

"Neither of Us Temperamental"

Madame de Vries, Wife of the Dutch Baritone, Is Making Most of Visit

"ALTHOUGH I have barely had time to form an impression of New Zealand I am particularly impressed with what I have seen of Wellington, especially the view from the top of Kelburn," said Madame de Vries recently to the "Radio Record." Madame de Vries is the wife of the visiting Dutch baritone, Sydney de Vries, who is at present under contract to the National Broadcasting Service.

Another thing which pleased her was the beautiful way the Botanical Gardens were laid out, but she regretted that it was not the flower season. Flowers are one of her passions, which is only natural to one coming from a land where the tulip and hyacinths (month of April) are one of the sights of the world.

"We came out to the Southern Hemisphere intending to stay about three months and as it is now 20 months since we landed you can judge whether we like it or not," she said enthusiastically.



"In Melbourne and Sydney we had flats and as I was born in Denmark, my husband in Holland and a great part of our married life was spent in England, our meals are always rather a cosmopolitan affair but I am very fond of cooking—when time permits. I design my own

frocks and we have a flat and an Alsatian anxiously awaiting our return.

"What faults have I to find with New Zealand? The height of the steps for mounting the trams, and the lack of tea-strainers and sugar tongs. Not very serious, but then I have not come to find fault but to enjoy my stay and collect

material for more talks, this time to praise the Antipodes, which will be broadcast from the Avro station in Holland.

Madame de Vries will be heard from the national stations in several more talks before the six weeks' tour is completed.

his spare time. Composing is a hobby with Mr. Kirk Burnand. The big piece is for a choir, orchestra and narrator, but no soloists. He considers that the piece will take three hours and a half to perform, and he hopes that at least a few sections will be performed early next year. This composition is extremely modernistic, inasmuch as he has experimented with the microtonic scale. Several prominent visiting musicians have already remarked on the originality of the

work and have considered it has excellent prospects of being a success. A member of a well-known musical family, Mr. Kirk Burnand plays the piano, organ, violin and every brass instrument. From 1928 to 1933, while stationed at Dunedin, he was the conductor of Dunedin's crack brass band, the Kaikorai Band, conductor of the Dunedin Operatic Society, guest conductor to the Dunedin Grand Opera Club and the Dunedin Philharmonic Society, pianist and accompanist to the

Royal Dunedin Male Choir and the Dunedin Returned Soldiers' Choir and the Dunedin Orphans' Club.

Trees

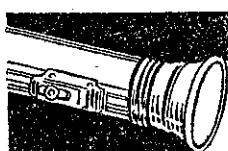
ARBOR DAY is once more coming into its own after a period almost of neglect. On August 3, leading up to the celebration of this day set aside during the year to bring home to the people the significance of trees and tree-planting, 3YA will rebroadcast from Wellington a talk by his Excellency the Governor-General, Lord Galway, on "Tree-planting and the Preservation of Native Trees." This will take place at 8.45 p.m. On August 4, at 7.20 p.m., Mr. C. E. Foweraker, M.A., Canterbury's forestry expert, will give a chat on the forest's value to a country. These talks will probably recall to many the schooldays when teachers insisted on a little spade work in the school grounds, both for nature study and the benefit of pupils coming after them.

Will Prices Advance?

It is generally agreed among the radio trade, at least in Auckland, that the 40-hour week and the new scale of wages must have the result of increasing the cost of receivers to the public. Wages of junior servicemen who perform what is known as the "hack" work have for some time ranged from £2 to £3 a week. Under the new scale of wages, such employees will now have to be paid £4 a week. This will also, of course, involve higher wages again to the advanced technicians.

Temporary

"THAT march was played by the St. Kilda Municipal Band, under the conductorship of Mr. James Dixon." That announcement from the lips of the 4YA announcer the other night caused listeners to pay attention, as it is now a year since Mr. Dixon resigned from his position as director of a band which played its way to several championship honours in New Zealand in previous years, and many jumped to the conclusion that he had rejoined his old band. However, they were only right to a certain extent, as Mr. Dixon has only taken up the baton again to help the band out with its engagements until the committee appoints a new conductor to take the place of the one whose year's engagement has just concluded, thus causing the vacancy. As Mr. Dixon has too many other engagements to claim his attention, he does



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