

THIS WEEK'S SIGNED ARTICLE.

We Want More Than Recipes Over The Air . . . Says Mrs. Knox Gilmer

AND what are women going to do about it? That line should really be at the finish of my article, but its importance demands that it be written early. What are women

going to do about what, you ask? About broadcasting. Here is an essentially home service . . . the greatest fire-side service the world has ever known . . . and women, whose place is supposed to be in the home, are being left out in the cold.

About half New Zealand's population is women, and, by virtue of the fact that their work lies principally at home, they probably listen to radio fare more frequently than men do. And yet the quaint notion persists that woman's mentality doesn't rise above recipes and how to plan a winter wardrobe. Why can't we have something about national affairs over the air in the mornings—how new legislation will affect women, the work of women in other countries, women's influence on art and politics and letters?

I'm not suggesting that the recipes and the talks on the right way to make a tennis frock should be dropped, but I am appealing for recognition of woman's capability to listen intelligently to the deeper and fuller things of life.

AOTSATS

CHRISTCHURCH season of Titania's Palace netted more than £800.

"EVERY time he hits he misses."—Boxing announcer from Auckland one evening last week.

PONSONBY is to have a new church and a new hotel, replacing premises more than 60 years old.

THE supervisor of talks for the Broadcasting Board, Mr. Alan Mulgan, spent last week in Auckland.

FILM which ran good seasons in both Auckland and Wellington, "Diamond Jim," had very poor reception in Dunedin.

LAST Thursday night two silvery aeroplanes from the Hobsonville Air Base were illuminated in the dark sky by searchlights.

DUNEDIN'S scarlet-fever hospital is packed with the local police force, the "cops" succumbing rapidly. As yet no decrease in the number of arrests has been reported.

Introducing . . .

MRS. KNOX GILMER, a Wellington citizen who is well known for her good work in the city and for her interest in the preservation of native bush and the furthering of New Zealand horticulture. Mrs. Gilmer has spoken over the air on a number of occasions, and it is probable that the listening public will hear her again shortly in a talk bearing on Arbor Day. Mrs. Gilmer's garden at her country home in the Hutt Valley was recently awarded the Bledisloe Trophy.



gardening, and it isn't until the evening, when the meal is cleared away and the family settles down by the fire, that the woman of the house can really enjoy the radio. And then, her own sex is so lamentably represented on the programmes—I'm talking now of the portion in which national views are aired and ideas exchanged—that she has reason to feel that she is a mere automaton, existing for the purpose of tidying a house, preparing meals and keeping her children clothed and in good health.

There was an excellent series of talks some time ago on famous women, talks given by New Zealand women on some of the more famous figures in history. Perhaps this list could be extended—a dozen names spring to mind as I write. The Dominion has no lack of broadcasting talent among its women, and it's high time that some of this talent was given an airing.

And what of the announcers? I only know of one in this country—Grace Green, at Station 3ZM, Christchurch. When speaking to the girls of the Wellington College just before Christmas I mentioned broadcast announcing as a future career for women.

in pronunciation and enunciation our girls could become excellent radio announcers—and rather better, I should hope, than some of the men we hear on the air. Take as an example Hilda Morse, the Auckland girl who announces from 2UW, the big Sydney station. Her announcing is a joy to hear—natural, spontaneous and happy—and her mail is measured in thousands of letters a week. And in Germany there is a woman announcer who is acknowledged throughout Europe as one of the finest in the world.

Broadcasting belongs to the home—and women must play a larger part in it. Let us get rid of some of the ludicrous formality and stiffness that surrounds a great deal of the service and make broadcasting a happy and useful member of the family circle.

Next week's article has been written by the Hon. Miles Phillimore, young Cambridge man who spent 18 months in New Zealand, devoting most of his time to the furthering of the Oxford Group movement.

AOTSATS

MEMBERSHIP of Big Brother Bill's Bird Club, in Dunedin, is increasing appreciably.

SEVERAL citizens are making an effort to have the Dunedin native bush preserved.

DIESEL buses are to replace New Zealand's first trams, which have run at Highgate, Dunedin, for a considerable number of years.

DUNEDIN Little Theatre, celebrating its first birthday, claimed to be the most progressive amateur theatrical society in the Dominion.

THE French sloop, Savorgnan de Brazza, in Auckland last week, carries a fine seaplane which was not flown while the ship was in the northern port.

SAID one of two hilarious men in an Auckland restaurant, after the Queen Mary's departure and the result of the Derby had been flashed by radio, "The Queen Mary's rounding Tottenham Corner with the grey colt on her weather bow!"