

Hot Shots

Editorial Notes

Hot Shots

SOME bales of wool in last week's Wellington wool sale were branded "2YA."

IT is believed that "Uncle Scrim," of the Friendly Road, paid an unobtrusive and unexpected visit to 2YA the other evening.

"MODERN methods," remarked one listener when he heard the announcement from 3YA: "He Shall Feed His Flock By Handel."

AN ex-captain, with a fine war record and boasting many medals, is being employed as commissionaire at an Auckland hotel.

MANY American listeners report that 1YA is received better there than any other station in Australia or New Zealand.

THE name of a well-known professional man, victim in a blackmail case, who paid £1100 to a young man, was not divulged in the Auckland Press.

A MAN who was "married" in the Friendly Road (12B) studio last month, was arrested for bigamy in Auckland last Friday. His first wife lives in Te Awamutu.

THE Broadcasting Board's programme schedule (on page 30 to-day) is being studied with interest by broadcasting authorities abroad.

FIVE hundred people lined up in Hereford Street, Christchurch, the other evening in answer to an advertisement asking for 15 people to staff the new Mayfair Theatre.

ALTHOUGH many New Zealand booksellers decided that "Children of the Poor" was not "quite naive," the public demand has been so insistent that most of them have been forced to lay in substantial stocks.

THE Duchess of Kent chose her spring hats by means of a television broadcast between London and Paris, says a news item. In the opinion of a humble husband dangerous broadcasts of this kind should be discouraged.

THERE was a novel five minutes' broadcast on Saturday evening when 2YA hung the microphone outside the studio window as the Institute Band was marching past to the ferry steamer en route to the band contest at Timaru.

Wellington, Friday, February 22, 1935.

"ACT OF VANDALISM"

A CORRESPONDENT complained recently in a Wellington newspaper of the cutting of an opera broadcast from 2YA (actually the whole of the recorded opera was broadcast and whatever cutting there was was carried out in London). But far more serious are the charges levelled by Sir Thomas Beecham against the British Broadcasting Corporation. After listening to the broadcast of a "potted" version of Humperdinck's "Hansel and Gretel," Sir Thomas wrote to the "Daily Telegraph," describing this abridgment—in which the gaps in the music were filled by an announcer's commentary—as an "unprecedented act of vandalism." He also thought that the composer knew better than Mr. Derek McCulloch, the author of the version, and described the whole production as the "most ineffable piece of impudence ever perpetrated."

While one can perhaps sympathise with musical purists of Sir Thomas Beecham's standing, it is well to bear in mind that the question of broadcast opera is a large one, but its solution can only be postponed by the efforts of those persons who, themselves steeped in the minutiae of opera, are unwilling to allow others to approach it by any methods but their own. To enable the widest possible public to enjoy the glorious music of opera seems to us a most worthy aim. As the London "Radio Times" rightly points out "if it is permissible to build a whole concert of individual items from, for instance, Wagner's operas (as is done regularly at the Promenade concerts), why is it vandalism to link them up with narrative?"

MAKING FRIENDS

WHILE this issue of the "Radio Record" sets itself out as a special women's number, it is also worthy of note in that it introduces a permanent increase in size of eight pages, making 60 in all. Two years ago we were making plans for increasing the size of the paper; times were not good, but there was a gleam of light on the horizon and we decided to launch on a bolder policy. To-day the "Radio Record" has a circulation that is envied by weekly journals that have been established five times as long; as 1935 progresses we hope to put into action plans that will not only gratify our army of readers all over New Zealand but bring us many new ones.

We have been interested in the opinions of our critics—and have profited by their advice on more than one occasion. We have also been interested to learn that our readers like the "Radio Record" because it is bright. The word "bright" might be analysed. There have been papers that have been as "bright" as the noonday sun—but their moments of glory have been brief and they have stolen quietly from view. Brightness in a journal is a very desirable thing, but there must be something else—a foundation of solid news and information. The "Radio Record," behind its lightness and its brightness, has a firm structure of carefully compiled news and accurate information.

The paper's chief purpose is to present radio programmes and full details of coming events and interesting happenings in the broadcasting world. But it is essentially a home paper—for wireless is a part of the family fireside—and for this reason it retails other news of the entertainment world; the professional stage, the talkies, repertory, gramophone recordings; there is news, too, for women and comments on modern literature.

A DUNEDIN business man in Auckland, regarded as fair game by mosquitoes, was so badly bitten that he could not leave his hotel for three days.

A TOURIST from a luxury liner recently inquired if the imposing room adjoining the women's rest rooms at the new Auckland railway station was for church services.

CUCUMBERS, eaten skins and all, were devoured at every wayside stopping place by a foreign woman on the Auckland-Wellington Limited last week.

IT is believed that the new trans-Tasman liner being built for the Union Company will introduce "pay as you go" meals. It'll be a cheap crossing if you're a bad sailor!

TWELVE young men in shorts actually swam in Fort Street Lane during last week's deluge in Auckland. A good subject for Ripley's "Believe It or Not" talkie series.

HOW an Auckland bank accountant discovered that a clerk had been embezzling money should make a good story when the case comes before the court shortly.

ANNOUNCER at an Australian station: "And if you are not satisfied with the fit, which is almost impossible, your money will be refunded."

AT a meeting in Dunedin last week it was decided to organise complimentary concerts for Denis Dowling, so that he might further his musical studies abroad.

THE Duchess of Westminster, who arrived in New Zealand last week, said she liked Wellington's "big pink buildings," meaning the new insurance "skyscrapers" near the Bank of New Zealand.

ALTHOUGH a "B" station was anxious to pay \$5 for the privilege of broadcasting the New Zealand swimming championships at Auckland last week-end, 1YA was asked to do the job—for nothing, of course.

ALBERT RUSSELL, of radio "joy germ" fame and originator of community singing in New Zealand, is to be farewelled at a big open air gathering in Carlaw Park, Auckland, on March 12. He is going to Australia to live.