

FROM THE PROVINCES

Messages From Mike To Mother

Ignorance and Impertinence Among the Public Regarding the Legitimate Uses of Broadcasting—Beatrice Pugh Having a Rest—Farmers Appreciate Weather Reports.

IT is surprising—astounding might even be a more appropriate word—that so many members of the Dunedin public are under the impression that all they have to do to send personal messages is to write them on a slip of paper and drop them in to the nearest station. It apparently never occurs to them that there are two legitimate channels for the sending of such messages, either the telephone or the telegraph. They imagine that if they have missed the last train to another town, the broadcasting people are only too pleased to transmit something on the lines of the following:—"Cheerio, Mrs. So-and-So, of Invercargill. Missed the train to-night, but will be home tomorrow. Jimmy." Then there are also those who attend the wrestling or boxing matches and at the end of the bout lean over the announcer's shoulder and shout into the microphone: "Hello, mum. It was a great show. We'll be home before midnight. Harry calling." The presence of such persons who take advantage of the proximity of a microphone in a public hall would suggest the probable reason why the microphone is often faded out almost as soon as the bout is over.

POPULAR soprano Beatrice Pugh, who finished her engagement with the National Broadcasting Services the other day, has now accepted an engagement with the Royal Wellington Choral Union. She is to appear in "Elijah" on August 15, when Dr. Malcolm Sargent, world-famous conductor, will wield the baton. As all stars must have a rest now and then, Miss Pugh is meantime holidaying at Napier, Rotorua and other North Island places of interest. Station 3YA, Christchurch, was flooded with congratulatory letters and telephone calls after Miss Pugh's visits to the microphone.

FARMERS, in Canterbury, at any rate, are agreed that radio news of weather conditions in other parts of the country is of the greatest value to them. When the North Canterbury Farmers' Union met the other day a letter came from the Oxford branch stating that news of Dunedin weather by radio was warmly welcomed by Canterbury farmers. A Dunedin storm, it was stated, often reached Christchurch 12 hours later. The broadcasting authorities, declared the secretary, had pointed out that by means of charts, which are easily obtained, the code reports could be followed very simply. After talking things over for half an hour the meeting decided to ask 3YA to broadcast the prevailing weather conditions at Dunedin every evening at 9 o'clock.

Surprise

WHILE on a business visit to Auckland last week, the well-known Wellington baritone, Mr. W. E. Crewes, performed at 1YA. As soon as the programme organiser knew that Mr. Crewes was in the Queen City he immediately created space for him on Wednesday night. His offering of three ballads was a most acceptable one.

Roll Up the Carpet

ON Saturday, August 8, station 2YA will relay old-time dance music played by Les Walker's Old-Timers' Orchestra. This orchestra enjoys great popularity with old-time fans in Wellington, and during the evening the dancers join in singing the choruses of some of the popular numbers. No doubt many listeners will "roll up the carpet" and join in the fun. There's nothing like a dance to forget mid-winter cold.

Praise for 1YA

THE members of the touring party of overseas artists (Madame Florence Austral, her husband, John Amadio, Browning Mummery, Sydney de Vries, and Carl Bartling), during their stay in Auckland, were thrilled with the studio building and the fine appointments of 1YA. All voted it the best broadcasting studio they had performed in. Almost every day they put

in hours of practice in the studios. Mr. and Mrs. Browning Mummery found time to make a flying visit to the Waitomo Caves, while in Auckland, Sydney de Vries, the Dutch baritone, and his charming wife, spent a week-end at Rotorua and saw the weird thermal regions for the first time.

Dr. Oliver From 2YA

A NAME well known to New Zealand biological circles, that of Dr. W. R. B. Oliver, is featured in the programmes for next week. Dr. Oliver will be speaking from 2YA on Monday, August 3, and his subject will be "Biological Aspects of the Dominion Museum." This will follow the opening of the combined Art Gallery and Museum on August 1. Dr. Oliver was recently presented with the 1936 Hector Medal for his researches in botany, and was then referred to as the father of the Royal Society of New Zealand, of which is he a Fellow. As Director of the Dominion Museum, the doctor's talk next week should be particularly informative and interesting.

Leaving Soon

FORMERLY a well-known performer at 1YA, Miss Rita MacCullay, after a long absence, made a reappearance in conjunction with the Auckland Municipal Band in the Town Hall last week. She sang as well as ever. In private life Mrs. Ron Stone, she leaves Auckland on August 22 on an extended

JOTTINGS about TALKS

People Who Will Be Worth Listening To In the Next Few Weeks.

SYDNEY DE VRIES, the Dutch baritone, who has become friendly with 2YA and 1YA listeners since he arrived a few weeks ago, is scheduled for a talk from 2YA on August 14. His annotations and introductions spoken before the numbers he sings have been delivered in a chatty style, giving listeners some idea of the friendly manner which they may expect in his forthcoming talk.

Dr. A. C. Keys, of the Victoria College Staff, Wellington, is to speak on "Theatre Manners Then and Now" from 2YA on August 27, with special reference to conditions in the old days in Wellington.

A series of three talks on "Pirates" is to be delivered from 1YA on August 20, 27 and September 3, by Mr. J. T. Dawson. This Auckland

man has made an unusually close study of pirates and piracy, and is in a position to pass on to listeners many disillusionments about pirate personalities and histories. There are many common misbeliefs about the hidden terrors of the sea.

Another series begins on September 3 from 2YA on "Modern Utopias." Dr. W. Sutcliffe opens the series with a talk on the earlier schools of Socialism. Mr. Alexander Scott will follow later, covering in his talk the thoughts of Edward Bellamy, author of "Looking Backward." Mr. W. N. Pharazyn will complete the series with two talks, the first of which will deal with such people as H. G. Wells and G. B. Shaw and their speculations as to the future of the world.