

into privacy with poetry. The idea of holding a poetry school came to W. J. Mountjoy, now Regional Adult Education Tutor, in Hawke's Bay, when in 1939 he attended a London substitute for the Oxford Verse Speaking Festival. As a result of a talk he gave in Dunedin when he returned to New Zealand, a school was held there this time last year.

The Victoria University College School, just concluded, was the first to be held in Wellington; besides Mr. Mountjoy, the lecturers were Professor Musgrove, James Baxter, and Zenocrate Mountjoy. Besides listening to lectures, the School provided an opportunity for people attached to poetry, a minority activity, to meet others in the minority, to be reassured by the fact that there were others, to be stimulated by the exchange of ideas, and the sound of verse well spoken.

Some good points were made about verse speaking at the lectures and discussions. A clear parallel was drawn between the aim of the poet and the aim of the verse speaker. If the poet is a person possessed by a god, the verse speaker must be possessed by the voice of the poet. He must not get himself in between the poem and the listener, he must identify himself with the poem, not use it to display himself. He must, therefore, try to feel to some degree, as the poet felt, which means knowing how the poet lived and what the emotional climate of his time was like. He must recognise that each word is placed in a poem for a purpose, and that purpose must be respected. The verse speaker

may not indulge in an emotional wallow, but express the feeling of the poem and nothing else.

Borderline

THE discussions were always interesting, and occasionally penetrating questions were asked; on the poet as possessed, for instance. If ever a man was possessed, Hitler was that man. Would *Mein Kampf* therefore be classed as poetry? How close is the poet to the madman? Pretty close, said Shakespeare. "The lunatic, the lover and the poet are of imagination all compact." This applies particularly to the poet who makes his own private world. He is a minority of one. . . "I said the world was mad, and the world said I was mad, and damn 'em, they outvoted me!"

Perhaps there is a difference between rational madness and poets' madness. The rational madman progresses logically. He builds an atom bomb from plutonium or uranium, and then proceeds to work out a better destructive process with hydrogen. The poet's madness, if it is madness, is a more constructive, liberating, uplifting form. After their four-day experience, the members of the 1950 Poetry School will have, at the very least, a clearer view of these two types of madness, and it should not be difficult for them to decide where they want to look, if, indeed, any doubt has ever entered their minds. Rational man keeps his eyes on the ground, but,

The poet's eye, in a fine frenzy rolling,
Doth glance from heaven to earth, from
earth to heaven.

G. leF. Y.



HARRY HOWLETT and BRENDA DUNRICH, stars of the new ZB serial "Bottle Castle"

Misadventures at Bottle Castle

IN the modern world, a castle is liable to be a troublesome inheritance. This is the theme of the new serial, *Bottle Castle*, which is now being heard from 12B on Mondays and Wednesdays at 7.15 p.m. Before the castle came his way, Jerry Bottle had not worked for twenty years, but his wife had. When they

begin their new life as Lord and Lady Bottle, they do so as the poorest of England's nobility. Their misadventures at Bottle Castle and Jerry's genius for getting into debt with the local tradesmen are endlessly humorous. As Jerry repeatedly observes: "Anythink's liable to happen at Bottle Castle, anythink." This tendency for things to happen carries along the feature at a fast pace, as incident on comic incident besets Jerry in his energetic efforts to avoid the disgrace of bankruptcy and the pain of hard work.

Bottle Castle is scheduled to begin at 22B on February 13, at 32B on February 20, and at 42B on February 27.

N.Z. LISTENER, FEBRUARY 10, 1950.

RONSONOL

*Finest fluid
for any lighter*



RONSON PRODUCTS LTD., LONDON.
N.Z. Representatives: Pansford, Newman & Benson 1948 Ltd.
RONSONOL Wholesale Distributors: Delapac (N.Z.) Ltd.,
Howes Lane, Wellington.

SPARE TIME TRAINING

Utilise "your own" time gaining valuable knowledge in order to better yourself. A most profitable investment is an I.C.S. Course of specialised training which will ensure steady advancement in your calling or employment. Some of the 300 I.C.S. home-study Courses are:—

Works Manager	Accountancy
Business Executives	Salesmanship
Professional Exams	Foremanship
Diesel Engineering	Foundry Work
Mechanical Eng.	Architecture
Electrical Eng.	Estimating
Carpentry, Joinery	Advertising
Farm & Station Book-keeping	
Farm Engines Maintenance	
Surveying & Mapping	
"A" Grade Motor Mech. Exams.	
Wireless Operators Exams.	
Journalism & Short Story Writing	

Be ready to step into a responsible, well-paid position when the opening occurs. A little spare time study will pay you a big dividend. Send NOW for Free I.C.S. Prospectus, stating your subject, trade or profession. Make your spare time pay! Write TODAY to—

**INTERNATIONAL
CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS,**
Dept. L, 182 Wakefield Street,
WELLINGTON.

Don't let THESE eyes . . .



become these . . .



Take the utmost care of your precious eyes—by professional advice, by resting them enough—and by using Optrex whenever the need arises. Keep it handy.

Optrex the EYE LOTION

Optrex (Overseas) Ltd., 17 Wadsworth Road,
Perivale, Middlesex, England. 8.9

It's only natural . . .

. . . for the little chap to want to copy Daddy—busy in the garden—planting, watching things grow—always happily occupied, he's seldom bored or fretful. But should some minor upset put him out of sorts, then Mother naturally turns to Califig to restore regularity, bright eyes and sunny nature. This kindly, pleasant laxative contains the juice of ripe figs with an extract of senna. Purely vegetable and naturally nice.

Califig
(CALIFORNIA SYRUP OF FIGS)

Scott & Turner Ltd.,
Manuka Street, Wellington.

