

rain or shine, there he is ready to give the news of the day. I have known Mr. Hayes for more than four years, and he is a most likeable person—deservedly popular.

There is a growing popularity here for commentators on the air. They are usually men, two of the best-known being Edwin C. Hall and Alexander Woolcott. These men, with a natural gift of story-telling, weave magic pictures with words—and, providing they have pleasant speaking voices, they are eagerly awaited each broadcast. Writing of voices, I find that ever so many people do not care for women's voices on the air, saying that they are either too studied, or too affected, or too high pitched, or too something. So it is rather a feather in her cap for a woman to be popular as a speaker over the air.

A comedy team which had popularity on the air for something like six years was the Honorable Archie and Watanabe. I understand they send records to Australia and New Zealand. They only recently stopped broadcasting together, and now Watanabe is appearing in a series on another station, and he is, of course, the star. The part of the Honorable Archie was played by Reginald Sharland, the Englishman, who was known in New Zealand when he played with the J. C. Williamson Company in "Hit the Deck" and "The Girl Friend." Watanabe is played by Eddie Holden, an American who learned not only the pidgin English, but the psychology of the Japanese from a Japanese school friend.

I SHALL never forget the perfectly screaming act these two did for me on the programme I sent as "Calif-

ornia's Farewell" to Admiral Byrd. They had the entire studio in such fits of laughter that I held my breath for fear those titters would be heard through that microphone.

This year the air is cluttered up with political broadcasts because of the nearness of the next Presidential election. The station is paid for the time on the air by the political party, and the announcer is always certain to announce very carefully that the station does not take any sides in the issue, and is not a party to the broadcast. Sometimes these programmes become a veritable seething battleground.

Writing of politics. There is only one person in the United States for whom the air waves are cleared at any time—and that is the President. He can broadcast almost whenever he wishes. President Roosevelt has a particularly pleasant radio voice and manner, and his charming personality seems to come right through the microphone. He almost always starts his broadcast with the words "My Friends," and he immediately wins friends everywhere.

Of the other broadcasts which I cannot go into at length in this article, we have religious programmes, the country church of Hollywood having quite a following; the amateur programmes, of which I will write you later; sports events, condensed dramas, dance orchestras, and educational, the latter being oftentimes excellent. Last, but not least, we have the women's programmes, which are usually given during the daytime by women broadcasters. These tell everything from cooking to please the entire family, to ways of keeping that school-girl complexion.

HARRY ROY IN FILMS

HARRY ROY, whose band is featured from Station 3YA on Tuesday, July 14, is one of the most successful showmen in the English Dance Band world. Not many years ago he was known only as the clarinetist in the Lyricals, directed by his brother, Syd. Roy. Then, with his R.K.O. lians at the Leicester Square Theatre, Harry started his climb to fame. He uses two pianos in the band, and until recently these were played by Ivor Moreton and Dave Kaye, who were excellent showmen as well as good pianists.

Recently Moreton and Kaye left Harry Roy and are now touring their



own variety act. Roy's new pianists are Stanley Black and Norman Yalletts. The band has a well-deserved reputation for its comedy numbers, and also for its rumbas. The versatile leader has lately made a talkie and, from reports, seems likely to be as successful in this sphere as he is with his band.

Last English summer he married Princess Pearl, daughter of the Rajah and Ranee of Sarawak (Sir Charles and the Hon. Lady Brooke). Mrs. Roy has become a film star since her marriage, and she and her husband have been very busy working since the beginning of the year on a picture called "Royal Romance," and the Princess has already been booked for an important role in a new film.

A.M.P. Bonus Certificates

JUNE 30 represents more than just the close of the first half-year to a numerous section of the population of this Dominion. For them it is the date upon which their bonus certificates are issued by the A.M.P. Society. For the past six months the Actuarial Department of the Society at head office in Sydney and the New Zealand branch staff, have been preparing these welcome epistles, and on June 30, in accordance with the invariable custom of the society, the certificates were posted to its members. This year the number distributed in New Zealand amounted to approximately 94,000, and the amount of reversionary bonuses allocated for the year 1935 represented by these certificates is one million pounds.

Free! "THE FINEST BOOK ON CONCRETING YET PRINTED"

CONCRETE
FOR THE HOME AND FARM

CONTENTS:
MIXING CONCRETE
GARDEN PATHWAYS
MOTOR DRIVES
SWIMMING BATHS
TENNIS COURTS
WATER LILY PONDS
AND STEPS

SEND THIS COUPON:
To "CONCRETE,"
DEPT. 'C' G.P.O. BOX 486, WELLINGTON.
Please send me a free copy of 'CONCRETE for the Home and Farm.' I enclose 3d. in stamps to cover postage and packing.

Name
Address