

"Sunday Afternoon in Spain"



Wins First Theme Programme Prize

Capturing Atmosphere Of Bull Ring

SOME exceptionally bright ideas—and some equally futile and impossible ones—came to hand for the theme programme competition conducted by the "Radio Record." Entrants were asked to submit, in approximately 250 words, an outline for a theme programme, consisting of speech and music, and suitable for presentation over the air. All sorts of programmes came to hand and, after due consideration, it has been decided to award this week's prize to Mr. A. A. Grundy, Riccarton, Christchurch, for his programme, "A Sunday Afternoon in Spain." Mr. Grundy describes it in his own words:

This is intended to be a description of a bull fight in Spain, interspersed with dialogue and appropriate Spanish music wrapped round a Sunday afternoon scene in any town or city in Spain. The description should include, scenes in cafes among the pueblo preparatory to the corrida. The programme should open with the "Bullfighters' March" or the "Toreador Song," followed up by music in cafes—a guitar solo, a tango, a castanet player, a Spanish singer and dancer (such as Conchita Supervia), and, perhaps, a waltz ("Epanita"), which typifies life in sunny Spain.

The narrator need not necessarily be very conversant with the Castillian language, but a Spanish-speaking person could make the programme much more realistic. Follow up with a description of the crowds heading towards the arena and the actual construction of the bull ring.

Once inside, the narrator can explain the vista be-

fore him. Music can be played in the background to make the scenes more effective. "La Corrida" is recorded and would assist materially in conveying a good impression on the listeners, followed by describing the colourful procession of toreros, banderilleros, monosabios and mules. The reaction of the spectators should be explained, and then a complete detailed story of the fight in progress, to the end of the kill.

The records necessary for the programme have been heard over the air from the national stations, viz.: Conchita Supervia's "Pano," "Morino," "Asturiana," "La Jota," "Nana"; the Castillians "Juanita," the Grenadier Guards Band, "Bullfighters' March"; waltz "Espanita" and "La Mandolinata"; la Argentina's castanet solos "Toreador Song" and "Jota Valencia" (Granados).

Other programmes are worthy of comment. A Wellington correspondent who signed himself "Here's Hoping," submitted a pro-

gramme entitled "A Trip with the All Blacks." It opened with the departure of the ship from New Zealand, the Maori farewell song floating out over the water. The trip across the Pacific was suggested in words and appropriate music, and the arrival in England, with music by military bands, and so on. Here would be interpolated short descriptions of places of interest, such as New Zealand House, the B.B.C. and Westminster Abbey. And then the return to New Zealand with a band playing "Here the Conquering Heroes Come." Perhaps the last tune is a trifle optimistic!

The main difficulty with this programme would be the conveying to the listener of the atmosphere of the tour in the one hour allowed for the broadcast. The idea, however, has distinct possibilities.

Another praiseworthy programme was submitted by Mrs. J. H. Scully, Moeraki, Otago. It dealt with the garden, the recorded numbers being linked together with charming little sentences conveying the impression of a stroll in an (Continued on page 57.)



Enter Now for Next Week's Prize

It is intended to award a weekly prize during the next month for the best theme programme sent in. Entries are now being received for next week's competition, so submit your programme—in approximately 250 words—right away. Read the prize-winning entry on this page and gain some idea of the sort of thing we mean. Address to:

The Editor,
"N.Z. Radio Record,"
G.P.O. Box 1680,
Wellington.

Mark envelope "Theme Programme."