

## CANTERBURY NOTES.

# Wireless Killing Club Football?

Oamaru Football President Expresses Concern—Professor Shelley Plays Two Parts in Remarkable Radio Play—"3YA, You've Had a Busy Day"—Television Two Years Away, Says Visitor.

**T**HAT broadcasting is killing club football was the opinion expressed by Mr. B. Blackmore, president of the Old Boys' Football Club in Oamaru. Although the North Otago Rugby Football Union had taken every opportunity to stimulate interest in the game, the fact could not be disguised that the broadcasting of big games in the larger centres was the real cause for this state of affairs. No objection could be made, however, to the broadcasting of Test matches.

**O**NE of the finest programmes heard for a long while came from 3YA last Wednesday evening, when a one-act dramatic play was presented by Professor James Shelley. In presenting "The Invisible Wound," the professor took two parts—that of the doctor and the patient. "The Invisible Wound" is a radio play by Charles Tazewell adapted from the story by Karoly Kisfauldi, and those taking part besides Professor Shelley were Mrs. Valerie Haslam and Mr. N. W. Harrison.

**T**HE story concerns the case of a man who some months before had strangled his wife in a fit of jealousy. A drop of her blood had smeared his hand, and although no wound or mark was visible he had persuaded the doctor to perform a slight operation. This was not successful and during a second visit to the doctor he reveals the truth, but the doctor persuades him to return home with a promise of visiting him next morning. However, upon the patient's return to his home, he commits suicide. Professor Shelley gave a splendid portrayal of the doctor and the patient—an easy task—and Mrs. Haslam was very good in the part of the patient's sister; Mr. N. H. Harrison took the part of the doctor's confidential man. If Professor Shelley could be persuaded to give a second performance of "The Invisible Wound," listeners would appreciate it and look forward to the performance with even greater interest.

**C**HURCHURCH had a busy day last Saturday, so far as broadcasting was concerned. 3YA put "over the air" a running commentary on each racing event at New Brighton, a summary of racing from other places, and the results of the Canterbury Amateur Athletic championship events at Lancaster Park, besides the progress reports of the Plunket Shield match between Otago and Canterbury, and occasional accounts of weather conditions.

**O**PPOSING the recently-expressed view of a British Broadcasting Commission that television would be an established fact, commercially, in one year, Mr. W. T. Cranmer export manager of the Philco Radio and Television Corporation of Philadelphia, who

is visiting Christchurch, classed that opinion as being rather optimistic, and said that television would not be in commercial use in under two years.

**T**HERE are many factors that will have to be developed outside the receiver's themselves, and the limitations of facilities for broadcasting will probably be the greatest problem to overcome before television becomes commercial. The radius of broadcasting television will probably not exceed 15 to 20 miles for a very long time—it may never exceed it. A huge number of stations are required to blanket a whole country. The reason for the limited radius is not one of power; a high frequency is necessary, and television requires that listeners, for the best reception, be in a direct line with the transmitters—due to the fact that Columbus established the fact that the world is round.

**F**OR the last five years listeners have been treated to some very interesting book reviews every month from 3YA by Mr. E. E. Wiltshire—and a very bright and sound microphone voice does this speaker possess. His talks are most interesting, and to "put over" six or eight books in one session means that he must read a much larger number of books. A book often quite readable, and in many respects good is discarded when half done because of some characteristic that would probably offend listeners.

**M**R. WILTSHIRE endeavours to confine his remarks to current novels, this type of literature being the most popular with the reading public, but he endeavours to cater for all tastes in fiction. Mr. Wiltshire is an Englishman and one of the partners in the large jewellery firm of Petersens', Limited, of Christchurch, but from an early age has been keenly interested in books and flowers. Soon after arrival in Christchurch he joined the committee of the Linwood Public Library, a library that has become one of the most important in Christchurch, and can boast of a membership of about 1800. Mr. Wiltshire is now the vice-president and a life-member. He is a vice-president also of the Canterbury Horticultural Society, and for the last 10 years has been one of the exhibitors and judges for that body. Two of Mr. Wiltshire's seedling gladioli have been named by

two exalted personages, Lady Alice Fergusson naming one and the Duke of Gloucester the other.

**N**INE of Beethoven's symphonies are to be performed from 3YA in conjunction with the introduction of the new programme plan this month. The first of these symphonies will be heard on Wednesday, March 6, when Symphony No. 1 in C major will be heard. The same evening will mark the first appearance in Christchurch of the celebrated tenor, Lionello Cecil.

**T**HE staff of 3YA was kept busy during the Test cricket match between the English touring team and New Zealand women's cricket team played in Christchurch. The service given by the progress reports kept listeners in touch with the game and could not have been better had the broadcast been given from the ground. Listeners certainly appreciated the bright idea of being able to hear Miss H. E. Green and Miss H. E. Archdale, the manager and captain of the English team respectively, when they were invited to talk from 3YA in the evening of the first day's Test play. Miss Green chose "The Work of Sports Mistresses in England" as her subject. Miss Archdale, as manager of the team, speaking on the cricket tour of Australia and New Zealand. These two girls are cultured Englishwomen, and their talks were full of incident. Miss Green concluding her remarks by saying that some of the English girls would probably be back in New Zealand, as they looked forward to being appointed to New Zealand schools as sports mistresses.

**T**HIS year's course of public lectures in the appreciation of music will be started by Dr. J. C. Bradshaw at Canterbury College at the beginning of March. The attendance and interest show steady increase, the course consisting of about 26 lectures. The lectures are well illustrated by vocal and instrumental compositions of every period, from the fifteenth century to the music of modern times. Many great masterpieces never previously performed in this country are heard and discussed, and for this purpose an electrical gramophone and a large collection of fine records are used.

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