

NEWS FOR THE CHILDREN

MUSICAL COMPETITION

SUCCESSFUL AT 1YA

The children's "Musical Questions" competition was brought to a close on Saturday, February 18, and the winner was Mabel Turner, of Avondale South, Auckland. The entries were very numerous, though rather less than for the "Do you know" competition of last month. The winner's answers were right in every instance, and besides that, the paper and the writing were specially neat, and these points also counted in her favour. Master Leonard Kennerley, of New Lynn, was specially commended for his extremely neat paper and his remarkably fine writing. He was wrong in only one answer, otherwise he would have been the winner. A great number of other competitors were highly commended for good papers and neatness. The idea of the competition was that there had been a "Radio" wedding, and the children had to guess, from hearing the tunes played over several times on the air, the bride's name, the groom's name, where they met, etc., etc. It was great fun for everybody, and many were the mistakes made by the little listeners. Here is a list of the questions (16 of them) and the correct answers:—

QUESTIONS.

1. What was his name?
2. What was her name?
3. Where did they meet?
4. What was she wearing?
5. What was he?
6. What was the bridesmaid's name?
7. What was the groom's name?
8. What was the bride's bouquet composed of?
9. What did they say of the bride?
10. What did they have for the wedding breakfast?
11. What did they say to the guests after the breakfast?
12. What time did they stop merry-making?
13. What did he say to her when they arrived home?
14. What was the first wedding-present?
15. What did the guests say when leaving?
16. Where did they settle down?

ANSWERS.

1. Barney Google.
2. Polly Wolly Doodle.
3. Way Down Upon the Swanee River.
4. Dem Golden Slippers.
5. The Jolly Miller.
6. Nelly Bly.
7. Tom Tom the Piper's Son.
8. Blue Bells of Scotland.
9. Ain't She Sweet?
10. Cockles and Mussels.
11. Girls and Boys, Come out to Play.
12. Three o'clock in the Morning.
13. Polly, Put the Kettle On.
14. Little Brown Jug.
15. Bye Bye Blackbird.
16. Home Sweet Home.

In announcing the result "Genial Jimmy," who says he will be known in future as "Sunny Jim," complimented the competitors on the general improvement shown in writing and in neatness. In a close contest the winning or losing of the prize, he said, might easily turn on these things.

Happy Birthday Greetings in Verse



Uncle Sandy's birthday greetings to Betty and Peggy Dagger, of 360 Esplanade, Island Bay.

Bet and Peggy, girlie twins
With little brother Fred,
Listening in to birthday rhymes
That Uncle Sandy said.

Peg and Betty, here's for you
On this your birthday fair,
In the front-room cupboard find,
Two presents waiting there.



A BRIGHT IDEA

Do you know that it is now possible to actually see just where a wireless message is coming from? A wonderful invention has been thought out by the Radio Research Station, Slough, England, consisting of two frame aeri-als, which are mounted at right angles to each other. When the signals are received, they are made to operate a cathode, or negative ray beam, which causes a bright spot to appear on a screen of light, showing the actual direction from which the wireless message comes.

LAUGHING BROADCAST

A real live Kookaburra, or Laughing Jackass, has arrived at Melbourne, and his laughter is to be broadcast every Wednesday for a few weeks. His name is Jacko, and he is now four years old, and laughs at the slightest provocation. He evidently sees a joke in everything, and it is very difficult to subdue his infectious laughter. This little fellow has been trained to laugh since he was a tiny baby, and he apparently intends to do his job well.

At his first rehearsal the other day, he did not suffer in the slightest degree from microphone fright. Little Miss Kookaburra happened to be there, and she and "Jacko" rendered perhaps the most novel duet ever produced. The real and mimic laughs blended perfectly, and became a rare laughing competition. When Miss Kookaburra first started her laugh, "Jacko" stopped short, and looked at her in that quaint way, as only a Kookaburra can look. He appeared to wonder what kind of a "bird" Miss Kookaburra was, and then, as though he saw the joke, burst out afresh, laughing and cackling and gurgling and chuckling in sheer abandon with Miss Kookaburra, but "Jacko" laughed last.

