

on the night of August 15, when they will be interviewed before the microphone. It will be remembered that Mr. Sarazen was in Dunedin some two years ago, when he was discovered as an interesting radio speaker, so, together with Miss Hicks, he should provide an enjoyable quarter hour for listeners on the 15th.

Popular

THE popular manager of the Regent Theatre, Auckland, Alec Regan, was missing from the front of the house for a while one night last week, for he had an engagement to fulfil at IYA. He presented a most entertaining act, too, humour being predominant, and he sang a couple of numbers and gave a brief sketch. His version of "Silver Hair and Heart of Gold" went over well. Alec, of course, as many New Zealanders will remember, was for years a member of well-known vaudeville touring companies playing both Australia and this Dominion.

Professionals

A. A. MILNE'S "Mr. Pim Passes By," by the J. C. Williamson Company, took the plum for recent play broadcasts from 3YA. Elaine Hamill, Ethel Morrison, Harvey Adams (producer), Connie Martyn, Arthur Lane, Campbell Copelin and the one and only Katie Towers, made up the cast. Although these artists are professionals, and the production of plays is every-day work to them, they rehearsed in the studio on several occasions before the presentation of the work, sometimes with and sometimes without the microphone. Every day, for a week, they experimented with sound effects. For instance, the click of a latch and shutting of a door was represented best, they found, by operating the door of a gramophone cabinet, close to the microphone. But that was only one of many examples of conscientiousness.

Job Well Done!

IN introducing his wife, Madame Florence Austral, before she sang the well-known "Mad Scene" from Donizetti's opera "Lucia de Lammermoor" at the big concert presented by the Broadcasting Service in the Auckland Town Hall last Thursday, John Amadio, flautist, who played the obligato, said: "I'm doing my best to turn madame into a coloratura soprano." Madame then said, "I don't know whether he has succeeded," as she took a deep breath before attacking the difficult aria. Judging by the bushels of applause that followed, John Amadio had done his job really well.

The King

DUNEDIN was informed of the recent threat to the King by means of broadcasting. Word was first received at 4YA shortly before 10 o'clock in the morning, and the first announcement was made when the station came on the air at that hour. The minister conducting the studio devotional service offered a special prayer for the safety of His Majesty, but thereafter no further reference was made to the disturbing incident. Those who were listening to 4ZM's usual morning ses-

Sargent's Piercing Eyes

"You're Playing The Wrong Clarinet"

"ONE fine morning," writes Robert H. Hull, "in the days of long ago, an alert young man looked over my right shoulder and announced briskly that I was playing with the wrong clarinet. This drama of aesthetic revelation took place during an orchestral rehearsal at the Royal College of Music. Gladly would I have paid the unwelcome inquisitor sixpence, or even a shilling, to go away and leave me in peace. To the agonized mind of a disgraced clarinetist he appeared—one blushes to recall the shameful fact—simply an exasperating busybody with black hair, sallow complexion and unpleasantly piercing eyes."



DR. MALCOLM SARGENT as sketched by an admiring young piano student, Miss Betty Barne.

"Impatiently he awaited, so I imagined, some kind of action on the part of an idiot who seemed actually not to know one clarinet from another. In feverish anxiety to oblige I exchanged what happened, after all, to have been the right instrument for one certainly not prescribed by the composer. Thereafter I piped up mer-

rily for a bar or two until it became manifest to my scandalised neighbour and myself, that the last state was even more excruciating than the first."

"Meanwhile our untimely visitor had hastened away to clear up a mess among the strings! His name, I had cause to remember, was Dr. Malcolm Sargent; and it will be readily understood that the manner of my introduction to him seemed to compel more than casual interest in his subsequent career.

"Since that distressing incident I have had ample opportunities to realise that my jaundiced view of Dr. Sargent's personal appearance and natural talents afforded him but scant justice."

Dr. Malcolm Sargent arrives in New Zealand early next week to conduct three performances in Wellington, all of which will be broadcast. The dates of the performances are August 6, 11 and 15. A special excursion train from Auckland will enable Northerners to be present at the performance of "Elijah" in the Wellington Town Hall on August 15.

sion were curious as to the significance of the playing of the National Anthem prior to the commencement of the Radio Church of the Helping Hand, but they were informed of the happening in London by Uncle Leslie, who also offered a prayer before conducting the church service.

Sound Effects

NO radio studio is complete nowadays without liberal provision for sound effects. 3YA has in its library a series of recordings given up specially to the reproduction of almost any noise required. The tuning up of an orchestra, the noise of a theatre audience and of restaurant patrons, motor-car engine, train, traffic, animal and marine noises are all readily available. Artists appearing in plays merely have to place their requirements before the librarian to have at their disposal any sound from thunder and rain to the sighing of a spring zephyr. Things radio have moved in the last few years.

Two Pianos

ONLY a recent innovation in the 4YA programmes, recitals on two pianos are becoming popular with a certain class of listeners. Previously recitals have been given by Mr. Gil Dech and Mrs. Clarice Drake, but two other ar-

tists, Mrs. B. R. Nees and Miss Winifred Gardner, who are two of the city's most accomplished piano players, have now been featured in works written for the two instruments. Recently they were heard in masterly interpretations of Rachmaninoff's second Suite and "Rondo" (Chopin), and, incidentally, they assisted in the further popularising of this form of entertainment.

A "Find"

GWYNNETH HUGHES, of Orari, "found" at the Christchurch Competitions Festival by an official of 3YA, upheld all that was prophesied for her when she sang from the studio the other night. Both "Where Corals Lie"—her competition piece, and her following number were very pleasingly sung and it is probable that she will be heard again ere long.

Golfers' Interview

A PERSONAL interview between two world-famous golfers, Gene Sarazen and Miss Helen Hicks, who arrive at Auckland from Australia next week, will be heard from IYA on Tuesday, August 4. This should prove of great interest to all golfing listeners. Sarazen and Miss Hicks have a heavy itinerary in front of them while in New Zealand,