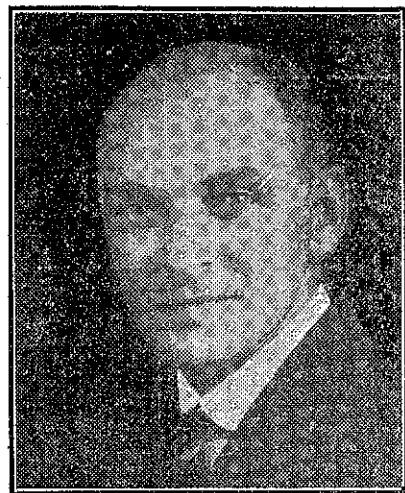


While Governments Debate—

Others Have To Keep Trade And Tourists Flowing Freely By Hook Or By Crook

(Written for the "Radio Record".)



MR. R. H. NESBITT.

WHILE governments debate with one another over the importation of wheat, potatoes, oranges and canary-seed, their representatives are busy in "the other countries" trying to keep pace with political decisions and to smooth the way to satisfactory adjustments of trade and travel exchange. One of their number is Mr. R. H. Nesbitt, Australian Trade Commissioner in New Zealand, who has just returned from a nine weeks' "goodwill mission" in his own country. The idea appears to be that when one is in New Zealand one encourages New Zealanders to go to Australia and to trade with Australia. And while one is in Australia the main objective seems to be to induce Australians to visit and trade with New Zealand. Which is all very reciprocal and satisfactory.

In those nine weeks Mr. Nesbitt travelled about 8000 miles, spending his time looking into matters of trade between Australia and the Dominion, particularly in Queensland and South Australia. Many New Zealanders are inclined to think unconsciously that Australia begins and ends with New South Wales and Victoria—or more particularly with Sydney and Melbourne. But there is plenty to see and know beyond these two sections of the Commonwealth. There is plenty of produce, too, beyond the

two most popular and populous states, which New Zealanders are glad enough to have when their governments make possible reasonable purchase prices.

Only last week I was shown some oranges which would cost no less than threepence each in New Zealand. His friend had bought them in Adelaide for less than a penny each. Australia may, or may not, be a fruit-growers' paradise, but it rivals the Pacific Islands for popularity with fruit-eaters. Oranges, pineapples, grapes, apples, apricots and so on grow in abundance in the Eastern States of the Commonwealth, and if Mr. Nesbitt and his henchmen could arrange for a cheap supply of at least the first two of these fruits they would earn the undying gratitude of thousands. The others mentioned are freely grown in New Zealand. However, the day may yet come. May it be in our time, O Lord.

Inquiry was also made by Mr. Nesbitt during his visit into the latest facilities available for tourists in the different states travelling from New Zealand in particular. Under the auspices of the Australian National Travel Association it is hoped to inaugurate some distinctly attractive tours from New Zealand, covering the Eastern States of the Commonwealth.

Tremendous Reception to Richard Crooks Fifteen Encores Demanded by Extraordinary Enthusiasm of Australian Audience

RICHARD CROOKS went right into the Sydney headlines after his first recital, indeed, after the first few minutes of his first recital. He is engaged in a tour of the larger Australian cities and will come over to New Zealand to give us "good but popular" music. His first performance in the Dominion will be at Auckland on September 15.

SYDNEY town rolled up in force to the Town Hall on Saturday, June 20, to hear America's great tenor. They had heard such a lot of his reputation

overseas, and through his recordings he has been brought to the notice of the world in general and is perhaps the most closely followed tenor next to Tauber. But to see him in the flesh was the greatest of drawing cards and his first number was barely finished when Sydney music lovers knew that before them was a truly great artist. His personality was free and genial, just the attributes to appeal to the temperaments of his audience.

He responded generously with encores and at the end of the recital fifteen extra numbers were not sufficient to quell the ardent enthusiasm of Syd-

ney. How many more encores would have been called for it is not possible to guess; but the singer wisely cut short a very much lengthened programme by singing the National Anthem. That was not the end, however, for hundreds waited on the steps of the Town Hall to clap him and fete him as he walked down to his car—a remarkable demonstration of appreciation. Ever since his opening concert he has drawn Sydney away from its winter firesides to fill the large Town Hall, and his triumph is only just beginning.

The first group on the programme (Continued on next page.)