WIRELESS IN A WALNUT SHELL

A miniature wireless crystal set, which fits into an ordinary walnut shell, has been made by an English boy of fifteen years. It is quite complete in every way, and works two pairs of headphones at a distance of a mile and a half from the relay station.

Children's Sessions for Next Week

AT 2YA.

MONDAY: Toby and Jeff have a diverting hour this week. Pupils of the Queen Margaret College, who have before given "Joy germs" over the air, will again appear. Toby and Jeff have stories and skits for all.

TUESDAY: Uncle Jasper's hour. Following in his train will be a merry party of minstrels—a party arranged by Mrs. Thomas.

THURSDAY: Uncle Sandy and the first appearance of the Wellington Girl Guides. It is hoped that the weather is to be fine for the "Camp fire evening" otherwise we shall have to tuck ourselves away among the bushes and thence tell our "round the fire" yarns.

FRIDAY: Uncle Ernest and the Y.M.C.A. Boy Scouts—"The Jolly Good Cheer" boys let us call them. They'll keep you merry for the hour.

SATURDAY: St. Patrick's Day, Auntie Gwen and Auntie Dot

will have the Buckle Street Convent assisting them with choruses appropriate to the occasion.

HAPPY MOMENTS AT 3YA.

MONDAY, 12:—Uncle Jack and Aunt Edna. An hour of delightful songs and stories to brighten the end of a perfect school day.

WEDNESDAY: To-night we have Uncle Peter who tells Brer Rabbit stories so delightfully, and Mother Hubbard who sings such lovely songs for the little folks. A tiny tot's band is to come from the Cathedral Grammar School. Don't forget to listen with all your ears.

THURSDAY: Girls and Boys, here's Chuckle and Aunt Pat again. Recitations and pianoforte items by little cousins.

FRIDAY: Hurrah and three cheers for the Girl Guides. Under the direction of the District Captain we are going to have a camp-

fire evening with Big Brother Peterkin and Aunt Pat to read stories and tell jokes and limericks.

SATURDAY: St. Patrick's Day and Auntie May and Uncle Sam are going to be assisted in songs and chorus by members of the Marist choir, while the Convent Ferry Road Orchestra is going to provide orchestral music.

SUNDAY: Children's song service. Uncle Sam and members of Papanui Methodist Sunday School.

AT 4YA.

TUESDAY: Big Brother Bill will have the Moray Place School Drum and Fife Band to help with his programme.

FRIDAY: Willing helpers again this evening for Big Brother Bill—Ray with his violin, Joyce and the piano, Margaret and Fluffy. Mr. Jack Ledgerwood will tell of doings at the boys' camp.

A LIMERICK.

The people who live in Siberia,
Of snow become werra and werra;
But a young Eskimo
Just dotes on the snow,
And thinks everything else is inferia.

—E.L.B.

LOOSE-END LIMERICKS

Re-arrange the words in italics to form rhymes:—

A SCHOOLBOY told one of his chums
He thought "maths" much worse
than sour slump.
Asked what work he liked best
the same fellow scoldsfee.
He liked nothing better than muss.

A SEAFARING fellow of Dover
When asked by a strange cattle-verred.
If he'd voyaged to Calais
Said "Yes, trallynau,
I've been over, over and vreo."

A YOUNG lady named May Lulu
Huckle
Only laughed when she lost her shoe-
kicub.
When her mother said "Don't,"
She replied, "Right, I tow'n,
But if I mayn't laugh may a cleckhu?"

WIRELESS IN NEVER NEVER LAND

In the Never Never Land of Australia, as they call the Northern Territory which reaches down through bush and desert to the dun plains of South Australia, a new hospital has just been opened to mitigate the loneliness and the dangers of that great space.

A settler there may have a very happy and prosperous life, but he always lives dangerously because he is so far from his few neighbours in times of trouble. There are no buses from Adelaide or Port Darwin to the home-steads of the Never Never Land's farms; and no railways that are anywhere near. For hundreds of miles there are no signs of civilisation except a single telegraph line.

