

# THE FORSYTES AGAIN

"PEOPLE like Galsworthy's Forsytes never die," said Muriel Levy in the *Radio Times*, introducing her version of the second book of *The Forsyte Saga*, *In Chancery*, which is to be heard from Main National stations on Sunday after-



noons, starting this coming weekend (November 11). In *The Man of Property*, the first book of the Saga, listeners who had not already met them by reading the book were introduced to the snow-clad-and-fire-within Irene, so much needed by her demanding husband Soames, the Man of Property; to James, with his forlorn cry of "nobody tells me anything"; to Old Jolyon, Young Jolyon, and his jilted daughter June.

In *In Chancery* we follow the family fortunes and have a glimpse into the lives of the younger generation—Holly, Jolly, and the children of all the characters we met in *The Man of Property*. Do they suffer a similar fate? Are they guided by their elders? As much or as little as the younger generation today.

"It is one thing to write a script for radio, with a preconceived idea of what the characters should be like," said Muriel Levy, "but quite

LEFT: Grizelda Hervey  
—"the perfect Irene voice"

another to have a clear interpretation of one's intentions. In this respect I have been extraordinarily lucky, both in producers and cast. Val Gielgud, in my eye, possesses some of the elegance of the Forsytes themselves, and it was with a great thrill that I watched him in the early production, coaxing fiction into life with the surest and most delicate touch. Again, in Hugh Stewart, producer of the new production, there is that gentleness and perception without which no mid-Victorian gentleman or lady could possibly be ushered into today's English home and live to tell the tale.



Muriel Levy

"The script of the three Galsworthy books took me about a year to complete, and I am sure that it was the best-spent year of my twenty-odd years of writing for radio."

Most of the original cast play the leading parts—notably Grizelda Hervey, an experienced and talented actress who has been described as having "the perfect Irene voice"; Ronald Simpson as the acid, yet pathetic, Soames; Malcolm Keen as Old Jolyon; and many others who have so ably served the creator of the illustrious Forsyte family. The story is again told by Young Jolyon Forsyte now, at the close of the old century, a middle-aged man.

## Programmes for the Antarctic

RADIO NEW ZEALAND, the Short-wave Division of the NZBS, has completed plans to transmit a specially-prepared weekly programme to the New Zealand party in the Antarctic. This was disclosed to *The Listener* by A. L. Curry, 2YA station manager, who is also responsible for the supervision of the Shortwave Division.

"The programme," said Mr. Curry, "will be designed to keep the party informed on happenings at home, and also to provide notes on current events in world affairs."

The format of *Calling Antarctica* was decided on after discussions between the

NZBS, Sir Edmund Hillary, and J. Holmes Miller, deputy-leader of the expedition. The weekly programme, which will last half an hour, falls into three main sections: news, presented in the form of a news review, with special emphasis on happenings in the main centres and towns from which members of the expedition come; a "family corner"; and sport—in the form of a digest, introducing highlights from commentaries that have been heard in New Zealand during the week under review.

The second section of the programme, the "family corner," will not follow the pattern of the greetings programme familiar through the war years, said Mr. Curry, but would rather be the occasion for an informal gathering of the relations of two or three expedition members, bringing news of home and family. These broadcasts will be arranged at the broadcasting stations which are handiest for those taking part in them.

"*Calling Antarctica*," said Mr. Curry, "will be beamed direct to the McMurdo Sound area, where the New Zealanders will be established at Scott Base. To provide effective transmissions Radio New Zealand are erecting a special aerial at Titahi Bay. It is hoped that when we conduct tests with it early in December, the Americans already at McMurdo Sound will report on how signals are being received. We can then select the most suitable frequencies."

*Calling Antarctica* will be broadcast on Sunday nights at 8.15 p.m. New Zealand time (which will also be the time observed at Scott Base), beginning December 30. By that time the Endeavour will be ten days out from New Zealand, and should be near her destination.



N.P.S. photograph

A. L. CURRY

N.Z. LISTENER, NOVEMBER 9, 1956.

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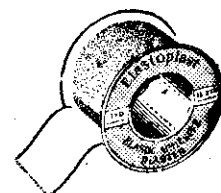
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