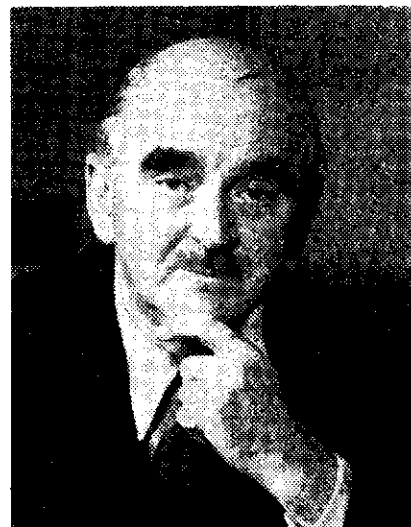


vate life of the creator of Colonel Blimp and other notable characters, and listeners will hear also recorded excerpts from a broadcast Low made some years ago in which he "explains himself" and outlines the idea of political cartooning.

Born in Dunedin of an Irish mother and a Scots father, Low was just 12

CARTOONIST

when he began cartooning in the *Christchurch Spectator*, and only 20 when he made his name, before the First World War, as political cartoonist of the *Sydney Bulletin*. It was Arnold Bennett, then visiting Australia, who told Fleet Street what it was missing. Low arrived in London in 1919 when he was 28, and after nine years with the *Star* was "netted" by Lord Beaverbrook for his *Evening Standard*. This was a Conservative newspaper, but Low insisted on having absolute freedom in his drawing, subject only to the Editor's right to reject any cartoon. Since Mr. Owen himself was Low's Editor a year or two before the last war, what he has to say about the influence of Low's work on public opinion is specially interesting. Low now works for the great Liberal paper, the *Manchester Guardian*, which he joined when he left the Labour *Daily Herald* about three years ago. Frank



DAVID LOW

Owen's portrait of David Low will be heard later from other YA stations.

★

FOLLOWING the example of its leader, who made his first broadcast, as a pianist, when he was only 12, the

NEW MAINLANDER

WELL aware that the South Island's chief export to the North is brains, we were surprised to discover not long ago that "occasionally" the process works in reverse. Take the case of Celia Morris, Women's Session Organiser at 3YA (right). When we asked her about herself, she answered: "I'm a Londoner by birth, a New Zealander by adoption, and a Wellingtonian." We had visions of Miss Morris being cast into the Avon by a committee of patriotic Christchurch citizens after such a blithe confession of guilt by association, but she is evidently prepared to take the risk. Celia took over "Mainly for Women" at 3YA last January, after returning from a trip to America and England. She spent three years abroad, mainly in the United States, where she worked in Boston and Los Angeles, and visited many other parts of the country.



THE JOHN MACKENZIE QUARTET

John MacKenzie Quartet was early on the air—in fact, it was one of the pioneers among small modern groups in New Zealand radio.

PIONEERS Those early personal broadcasts of John's were made from 1ZR and 1ZB and, still in Auckland, he later played the organ at the Civic Theatre.

John formed his own Trio in 1948 to accompany an Auckland vocal group called the Musical Friends, which broadcast regularly for about three years. The John MacKenzie Trio soon became popular on its own account, John tells us, and in 1949 made two visits to Wellington for broadcasts. Since then the Trio has become a Quartet whose members, besides its leader at the piano, are Ray Gunter (Spanish guitar), Bob Ewing (bass) and Don Branch (drums). The Quartet's new series of recorded programmes to be heard on Wednesday evenings from YA and YZ stations, starting on August 15, will give listeners their last chance for some time of hearing Ray Gunter, who has gone to England on a business trip. Many people consider Ray the best Spanish guitar player in New Zealand.

Apart from his work with his Quartet, John MacKenzie also runs his own Dixieland band, with Bobby Griffiths as trumpeter and Jim Warren playing an

old-fashioned valve trombone. He is also a member of Crombie Murdoch's *Radio Roadhouse* orchestra, and when he has time plays the electric organ. This is, of course, after-hours activity, for during the day John is a commercial traveller. How he fits in his other interests—golf, tape recorders and colour movies—he hasn't told us. John is married—up to the present series his wife, Molly, has always compered his programmes—and the father of two children.



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