

# Some Features of Next Week's Programmes

## Attractive Shakespearean Programmes Specially Arranged

### SHAKESPEARE NIGHT AT 1YA

1YA will celebrate the Bard's birthday on Tuesday, April 24, as the 23rd is a silent night with that station. This will enable enthusiasts who have the necessary equipment to listen in on both nights.

1YA station has made special arrangements with Mr. J. F. Montague to supervise and direct the programme for Shakespeare Day, and he will be assisted on the musical side by Madame Irene Ainsley, who will present some of the choicest gems from Gounod's opera "Romeo and Juliet," and, in addition, Madame Ainsley herself will sing "Orpheus With His Lute," and there will be a number of other specially chosen vocal numbers appropriate to the occasion. Instrumental numbers and incidental music will be contributed by the Bosworth-Hemus-Towsey Trio, who will present "Three Dances from Henry VIII" (German), and Quilter's "As You Like It" music. Ina Bosworth (violinist) will play "The Admirals Galliard" (Mozart).

On the dramatic side listeners-in can safely look forward to an unexampled treat, for Mr. Montague has taken pains to prepare a striking and varied programme, with a strong comedy element, including the "Dogberry" scenes ("Much Ado") and the "Gravedigger's Scene" ("Hamlet"), in both of which Mr. Alan McElwain will appear, and Mr. Montague himself will appear in the latter scene, which will also include Mr. Montague Steele, as Hamlet. Mr. Culford Bell will present "Mark Antony's Oration," and he will appear with Mr. Montague in the Tower Scene from "Henry VIII." Some beautiful scenes (with musical settings) will be given from "Twelfth Night," the performers being Miss Mary Day, an accomplished reader with a beautiful voice, Miss Iris Andrew and Mr. Alan McElwain.

Another very striking feature will be the great scene from "Macbeth," in which Lady Macbeth receives her husband's letter. Miss Daphne Knight, one of the most gifted elocutionists in New Zealand in tragic work, will undertake "Lady Macbeth," and she will be supported by Mr. Leslie Dakin. Other performers will include Miss Phyllis Torry, Miss Kathleen Harvey, Mr. Hellyer, Mr. Ernest Snell, and numerous others.

The producer, Mr. Montague, says he wants to convince the public that Shakespeare is by no means such a dull do as most people imagine him to be, and judging from his past wonderful record he is likely to succeed. He not only knows his Shakespeare, but he can always get the best from his associates on these occasions. Somehow he manages to imbue them with his own wonderful enthusiasm and verve.

On Wednesday, Anzac Day, 1YA will be on the air at 10 a.m. when the announcer will begin his description of the ceremonial march of the returned soldiers and representatives of the various public bodies to the Cenotaph.

After describing the impressive service at the Cenotaph, 1YA will then broadcast the memorial service from the Auckland Town Hall, which will conclude at approximately 12 noon. At 7.30 p.m. a special church memorial service will be broadcast from St. Matthew's Church, the Rev. Grant-Cowan being the preacher, and Mr. Philpott the organist.

The chief contributors to the vocal section of Thursday evening's programme will be Mr. Barry Coney's Quartet. The quartet numbers will include "The Forester" (by Sterling) and "The Laughing Chorus" (by Root). Contralto solos will be given by Miss Martha Williamson, her numbers being "Shepherd's Cradle Song" and "Ye Banks and Braes." Mr. H. Barry Coney will be heard in Wagner's "Prelude Song" and in "Peter Warlock's Fancy." Miss Dorothy Youd (soprano) will sing Liddle's "A Farewell" and "The Great Awakening" (by Kramer), while Mr. George Barnes's tenor voice will delight listeners in "Ay, Av, Av" (by Friere), and "Santa Lucia," a Spanish ballad. On Thursday lute solos will be rendered by Mr. Victor Bedford, including a fantasia from "Il Trovatore" and "Berceuse." The Bosworth-Hemus-Towsey Trio will play the "Finale" from 3rd Trio by Havdn, and "Sylvia Ballet Music" by Delibes, while Mr. Towsey himself will be heard in Rachmaninoff's famous "Prelude in C Sharp Minor."

Catering for the lighter side of Thursday's programme, the Snappy Three will harmonise in several popular songs, rendered in their inimitable style. Mr. Culford Bell will give his usual forthrightly talk on "Great Authors," while orchestral music will be relayed from the Maestric Theatre, the orchestra being under the capable baton of Mr. J. Whiteford-Waugh.

