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MOR THE DESCRIPTION

PLAYS OF THE YEAR 1949-1950

The six hest british plays of last season, including Tyrone Guthrie's "Top of the Ledner, Ronald Jeans's Young Wives Tale," Alan Melville's "Castle in the Air." and Miles Malleson's anaptation of Moliere's "Tartuffe"

DIVERSION

A symposium on the lively arts—theatre, cinema, ballet radio—with twenty-two distinguished authors from Nigel Balchin to Emelyn Williams dispensing wit and instruction as they range entertainingly over the entertainments.

SOME NINETEENTH CENTURY COMPOSERS, John Hartan, 8/-, posted. In twelve studies which commence with Mendelssohn and end with Mahler, the airthor succeeds in relating each composers experience of life to his compositions and thereby throws a good doal of light not only on the individuals, but also an mineteenth' century music in general.

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Comedy on the Home Front

CHIPPER MALLOY AND CONNIE, a new comedy programme scheduled to start from all five Commercial stations at 9.0 p.m. on Monday, June 4 (it is to be a regular Monday night feature from these stations), is based on the scripts of Fibber McGee and Molly, which Americans have been listening to and laughing at for the past 15 years. In its adapted form, however, it has an Australian setting.

Never before (according to Chipper) has one man been the champion in so many fields as Chipper Malloy. Back in Canada (he tells Connie) he excelled as a deer-stalker, at shooting rapids, football and baseball. Crack ice-hockey



MONTE RICHARDSON as Chipper

teams used to pale when Fearless Malloy, the Canadian Madman, took the ice. He was something of a modern Hercules, too, though he is strangely tired when Connie wants him to mow the lawn.

At home Chipper fancies himself as a handyman, and the fact that the things he sets out to fix will probably never work again after his expert attention doesn't worry him at all. Fortunately Connie is never far away when Chipper becomes involved, and when the situation gets beyond him she is there to save the day—and Chipper's face.

Playing the name parts in Chipper Malloy and Connie are Monte Richardson, who went to Australia with the Americanadian Dance Band, and Connie Hobbs, who (with her husband Jack Murray) toured for ENSA entertaining troops in West Africa during the war. Mrs. Bracegirdle, a high-class neighbour of the Malloys, is played by Rita Pauncefort. Mrs. Bracegirdle is just "a pain in the neck" to Chipper, though Connie is constantly in awe of her very superior knowledge of art and letters.

Others in the show (some of them do not appear in the earlier episodes) include Muriel Flood as Lydia (the child with the shrill questions), John Cazabon as Mr. Winkle (a refined little man with murderous intent towards his long-suffering, hen-pecking wife), Owen Ainley as Old Ned (another neighbour and something of a snooper), John Tate as a meteorologist (who can't give a plain yes or no to any question), Bill Rees as Doc Tramble and Lloyd Berrell as Mr. Rogers.

TRUTH—OR CONSEQUENCES

"BY all means let us be thankful for small mercies in the way of bread and meat deliveries, by all means let us avail ourselves of whatever relief we can get in the way of nursemaids and baby-sitters. But let us also make an effort to help ourselves." With this appeal to the common-sense of every housewife, Mrs. Hamilton Grieve, a well-known New Zealand writer and broadcaster, gets away to a flying start in the first programme of Practical Psychology. This new series of talks will be heard in ZB Women's Hour, starting at 4ZB on June 6, and later from the other commercial stations—3ZB June 27, 2ZB July 18, and 1ZB August 8.

Mrs. Hamilton Grieve speaks to home-makers as the housewife she herself is. But domesticity is only part of her life, which is a pretty busy one. A teacher at a North Island country school, she is, as well, author of several novels, and a wide radio audience will recall her entertaining sketches of country life which, as Small-Town Portraits, were broadcast by several NZBS stations last

The problem of today's overworked housewife and mother is one of national importance—domestic help for the private home is practically unobtainable, and the forty-hour week a myth. So the homemaker is always tired. But overwork, Mrs. Grieve reminds her listeners, has never caused a nervous breakdown yet. Let's face it, she says—it's the tension arising from habitual emotional

"BY all means let us be thankful for small mercies in the way of bread and meat deliveries, by all means let us avail ourselves of whatever relief we can get in the way of nursemaids and behaviories." By the way of nursemaids and behaviories and the properties of thinking, from boredom, resentment, self-pity, from the depressing emotions as the psychologists call them, that is the Fifth Columnist bestraddling the energy supply-line.

"Well," says the harried housewife, "housework does bore me, so what am I to do about it?" There are two things that can be done, Mrs. Grieve believes. "You can stay bored, and take the consequences. Or—" And in four talks she suggests with wit and sympathy how homemakers can use their ingenuity and initiative to meet that week-in, weekout challenge of household routine.



MRS. HAMILTON GRIEVE

N.Z. LISTENER, JUNE 1, 1951.