

Lodge Listens . . .



"But I thought Mafeking had been relieved!"

real richness of the country. The BBC has hitherto seen to it that sections of exclusively British poets are given to us, and we can safely leave it to them to continue doing so. —Westcliff

Germans and Nazis

FOLLOW MY LEADER was the title of a long BBC programme, but it was not about childish games. If you knew the subject-matter of Louis Hagen's book, from which it was adapted, you would know this: but is the book sufficiently well known to justify such cryptic titling? This programme, heard in two parts, gave a careful and convincing reconstruction of the lives of six Germans under the Nazi regime. These Germans were people, not merely slick journalistic puppets personifying a class, and the inevitability of their collaboration with the party in power was almost embarrassing to the listener slumped in his comfortable chair hoping that all is for the best in the best of all possible worlds. If the programme did nothing to make us admire the Nazis, it at least brought before us vividly the moral clear-sightedness and strength of the professed anti-Nazi, at a time when to follow the leader was considered not only prudent, but sublimely worthy.

Interests for Children

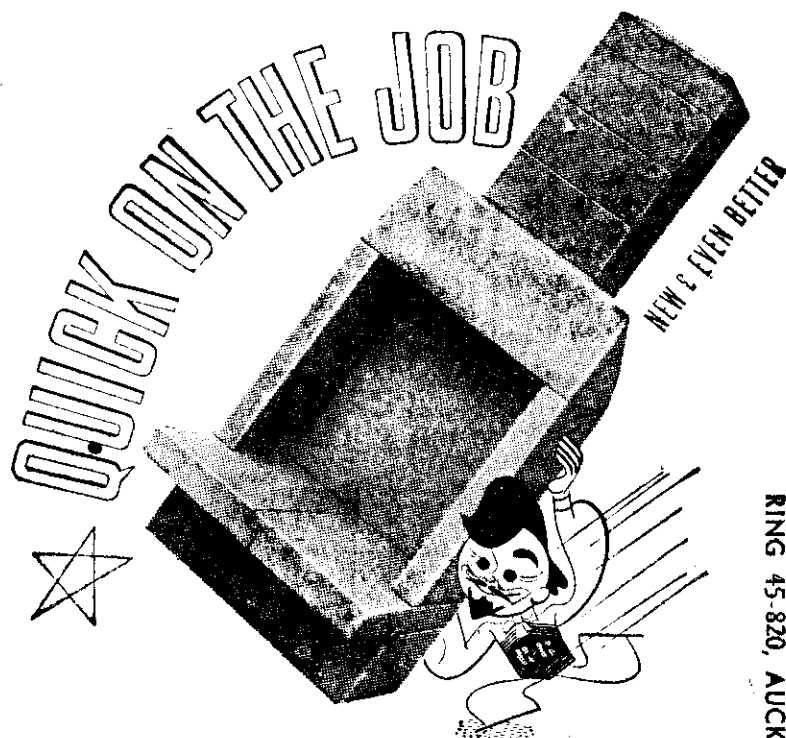
THE 4YA Children's Sessions have suddenly sparkled into life with a variety of new ideas, so that instead of following rather stodgily the same pattern, surprises are constantly sprung

on the listener. The children are now being treated as reasonably intelligent listeners, with some smattering of education. The Dunedin "proms" were marked by a talk on English prom concerts, and the arrival of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre Company by a trip to the theatre during scene-shifting. A ship has been visited, country life has been described by a youthful broadcaster, a Junior Red Cross meeting recorded; there was a reading from Lear (Edward), and a charming talk on the arrival home of a new baby. All these innovations have not been of equal merit, but they show a praiseworthy attempt to give the session a personality of its own. The programmes in their new form are, however, rather difficult for the younger children, and it seems unfortunate that the nursery rhymes which invariably opened the old session have been dropped. —Loquax

Victorians in Love

A VICTORIAN LOVE STORY, reconstructed by the novelist Humphrey Pakington from family papers in his possession, and first broadcast by the BBC, is to be heard during the next few months from National stations of the NZBS, starting from 2YC at 10.4 p.m. on Wednesday, April 15. In this talk Humphrey Pakington tells the love story of his grandmother, Augusta Murray. Her diary, from which Commander Pakington frequently quotes, is typically Victorian. Augusta wrote in her diary up to the birth of her first son, and it is when the story is taken up by her husband that the full tragedy that befell them is revealed.

N.Z. LISTENER, APRIL 10, 1953.



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