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YOUNG New Zealanders who have grown up since Labour first became the Government party generally know little of its early struggles or of the colourful figures of the past, so it's not surprising that there has

HISTORIAN OF LABOUR been wide interest in the talks on three New Zealand agitators heard from several YC stations. Herbert Roth (below), who wrote these talks, has made the history of the Labour movement in New Zealand from the 1890s to 1920 his



N.P.S. photograph

special study and is certainly one of the few authorities on the period. Oddly enough, Mr. Roth is not himself New Zealand-born but started off as a chemistry student in pre-Hitler Vienna. "I left there in 1938," he told us, "and spent a couple of years in France before coming to New Zealand." Like many other European refugees, Mr. Roth worked for a start at a variety of jobs and from 1944 to 1946 was in the Air Force as a meteorologist. This included

a year in the Pacific islands and was followed by six months as a met. officer at Rongotai. At the same time he had been working extra-murally for a B.A. which he took in history. This made it possible for him to enter the Library School not long after it was established. He has been in library work ever since, and for several years has been Head of the Reference Section of the National Library Service.

How did he come to make a special study of the early history of Labour in New Zealand? Well, he had always been interested in the Labour movement, Mr. Roth said. Then he married a New Zealand girl, Margot Hogben—they now have three children—and had become specially interested in Labour in New Zealand up to the 1920s when writing a biography of her grandfather, George Hogben. "Going through the newspapers for the period I realised that nothing had been

NEWS OF BROADCASTERS ON AND OFF THE RECORD

written about it and I took notes of things I came across," he said. Since then, for about four years, Mr. Roth has been collecting material—books, pamphlets, newspapers and so on—and he has written to just about everyone he has heard of who has knowledge of the period.

"Pretty well everyone has been most helpful," he said, "but, yes, I would still be interested to hear from other people, unknown to me, who may have material or who could talk from personal experience of those days." The outcome of all this is the first draft of a book—"I haven't got a publisher yet"—a good many articles in various journals and some broadcast talks. One interesting result of an earlier series of talks, *Three Reformers Visit New Zealand*, which included one on Michael Flurscheim, was a letter from a daughter of Flurscheim now living in Auckland. "I didn't know any of the family was in New Zealand," Mr. Roth said, "as Flurscheim himself was here for only about five years."

Mr. Roth's talk on three New Zealand agitators will start with one on Arthur Desmond from 4YC and 4YZ on Friday, October 5, and from 1YC the next week. Child labour and old age pensions in New Zealand will be discussed in other talks he is writing.



A DOG with an ear for music is the audience for Britain's noted jazz trumpeter Humphrey Lyttelton in the picture below. Lyttelton—"Humph"—the jazz world—is an old

HUMPH Etonian, a former Grenadier Guards Officer and the grandson of a viscount. His father was for 50 years a master at Eton College and a cousin, the Rt. Hon. Viscount Chandos (better known as Mr. Oliver

(continued on next page)



BBC photograph