The vocalists for Friday evening will be Madame Mary Towsey's Quartet, comprising Miss Gwyneth Evans, Mr.

AS the ideal underlying broadcasting in New Zealand is informative entertainment, it is very fitting that the anniversary of the birth (and of the death) of Shakespeare should be the occasion for special programmes which will delight the ears of all and help to spread the knowledge of the incalculable debt which the whole world owes to the great Elizabethan dramatist.

At three stations—1YA, 2YA and 3YA—exceptionally fine musical and dramatic entertainments will be broadcast. The programme is scheduled for Monday, April 23, at 2YA and 3YA, and for Tuesday at 1YA.



Miss Lucy Cowan, whose work as an elocutionist and interpreter of Shakespeare is well known. —Webb, photo.

John Bree, Mr. Reginald Newbury, and Madame Towsey herself. They will be heard in a variety of solos, duets, and quartets, their concerted items including "The Lost Chord," by Sullivan, and "Softly Fall the Shades of Evening," by Hattton. Mr. Tom Harris, the well known elocutionist, will render "Noyes's great 'The Highwayman,'" and two short humorous numbers, "On the Stairs" and "Alphonse." Piano trios will be played by the Bosworth-Hemus-Towsey Trio, including a selection from "Samson and Delilah." The finale from a Grieg Sonata for piano and violin will be performed by Miss Ina Bosworth and Mr. Cyril Towsey.

On the lighter side of Friday's programme will be heard a combination new to 1YA studio. This will be The Internationals, a quartet comprising piano, saxophone, banjo, and trumpet, and will be heard in various popular numbers, including an arrangement of a selection from "Faust."

On Saturday, the Lyric Quartet will again entertain listeners with their usual variety of quartets and solos, while Mr. Allan McElwain will continue his mirth-making. Mr. Ernest Thomas will include among his bass solos, "Myself when Young" (by Lehman), and in conjunction with Mr. Herbert Richards will sing Sargeant's "Watchmen, What of the Night." "My Dreams," by Tosti, will be among Mr. Herbert Richards's items, and Mr. Arthur Ripley will sing "Molly Dear," by Low. Included among the quartet numbers will be "A Sailor's Chorus," "But She Didn't," and "Plantation Melodies," as arranged by the Lyric Quartet. Included on the same programme will be the well-known Bohemian Trio, who will render several vocal and instrumental items, among which will be "High, High, High up in the Hills," and "Annabella Lee." At the conclusion of the studio concert, dance music will be relayed from the Dixieland Cabaret, where the famous Internationals are directed by Mr. Clyde Howley.

St. David's Church will provide the Church service to be broadcast on Sunday evening. Following the church service, the Municipal Band, under Mr. Christopher Smith, will render a programme of appropriate music.

### SHAKESPEARE AT 2YA

Combining with Mr. Byron Brown, the producer of the dramatic portion of the entertainment, will be the Ariel Singers, who will be responsible for the vocal section of the musical programme. The great dramatist's poems have nearly all been used as song lyrics by some of the world's greatest musicians, thus helping to prove the old dictum that poets combine the arts of the painter, the historian, and the musician. On this occasion, some of the lesser known numbers will be presented, with a view to increasing their popularity. Composers such as Sir Henry Bishop and Roger Quilter, both famous for their Shakespearean works, afford a good example of old and new treatments of familiar words, whilst the duet arrangement of "Orpheus with his Lute," by Charles Wood, Professor of Music at Oxford University, is a thing of beauty, well worth hearing.

Three very fine quartets will be sung by the Orpheus Quartet on Tuesday—"Long Ago," "It was a Lover and his

Lass," and "The Lark now Leaves his Watery Nest." Miss Lily Mackie will sing Schubert's fine "Evening Boat Song"; and Mrs. Alice Harris the wonderful aria from "Madame Butterfly," "One Fine Day." With Mr. Arthur Coe, she will sing "The Night Hymn at Sea," and Mr. Arthur Coe will sing "Farewell to Summer." Associated with the quartet will be Mr. Lad Haywood, with his Italian mandolin, and Mr. Stanley Warwick, elocutionist, while there will also be a short organ recital by Mr. H. Temple White.

