

Hot Shots

Editorial Notes

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DUNEDIN'S new 4YA will be on the air in about five months' time.

THE Christchurch municipal elections cost the city something like £3000.

THE Wellington Tail-Waggers' Club is in financial difficulties and may be forced to close.

CHRISTCHURCH is to have two new picture theatres this month. The Avon opens this week, and the State on May 31.

SAID an advertisement in a Christchurch paper last week: "Unwilling, unreliable, untidy youth, 19, wants a position. Try me."

BROADCASTING of the municipal election results from 3YA did not finish until after 2 a.m. on Thursday morning.

CLEM DAWE and his revue company, now in Auckland, have been playing in New Zealand for a year. This constitutes something of a record for a visiting company.

AUCKLAND'S new mayor, a Citizens' representative, finds himself at the head of a Labour council, while Christchurch's Labour mayor now heads a Citizen's council.

SIR CHARLES KINGSFORD SMITH wanted £150 from each of two North Island men who wanted to cross the Tasman in the Southern Cross. They chose to travel by the Monowai.

THE Jubilee parade in Dunedin, owing to the wet ground, had to be split into three sections. The 4YA announcer was faced with the task of describing all three practically simultaneously.

MARIE NEY, former Wellington girl, played a big part in the morality play, "Everyman," in London at Easter. Her first managerial venture, "Mrs. Nobby Clark," was a "flop."

"LEE FORE BRACE" (Mr. Forbes Eadie) was a disappointed man last week. After being informed that he had won his seat on the Harbour Board, he awoke the next morning to find that a mistake had been made.

CHRISTCHURCH'S Mayor (Mr. D. G. Sullivan, M.P.) told a reporter that he took strong exception to some of the electioneering remarks of two successful Citizens' candidates in the municipal elections—Hon. W. Hayward and Dr. A. C. Sandston.

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A NATIONAL THEATRE?

INTEREST has been revived in Wellington in a scheme for the establishment of a central theatre to be used by musical and repertory societies, and we publish today an article covering the essentials of the proposal. There is no gainsaying the fact that there is a crying need in New Zealand for greater co-operation between cultural bodies, and the founding of just such a theatre as the one suggested might lead to the eventual establishment of a National Theatre in the Dominion.

At the present time Christchurch is practically the only city in New Zealand which has, in the Radiant Hall, a theatre suitable for repertory productions of music recitals of the less ambitious type. Auckland, with a population nearing a quarter of a million, has recently been forced to abandon a scheme involving the sum of £29,000 for the erection of a "little theatre," while Wellington has little beyond the concert chamber of the Town Hall to offer the devotees of drama and music. Here, however, is an excellent opportunity for the Capital City to give a lead in establishing a theatre which would be available, not only for New Zealand performers, but for visiting artists and small professional companies.

THE JUBILEE SPIRIT

BRITISH broadcasting has, this week, passed through one of the most important periods in its career, and praise must go to the close of Jubilee Week, to the engineers and programme organisers who brought the sound of his Majesty's voice—the voice of a monarch who has brought home to him the love and devotion of a mighty Empire—into a million homes, and who made all the enthusiasm and pagantry of London a real and living thing to the men and women of Australia and New Zealand, Canada and India, South Africa and the East.

In the past week, when cold and bitter weather has prevented the Dominion from fully celebrating the Silver Jubilee, wireless has provided the true jubilee spirit, keeping our people in touch with a world which has, of one accord, paid homage to a king who, to quote a tribute from Germany, is "a gentleman, and the living symbol of British national sense and virtues."

BROADCASTING MUZZLED

ACCORDING to Mr. Bruce Bliven, president and editor of the American "New Republic," about one-ninth—230,000,000—of the world's population is living under the degree of broadcasting and newspaper freedom that exist in Great Britain and the United States, or, in other words, in a situation where most of the restrictions applied come not from the Government, but from other sources.

Radio and motion pictures have come to occupy a place to-day where they must be classed with newspapers as instruments of greatest importance for influencing public opinion. Dictators and would-be dictators are turning more and more to broadcasting as their chief aid in carrying forward their political programmes. Hitler is an outstanding example of a leader who regards the political control of broadcasting as all-important—and there are many more.

At the present time two-thirds of the world's population of 1,400,000,000 is living under an absolute and rigid censorship. Two-ninths of the people of the world, about 460,000,000 live in countries where there is a limited and fluctuating degree of freedom. The remaining one-ninth enjoys the freedom known by people of Great Britain and the United States. Mr. Bliven reported that he had spent a great deal of time investigating the charges that the Roosevelt Administration was trying to muzzle the press and found that they had little or no foundation.

MORE than a million votes had to be counted in the Auckland municipal elections.

CONCRETING is practically finished on the nine floors of the new Dunedin post office.

SEVENTEEN thousand Dunedin people have already seen New Zealand's first talkie, "Down on the Farm."

SEEN in Albert Park, Auckland, last Friday: Two women, both wearing expensive fur coats, fighting.

A HAWKE'S BAY station-owner was the first to book a through passage from Australia to England on an Imperial Airways' aeroplane.

WELLINGTON is making various arrangements for entertaining the Japanese naval men who arrive this week.

THE English pianist, E. Penn, plays from 1YA on Wednesday. His principal piece is Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata."

IAN DONNELLY, associate editor of the Christchurch "Sun," and author of a book recently published by J. M. Dent, returned from Europe this week.

"MAORILANDER," of 12M (Mrs. M. A. Dreaver, J.P.) polled more votes than any other candidate in the Auckland municipal elections. Her total was 17,013. She is now a member of the Hospital Board.

THE following extracts are culled from an interview given to the "Isle of Man Examiner" by an Englishman who visited New Zealand recently:—

New Zealanders seem to have eliminated the words "sir," "madam," "please," and "thank you" from the language.

The country is over-run with insect pests, including house beetles, mosquitoes, stinging fleas and big caterpillars.

The New Zealand girls I met had thick, coarse, yellow, leathery skins, wrinkled and lined prematurely through screwing up the eyes to minimise the effects of sun-glare.

Italians and Chinamen do the real work in the country. They build the houses and make the roads.

You are told on arriving in New Zealand that if you attempt to tip any worker you will be "gratuitously insulting" him.

The newspapers contain notices of employment with "No English need apply."