

NEWS OF BROADCASTERS, ON AND OFF THE RECORD,

By *Swarf*

of Hans Homman Felk, known as Captain Phillip Tapsell, of Maketu. The talks, compiled by Enid Tapsell, are



PHILLIP TAPSELL AND HIS DAUGHTER

based on the memoirs of Tapsell dictated to a clerk of the **STORY OF Magistrate's Court at A PIONEER Maketu in 1873.** Tapsell's life (he died on August 6, 1875, aged 94 years) covered nearly 50 years of sea roving and shore trading in New Zealand. He visited the Bay of Islands as early as 1810 in a whaling ship after transporting women convicts to Botany Bay, and he saw the return of Hongi Hika's fleet of war canoes from the great raid in the Rotorua district. Tapsell had many adventures on the shores of Tasmania and off the New Zealand coast before settling down as a trader in flax for the Royal Navy at Maketu in the Bay of Plenty. He lost all his possessions when Maketu was sacked in 1840 by Te Waharoa, of Matamata, and many of the Arawa people, including chiefs whose names have been given to well-known places in Rotorua, were killed before his eyes. Tapsell escaped from Maketu with his third wife, Hineturuma, who claimed direct descent from the famous lovers Hinemoa and Tutanekai. They made their way in a small canoe up the Pongakawa Stream and then overland to Lake Rotorua. Later, at Matata he began trading again, and it was here that Bishop Pompallier met him and commended him for his upright, God-fearing attitude toward life.

Before Phillip Tapsell died he asked that his body should be wrapped in a blanket and buried at sea "for many a better man than he had been buried that way." He requested that two cannon shots should be fired at the time of his passing; this was done, but his burial place was the old mission cemetery where many another pioneer and soldier of the Maori Wars had been laid to rest. The manuscript from which these talks, entitled *Phillip Tapsell Sailor and Trader*, are taken, is written on old blue Magistrate's Court paper faded and worn with much handling, and tied together with frayed string made from dressed flax. During recent years

many Danes have visited Maketu to see the place where their fellow-countryman lived and died. In 1938 a Danish writer, Aage Nielsen, spent some time at Maketu obtaining material for a book on Tapsell's life which was published in Copenhagen just before the Germans occupied Denmark in 1940; and in 1950 the Danish Consulate traced Tapsell's ancestors for several generations back. There are 12 talks in the series, and they will be broadcast weekly at 7.0 p.m. ★

WHEN the Musica Viva Chamber Players of Sydney visited New Zealand in 1950 they devoted a studio broadcast programme to works by **PHILHARMONIC AWARD** New Zealand composers. One of these works was a String Quartet in E Minor by Barry Moss, of Wellington, who was then 19 years old. Latest news from London of Barry Moss (right) is that he has been awarded a Royal Philharmonic Society Prize for Composition with his Variations for Orchestra. The work is for full orchestra and occupies 20 minutes. The award carries a cash prize of £50. ★



MOST of us have, at one time or another, played a little family game in which we could have put up a phenomenally high score by the use of one very wicked word. But, of course, observing the rules of play, and in the interests of good man-

FUN'S THE WORD ners, we contented ourselves with a mediocre performance. The game is called Word Building. Still, one can have an awful lot of good clean fun with words, as L. M. H. Cave, Adult Education Tutor-Organiser for Taranaki-Wanganui, has been showing in his series of talks, *Fun With Words*, broadcast by 2XP New Plymouth on Sundays at 8.30 p.m. Mr. Cave, who does a good deal of work for both 2XP and 2XA Wanganui, has also arranged for 2XP a series of documentary programmes called *Taranaki Settlers*, which he comperes on Wednesdays at 8.1 p.m. The series gives up-to-date accounts of old and new settlers' countries of origin, their peoples, customs and their music.



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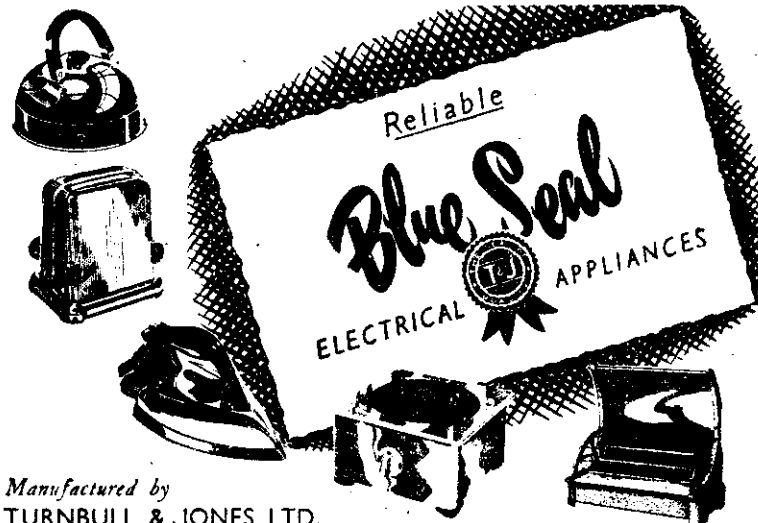
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