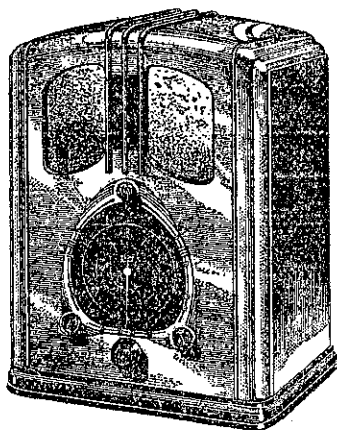


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Man and Struggle

(Continued from page 13.)

THE late Mr. Buick was a man of character, extremely sensitive, quick to take offence and quick to forgive. He was a generous mentor for many writers. I know that two or three hours each day was devoted by him to giving advice to the many people who called on him. I remember, gratefully, how he helped me many years ago when I entered the press gallery. I was a raw reporter, and it was Mr. Buick who often left aside his own pile of work to help me with mine.

I believe that future generations will honour his name for the glorious legacy of historical work he has left behind him. It all bears the stamp of reliability. There is only one point on which I have heard his accuracy questioned and that was one aspect of the Waitangi book where he has been accused of bigotry. Whereas he may have unintentionally mistated fact in this respect, no one who knew him would accuse him of bias. It was, I think, more a case of innocent "journalistic atmosphere" and at any rate, was, I believe, altered in the second edition.

And now I think of his empty room at the Turnbull Library and the overpowering atmosphere of unwieldy books that seemed almost as if they were there to crush him with their weight. Perhaps the books he wrote and their reception by an unresponsive public, weighed their disappointment on him instead, and hastened his end. This thought I will leave to my readers and our leaders, so that they in future may not wait till Death comes along before they sing praises and erect memorials to worth-while writers.

Once She Met Brahms

(Continued from page 9).

Vienna orchestra, under the German conductor, Furtwangler, so that Germany could have a share.

That night Dolfuss, the Austrian Chancellor was in the audience. In welcoming the distinguished guests the chairman said how pleased he was that their own Doctor Dolfuss had spared the time to come. Only a short while after that, Dolfuss was shot.

I ASKED Mrs. Prior if the lack of folk songs native to our country was not one reason for the influx of the jazz and crooning that she deplored.

The old folk tunes in England, she said, were frequently being unearthed and given in new settings by modern composers. Naturally one could not expect a new country like New Zealand to have its own folk songs.

"But there are signs," she said, "that New Zealand is producing musicians and composers and I believe the time is not far distant when New Zealand's composers will produce its own notable national music." Mrs. Stansfeld Prior leaves for England again on April 7. This is her second visit to New Zealand in three years.

I asked her would she be coming again. "That," she said, "depends on circumstances."

"But if a definite invitation came from the Government in 1940," she said, "would I not try!"