

"The Golden Threshold"

Indian Song Cycle at 4YA

"THE GOLDEN THRESHOLD," described as an Indian Song Garland, will be sung at 4YA on Monday evening. It is Liza Lehmann's setting of poems by Saragini Naidu.

There are sixteen items—songs, duets, and choruses. These are taken from five sections of the poem, respectively entitled "Songs of the Lover and of the Beloved," "Songs of the One Alone," "Song of a Youth," "Song of the Little Sister," and "Songs of the Crowd."

The vocalists for the Dunedin presentation will be The Majors—Miss Freda Elmes, Miss Dorothy Skinner, Mr. J. Montague, and Mr. L. M. Cache-maille.

The concert work makes up the following programme:—

1. "Harvest Hymn" (chorus): Praise is offered to the gods of Harvest.
2. "Song of a Dream" (baritone): A vision of the thirds as spirits of Truth, of the stars as spirits of Love, and the streams as spirits of Peace.
3. "Henna" (soprano and contralto duet): An injunction to hasten and

gather the leaves of the heina tree, whose dye shall bedeck lovely maidens.

4. "Palaquin-Bearers" (tenor and bass duet): The men's song as they lightly bear a lovely lady.
5. "The Serpents Are Asleep" (contralto).
6. "The Snake Charmer" (soprano): A song of a youth calling to the snake as "The subtle bride of my mellifluous wooing," the "silver-breasted moonbeams of desire."
7. "The Royal Tombs of Golconda" (baritone solo and chorus): A musing, amidst the ruins, on the memories of ancient grandeur and of the beauty that "wakens with the spring to kindle these pomegranate groves."
8. "Love Song" (tenor).
9. "Like a Serpent" (contralto and tenor duet).
10. "Nightfall in Hyderabad" (chorus): Impressions of the sights and sounds of the great city as night comes to her, "borne like a queen to a sumptuous festival."
11. "Cradle Song" (soprano): A song of the Little Sister, who sings to the baby of the "little lovely dream" she has bought for him.
12. "To a Buddha Seated on a Lotus" (baritone solo and quartet): "What mystic rapture dost thou own, immutable and ultimate? . . . The end, elusive and unknown, still lures us. . . How shall we reach the great unknown Nirvana of thy Lotus-throne?"
13. "Indian Dancers" (chorus).
14. "New Leaves Grow Green" (soprano, contralto and tenor): An idyll of spring.
15. "Alabaster" (contralto): "Like this alabaster box . . . is my heart. . . Therein I treasure the spice and scent of rich and passionate memories."
16. "At the Threshold" (tenor solo, quartet and chorus): The child, pleading in youthful pride to "drink each joy and pain," is answered. The omnipotent one decrees that he shall know all rapture and despair. After knowledge he shall seek peace. The end of the whole matter is: "Life is a prism of my Light, And death the shadow of my Face."

Children's Sessions

(Continued from page 19.)

And all in the studio

Make a bright, happy band.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9.

Storyman, Stormyman, where are you going?

Away to the meadows

Where the daisies are blowing.

The Woolston School singers

Are coming along, too;

So put on your headphones

And listen in—do!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10

Now, once every month

Comes dear Brother Bill,

Whose stories so bold

provide all with a thrill.

With each of the children

He just loves to joke;

And fun at them all

He always will poke.

"The May Queen" New Zealand Baritone

First Broadcast Performance by IYA Choir

Starred at 2FC

THE recently-formed IYA Broadcasting Choir will give its first performance for the benefit of listeners on Tuesday evening. The piece to be presented will be Sir W. Stern-dale Bennett's delightful cantata, "The May Queen."

Great interest will be taken in the first performance by the IYA choir. There are thirty-two members. The choir had its inception in a recommendation by the IYA Musical and Dramatic Committee. When applications were called, over 60 vocalists applied and the members were chosen after careful auditions. Young voices predominate, particularly in the ladies' section. The conductor is Mr. Len. Barnes; and Mr. Cyril Towsey, the accompanist. The choir is a very enthusiastic combination, and all rehearsals are particularly well attended. Before every practice the conductor gives a half-hour's instruction in singing.

The members of the choir are: Mrs. B. Barclay, Mrs. H. L. Timmings, Misses G. V. Brooke, Maida Davison, S. W. Donnell, C. Foster, A. McDonagh, N. Marriage, C. Mulqueen, M. O'Grady, I. G. Phillips, D. A. Twyford, G. Weir, M. Taylor, H. Rosieur, and R. McCullay, and Messrs. T. Dunn, E. Green, J. L. Heath, A. W. Hickman, J. H. Joss, A. L. MacPherson, T. Moffitt, W. P. Morphy, E. M. Newling, E. J. Robson, H. H. Salter, R. Stephenson, J. Wilford, R. Wilson, W. Langton, and H. Langton.

The story of the cantata is as follows:—It is May Day and the villagers are gathered together to celebrate and to greet their May Queen. Being a festive day the May Queen is rather coquettish and scorns the Lover, who mourns the day he was born. The May Queen is crowned, and then the Lover asks her to throw away her cloak of cold disdain, but she lightly scorns him.

Robin Hood, who is the Captain of the Foresters in disguise, appears in a swaggering baritone song, "Tis Jolly to Hunt." He makes love to the May Queen and is struck a blow by the Lover. This is against the law, particularly on May Day, and the villagers advise the Lover to hide away. It is too late, the Queen of the Realm arrives amid a fanfare of trumpets. She sees that there has been a brawl and she banishes the

ONE of the artists who was featured on the initial programme of the Australian Broadcasting Company on July 17 was Mr. Keith Grant, who has frequently sung for 2YA. He was associated on a programme with other fine artists, including one whose gramophone recordings are very popular. It was a distinct honour to New Zealand broadcasting talent.

Long Distance Relay

A LONG-DISTANCE church relay—the first of its kind to be carried out in New Zealand, took place on Sunday evening, July 28, when Trinity Church, Timaru, was put "on the air" by 3YA. Following the church broadcast, a concert given by the Timaru Municipal Band in the Theatre Royal, Timaru, was also relayed.

It was because of this latter broadcast that the church relay could be carried out. The concert relay having been arranged by 3YA, the Presbyterian authorities in Timaru requested that the opportunity might be availed of to broadcast their church service. The Rev. N. L. D. Webster, of St. Andrew's Church, Christchurch, who was scheduled to broadcast that evening, agreed to forego his relay in order that the Timaru church might be broadcast.

The preacher at Trinity Church, Timaru, was the Rev. A. J. H. Dow, and the organist and choir-master Mr. Donald Parkin. The church has a splendid regular choir of 46 voices, and the organ is reputed to be the finest church organ in the Dominion.

Lover and dismisses the Captain of the Foresters. But the May Queen pleads with Her Majesty and not in vain, for all is forgiven and the cloud passes away.

The caste will be:—

The May Queen (soprano)—

Miss Millicent O'Grady

The Queen (mezzo)—

Miss Madge Taylor

The Lover (tenor)—

Mr. Lambert Harvey

The Captain (baritone)—

Mr. E. M. Newling

With the exception of Mr. Harvey, the soloists are members of the choir. Mr. Cyril Towsey will be at the piano and Mr. Eric Waters at the organ.



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