



Jubilee Week at Palmerston North

RAPID preparations for Palmerston North's celebration of its seventy-fifth anniversary are reflected in 2ZA's plans to handle the wealth of broadcast material that will be available during the week March 15 to March 22. To cope with the extensive activities planned and fulfil their important role in the celebrations, 2ZA will extend their hours of broadcast, remaining on the air without the normal afternoon breaks in transmission during the anniversary week.

A Jubilee bulletin of approximately 15 minutes will be broadcast by 2ZA each evening, at 9.0 p.m. on Saturday, March 15, and at 8.30 p.m. on the six nights following. These programmes will give a recapitulation of the day's proceedings and an outline of events to follow next day. At least twelve 15-minute broadcasts will also be made to cover the main activities scheduled for the anniversary celebrations, and among the events so dealt with will be the re-enactment of the arrival of the first white women and children by canoe (an authentic Maori canoe will probably be available), items from the Maori concert (these may be heard later from other stations), from the Hill-Billy contest, the procession of floats depicting community life, the 50th jubilee of Palmerston North Boys' High School, Community Thanksgiving Service, and the community sing. There will be inter-

views with old identities, descriptions of the re-enactment of the arrival of the first train from Wellington, of the "cavalcade of transport," musical festival, Jubilee Ball (under the Prime Minister's patronage), an athletic and cycling meeting, and Central School's 80th jubilee. The Railways Department is co-operating by providing a "vintage" train to re-enact the arrival on November 29, 1886, of the first train from Wellington to Palmerston. For this the oldest available engine, followed by four ancient coaches and a brake van, have been obtained. Members of local repertory companies will board the train at the present station in full costume and the train's crew, also in the uniforms and whiskered fashion of the time, will take the train to the site of the original station in the Square. The passengers will then board buggies and similar venerable transports and start the Cavalcade of Transport which will be climaxed with the epitome of modern travel demonstrated by jet planes from near-by Ohakea. This event is the only one at present scheduled for national release over the ZB network and to facilitate on-the-spot recording of the occasion a mobile van from the NZBS will be sent to Palmerston North for this and other events.

The mobile unit will also be employed in Palmerston on two half-hour documentary programmes covering the Grasslands division of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, and Catchment Board work in the Manawatu. At the same time a series of approximately ten Farm Talks will be recorded for later broadcast on various stations. A Mobile Unit programme will also be heard from 2YA at 7.0 p.m. on Thursday, March 20. This broadcast will take the form of a recording made at the Young Farmers' Leadership Contest, held at Palmerston North that day under the auspices of the Wellington Council of Young Farmers' Clubs. It will also be heard later in the evening from 2ZA.

Although settlement in the Palmerston North area dates back further than 1877, this year marks the 75th anniversary of the town's incorporation as a borough. It was proclaimed a city in 1930.



DON DONALDSON (right), station manager at 2ZA, and his senior announcer, **IAN WATKINS**. They will be as busy as anyone in Palmerston North next week

N.Z. LISTENER, MARCH 14, 1952.

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