

ia, they formed a juvenile class of two pupils, and Dusolina made her debut at twelve in her father's theatre in the Quaker City. There she sang arias and spoke recitations in the repertoire of 36 operas. She went for lessons to Sembrich when she was seventeen, and since then she has become a world figure in operatic circles.

CHAUVE-SOURIS.

THE genius of the Chauve-Souris is, of course, Nikita Balieff, producer and compere, whose smile—as wide as a slice of melon—and genially inaccurate version of the English language captured London on the Russians' first visit to England some years ago. The Russian revolution scattered the artists of the old regime far and wide.



It gave Europe and America possession of the Diaghilev Ballet, Pavlova, the various Cossack choirs and the Balaika Orchestras, Stanislavsky's Moscow Art Theatre, the Blue Bird Players, Chaliapine, and last, but not least, the Chauve-Souris, or Bat Theatre, of Moscow, whose songs, dances and playlets are performed with child-like simplicity and charm.

MAORIS ON THE MAP.

THE two singers who put Maoris on the musical map of the world are still going strong. Deane Waretini and Ana Hato records have travelled all over the world, and perhaps the only regrettable feature about the business has been that their fine voices have been followed on other recordings by a lot of mediocre choir work and an occasional solo or duet not up to the original standard. One remembers being in Rotorua in 1929 when about 300 American tourists spent a day or so there. After being treated to Waretini and Hato at a concert, the visitors next day invaded every gramophone shop in the town, and there was practically nothing else played all day except the records of these two. In three days one shop sold nearly 200 of their records and another reached about the same figure. Even then many of the Americans, after the town was right out of stock, left their orders for forwarding new stocks back to the States!

Public Trustee Now Holds 83,058 Wills

ESTATES of a value of £437,350 were reported and accepted for administration by the Public Trustee during the month. On March 31, 1934, the total value of the estates under administration by him was £60,760,493, and the new business for the nine months ended December 31, 1934, was £4,601,592, compared with £3,838,995 for the corresponding period last year. Grants of administration made last year. The total number of wills now held in the Public Trust Office is 83,058.

N.Z. Film a Remarkable Success in Australia

"ROMANTIC NEW ZEALAND," the full-length scenic and industrial film produced by Filmcraft, Ltd., in conjunction with the Government Tourist Department, is having a most successful run throughout Australia.

Enthusiastic reports have been received from the manager of the St. James Theatre, Brisbane, where, contrary to usual practice with similar films, the audience applauded vigorously. At this theatre the associate

film was "Blossom Time." An equally attractive combination has been secured for Sydney, where "Romantic New Zealand" is booked to begin screening on February 1, in conjunction with "Jew Suss," at the new Embassy Theatre, claimed to be Sydney's best. Mr. L. J. Schmitt, N.Z. Tourist Commissioner in Australia, reports that he is finalising arrangements to screen the film at the Plaza Theatre, Melbourne, a little later.

It is gratifying to find such success attending the first major film produced in the Dominion. Re-edited, and with a considerable amount of completely new material and entirely fresh dialogue, the version for Great Britain is now almost completed.

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