On Wednesday station 2YA will be "on the air" to broadcast on relay the Anzac Day Memorial Service. The service will be held at the Town Hall, and will commence at 3 p.m.

The quartets to be sung by the Clarion quartet on Thursday are "Winter Song" (by Bullard), and a fox trot, "Lucky Day," arranged by Mr. Len Barnes. There will be the well-known trio, "Farewell" (by Silcher). Mr. Will Hancock sings, "I'll sing to you," and, with the quartet, "The Young Recruit," which is a fine marching song. Mr. Ray Kemp will sing "Eleanore" and "Song of the North Wind." Mr. Frank Skinner's numbers will be a new arrangement of "Who is Sylvia?", and the ever popular "Take a Pair of Sparkling Ryes." The instrumental music will be provided by the Municipal Tramways Band, under the baton of Mr. T. Goodall. Miss Violet Wilson, a young elocutionist, will also contribute to the programme.

The histrionic portion of the evening will be particularly strong, the elocutionists being Mr. Byron Brown, Miss D. Vanier, Mr. J. Watchman, Mr. Barton Ginger, Mrs. Martyn Williams, Mrs. Burgess, Mrs. Theo. Hills, and Mr. S. Tingey. It will be the strongest combination of elocutionists who have yet appeared on one night at 2YA.

Between the singers, the elocutionists, and the instrumentalists, listeners will be able to sample all the chief plays of Shakespeare and will derive an appreciation of the works of the great dramatist such as many have never enjoyed before.

In Mr. Byron Brown, a great authority on Shakespeare will come to the microphone, and he can be relied upon to give a delightful lecture on "Shakespeare and St. George," both of whose days fall on April 23.

One of the most striking scenes will be the Quarrel Scene between Brutus and Cassius, as enacted by Mr. Byron Brown and Mr. Barton Ginger. Another of a different type will be "Rosaland's Banter of Her Lover, Orlando," by Mrs. Burgess and Mr. Byron Brown. Listeners will also hear Portia's noble pleading in "The Merchant of Venice," Mark Antony's oration over the body of Julius Caesar, Queen Margaret's scorn of the Duke of York, Queen Katherine's defence, and the merriment and wisdom of the first grave digger in "Hamlet."

### THE IMMORTAL BARD AT 3YA

LISTENERS at 3YA may look forward on the Festival of Saint George to an evening of Shakespearean drama presented by Miss Lucy Cowan and her company of players, with a quintet of fine instrumentalists, and Madame Gower Burns's Grand Opera Quartet in solo, duet, trio, and ensemble support.

Professor J. Shelley, already familiar to Christchurch play lovers in his admirable Canterbury College productions, will give an address on the plays of Shakespeare, many of which, in addition to those of Ibsen, Shaw, Synge, Dunsany, and others, he has produced in different universities throughout England.

Of the Grand Opera Quartet, Madame Gower Burns (soprano), whose songs from Shakespeare have so often given brilliancy to professional productions in prominent cities throughout New Zealand, will record in the vocal role of Juliet from Gounod's setting to the play "Romeo and Juliet," in "The Waltz Song," also in a duet with Mr. Harold Prescott (tenor), as Romeo. Mr. Prescott has sung before Their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York, and lately has been heard in the title role of "Faust" in prologue and finale to the film production of "Faust." On this occasion at 3YA he will impersonate Othello in vocal argument, with



Mr. Byron Brown, the well-known elocutionist and exponent of Shakespeare. —S. P. Andrew, photo.

Mrs. Aline Harper (contralto) as Emilia, and Madame Gower Burns as Desdemona, from Verdi's operatic music set to Boito's "Othello" libretto. During the spoken dialogue Mrs. Anne Harper will sing the famous "Willow Song" to the music by Coleridge Taylor, a haunting melody in keeping with Desdemona's mood.

Mr. Bernard Rennell, the grand opera baritone, well known on the air in "Charities Unlimited," and as a member of the Christchurch Operatic Society, has the sunny role of "Mercutio" in Gounod's "Romeo and Juliet," and discourses upon Queen Mab and her little vagaries with lovers and other fond dupes of fancy.

In the dramatic scenes from Shakespeare's plays Miss Lucy Cowan, in both tragedy and comedy, has with her Mr. J. F. Cannell as King Henry the Fifth, rallying his soldiers at Harfleur to renewed action in the name of "England and Saint George." Mr. Cannell is a championship winner in elocution, and has previously taken part in amusing sketches before the microphone.

