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Home Science

Movement for Instruction

COUNTRY women in particular will be interested in a movement that is about to start in Dunedin. Some time ago the Carnegie Trust Fund donated a sum of money to Otago University for expansion work in home science. It is now proposed that a tutor-organiser and an assistant-tutor, working to the direction of Professor Strong, shall commence a campaign of practical lecturing and demonstrating as from February next. The object of the scheme is to bring women together, in order that they may discuss their problems to mutual advantage, secure information to minimise the work in their homes, and give them more leisure to devote to other things. Through the aid of Station 4YA it is hoped to extend many beneficial aspects of the work to parts outside of Otago. On each Wednesday afternoon at 3.15 wireless talks on domestic affairs will be broadcast by 4YA. The first talk commenced on Wednesday last, November 27, at 3.15 p.m.

Devotion to Duty

Heroic Wireless Operator

HEAVY storms in the English Channel recently resulted in the total loss of the steamer Molesey, which was driven ashore and wrecked with the loss of eight lives.

The survivors, who were rescued after a weary night spent on the wreck with heavy seas crashing over the vessel, told an epic story of the devotion to duty of Wireless Operator E. King. At the height of the storm the ship's steering gear failed, and King immediately commenced sending out signals of distress to any vessels which happened to be in the vicinity. No response was received, but the messages were picked up by stations all over England. Millions of listeners heard appeals broadcast from the London stations asking any ship in the vicinity of the Molesey to send, if possible, visual or radio signals to the disabled steamer, which was rapidly drifting towards the rocks. No assistance was forthcoming, and as the vessel struck mountainous seas swept her from how to stern.

Under the terrific impacts the wireless cabin rocked and started splitting. Undeterred, King stuck to his post and calmly continued sending out S.O.S. messages. The cabin, which was receiving a terrific battering from the huge seas, was fast breaking up. Suddenly the shore stations listening to the appeals were startled when the transmissions ceased in the middle of a message. The wireless cabin, with its heroic occupant, had been swept bodily overboard.

Towards dawn, a lifeboat which had been gallantly struggling with terrific seas throughout the night succeeded in reaching the wreck and rescuing the survivors.

Across the Tasman

Topical Broadcasting News

FIGURES have been recently made available showing the licenses issued by each Australian State to the end of October, 1929. The total number of licenses issued in the Commonwealth to that date is 309,822, an increase of 24,273 over the number in force a year previously. An increase over last year's numbers is shown by every State excepting Queensland, which has decreased by 1987. The latter State has been steadily dropping back, and the present licenses in force, 23,487, are less than the number existing as far back as 1927.

THE haunting tribal melodies which constitute one of the principal charms of Alfred Hill's Maori opera, "Teora," evidently hold a big fascination for the Australian musical public. Following the recent broadcast of this opera, the A.B.C. received so many letters of appreciation from listeners all over Australia that they consented to a repeat performance. In "Teora," Alfred Hill has not so much adapted Maori tribal melodies for the purpose of grand opera as written an opera to enshrine them. Alfred Hill, the composer, is well known in New Zealand as the composer and producer of "Hinemoa," a similar opera which was presented in this country recently.

A LAND-MARK, both literally and figuratively, in the history of Australian aviation was recently established in the erection of the Hinkler air beacon in Sydney. Mounted on a large steel tower, fifty feet in height, it towers 220 feet above the street level, and can be seen under conditions of average visibility at a distance of 30 miles. The Prime Minister of Australia, Mr. Scullin, who performed the opening ceremony, stated during the course of his remarks that the beacon was Australia's first contribution towards the safety of night flying. Other officials, including the president of the Australian Aero Club, spoke, and the whole proved a very interesting broadcast.

4YA is Popular

ALTHOUGH 4YA Dunedin has been in occupation of its new home only a matter of a few weeks, already some very fine appreciations are recorded on the pages of its visitors' book (says the "Dunedin Star"). One of the first to catch the eye is that of a Wellington visitor, "May you send forth light, joy, and truth." An enthusiastic citizen proclaims the station and studios "a credit to Dunedin"; another says, "A fine studio for a glorious city"; another, "Quite in keeping with our beautiful city"; while other true-blue Dunedinites credit Otago's capital with now having "the best of all" and "the best of the bunch." That these are not merely parochial imaginings is evidenced by the endorsement of visitors from other parts of the Dominion. An Oamaru tribute is couched in these words: "Beautiful and artistic"; similar praise comes from Wanganui.