

was switched on for the first time, the natives showed no surprise and did not even blink. There is, indeed, something remarkable about a man who is one of the greatest European organ recitalists who devotes his life to the spiritual and bodily needs of the African natives in the district covered by his medical mission. To raise funds to cover the expenses of the mission Dr. Schweitzer takes periodical furloughs—which are neither more nor less than business holidays—and on these visits to Europe his tour giving organ recitals which are always thronged by music lovers and admirers of this great-hearted but practical idealist.

JOHN TILLEY II.

JOHN MOUNSEY THOMSON, the talented Scotsman, now known to the world at large as John Tilley, comedian, adopted the name of Tilley because once, while appearing in a concert party during the war he was urged to go on the stage by Jack Tilley, of the Alhambra. This friend is now dead, so Thomson took his name out of sentimental memory. The comedian's father, J. J. Thomson was a Scottish Soccer player. His grandfather taught Sir James Barrie at the Dumfries Academy, and his mother, Sara Dunbar, was at school there with Barrie. John always wanted to be a doctor, but he failed to satisfy his examiners on two occasions. After the war he came in for £7000, which he invested in an antique business in London—and lost. After trying many various avenues he ultimately made his niche—a B.B.C. engagement made him famous overnight.

"BARRACKS" FOR N.Z.

MR. M. S. NESTOR believes that New Zealand has a future in more things than butter and wool and to prove it he is at present writing a series of articles for the "Public Service Journal" on New Zealand writers.



The articles that have appeared so far has dealt with Katherine Mansfield, T. Lindsay Buick, James Cowan, Dr. Guy Scholefield, Alfred Saunders and Eileen Duggan. He considers Mr Buick the Dominion's most able

and thorough writer, and Dr. Scholefield our best radio lecturer. Mr. Nestor is employed in the Government and is qualified to practise as a professional accountant; he was born on the West Coast and was prominent in sporting circles there before coming to Wellington. For the last 10 years he has been contributing articles on New Zealand history to Australian and New Zealand papers.

STARTED IN PANTO.

BORN at Croydon of Scottish parents, the late Wish Wynne's name is derived from the fact that when she was a child she was always wishing, and her mother called her Wish! She took dancing lessons as a child and made her first appearance on the stage in a Drury Lane pantomime as a child dancer. She was then seven. Then followed a long and varied experience in the provinces in comedy, melodrama, and musical comedy. For a year she toured as Trilby. It was when she was on the halls,

appearing in the ragged dress of the drudge of the family, that E. V. Lucas saw her and mentioned her to Arnold Bennett for his play, "The Great Adventure." She was included in the cast and she played in it in upwards of 600 performances.

BANDS AND TALKIES

MR. H. GLADSTONE HILL is known in Christchurch as the man who has made a big success of the Premier Theatre at New Brighton—now one of the most attractive and excellently-managed suburban talkie houses in New Zealand. But he has a Dominion-wide reputation as the conductor of Derry's Band, which was founded in Christchurch some 35 years ago. Lieutenant Hill has had an all-round experience in musical matters over 45 years, and he is also an ex-champion trombonist. Lieutenant Hill toured the world with the Coldstream Guards' Band in a managerial capacity, and he also managed the New Zealand tour of the Young Australian League a year or two ago.

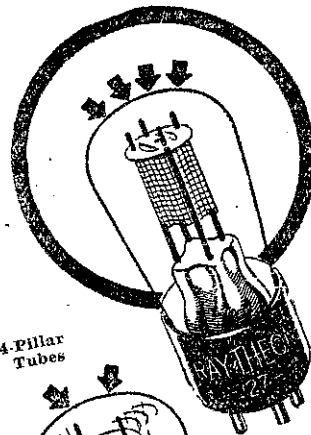
SCREEN VIA OPERA

A **AMERICAN** born and bred, Lawrence Tibbett first achieved fame by his singing Ford in "Falstaff" at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York. He is now one of the most popular baritones in North America, and his singing of such parts as Nera, Jonny, and Tonio

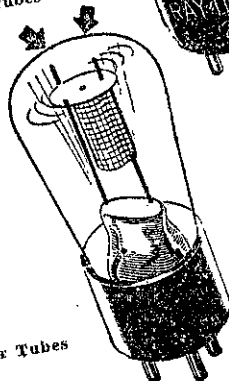
is much admired. He is also a concert artist, and in 1930 made a successful debut as a "talkie star." He is not the first singer to find his way to the screen via the operatic stage, and it is little wonder that he holds a high place in the affections of film fans. His admirers can hear him in both styles for his more recent recordings include examples of his operatic art. Tibbett's recordings of negro spirituals and fine old ballads alone would make any man's reputation. Tibbett—his name is versatility.

HATES HIS PRELUDE

ONCE at the age of 20, Sergei Rachmaninoff, the Russian pianist, composed a prelude which he sold for £4, and which everyone has, at one time or another heard thumped on all the pianos of the world. The very name annoys its composer. He hates, even more deeply, that the audience at every concert insists that he play it; that prelude is like a noisy kettle tied to his tail, and moreover has made someone else's, not Rachmaninoff's, fortune. Tall, with close-cropped hair, the flaccid face very pale, clear blue eyes that are not happy and declare a weary effort to bring dreams to an actual life in music; this man, now an exile from his native Russia, finds creative work most difficult away from the land he still loves but cannot live in.



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