Mr. Ronald Foster (Don Pedro in "Much Ado About Nothing") is a holder of championship and scholarship medals, and requires no introduction on the radio. Mr. Dick Wills (Leonato) has achieved successes in recital and play reading. Mr. Charles Clayton (Claudio) enters on his first introduction to listeners, as does Miss Ivy Fowler (Hero), a scholarship winner. Mr. Bert Goodland (Benedick) has previously entertained the invisible audience, and in addition to scholarship and other wins, gained the L.T.C.L. diploma in elocution before the age of 17. Mr. Harold Prescott this time both speaks and sings Balibazar, and Miss Gladys O'Connell, A.T.C.L. (Beatrice) will be remembered by many. Miss Ida Cooper (Margaret) will again appear, and Mrs. Hugh McLeod (Ursula), already established by her clear enunciation, completes this comedy cast.

Mr. Frank Foster (Cardinal Wolsey), with Miss Cowan as Queen Katherine in "Henry the Eighth," has been rewarded with success in oratorical display.

Miss Maiona Juriss, A.T.C.L., a well-known speaker, leads the comedy with Mr. Dick Wills (Orlando), in "As You Like It," while Miss Olive Braisher (Celia), (Senior Trinity College, elocution) again appears before the microphone.

The impudent proposal of Petruchio in "The Taming of the Shrew" is voiced by Mr. J. F. Cannell, and Miss Lucy Cowan replies as Katherine.

Miss Phair Thompson, L.T.C.L., a new speaker, taking the part of Desdemona in "Othello," is also a successful pupil of Miss Lucy Cowan's Dramatic School.

While a very happy choice in regard to artists has been made in regard to the musical as well as the dramatic side, equally fine will be the instrumental music, which will be played by a quintet composed of Mr. Harold Beck, Miss Irene Morris, Miss Aileen Warren (all well known as the present studio trio), with Mr. J. Laurian Beck (violin) and Mr. Joseph Mercer (viola). The five will make an exceptional combination.

Miss Lucy Cowan, who is presenting the Shakespearean programme at 3YA in honour of Shakespeare's birthday and the day of his death, also the day of St. George and old England, has the honour of being the first teacher of elocution in New Zealand granted registration with the Minister of Education. Her numerous and continued successes with pupils of every grade, both young and older, in Trinity College examinations and various competitions, mark a high idealistic diligence throughout her tutorial career, while her personal successes show an unbeaten record in Shakespearean recital.

On Anzac Day 3YA will be given over entirely to memorial services. In the afternoon there will be a relay of the citizens' memorial service in King Edward Barracks, to be conducted under the auspices of the Returned Soldiers' Association.

In the evening from 7.30 to 9 there will be a broadcast of the service conducted by the Christchurch Ministers' Association in St. Paul's Church. The chief speaker will be Rev. J. Robertson, M.A., of the Oxford Terrace Baptist Church, and late chaplain with the Australian Forces.

There will be much variety in Thursday's programme at 3YA. A miscellaneous collection of solos, duets, and quartets will be sung by Mr. A. G. Thompson's Dulcet Quartet, Miss Winifred Smith, the well-known elocutionist, Mr. Roy August (ukulele), Mr. Harold Beck, and the Studio Trio are also on the programme.

The songs to be sung by the members of the Dulcet Quartet—Miss Nellie Lowe, Miss Mary Shaw, Mr. T. G. Rogers, and Mr. A. G. Thompson—will comprise a number of favourite songs.

Light musical comedy will be the feature of Friday's concert at 3YA. The piece from which excerpts will be taken will be the "Arcadians," and the vocalists will be Miss Frances Hamerton's Melodious Four. There is much delightful music in "The Arcadians."

Besides the items from the comedy, there will be many other bright pieces broadcast on Friday. On the elocutionary side, Mr. W. H. Moses has three amusing contributions. The Beresford Banjo Band will play minstrel melodies, and other popular ditties. Selections by the Studio Trio will include an old Irish air.

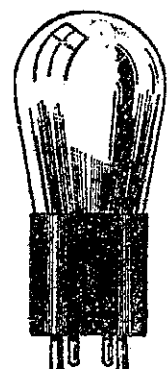
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