

Pioneers' Night at 4YA Broadcasting a Show

Interesting History Recalled

THE broadcasting of "A Night With the Pioneers," by 4YA on Saturday, December 21, when a particularly interesting and entertaining programme will be presented, will give a radio picture of life on the emigrant ships, and of life in the early days of the Otago settlement. Some historic musical instruments will be played—the first organ, the first piano, an oboe used by Robert Burns and bagpipes which were played at the Relief of Lucknow. Old sea captains will sing chauties.

In connection with the founding of Otago, an interesting incident is recalled. On March 21, 1848, the "John Wickliffe," the first of the immigrant ships to reach Otago, dropped anchor off Tairaroa Heads. In answer to their signal guns, out from the harbour mouth shot two whale-boats, one bringing Richard Driver, the pilot, and the other Mr. Kettle, the surveyor in charge of the laying-out of the settlement. Pulled by their stalwart Maori crews, who in the whaling days of the previous decade had learnt to rival their European teachers in the handling of small craft, the boats raced across the sunlit waters. Imagine the eagerness of the immigrants as they sought knowledge of the land of their dreams from their new-found friends; picture their half-credulous bewilderment as they listened to the banter and tall tales of Dick Driver and his grinning dusky comrades.

That night the "John Wickliffe" lay off the land and, to while away the time, several of the new arrivals produced the very latest in fishing tackle and, vainly sought to land the barracouta that teemed in the silvery waters. With good-humoured contempt, the Maoris split up an old cask stave into pieces, which they decorated with a bit of red rag, a flax string and a hook, and soon caught a boatload.

Incidentally, amongst the Maoris who are taking part in the radio representation, are several descendants of Karētai and Tairaroa, the chiefs of Otakou in the days before the coming of the whites.

Early on the following morning, March 22, the "John Wickliffe" entered the harbour, sailed past the little village of Otakou, Port Daniel, which even at that early date contained thirty-four white families, and finally cast anchor in Kōpūtal Bay, as Port Chalmers was called in those days. Before the disembarkation of passengers and stores had been completed, the weather changed. Those who came by the "Phillip Laing," some three weeks later, commenced their new life under conditions that must have recalled vividly to them the misty moorlands of their old homes in far-off Scotland.

4YA Relays from Invercargill

THE outstanding success of the Royal Show held in Invercargill last week exceeded the most sanguine expectations. The show took place on December 10, 11 and 12 and broadcasts on relay were carried out each afternoon by 4YA. These were very successful. The Broadcasting Company was represented by Mr. J. Ball, editor-announcer, and everything was carried through without a hitch.

As well as the Governor-General, Sir Charles Fergusson, speakers who broadcast were:—The Hon. G. W. Forbes, the Hon. P. A. de la Perelle, Mr. J. D. Campbell (Mayor of Invercargill), Mr. W. Perry (president of the Royal Show Society), Mr. G. Troup (Mayor of Wellington), Mr. Marshall (member of the Agricultural Board), Mr. F. Mills (judge of Ayrshires), Mr. Arthur Greenhalgh (side-show proprietor), Mr. A. W. Green (judge of milking shorthorns), Mr. J. P. Kallaugher (secretary of the New Zealand Friesian Association), Mr. A. Reid (judge of Aberdeen Angus), Mr. E. Short, of Feilding (judge of Romneys), Mr. John Gilkison, Mr. Adam Hamilton, M.P., and Mr. J. Price (president of the Southland A. and P. Association). Mr. G. H. Holford, late associate-editor of the "New Zealand Dairy Farmer," broadcast a description of the grand parade.

In the course of his address, Mr. Price referred to the broadcasting which had taken place. He said:—"It has been suggested to me that it would be fitting that I, as president of the Southland A. and P. Association, should, on the occasion of this, the last broadcast in connection with the Royal Show, address a few words especially to the listeners over the air. It affords me very great pleasure to fall in with that suggestion. Indeed, I esteem it a privilege to be enabled to get into personal touch, as it were, with those interested folk who have had perforce of circumstances to be content to hear about, instead of seeing for themselves, the show which is now nearing its conclusion. It is, I think you will agree, one of the wonders of the wonderful age in which we are living that distance no longer prevents us from hearing about that which we cannot see, and that radio makes it possible for us to participate in functions which we cannot attend. I feel sure that many to whom I am now speaking would not have missed this truly Royal Show had it been possible for them to be present."

In concluding, he said:—"And now it remains for me to express my association's warm appreciation of the courtesy and enterprise of the Broadcasting Company in sending its representative to Invercargill for the purpose of putting the show on the air."

