

Hot Shots

Editorial Notes

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NO, we do NOT know what kind of an animile a "broadcat" is!

CHRISTCHURCH is expecting a record poll next month when the municipal elections take place.

NEW ZEALAND chain stores reported a phenomenal sale of hot water bottles at Easter.

NEW YORK'S Mayor, himself an Italian, has issued a decree clearing the streets of Italians and their hurdy-gurdies.

SCHOOLS which allow only Rugby football to be played will soon be telling their pupils not to listen to the dance sessions.

IF the Takapuna Borough Council is returned intact we must see what can be done about broadcasting their meetings on "variety" nights.

FOLLOWING the success of "One Night of Love," Grace Moore's first talkie, "A Lady's Morals," made about four years ago, is being reissued.

WHAT happens to old gramophone records? Someone suggests that they're given away to broadcasting studios for use in the break-fast sessions.

SALES TAX yields one-third more than anticipated. Really, Mr Public, you must not buy so many things, going and upsetting all the best calculations!

INDIAN mothers are reported to be giving their babies opium to keep them quiet. Arsenic is what we feel like using sometimes on that infant in the next flat.

WELLINGTON'S building boom continues. At least four eight-storied buildings will shortly be under construction, one of them to cost more than a quarter of a million.

THE Dunedin E.P. and L. Department is busy clearing up the power interference at Tomahawk. The method employed might be a lead to other electric departments whose power lines cause trouble for listeners.

OVERHEARD: "The Locarno Pact, my boy, is one of those agreements which it costs several countries about £10,000 each to make, and the thing's forgotten until it is mentioned at another conference a few years later."

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STATE OPERA COMPANY

MENTION was made recently in these notes of the proposal to establish a permanent grand opera company to make stage and radio appearances in Australia and New Zealand. The scheme has been enthusiastically seized upon in several quarters, the following editorial being reprinted from "The Star" (Melbourne):

the State Governments of the Commonwealth should acquire Fullers' Grand Opera Company, formed for the Melbourne Centenary, and now performing in Australia. Since the most expensive period, that of promotion, preparation and production has passed, financed by private enterprise, only a small subsidy would be needed to establish it permanently to provide an annual season of eight months, distributed between the capital cities and the country centres of the Commonwealth, and tours of New Zealand.

The subsidy could be contributed by the various States and the Dominion, or else, as is most probable, by the broadcasting control bodies. Radio rights would amount to thousands of pounds, and if broadcasting were made a regular feature of the company's programme, it would be easily a self-supporting, if not a highly profitable, proposition. Musical culture would receive a wonderful stimulus in these countries, providing an opportunity long denied to the rising Melbas, Australs, Dawsons and Brownlees. We have now the opportunity to establish a brilliant new cultural era. Have we the courage to seize it?

AUSTRALIAN B STATIONS

THE fact that the Australian broadcasting service is modelled partly on the British system—the controlling of the national stations by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation—and partly on the American—the operation of commercial stations—is commented upon in the latest issue of "Wireless Weekly" (Sydney). Australia has about 60 B class stations, ranging from 50 to 1000 watts in power, and with broadcasting time of from a few hours to 24 hours a day. These stations rely on advertising for their income; thus the Australian system is partly English, inasmuch as the listeners pay license fees, and partly American in that the costs of running the B stations are met by advertising. "Wireless Weekly" goes on to say: "It is logical to expect from our national stations essential services and programmes representative of the best entertainment the world has to offer, and from our advertising stations, stunts, novelties and sustaining programmes: in short, it would be good policy if the A stations would come on the air only when they had something worth while, while B stations kept on the air full of light stuff for casual listeners. Thus, the A stations could save money on 'fill-up' sessions, spend more on evening programmes, get more artists from other countries, and establish a much-needed symphony orchestra."

"At the same time, it would be necessary to increase the power, electrical and otherwise, of the B stations. When the wavelength changes become operative in a few months' time, there will remain no reason why B stations should not have at least five kilowatts in the aerial. American stations have fifty, and Australia cannot expect to get the best results from the American system unless its B stations are given the coverage which makes advertising worth while. Radio policy should not antagonise A and B stations, but get the best out of each."

WHO is going to be the first dealer to sell a "Jubilee" radio set?

THE opening of the new State Theatre, Christchurch, has been delayed by a month.

MR. J. A. LEE, M.P. for Grey Lynn, has openly acknowledged authorship of "Children of the Poor."

NOW that Easter is over, we can forget horse-flesh and return to our muttons—a more profitable animal.

DUNEDIN'S decrease last year in fire loss seems to indicate that times are getting better.

WELLINGTON advertisement heading: "Scrap Copper." Now, isn't that inciting to riotous behaviour or something?

NOT for long now will the Broadcasting Board have the monopoly of the "air" with the new Dominion services in immediate prospect.

IT has been suggested that a portion of Elmwood Park, Christchurch, might be renamed Jubilee Park in honour of the King's Jubilee.

THE noise of rivet-driving on the framework of the new railway station awakens Wellingtonians at an early hour these mornings.

HEARD in a Dunedin club the other night: "Well, Fred, I hope you'll be happy when you're married." "I ought to be; I came through the war all right."

A LISTENER'S license has been taken out at the North-East Valley School, Dunedin, where an installation has just been made for the benefit of the students.

RUMOUR now has it that Lord Beaverbrook is to start two daily papers in Auckland. Lord Nuffield's name is being associated with another proposed New Zealand newspaper venture.

A YOUNG bank clerk, with a revolver in a holster, went into a Wellington store for some cigarettes. When the assistant saw the holster he dropped behind the counter.

HERE'S hoping that while our legislative leaders are in England they will learn from Mr. Neville Chamberlain how to restore cuts. That would be the most satisfying reply to those who complain of expensive trips.