

on account of the brilliance of his playing. Already he has won the boys' open championship at a major bands contest. He possesses a gloriously rich tone for one so young, and he is hailed as a coming champion.

Successful Narrator

THE well-known pianist and conductor of the Auckland Commercial Travellers and Warehousemen's Club's

NOT GILBERT THE FILBERT

Another Comedian For N.Z. Tour

ANOTHER humorous entertainer will be added this week to the number of comedians imported by the National Broadcasting Service this year. His name is Arthur Hemsley, best known to Sydney listeners as "Mr. Filbert"—no connection with Gilbert the Filbert—author of the series of that name from 2UE. He was due in Wellington on August 31.

Mr. H. was born in Manchester, studied singing at the Guildhall School of Music, played in stock, Dickens, musical comedy, and then began in variety sketches in all the London music halls with his wife, Elsa Brull. They also played in Berlin, Paris, Vienna, many times in South Africa, and in India and Australia, where he has been, off and on, for 18 years.

He and his wife were practically the pioneers of Lancashire humour on the stage in Australia; no doubt New Zealand audiences will remember "A Lancashire Couple at a Football Match" and at a race meeting, and so on. Another popular sketch was of a Cockney father and mother surrounded by an imaginary family at the seaside. Mr. Hemsley has played for the A.B.C. in almost everything from variety to Shakespeare; perhaps his greatest success these was when he played Willie Mossop in "Hobson's Choice" with Ada Reeve.

Has a daughter aged sixteen. In her very young days they took her round with a Plunket nurse—that idea should appeal to New Zealanders. And we still don't know whether he is related to Harry Hemsley. See next week.

Choir, Mr. Harry Woolley, made his debut before the microphone at IYA when he acted as narrator for the complete recorded presentation of Strauss's opera, "Der Rosenkavalier." He made a good job of it, too, for his enunciation was clear and he imparted his knowledge of the tuneful opera with clarity and decisiveness.

Good Conductor

"A CONDUCTOR who would meet with success in any of the best theatres of the world"—is how Miss

Thea Phillips spoke of Mr. Harold Beck, conductor of 3YA orchestra, last week. The soprano added that it was exceedingly pleasing for visiting artists to know that they had the support of such a competent conductor and such an excellent orchestra.

Success of "Macbeth"

THE success of "Macbeth," presented from IYA last Sunday by Professor W. A. Sewell, Professor of English at Auckland University College, was not only due to the excellent cast and their fine portrayals of difficult roles, but to the fact that so much extensive detail work in connection with voice-placing in front of the microphones and the selection of the effects and incidental music, was done beforehand. Many hours were spent in rehearsals. The music was of the right type to create the necessary atmosphere for the various scenes.

Fine Play

LAST week's presentation of the historical play "Joan of Arc," produced in the studio of IYA by Zoe Bartley-Baxter, was really outstanding. The performance was even a big improvement on the earlier presentation two years ago by the same combination. The various characters were excellently portrayed by the large cast, a feature of the production being the synchronisation of music and effects.

Interview

WHEREVER there are stars you will find the ubiquitous autograph hunter. The other day two Christchurch boys, Colin Rowse and Clifton Cook, interviewed Miss Thea Phillips in search of her signature. One of them timidly explained that he had written a number of songs. He went further. He suggested that Miss Phillips might hear them—even sing them. This piece of enterprise may have results which will be heard of later.

Hospital Radio

SO far no finality has been reached by the Auckland Hospital Board regarding the installation of radio equipment in the big Wallace Wards. The latest move by the board is to call in a consulting engineer to advise

on the tenders received for the work. The other big hospital radio job, that of installing the latest equipment in the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, is almost completed. The final linking up of receivers and earphones is now being done by Johns Limited. More than 70 receiving points have been fitted in the building, and when the installation is complete first-class reception will be available to every patient.

Appreciation

THE charity concert for the orphanages of Christchurch, broadcast by 3YA last week, will probably net just on £1000 when all accounts are squared up and all the money is in. The promoters are more than pleased with the result. Mr. J. L. Hay, in a chat with the "Radio Record's" representative in Christchurch, said that the response from the country districts had been remarkable and contributions had come in from all over the South Island. "We appreciate particularly the work of the

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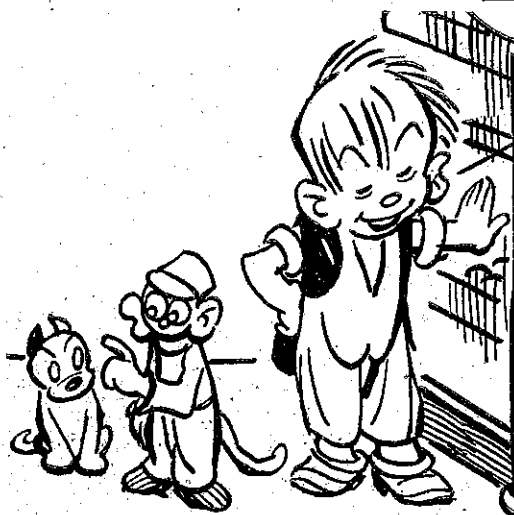
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