Young Farmers' Contest

AST year the NZBS participated for the first time in the Australian Young Farmers' Leadership Contest, which is designed to select the best "young farmer" in the two countries by means of microphone tests conducted and judged by expert farmers. This year New Zealand will again participate, and the first provincial final will be broadcast from Stations 3YA, 3YZ and 2XN at 8.15 p.m. on Tuesday, February 28. The questionmaster will be E. G. Smith and the judges Alan Dingwall, J. E. Strachan and Bruce McLeod. The Auckland district final will be broadcast from 1YA at 7.0 p.m. on Wednesday, March 1, with the questionmaster A. J. Kerse and the judges H. Woodyear-Smith and Jack Aylesbury.

The organisation of the contest, in which the local prize is a free trip to Australia to compete in the Australian finals, is as follows: -From all over the country young men of under 21 are selected for their qualities of leadership, personality, farming knowledge, and their ability to give a good account of themselves before the microphone. The six Australian State finalists and the New Zealand winner attend the Sydney Royal Show, where the inter-Dominion finals are held. The NZBS is co-operating with the Young Farmers' Clubs in New Zealand, who have invited nominations from their districts throughout the country so that the first stage of the elimination (that which is being broadcast next week) can be carried out on a district or regional basis.

Although the initial stages are not broadcast the district finals are. The Canterbury-Westland-Marlborough-Nelson winner is being selected on February 28 (at 8.15 p.m.), and the Auckland-North Auckland representative on March 1 at 7.0 p.m. The Wellington finals will be broadcast on March 7, from 2YA and 2ZA. The date of the Otago-Southland selection is still to be decided upon, but the Dominion finals will probably be broadcast in a national link on March 14. The winner chosen from the four district finalists will be sent to Australia, where he will be the guest of the ABC while he is contesting the Australasian finals. The nature of the prize to be won in that contest has not yet been announced.

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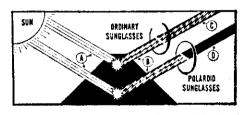
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