

Work Comparable With Late Raie da Costa's.

RAROTONGA is the home of Miss Mamie Reid, L.A.B., L.T.C.L., who has been heard from 2YA. She is said to be New Zealand's most brilliant exponent of modern pianoforte syncopation, and critics have been unanimous in stating that her clever interpretations are the most legitimate, the most cultured and the most refined performances of American rhythm in New Zealand, comparable with the performances of Raie da Costa. Miss Reid does not confine herself to syncopation, however. She is a member of the Salon Trio with Miss Ava Symons and Mr. Norman Byrne. Educated



—Spencer Digby photo.

ed at Cleveland House College, Auckland, Miss Reid received a sound musical training from Miss Alice Law, and her progress in music has been a triumphal march from one success to another.

She Broadcasts—and makes Pottery in her Own Kiln

A THOROUGHLY versatile woman is Miss Briar Gardner, of New Lynn, Auckland, another woman who is widely known because of her recent broadcasts from 1YA. But she is even far better known throughout the Dominion because of her famous handcraft pottery, which she designs and executes herself and in her own brick kiln. Her brothers have for many years been successful brick-makers at New Lynn, where their large kilns are situated. Miss Gardner is a student of various arts, having attained success in literature (her stories, mainly composed for children, being accepted and published by important papers) and in amateur theatricals. It was she who, some years ago, invented a new system of embroidery which she sold for delivery in various parts of the world. The embroidered work on one frock alone brought Miss Gardner a price of 30 guineas! Three years ago she won the Auckland section of the big spelling competition promoted and conducted by the "Radio Record." Last winter, from 1YA, Miss Gardner delivered a series of talks on the romance and history of pottery, during which she went right back to the very beginning of pottery, dealing with the Potter of Egypt, the great historian; the Potter of Greece, the great artist; the Potter of China, the great magician, ending with the modern developments of the craft—truly all very interesting talks. She started on the potter's wheel seven years ago. This was an electric pottery wheel specially designed and built for her. In addition to using

the wheel Miss Gardner does a good deal of hand-modelled work to the order of distinguished people in New Zealand, and even far beyond. She owns her own brick kiln and looks after the firing and everything. "Of course, that often means sitting up continuously for 30 hours if you have something baking," she told a "Radio Record" interviewer. "But it is all most interesting and a very fascinating work." She even has time to take an active interest in the Girl Guides. She was the first captain of the New Lynn Girl Guides.

Tells 3YA Listeners About "Feeding the Family."

VERY tall, fair and blue-eyed—here is a picture of Miss A. R. Powell, of Christchurch, who has been telling women listeners about cooking from 3YA for the last three years. Miss Powell's "Feeding the Family" series has been keenly followed every Friday morning, and this young girl knows her work, being demonstrator for the Municipal Electricity Department in Christchurch.

Miss Powell is a very busy person, for, in addition to her broadcast work, she gives two demonstrations a week at the M.E.D. rooms, and visits many homes to give private lessons on the use of electric stoves.

During her seven years' residence in Christchurch, Miss Powell attended the Girls' High School and later became a student at Otago University, where she studied Home Science and took her degree. Miss Powell is one of a family of three, her sister, Miss Una Powell, having just obtained her M.A. Degree with First-Class Honours in Mathematics at Canterbury College. Miss A. R. Powell leaves New Zealand on April 2 for her first trip abroad, and is very thrilled at the prospect. She is making the trip to England to further her Home Science work, and all listeners will wish this plucky girl lots of success in her new venture.

English Girl Popular With Christchurch Listeners.

ONE of the busiest of women broadcasters in Christchurch is Miss Nellie Lowe, the possessor of a rich contralto voice which has delighted hundreds of listeners. Miss Lowe is an English girl, and from the start of her residence in New Zealand, backed by her English experience, broadcasting has claimed her, and for many years she has been a consistent performer from 3YA. Born in Nottingham, England—which was the home of so many New Zealand men during the war—she was trained under the late Madame Wilson Moulds. Madame Larcombe, of the London Royal Academy of Music, strongly advised Miss Lowe to take up singing as a profession, but, realising the precariousness of this venture, and possessing a good head for business, Miss Lowe decided on the latter. She was a professional singer at the Presbyterian Church in Belgrave Square, Nottingham, and after the death of her mother decided to come to New Zealand. This she has never regretted, and thinks New Zealand is a good place to live in, but some day she hopes to pay a visit to her native land. Miss Lowe started her broadcasting work in Christchurch as the contralto in Mr. A. G. Thompson's Quartette; she is now a member of the Harmonic Society, taking the solos for their Bach Christmas Oratorio, and do-

ing solo work for the Christchurch Royal Musical Society. The Male Voice Choir and Dr. J. G. Bradshaw's recitals also claim her services.

Played a Leading Part in Gilbert and Sullivan

THIS charming young woman will be recognised by many theatregoers as Miss Mary Hotham, heard by many listeners to 1YA quite frequently, and who made such a name for herself in leading roles in J. C. Williamson's Gilbert and Sullivan operas when the company



—Lafayette-Sarony photo.

toured New Zealand three years ago. She has a beautiful mezzo-soprano voice of wide range and can thank radio for first bringing her into the limelight in Australia. Born in England, Miss Hotham, who has been for the past two years and more the wife of a successful young Auckland business man, Mr. Harold Owers, a merchant, came out to Australia with her parents when only seven. She took up singing when quite young and continued her studies at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, winning the coveted Melba Scholarship. While singing over the radio from Melbourne, Mr. E. J. Tait, of J.C.W. fame, heard Miss Hotham and immediately sent for her. One audition was enough, and she was given a leading role—that of Tessa in "The Gondoliers." That was in 1930. Miss Marie Bremner was the other sister in the same piece. Following a long tour of all the principal Australian towns, the G. and S. company came to New Zealand, where she met and fell in love with her husband, greatly to the disgust of Mr. E. J. Tait, who complained when she was married in Melbourne, that as soon as he had found a singer of good appearance she went and got married. After her marriage Mrs. Owers continued with the company, until the firm of J.C.W. had trained a couple of understudies. Then she left and came to Auckland, settling in a charming house at Takapuna near the sea. "I am quite happy to settle in Auckland, although I enjoyed the stage while I was associated with it," she confided to a "Radio Record" representative. Her main hobbies are gardening, and motoring, and her fondest pet is "Sailor," a particularly fine Sealyham, presented as a wedding gift by Dr. and Mrs. Alan Tennent, of Wellington.

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