

The New Zealand Radio Record

P.O. BOX, 1032, WELLINGTON.

Published Weekly. Price 3d. Subscription Post Free in advance, 10s. per annum; booked 12s. 6d.

Literary communications should be addressed: "The Editor"; business communications to "The Manager."

Advertisers are asked to note that alterations of advertisements should be in hand Friday of each week for insertion in the succeeding issue, printed Tuesday, bearing Friday's date. No responsibility is accepted for blocks remaining unclaimed three months after each insertion.

N.Z. RADIO PUBLISHING CO., LTD.,
P.O. Box 1032, WELLINGTON.

WELLINGTON, FRIDAY, JULY 5, 1929.

AUSTRALIAN PROGRAMMES.

LISTENERS will have been interested in the full details we published last week as to the plans of the successful tenderers to the Commonwealth Government's new broadcasting system. As is well known, the Australian Government has taken over the plant of the existing radio stations throughout the Commonwealth. Its purpose is to maintain these stations at a high standard of efficiency, and make itself responsible for the provision of further stations as occasion demands, the aim being to provide over three years a regular chain of broadcasting and relay stations throughout Australia sufficient to cover the needs of the population. The Government, however, purposes to divide responsibilities in connection with broadcasting. While it itself will be responsible for the capital expenditure and maintenance of the stations, it proposes to sub-let the provision of programmes. Tenders were called for this right, and the successful tender was that made jointly by Union Theatres, Limited, Fullers' Theatres, Limited, and J. Albert and Son. This group possesses strong orchestral and programme resources, and, according to the statement made last week by the managing director of Union Theatres, Limited, purposes entering on its duties in a broad spirit. It is indicated that an early move will probably be to borrow a leading programme director from the British Broadcasting Corporation, in order that his advice may be made available under Australian conditions. This is to supplement associations already formed in Los Angeles, Chicago, New York, and Paris.

PERHAPS the most interesting announcement, however, from the New Zealand point of view, is the declaration that it is proposed by the programme directors to create advisory boards in every State, quite independent of the Government's Board. These advisory boards will be of the highest authority in music, education, sport, and feminine interest, and will be able to co-operate with the local stations in securing maximum results. An analogy between this proposal and that already operative in New Zealand in the form of the voluntary committee system, originated and applied by the New Zealand Radio Broadcasting Company, will be apparent to listeners. It is within our knowledge that the scope and success of the New Zealand advisory committee system has attracted considerable attention in Australia, and requests for detailed particulars of the organisation and application of the system have been frequent. The fact that the system is to

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An Australian Lady on Sydal.

"Since coming to Australia I have been unable to procure your product and have tried practically every similar mixture, but nothing has ever given me half the satisfaction of Sydal, and so I am writing you to forward me a supply, as I will never be without Sydal again." Sold everywhere in New Zealand. Be sure and try it.

be extended and applied in Australia is the best possible indication of its fundamental soundness, and reflects credit upon this country as having originated the idea of practically co-ordinating the expert guidance of those interested in different pursuits, in order that listeners might benefit. The system, as listeners know, works very well in New Zealand, particularly in relation to church matters, musical matters, and the administration of the children's sessions. Australia, according to the preliminary announcement, purposes covering slightly wider scope in including education, sport, and feminine interests.

Many New Zealand listeners who are possessed of high-powered sets make regular contact with Australia, and therefore the prospective improvement in Australian programmes that is foreshadowed will be welcomed by listeners in this country.

Broadcast of Children's Choir

3YA to Relay Unique Festival from Temuka

A TREAT for music-lovers, and especially for those to whom the singing of children makes a strong appeal, will come over the air from 3YA on Friday, July 12, when a Children's Choir Festival will be relayed from Temuka.

This festival will be on the lines of those promoted in England, and will be quite a new thing in New Zealand. The competitive element has been entirely eliminated.

Each school in the district has prepared a number of children in certain selected songs, and all these children are to be brought together on the appointed date, and will sing in two massed choirs, one of boys and the other of girls. It is anticipated that each choir will comprise upwards of 150 voices, and they will be accompanied by a string orchestra of nine instruments. Mr. Vernon Griffiths, the well-known Christchurch lecturer on music in schools, is going to Temuka to conduct the choirs and generally to supervise the festival. In addition each school will give a musical number of its own during the course of the programme, and it is probable that the Orari Bridge School Choir, which recently gained a second prize at Christchurch Competitions, will sing the same music as they sang in Christchurch. The event will be unique in that for the first time the competitive element will have been eliminated.

The organisation of this festival is largely due to Mr. B. Hughes (choir-master) and members of St. Peter's Choir.

The following schools will be participating: Temuka, St. Joseph's, Geraldine, Pleasant Point, Orari, Milford, Orari Bridge, "Mrs. De Renzy's Winchester," and Arowhenua Native.

The selected songs which will be sung by the massed choirs will be: Boys—"Who is Sylvia?" (Schubert), "The Captain and the Frenchman" (Dunhill).

Girls—"When Icicles Hang on the Wall" (Dyson), "You'll Get There" (Parry).

"Bird in Hand"

A Very Successful Broadcast

THE recent radio presentation of "Bird in Hand" met with the greatest appreciation from listeners. Very many letters have been received by IYA eulogising this performance by Mr. Kenneth Brampton and the Little Theatre Society.

There have been a few letters of mild protest, also, from listeners whose susceptibilities have been a little ruffled by certain of the expressions used by the writer of the play.

One writer expressed himself in the following sentiments:—

"We enjoyed the presentation, but there was a fly in the ointment. Swear-words and objectionable expressions were rather frequent. The playwright evidently tried to depict his characters according to life, but no doubt the play would have been equally effective, and more pleasing to many, without the undesirable expressions. Adults and

young people of both sexes were listening in over a wide area, and to me and many others it seems a pity to broadcast anything to hurt people's sensibilities. Cromwell is said to have told his portrait-painter to put in the warts, so that the painting might be accurate; in this case I think the playwright, while aiming to be true to life, could have left out the warts (i.e.: the objectionable expressions), and could have done so without any injury to his play. Of course this is an expression of opinion, with which no doubt many will disagree. Wishing you all success in your broadcasting."

King's Thanksgiving

Sunday, July 7.

IN all the cities, the services in thanksgiving for the recovery of His Majesty the King from his long and serious illness will be held on Sunday, July 7, and will be broadcast.