The wireless, which every day binds the waste and silent places of the earth closer together, is changing all that. At Alice Springs, where the new hospital has been built by the Australian Inland Mission, wireless has been installed. With the hospital's equipment go also the services of motor-cars and an aeroplane, so that now the remote settler in need can call the hospital up by wireless and in a few hours will receive help.

Many a settler, and many a settler's wife, on the hundred-square mile farm, where they wrest a living from the droughty lands, will bless the hospital at Alice Springs and think of it as an oasis in the desert.

CONTENTED.

I like the hippopotamus
Because it seldom makes a fuss:
It doesn't long for lots of things
It hasn't got, like bikes, and swings,
And snowballs (here we start to shiver)—

It merely wants a muddy river
Where it can wallow, soak, and roll—
The hippo has a simple soul!

—E.L.B.

THE BEST WAY

Have you ever been to the Land of Nod
By the famous Sleepy Train,
Which runs each night from Here to There,
And brings you back again?

You step aboard when you go to bed
A yawn is the fare, my dear,
And they bring you back without further charge
When you come from There to Here.

A WIRELESS PIANO

A remarkable piano has been installed at the American station WRNY.

It consists of a keyboard of 26 ordinary piano keys. When one of the keys is pressed it switches on a vacuum tube which produces oscillations with a definite musical pitch. Each note of the vacuum tube which it controls is arranged to give a different pitch, so that there is a complete scale of musical notes. As these notes are perfectly pure, and there are no overtones, the music is clearer than that of the flute.

The Pianorad, as it is called, is probably the first of a new type of wireless musical instruments.

THEY MIGHT "CATCH" LIGHT

"I'm going to play a match," says Dad.
Now, tell me where the catch is.
If that's all right for Dad to do
Why mayn't I play with matches?



Ferry Road Convent Boys' Orchestra, which will play during the children's session at 3YA on St. Patrick's Day. Back (left) Earl Keane, L. McMenamin, Neil Smart. Sitting: Lola McMenamin, M. Tobin. Third row: Huia Collins, Colin Smart, Des. Lagan. Front: Reggie Nelson, Albert Henderson. Absent: L. Collins.



GROUP OF YOUNG PERFORMERS AT 3YA. Members of the New Brighton Methodist Church Juvenile Choir, who frequently sing for Uncle Sam at his children's sessions on Sunday evenings.

AN APTLY-NAMED QUARTET

The members of the 3YA vocal quartets, Mrs. Claris Shaw, Miss Mildred Russell, Mr. Gregory Russell, and Mr. W. J. Richards, have decided to name themselves the "Aeolian Quartet." This is a singularly appropriate designation for a quartet singing over the air. The word comes from the ancient Greek, and is derived from "Aeolus," the mythic god of winds. Its actual meaning is "aerial," or the production of the air of winds. Most of us have heard of an Aeolian harp, an instrument consisting of a box on or in which are stretched strings, on which the winds act to produce the notes.

The Aeolian Quartet have in active rehearsal the whole of the vocal score of that very popular musical comedy "Going up," and this will be put on the air in the near future. Also, this quartet will give listeners in a programme of that charming operetta, "La Mascotte" very shortly.

HOW WIRELESS WAS BORN

Everything has a beginning somewhere, usually a small one, often so small that no one takes much heed of it. When you turn the knobs of your wireless set to-day to tune in, you are really putting into practical use the laws that a Frenchman named Faraday spent years and years of thought in working out. It was on Christmas Day, 1821, that Faraday discovered that a magnet could be made to move when suspended over a coil of wire through which an electric current was running. Ten years later he produced a piece of apparatus that was the real beginning of all wireless apparatus to-day. He showed how a current could be induced or set flowing in one wire as the current rose and fell in another wire placed near it.

Two of the most important beginnings of wireless were created by Faraday—the inductance and the condenser. His also was the idea of the electric valve, although, of course, he never lived to see one made.