

Hot Shots

Editorial Notes

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MARINA has recently been given as a Christian name to two infants registered in Auckland.

A NEW block of twelve flats is to be erected in Hereford Street, Christchurch, near Latimer Square.

LIGHTER entries are the order at all Otago shows this year, many exhibitors holding back for the Royal Show at Invercargill.

LAST week an Auckland woman lost her purse containing £100—practically her life savings—which she had drawn to assist a friend in need.

A WELL-KNOWN Wellington girl nearly missed the Wanganella on its last trip to Sydney. She was hauled aboard sitting in the bight of a rope.

MR. E. C. HANDS, general manager of the Broadcasting Board, while in Dunedin last week, announced that work on the new site for the main station would start within the next few months.

A "VANISHING TEA" scheme is being organised by the affiliated clubs to the Canterbury Lawn Tennis Association to raise funds for the rehabilitation of Wilding Park.

AUCKLAND picture theatre managers competed last Friday to secure the Tasman flyers, Whitehead and Nicholl, to appear on the stage and describe their thrilling flight. "Paddy" Malone, of the Civic, won.

AFTER a 32-year-old cockatoo had unsuccessfully tried to hatch out half-a-dozen stones, its Auckland owner placed a bantam's egg under the would-be mother, and the result was a handsome, healthy chick.

WELLINGTONIANS are still not quite sure what to make of the new colour scheme of concrete tiles in pastel shades of pink, pale blue, puce and pale green which are being used to face the new Colonial Mutual Insurance building.

AUDIENCES at the first night of the screening of a film at the St. James Theatre, Wellington, recently, were puzzled by the lack of continuity and "jerkiness" of some of the scenes. Examination later showed that the "trailer" had been cut into middle of the film.

Wellington, Friday, November 30, 1934.

PRESS AND BROADCASTING

THE speech delivered by Mr. L. R. C. Macfarlane, the southern member of the Radio Broadcasting Board, to a gathering of business men in Christchurch recently, can be heartily commended for its exposition of the point of view of the Broadcasting Board, and the policy upon which it is working, as well as for its gentle but pertinent treatment of the attitude of the Press towards radio broadcasting. More speeches would be welcome, both by listeners and the Press, as conducive to a fuller understanding of the problems associated with broadcasting in New Zealand. The ground covered by Mr. Macfarlane was comprehensive, and the points he made must have been particularly informative to his listeners.

In the early days of broadcasting, there is no doubt a general fear or suspicion was entertained by some section of the Press towards the possibilities of radio developing into a serious competitor. Many imaginative articles were written and published forecasting the appearance on the breakfast table of the future of some sort of special illuminated newspaper, transmitted by radio with pertinent comments by world authorities. These articles, it has been shown by experience in the past decade, were nothing but imaginative "bolony," whose sole excuse for appearance may have been the transfer of a few guineas to the pockets of some impoverished scribe. They overlooked the essential factor of "time" and that radio could not displace the printed word because people's occupations vary, habits of life are different in one centre from another, and when one group is prepared to listen to the radio another is not. In the printed word is found the maximum of convenience and variety of subjects for the diffusion of information; each type of reader can select at will the information he desires.

In some types of news diffusion, radio, it is true, has played an important part, reacting upon some phases of press enterprise. This is notably the case in the diffusion of race results, the high-lights of big events, and so on. Time was, before radio, when special editions would be issued dealing with such items as the Melbourne Cup and other events of similar intense public interest. To-day there are no groups gathered round the press offices awaiting such news, as it is heard in the home or the club immediately the event is over or as it is being decided.

Against that slight disability, however, radio has conferred definite benefits upon the Press and broadened its function. It can definitely be argued and proven that radio has intensified the public knowledge on practically every phase of modern life and activity. By so doing it has created a new market for journalistic enterprise which is steadily being filled by the Press. There is to-day a demand on the part of the public for fuller and more considered reviews and articles on subjects of general interest from the Press than hitherto. That is occasioned by the wider scope of knowledge on the part of the public on world affairs. Radio has played the main part in that diffusion of interest, and in so doing has created a market which the Press is ably supplying.

With the passage of years, the original fear of radio by the Press has declined, and to-day the most far-sighted in the journalistic world agree that each activity has its separate field, and that there is no occasion for anything but harmony between the two. That feeling of mutual respect and comprehension can be intensified by such explanations as that given by Mr. Macfarlane. The points of interest covered by him, show the breadth and magnitude of the task of the Board and reveal a little of the background of activity necessary to enable the service to function so smoothly as it does.

AFTER thirty-five years, costumes are now optional in the swimming pools at Hanmer Springs.

THE New Zealand Alpine Club's new Godley Hut at the head of Lake Tekapo will be finished by Christmas.

AFTER its renovation, the Christchurch Post Office is now one of the bright spots in Cathedral Square.

SOME who were self-made men five years ago are having to do a lot of reconstruction work.

BUT it would seem that it should be easy to make an honest living—there's so little competition.

AT least five luxury liners on tourist cruises are to arrive in Wellington during the summer.

THE old cry of "the neglected south" has been raised again in Dunedin, as none of the luxury cruises are to include the South Island in their itinerary.

THE production of "A Hundred Years Old" by the Wellington Repertory Theatre Society in Wellington last week drew crowded houses on each of the four nights of the season.

OVER 200 petty officers and ratings from the cruisers Dunedin and Diomedé started their two weeks' early Christmas leave last week. The second watch is to go on holiday after the ships return from Wellington on December 22.

A JUNIOR reporter on the "Auckland Star" got a great scoop last week when he ascended to the very top of 1YA's 500ft. aerial nast at Henderson in the "Bos'n's chair" with two workmen. His bright story was the talk of the town.

AN Auckland society girl, recently returned from abroad, was given a party in the lounge of a well-known hotel. Coming into the lounge she collided with a waiter, both of them being sent sprawling on the carpet. The waiter was sacked.

"SILENCE is golden," was the only reply interviewers could get from M. Armand Nihotte, Consul for Belgium, who returned to Wellington after a six months' visit to Belgium last week, when he was asked what were his impressions of politics on the Continent.