

THE RADIO RECORD

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(Price, 3d.)

String Octet Arranged for 3YA

To Play under the Baton of Mr. Harold Beck



As announced last week, an octet comprising some of the leading instrumentalists of Christchurch, has been formed by Mr. Harold Beck, and has been engaged to perform regularly at 3YA. The octet will make its first appearance next Wednesday, October 9.

Personnel of Orchestra.

The personnel of this new string octet will be:—

First violins: Miss I. Morris and Miss F. Millar.
Second violins: Mrs. Bills and Mr. H. Glaysher.
Viola: Mr. J. Mercer.
Cello: Mr. R. Bond.
Bass and euphonium: Mr. W. J. Barsby.
Harp: Mr. H. Glaysher.
Solo 'cellist and conductor: Mr. Harold Beck.

The Conductor.

Mr. Harold Beck, who formed and will conduct the octet, is an artist of whom his homeland should be proud. His recitals and performances as a 'cellist, while associated on tours with some of the world's best artists, have achieved for him a distinct national fame.

He showed wonderful ability as a child. While touring with his brother and child prodigies they won the most popular triumph wherever they went, and later both proceeded to Europe. He made appearance in England while still youth, critics predicting brilliant future for him. He became a member of St Nicholas's Church Choir, receiving choral training under Hayden Hare, Mus. Bac. Returning to New Zealand, he appeared for important musical societies, and proceeded on a successful tour in the North Island in 1919.

On the occasion of the visit of the New South Wales State Orchestra, M. Henri Verbrugghen immediately offered him a permanent engagement with this organisation. He was associated with the orchestra for two years, during which time he greatly extended his knowledge of symphonic, operatic, and chamber music, and in this connection played trios and quartets with artists and organisations such as the Henri Staell String Quartet, Alfred Hill, Lawrence Godfrey, Smith, Cyril Monk, and Frank Hutchens, besides playing for regular weekly chamber music classes at the Conservatorium. In addition, he played in the orchestras of the Royal Philharmonic Society, Apollo Club, and Sydney Choral Society. Besides appearing as soloist in Australia and New Zealand with the Verbrugghen Orchestra, he has toured with Harry Derth, Stella Power, William G. James, Kate Campion, and Stella Murray. Since settling in Christchurch, where he is well-known as a teacher, he has formed the Harold Beck String Quartet and a chamber orchestra of his own. He has also conducted performances at all the principal theatres, and is at present conductor of the Christchurch Savage Club Orchestra.

Miss Irene Morris, First Violin.

Miss Irene Morris, first violinist, is a distinguished New Zealand violinist who has won great praise from the highest musical critics. She commenced her musical studies at the early age of three, learning the piano-forte from her mother. A little later she began her violin study under the excellent guidance of Herr Max Hoppe, with whom she studied for several years, subsequently coming to Christchurch, where she had further tuition with the late Mr. F. M. Wallace, and other leading teachers. Miss Morris is a well-known concert artist and teacher, and has



Standing—Mrs. A. H. Bills, Mr. Harold Beck, Mr. J. A. Mercer, and Mr. W. J. Barsby. Seated—Mr. H. Glaysher, Miss Florence Miller, Miss Irene Morris, and Mr. R. Bond

Photo—Steffano Webb.

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