

(continued from previous page)

German ammunition dump. The first combined combat and studio photography with shrewd use of the old device of suspense; the second relied on fast action and sharp editing.

But I'm still wondering how a film which strove so hard at times for authenticity managed to cover 242 days of siege without once employing the authentic Australian adjective.

## THE FARMER TAKES A WIFE

(20th Century-Fox)

BLIND Nature (you might say) created Betty Grable for one kind of picture and one kind only, and it's certainly not the kind that accommodates itself very happily to ground-level hem-lines. That, however, is the kind of costume piece this is. *The Farmer Takes a Wife* tries to take us back to the days before the simple barges of the old Erie Canal were put out of business by the railroad. It's supposed to be a musical comedy, but I couldn't conscientiously say I found it either musical or comic. True, there is much pleasant Technicolor—how gay the barges' girls look, how pastel-painted the barges! Miss Grable sings, and her sparrow-chirp is more harmonious than Lana Turner's husky Merry Widow, but I can't see her endangering Dinah Shore's meal-ticket. I sympathised most with Thelma Ritter. For once her characteristic puzzled look was manifestly more than skin deep.

## THE ROAD TO NATIONHOOD

"THE poor Maoris!" lamented *The Times* when the New Zealand Land Company was formed. "A prey to all sorts of vultures; unprincipled Jews; French usurpers; fugitive convicts; licentious crews; fraudulent bargainers; peddling grog-sellers; Durham land companies and whatnot."

London's "Thunderer," it seems, did not like Mr. Wakefield, nor any of his schemes. Its lack of enthusiasm was shared by the Colonial Office. But one night in May, 1839, Wakefield rode post-haste to Plymouth. Shortly thereafter, the expeditionary ship *Tory* sailed for Port Nicholson. The Colonial Secretary was forced to act. He commissioned Hobson to annex New Zealand to the Crown.

The story of government in New Zealand from this beginning till the proclamation of the Constitution Act 13 years later is told in *The Road to*

## GOING TO MARKET

STEWED guinea pig may not be a New Zealander's idea of a tasty meal, but in certain parts of Latin America it's a favoured food. The animals are to be found running about the kitchen, and are always handy should the housewife wish to whip up a quick meal for unexpected guests.

A woman who has sampled guinea pig as well as some other odd food fancies in the course of a world tour will be telling listeners of the experience shortly in the course of a series of four talks to be heard in the *Women's Hour* from ZB stations. She is Corrie Hodgson, a traveller who has broadcast from NZBS stations before on the subject of Labrador, where she was for several years an officer of the Grenfell Association.

Miss Hodgson's talks are entitled *Going to Market*, a description of the variegated produce markets to be found in South America. *Stewed Guinea Pig*, which ranges in scope from the subject of the title to seal meat and cods' tongues. *Women of Papua*, about the feminine personalities she met in the course of a tour of this but recently civilised country, and *Women in Politics*, which deals with her experiences as an organiser for Britain's Conservative Party.

The talks will be heard in the *Women's Hour* from all ZB stations beginning Friday, October 2.

*Nationhood*, an NZBS documentary in eight parts specially written to celebrate the centenary of representative government.

The *Tory*, which played such an important part in ensuring that New Zealand became a British possession, was to figure also in another episode in the story of constitutional government. In 1840 a certain Captain Pearson, of the *Integrity*, was imprisoned in her after being tried and convicted by a colonists' court. He escaped and protested to the Governor at Auckland: The Port Nicholson settlers had taken the law into their own hands. They had their own courts, their own flags, their own militia, and, of course, the *Tory*—"armed to the teeth." Hobson, alarmed by this story, made a show of force at Port Nicholson. The settlers laughed at the rather pompous show of official might, but it was to be many years before they again tasted the degree of representative government they had enjoyed as a "republic."

The account of Wakefield's ride to Plymouth, *The Journey Begins*, and *The Arrest of Captain Pearson*, are the first two episodes in *The Road to Nationhood*. Others are entitled *The Meeting at Barrett's*, *The Colony Hits Out*, *The Governor Plays for Time*, *The Years of Agitation*, *The Fruits of Conflict*, and *The End of the Journey*.

The documentary was written by Basil Clarke, advised and assisted by Dr. Guv H. Scholefield and Alan Mulgan. "The bringing together in dramatic form of so much of the political invective of those very early days," says Mr. Mulgan, "throws a clearer light for me on the struggle for self-government. I had not realised before quite how bitter feeling was."

*The Road to Nationhood* is to be broadcast by 3YC at 9.34 p.m. on September 30, and by 2YA at 7.30 p.m. on October 1. It will be heard later from other stations.

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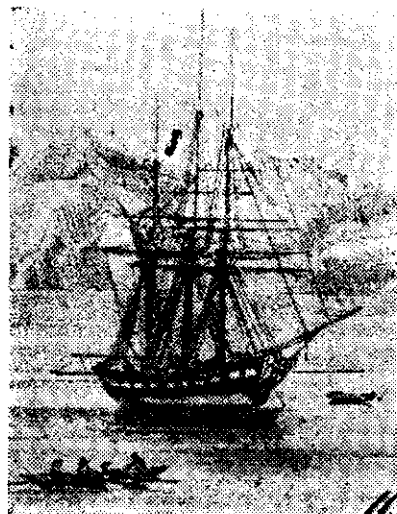
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