

CANTERBURY NOTES.

Australian Heard The Last "Sing"

Allan Brown, in Hospital, Hears From Australian Who Listened In To Christchurch's Last Community Sing—Governor Has Good Broadcasting Voice—Radio Enthusiast Dies.

THE popular Christchurch community singing leader, Mr. Alan Brown, entered Lewisham Hospital two days after the last sing in Christchurch, for an operation. Although troubled with a bad leg during the term of the sing, he put off entering hospital, but listeners will be glad to hear that the operation was quite successful, and he is now convalescing at his home. While he was in hospital, Mr. Brown received a letter from a resident at Central Lansdowne, Manning River, New South Wales, saying how much they had enjoyed the community sing from Christchurch on Monday evening, October 29. The writer listened in until the station closed down at 9 p.m. Australian time, everything coming through with the utmost clearness. In the course of his letter the writer said that he had enjoyed the sing better than any he had heard from Australian stations.

CHRISTCHURCH was honoured last week by speeches from both Lord and Lady Bledisloe. The Governor-General's voice is suited to the microphone, and his speech from the luncheon at the Canterbury A. and P. Show at noon on Friday last, was very clear. Lady Bledisloe's speech from the Winter Garden at the farewell arranged by the National Council of Women, was unfortunately not broadcast. Although her Excellency's consent was given, 3YA received too short notice, as the Winter Garden is one of the few places of entertainment in Christchurch not permanently connected with the studio. As the different organisations were advised that Lady Bledisloe's speech was to be broadcast, a description of the afternoon is given in to-day's "Radio Record."

CHRISTCHURCH radio circles lost a valued and enthusiastic member in the death at the early age of 27 of

Mr. Ronald K. Venables. Mr. Venables was a foundation member of the Radio Society of Christchurch, and was also a member of the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters, becoming a member on the executive of that association in 1932. Mr. Venables was a pillar of strength in the radio institutions in which he was interested, and obtained his transmitting license seven years ago. He had a fine record of radio communication with amateurs in most countries of the world.

THE Christchurch Harmony Four is made up of two tenor and two bass voices, belonging to Messrs. J. Shaw, H. J. Francis, P. A. Caithness, and J. L. Tennent, four well-known Christchurch singers. It was at the request of the broadcasting authorities that these four were merged into a quartette for radio work, and since its formation two years ago, the Christchurch Harmony Four has made many microphone appearances, delighting listeners throughout New Zealand with songs from a large repertoire.

THIS talented quartette was chosen to assist at Senia Chostiaff's recent concert in Christchurch, the famous Russian declaring it to be the finest combination in Australia and New Zealand, and newspaper comment declaring it equal to the best recorded quartettes. Each member is a soloist of high merit, and has made many appearances with well-known musical societies in Christchurch. Mr. J. Shaw, second tenor and leader, before coming to New Zealand some six years ago, did broadcasting work for the B.B.C.'s Manchester studio in numerous operas, and was conductor of the Nelson Conservative Male Choir when they won an Albert Hall Festival.

MR. H. J. FRANCIS, who has taken many solo parts for the Christchurch Musical Society, is the first tenor of the quartette. Mr. Francis is a prize and scholarship winner at the Christ-

Appointments Made to Radio Interference Committee

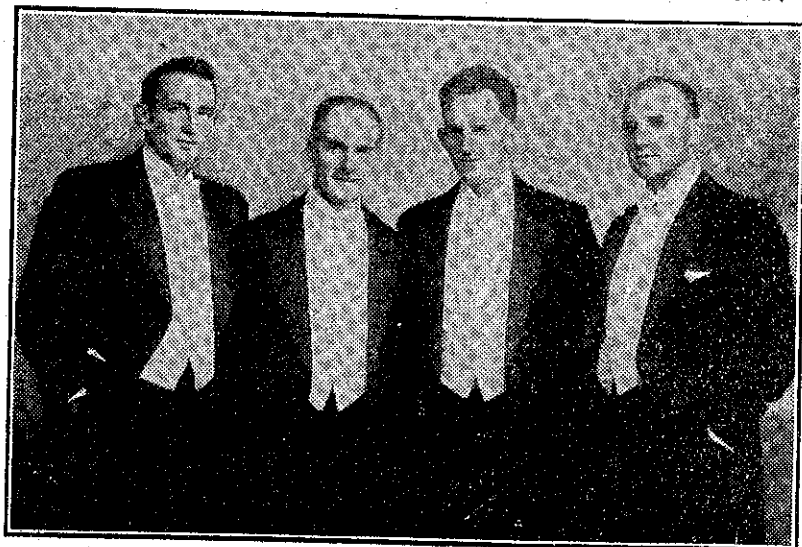


Above is pictured Mr. A. Gibbs, who is to represent the New Zealand Broadcasting Board on the new Radio Interference Advisory Committee, which has just been appointed to assist the smooth working of the recently-gazetted regulations regarding radio interference. The other members of the committee will be—

Mr. C. S. Plank, representing the Post and Telegraph Department, who will be the permanent chairman.

Mr. H. McKenzie Millar, who will represent the Public Works Department.

Mr. Lauchlan, who is to represent electrical authorities and electric tramway promoters.



THE CHRISTCHURCH HARMONY FOUR, talented radio combination. From left to right: Messrs. H. J. Francis, J. Shaw, P. A. Caithness and J. L. Tennent.

Steffano Webb photo.

church competitions, and has a very fine tenor voice. Mr. P. A. Caithness, whose powerful bass voice is a pillar of strength in the Christchurch Liedertafel, is also a competition gold medallist. Mr. J. L. Tennent is second bass and well known to listeners and audiences in New Zealand. He has taken many solo parts for different societies, and his singing in "The Messiah," which was broadcast by 3YA last Christmas, was of exceptional merit, and warranted the special mention received.