have no known grave.

On Sunday, May 8, a Cross of Sacrifice will be unveiled at a combined New Zealand-French ceremony at this, the only distinctively New Zealand cemetery, outside the Dominion, of the two world wars. Bouquets of flowers will be placed on the graves by children and wreaths will also be placed on a memorial to the dead of the town of Noumea. The Right Honourable Sir Harold Barrowclough, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., M.C., former officer commanding the Second Expeditionary Force in the Pacific, and now Chief Justice, will unveil the monument, and the French High Commissioner in the Pacific, M. René Hoffner, who is also Governor of New Caledonia, will pay a tribute to the dead. The official New Zealand party of 20 people will include Parliamentary, official, R.S.A., Service and religious representatives.

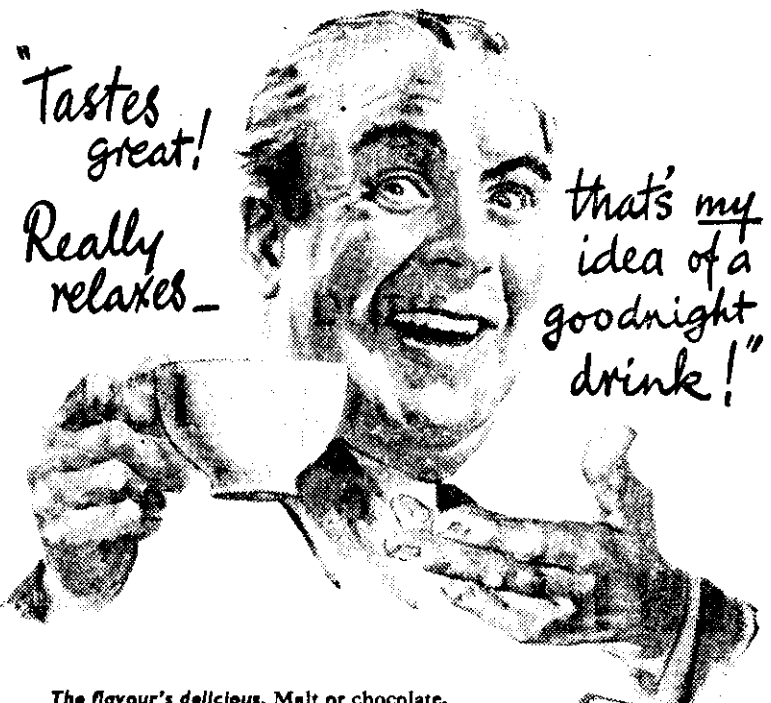
Two members of the NZBS will be going with the official party to cover the ceremony. They are E. V. Spencer, commentator, who for about three years

was officer-in-charge of the NZBS Mobile Unit in the Pacific; and J. H. Ensor, engineer, who spent 12 months on Norfolk Island during the war working on radar, and later served in the Middle East and Italy in the signallers.

The difficulties of radio coverage are considerable. The ceremony will be recorded on tape at Bourail and the tapes will then have to be taken to Noumea 120 miles away, where Radio Noumea, "The Voice of France in the Pacific," has its studios. There the tapes will have to be edited and the programme arranged. As the ceremony will not be completed till 5.30 p.m. (New Zealand time) it is not expected that the programme will be broadcast by Radio Noumea until at least 10.30 p.m. (New Zealand time) on May 8.

The equipment taken to Noumea will include tape-recorders, amplifiers and associated equipment, including microphones, cables, batteries, and so on. In all, the equipment will weigh about 280lb. Documentaries on New Caledonia will also be made and played later.

The broadcasting arrangements are that the YA stations and 4YZ will broadcast a full report of the ceremony the same night, Sunday, May 8, at 11.15—the stations will be kept open later than usual to do so—and on Monday there will be a short edited version at 7.18 a.m. and a repeat of the full broadcast in place of Radio Newsreel at 6.45 p.m.



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