

Hot Shots

Editorial Notes

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A QUEEN Carnival in Christchurch hopes to raise £20,000 for the relief of distress.

AS a result of appeals during the children's hour, 3YA has raised a considerable amount of money for charity.

THE company that made the Dunedin talkie, "Down on the Farm," is busy on a second picture in Southland.

AFTER making three attempts at the word "unalterable," a Dunedin announcer decided to use another.

THE building of a cathedral is suggested as the Anglican Church's way of marking Wellington's centenary in 1940.

THERE is much comment on the decision of the Auckland Professional Board's ban on smoking by women students.

EVERY seat—10,000 at a guinea each—is booked for Mennuhin's concert in the Albert Hall, London, on December 1 next.

THERE is more golf played in New Zealand than in any other country I know," said Gene Saracen on his return to America.

MENUHIN'S concert platform attire—silk shirt and double-breasted coat—occasioned some comment during his Wellington concerts.

A CHRISTCHURCH firm has advertised for a "Representative, calling on hotels through the North Island." That ought to be easy.

"OLD gangster pictures and overdone love dramas are almost things of the past," said a visiting film authority in Auckland last week.

A MARBLE bust of Nurse Maude will now be placed on public exhibition in Christchurch. It was executed some years ago, but Nurse Maude refused to allow it to be exhibited.

THE Rev. H. K. Archdall, whose resignation from the head-mastership of King's College, Auckland, caused much speculation, left by the Monterey last week for Sydney.

A WELLINGTON religious body's poster outside the mission hall:

Community Singing and Snappy Sermon.
Terrific Earthquake Prophesied.

Will Wellington Fall In 1935?
Free! Everybody Welcome!

Wellington, July 19, 1935.

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LOUD-SPEAKER NUISANCE

IN the short space of 150 yards in Willis Street, Wellington, the other Wednesday, five loud-speakers were pouring into the ears of passers-by the efforts of community singers in the Town Hall. While community singing may be an excellent tonic for the people who are there, and a broadcast of it a cheerful thing for country and suburban listeners, it is definitely not intended for a busy city street. Quite apart from the fact that the ordinary noises of the city are wearying enough, one should remember that listening should be an act as intentional and deliberate as broadcasting itself.

The loudspeaker nuisance is not confined to city streets. Everyone has run across the man who makes the neighbourhood hideous with noises from his wireless set—a wretch who abuses the privilege of broadcast reception. Neither the Broadcasting Board nor the Post and Telegraph Department has any power to protect the individual against this form of nuisance; only the local authority can do so. If an appeal to neighbourly consideration does not succeed, a combination of three householders appealing to the local authority ought to be able to put things right.

LISTENERS' HABITS

WITH the development of wireless sets possessed of a range and selectivity accessible to only a very few a year or two ago, have listeners' habits changed? Ten years ago the crystal set was the standby of millions of listeners the world over; and all the crystal set did was to receive the signals from the nearest broadcasting station. There was, too, a large band of enthusiastic constructors, who made new sets every week and used them until they had "logged" a certain number of stations. The point about these enthusiasts, however, is that they were not real listeners. As soon as they had got one wavelength they were off in search of another; all they wished to prove was that their sets were capable of getting so many stations. The contents of the programmes broadcast were of no interest to them. To-day there is still a large—and growing—group of constructional enthusiasts, but the main body of listeners possess their sets for the chief purpose of listening. Distance lends less enchantment than a good programme. If 2YA is transmitting a better programme than KFI, then the indicator on the set is trained on the Wellington station. There is no longer much fun or novelty about listening to a programme from Russia consisting of a torrent of foreign propaganda and uninteresting music when the local stations are featuring Gladys Moncrieff and some new recordings.

IN SOUTH AFRICA

WE publish to-day an article on broadcasting in South Africa—one of the few countries of the Empire where broadcasting is still a commercial enterprise. The Director-General of the British Broadcasting Corporation (Sir John Reith) visited South Africa last year at the invitation of the Prime Minister to advise the Union Government on broadcasting policies and development. Sir John dismisses as a fallacy the idea that it is only personal gain that will prompt people to give efficient service. He says: "There are not wanting those to whom the motive of high national service can operate at least as powerfully." In support of this argument is the fact that in every considerable country in the world to-day, with the exception of the United States, broadcasting is either State-owned or State-controlled. And American broadcasting, although perhaps efficient and certainly cheap—there are no license fees—is a poor example.

"NO Bookmakers"—Wellington headline. Oh, yeah?

NURSE MAUDE'S body lay in state in the Christchurch Cathedral on Saturday and Sunday.

"STALL DE BOOZIO" read a notice above one of the stalls at Wellington's Plunket Ball last Friday night.

CHAPLIN'S much-discussed film—as yet unnamed—is now finished, but will not be released for some months.

AUCKLAND has had to ration its oyster supplies. Stout is still plentiful this season, however.

NELSON is to have another picture theatre. It will be ready for opening on Christmas Eve.

AN Auckland drapery firm celebrated its jubilee last week by giving every member of its staff a gift of money and three days' holiday.

CAPTAIN HEBER PERCY, the Governor's aide-de-camp, was involved in a collision with a taxi while returning from a ball in Auckland.

SOMEONE else—this time a film man—has said that television is still a long way off. We are beginning to believe it is.

BY midday last Thursday every one of the Majestic's 2300 seats had been booked for the Broadcasting Board's charity concert in Wellington.

"MUST see this picture, 'The Wife of Epstein,' when it comes," said a Wellington business man the other day. He meant "The Bride of Frankenstein."

"ORANGE" trees (camellia bushes with balls of orange crepe paper attached) formed the colourful decorations for Wellington's Plunket Ball last week.

A DECISION to put all Scheme 5 men off borough works was made last week by the Takapuna Borough Council. The men will be placed on sustenance.

A SOUTH AMERICAN ranch-holder told an Auckland paper last week that our sheep were the best in the world, but our beef was far behind South American.

A RADIO talk from London the other evening told of the protracted journey of the Walkato from London to New Zealand in 1899, when the vessel lost her propeller-shaft and drifted for 102 days.