

CANTERBURY NOTES.

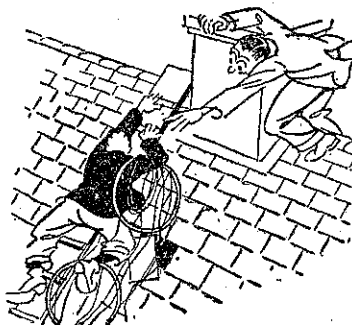
Popular Christchurch Singer Dies

Shock to Musical World in Sudden Death of Mr. James Shaw, of the Harmony Four—Plea for "Practical Radio Man" on Broadcasting Board—Stringent Regulations Governing Erection of Aerials.

THE Christchurch Harmony Four has lost its leader and good friend in the untimely and unexpected death of Mr. James Shaw. Last Friday night he was at practice, and, stricken with pleurisy the next day, which later developed into pneumonia, he entered St. George's Hospital. His funeral left the Trinity Congregational Church, where Mr. Shaw at one time acted as choirmaster. He was a native of Bradford, Yorkshire, where his mother is still living, and during his six years' residence in Christchurch had made many friends, both in business and the musical world. Besides doing a lot of solo work from 3YA, Mr. Shaw was conductor of the Commercial Travellers' Choir, and at one time conductor of the Harmonic Society in Christchurch. He was a well-known singing teacher, possessing a fine tenor voice, and before his arrival in New Zealand broadcast from the Manchester studio for the B.B.C., and was to have conducted the broadcast of the Commercial Travellers' Choir's "Minstrel Show" from 3YA on December 8. The "Radio Record" published a photo of Mr. Shaw with the other members of the Christchurch Harmony Four just two weeks ago, and his loss to 3YA and the musical world of Christchurch will be greatly missed.

into interference, and were going to do everything in their power to eliminate this cause of complaint by listeners. The advisory committee on interference is composed of men whose names are sufficient guarantee that the work of attacking interference will be carried out scientifically and expeditiously.

REGULATIONS dealing with the erection of radio aerials and masts are, it is believed, under consideration. It is stated that it was the intention of the Public Works Department to embody this particular class of work in an amendment to the Public Works Act, 1911, but the department was prevailed upon to reconsider this, and now it is intended



that the regulations will be brought down by Order-in-Council. It is intended, it is believed, to make these regulations much more rigid than those operating at present under the authority of the Fire Underwriters' Association of New Zealand. Special provision will probably be made governing the minimum distance from power lines for the erection of aerial masts, the length of aerial used, and also the type of erection to provide for windage stress. Also, the standard of all material used in the erection of masts and aerials is likely to be provided for in the regulations.

MR. FERNIE said that representations had been made concerning programmes to the Broadcasting Board. It was particularly urged that the Sunday afternoon programmes should be brighter. Further representations had also been made to the Government that the license fee for listeners should be reduced, at least by the amount formerly paid in royalty fees—3/- a license.

THE Broadcasting Board is certainly alive to the interests of listeners, and their introduction of Mr. J. Alexander Browne has been more than appreciated. His two recitals last week from 3YA were a musical treat. Mr. Browne possessing a baritone voice of first-rate quality. This well-known teacher and adjudicator from Victoria, arrived in New Zealand with Philip Hargrave, the boy pianist, and the

Broadcasting Board engaged him to sing from national stations.

PROFESSOR JAMES SHELLEY and his company of clever players, were splendid in the presentation of the one-act comedy, "The Devil in the Manuscript." This was a radio version of Nathaniel Hawthorne's "Twice Told Tales," from the adaptation by Charles Tazewell. Many letters of appreciation have reached 3YA, and Professor Shelley, from listeners all over New Zealand. Professor Shelley is a very approachable and popular Christchurch citizen, and he has brought the Christchurch Repertory Society up to a very high standard, having made a life study of art and drama.

THE first Sunday in December will herald the next complete recorded opera from 3YA. These operas, which have been given on the first Sunday in every month, have been of great value to music-lovers, and the grand opera to be presented on December 2 will be Wagner's "Tannhauser."

MR. J. MCKENZIE, Station Director at 3YA, Christchurch, is away on his annual leave, and Mr. Allen Young is acting as station director in Mr. McKenzie's place meantime.

MISS CIOCELY AUDIBERT, the well-known Christchurch soprano, will be heard from 3YA on Friday, December 7, during the concert portion of the programme, and the 3YA Orchestra, under Mr. Harold Beck, will also contribute. At 9.20 the same evening, 3YA will present a new B.B.C. recorded programme entitled "Pilot Station," which as its name infers, is a tale of the sea.

THE Rev. James Moffatt, of New York, is to give an address in St. Paul's Church, Christchurch, on the morning of Wednesday, December 5. A change is therefore scheduled for this particular morning, and in place of the usual devotional service, 3YA will relay the Rev. Moffatt's address. The time will be extended from 10.0 until 10.45 a.m. In the evening 3YA will again relay from St. Paul's Church the rendering of Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise," which is to be performed by the combined Presbyterian choirs of Christchurch of approximately 150 voices. The conductor is Mr. Arthur Lilly, A.R.C.L., and the organist Mr. R. E. Lake.

FOR a time I was in danger of becoming a kind of Aunt Sally for journalists of the baser sort.—*Dean Inge.*

IS it any wonder that after the boredom of reading a thousand school stories the girl turns to something lurid on reaching the adult library?—*Miss M. Watt-Smith.*

MR. W. G. V. FERNIE, president of the Canterbury Radio Traders' Association, who has just returned from attending the annual conference of the radio matters. The Traders' Federation in Wellington, makes a plea for the reorganisation of the Broadcasting Board, so that it would include at least one member with a good knowledge of radio matters. The Traders' Federation has made representations to the Government for a reduction in the charge for the listeners' license fee, and to the Broadcasting Board for more time has made representations to the main stations and those of the auxiliary stations. As a vacancy occurs in the personnel of the board on December 18, Mr. Fernie urges upon listeners to grasp the opportunity of the appointment of a practical man with at least some knowledge of radio, as this is a matter of considerable importance because of its bearing on the administration.

THE Advisory Council to the Broadcasting Board consists of eight members, five from the North Island and three from the South. Mr. C. R. Russell, of Christchurch, is the Canterbury member of this organisation, and the idea of this council is to reflect opinion on radio matters right through the country, and so form a link between the board and the listeners. Mr. Fernie, discussing the matters arising out of the conference, remarked that listeners would be pleased to hear that the authorities were going ahead with investigations