This is not the first occasion on which the Broadcasting Company has gone out of its way to make Invercargill and Southland figure becomingly on the map of New Zealand. We entertain, as I am sure do many listeners, pleasant recollections of this year's May Fair broadcast. The request of the Southland League that the Royal Show might be broadcast met with a ready response from Mr. A. R. Harris, general manager of the Broadcasting Company, and I desire to assure him that the result of his enterprise has been highly gratifying to us.

"Just here I should like to say that the first day's broadcast, through a purely personal incident, served to bring forcibly to my notice the boon which radio is providing to the aged and infirm, and all who from one cause or another are confined to their homes. My mother, who, unfortunately, was not able to attend the show, listened in to the broadcast of the opening ceremony, and that evening assured me that her wireless had enabled her to follow the proceedings from beginning to end, and that she had not missed a word of any of the speeches, and that my own voice had come through to her as clearly as if I had been in her room when speaking. I rather fancy she is listening to me now, and if the regulations did not forbid I should like to send her a 'cheerio' message. But I must not transgress further. With a full sense of the splendid service radio is rendering to all classes of the community, I again tender to the Broadcasting Company the thanks of the Southland A. and P. Association, and I think I may add the thanks of the people of Southland and Invercargill."

Auckland Notes

(By "Call Up.")

IN succession to Mr. D. H. Wrathall, transferred to 4YA, Mr. Owen Pritchard has been appointed to the position of programme organiser at 1YA. Mr. Pritchard is an Auckland by birth, but has travelled very widely, and has had a very extensive experience of entertaining, so should be well qualified for his new duties. He has been closely connected with the local station since his return to his native city early in the year.

AUCKLAND has been chosen for the first Dominion Convention of the N.Z. A.R.T., who are to meet here from December 27-29. Meetings and discussions will be held in the Ley's Institute. The social side of the gathering has not been neglected, and arrangements are in hand for a picnic and a dinner. The dates of the convention have been specially chosen as the most suitable time for members to attend, the Christmas season and festivities then being over, while the New Year activities have not yet commenced. A large gathering is expected, including a number of visitors from the South Island.

THE ranks of the Auckland Uncles will be depleted on Tuesday, December 10, on which date Uncle George will broadcast to the children for the last time from 1YA. He is leaving to take up his residence in Sydney, and will be greatly missed by many children in the Auckland district.

The Christmas Seal

A Deserving Cause

AN appeal was recently broadcast from the New Zealand stations giving full details of the Christmas Seal and of the splendid work it is hoped to accomplish should the public of New Zealand prove generous in their response to this deserving cause.

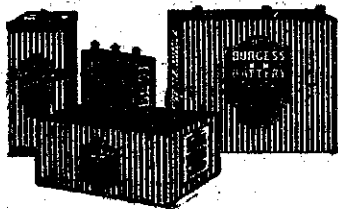
Details of the scheme were given by the secretary of the G.P.O., Wellington, who said that the "Christmas Seal" is now on sale at post offices throughout the Dominion. Each stamp, which costs 2d., has a postage value of 1d. and a charity value of 1d. The purchasing of the combined stamp is entirely voluntary. It is proposed that the proceeds of the appeal in the first instance shall be devoted to the establishment in selected sites in the Dominion of health camps for undernourished and debilitated children, or of children who have been "contacts" with cases of tuberculosis in their own homes. These health camps will be under medical supervision, and adequate nursing assistance will be provided.

The secret of the success of the Charity stamp scheme lies in the fact that no one, however poor, need forgo the satisfaction of subscribing his mite to the good cause.

It is understood from the Health Department that many children who are contacts of tuberculosis in their own homes and who ultimately contract, and die of the disease would be spared if at the time of contact and before the disease developed they were removed for a time to a health camp in the country. In all measures taken for the welfare of such children lack of financial resources becomes evident. There is no disease where good nutrition is more imperative from the preventive as well as the curative aspect than tuberculosis; but where this disease is associated with poverty, good nurture is impossible. For a large number of affected children, their main hope lies in removal from their present environment for a time at least. The results of health camps already held have amply demonstrated what can be done by a simple regime of adequate rest, fresh air, sunshine and proper feeding.

It is believed that most people will welcome the opportunity of assisting in some small way towards brightening the lives and improving the health of the children who it is proposed should benefit. The outgoing in the case of each individual giver will be a comparatively small sum; but, if each person contributes, the aggregate result for the Dominion as a whole will be a substantial sum of money. The Charity stamp scheme of raising funds for deserving causes has proved a success in other countries, and there is no reason why it should not prove a success in New Zealand. It has been in operation for 21 years in the United States of America; and the amount raised in a recent effort in that country was over one million pounds. Prevention is better than cure; and the taking of preventive measures against tuberculosis will prove beneficial not only to many individual New Zealand homes, but to the Dominion as a whole.

IN connection with the commencement of the Christmas Seal campaign in New Zealand, the Hon. A. J.



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