

Hot Shots

Editorial Notes

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DUNEDIN still has its pet seal. It recently tried to climb aboard a tram.

WILL ROGERS'S death and career were given nearly six pages in New York's most important paper.

AN Imperial Army officer living in Wellington has received notice to report to Whitehall as soon as possible.

ONE hundred and fifteen thousand New Zealanders have come of age since the last general election.

THE stand-by power plant at the new 4YA worked well when it was tried out last week.

THE scenery to be used in Invercargill's amateur performance of "The New Moon" was used in the original Sydney production.

THE principal of a Christchurch girls' school said last week that she was tired of the Garbo imitators among schoolgirls to-day.

SIX empty whisky bottles were left standing on the footpath outside the home of an important Wellington bank official recently.

THE cruiser Leopard in the film "Brown on Resolution" is really the H.M.S. Leander, to be stationed in New Zealand waters next year.

A STORY of the early struggles of the Rt. Hon. G. W. Forbes is told in an English paper. It is illustrated with pictures of our Prime Minister and his wife.

THE story is told in Wellington of a certain fire brigade that refused to answer a call because it had had "so many false alarms lately." The house in this instance was burned to the ground.

RAYMOND BEATTY and Heather Kinnaird, radio honeymooners, took a trip round Central Otago last week in a plane. They saw as much in a day as the ordinary traveller sees in a week.

FOLLOWING a dance in Wellington which was attended by Lord and Lady Galway and their suite, this conversation was overheard between two girls on a bus bound for the Hutt:

One: "And guess what! Sir — asked me for a dance!"
The Other: "Gee! Who gave yer a 'knock-down' to 'im?"

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134 WERE INTERESTED

A SMALL item buried away in the annual report of the Government Printing and Stationery Department, presented to Parliament last week, said: The number printed of each issue of Hansard, for the session 1934-35 was 7000, THE NUMBER OF SUBSCRIBERS 134.

That's the point—the big reason why Parliament should not be put on the air. Out of probably half-a-million electors in this country not more than 134 were interested enough to read of the full activities of Parliament! And yet there are men in the House who maintain that the public has a "right" to hear what is going on in Parliament. If it can be regarded as a "right," it would certainly seem that it is not one that the electors want to exercise. A woman candidate said the other day, "People have said to me that women are not wanted in Parliament. Why, Parliament's half full of old women!" If this be the case it is quite certain that listeners do not want broadcasts of old wives' tales and wearisome back-biting.

"TOURISTS' HOUR"

VERY soon now this corner of the South Seas will become the summer playground of wealthy Americans and well-known Englishmen seeking rest and new sights in a part of the world that is just coming into its own as a tourist resort. These tourists will represent many interests—art, music, the professions, the stage, the army—and each will be entertaining in his own way. But the stories that each one will have to tell will be confined to the few people with which he comes in contact—and the rank and file of New Zealand will know him only by a small note in the personal columns of the daily newspapers.

Why not overcome this—and, at the same time provide New Zealand listeners with an engrossing new radio feature—by instituting a "Tourists' Hour" on the air? As each boat comes in a representative of the Broadcasting Board could scan the list of passengers, picking out a few of the more famous. These could then be approached with the suggestion that they give a few minutes' talk over the air. For instance recent tourists provided such personalities as Lady Louis Mountbatten, the Duchess of Westminster, Mrs. Winston Churchill, Cole Porter, the world-famous American composer, Moss Hart, Broadway dramatist, Oskar Denes, the Hungarian stage star, Barbara Hutton, the Woolworth heiress, George Bernard Shaw, Sir Phillip Game, Earl Beauchamp Al Seward, famous Hollywood scenario writer, to mention just a few.

Advance reports indicate that this summer New Zealand will be visited by an even more imposing list of world personalities—what fun it would be to have them up at the microphone!

DECREASING ADVERTISING

CONTRARY to popular belief, all American broadcast programmes are not sponsored by advertisers. The two large organisations which control the majority of stations in the United States—the National Broadcasting Company and the Columbia Broadcasting System—are reserving increasing space of non-commercial programmes while, at the same time, the amount of advertising in a sponsored programme is being decreased. At the present time there is not a vast amount of money available for these non-commercial programmes, nor are they always at the most popular hours of the day, but the tendency is in the direction of strengthening and improving them. At the same time there is to be stricter censorship of the type of article to be advertised over the air. The new policy excludes all those aspects of personal hygiene which are responsible for so many dramatic and heart-rending dialogues over the American air and in American magazines. It is recognised that what may be endurable in print is considerably less so when spoken over the air to mixed groups in private homes.

"LION BITES ACTOR," says news heading. Now if an actor bit a lion!

BIG changes, with increased capital and production, are likely to take place in British film circles soon.

MYSTERY trains, popular in New Zealand for three years, have just been started in America.

SEEM to have heard somewhere that some All Black footballers lost a match recently.

THE Queen Carnival Ball, to be the big feature of Christchurch's Metropolitan Queen Carnival, has been abandoned.

A FILM was removed recently from the programme of a Wellington theatre at the request of the Friends of the Soviet Union.

SOME Dunedin citizens still believe that the 4YA artists will have to go to Highcliff when the new station opens.

FOLLOWING the big testimonial concert given in Auckland a week or so ago for Miss Nellie Bramley, the well-known actress was handed a cheque for £106.

THE children of the Dunedin unemployed will benefit to the extent of £130 as a result of the Broadcasting Board's last charity concert.

THE only native-born Abyssinian in New Zealand is nightwatchman for the Devonport Ferry Company. He hasn't seen his native land since his early youth, but is still a staunch patriot.

THE Prime Minister pointed out last week that Parliament would have to meet to pass special legislation before New Zealand could be at war with anybody. Small comfort!

TO the layman it would seem that the new transmitter for 4YA is a completed job, as all the panels are now in place; but actually, about two months' work has to be done before the station can be tested.

MRS. KNOX GILMER, Parliamentary candidate for Wellington North, at a meeting the other night: "I've been told that New Zealand doesn't want petticoats in Parliament. Fancy any man thinking a woman wears petticoats to-day!"