

Floor Trembles

PEOPLE either like organ music, or they do not, yet even the "do nots" have to admit there is something about Dr. V. E. Galway's recitals given in the Dunedin Town Hall on the second Sunday in every month, and many attend. The audiences that greet Dr. Galway's recitals are purely a tribute to his masterly handling of one of the biggest and finest organs in New Zealand. There is a real thrill in listening to him send the tiniest treble whispering round the huge hall, and then to



SERGE RACHMANINOFF

... Plays in 4YA Broadcast of Schumann's *Carnival Suite* next Sunday afternoon.

feel the very floor tremble beneath one's feet as a roaring, but perfectly controlled, volume of sound emerges from the pipes. These recitals are regularly broadcast by either 4YA or 4YO, the latter station giving the last transmission on March 13. Interspersed, are usually several vocal items by leading Dunedin artists.

For The Screen

ALL good Irishmen of Christchurch made demands on the green stocks of ties, yes and even shirts, from drapers last Thursday. Station 3YA was in the running and arranged for the Civic Players to produce "Eileen Aroon." In the play itself there were tenor songs with harp accompaniment. Some of the best known of Moore's Irish melodies were excellently featured. Aunt Pat, at her sessions, found the requests liberally sprinkled with the Irish flavour. Skipper and his mouth-organ band had the "green fever" too.

Perfect Piano

GREAT oaks from little acorns grow, so the proverbs have it, and so from such beginnings as five-finger exercises great pianists have arisen. It is largely a matter of practice—plus a very keen appreciation of music, but certainly the finest piano player alive to-day had to practice at some stage or other. And who is that greatest player? Well, that may be open to argument, but however one looks at it one must admit Serge Rachmaninoff, Russian composer and pianist, is in the top-most branches of the tree. On Sunday

"Piratical Tour" Recalled

EARLY WELLINGTON PRESENTATION OF GILBERT AND SULLIVAN

IN one of Wellington's second-hand book shops the writer purchased for threepence a Gilbert and Sullivan Souvenir of 1881. It consists of a libretto of "The Pirates of Penzance," and the front cover boldly announces "R. W. Cary's Pirates of Penzance on their Piratical Tour of New Zealand. Written and composed by Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan. The sole right has been purchased by Mr. Cary for New Zealand, any one infringing it will be prosecuted. Wellington, James Hughes, Steam Printer, Engraver, etc., Lambton Quay, 1881."

The twenty-four pages within contain the familiar words of the musical numbers and the dialogue of this popular favourite of favourites, but the remaining three cover pages have interesting advertising announcements: "Woods, Crosbie and Co. (City Company), Meat Preservers, Carcass, Shipping and Family Butchers. By appointment to their Excellencies, the Marquis of Normandy and Sir Arthur Gordon." "Charles Hill, Manufacturing Hatter," and "A. R. Hislop, Watchmaker and Jeweller." All the advertisers' premises were on Lambton Quay. Considering the first London production of "Pirates" was at the Opera Comique on Saturday April 3,

1880, it was commendable enterprise on the part of Mr. Cary to be touring New Zealand with the opera in the year following. The custom of our New Zealand forbears was to buy the vocal scores and libretti of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas as they appeared and memorise words and music of the same in their respective homes round the piano. By the time the opera company put in an appearance the said company would have as audience a band of enthusiasts capable of giving any cues that were needed.

"The Pirates of Penzance," coming immediately after "H.M.S. Pinafore," was not originally produced in London, but had its "copyright" performance at the Bijou Theatre, Paignton, on the coast of Devonshire on Tuesday, December 30, 1879, a day before the American production at Fifth Avenue Theatre, New York. The latter performance was under the personal direction of the triumvirate, Messrs. Gilbert, Sullivan and D'Oyly Carte. In London "The Pirates" had a run of nearly four hundred nights, and has ever since maintained its strong hold on the affections of music-lovers everywhere, or at any rate of the Gilbert and Sullivan disciples, which is nearly the same thing. A recorded musical presentation of "The Pirates of Penzance" will be heard from 2YA on Sunday, March 27.

afternoon from 4YA at 2.30 a high-light will be rendered when Schumann's *Carnival Suite* will be played by Rachmaninoff. This will mean just 25 minutes of perfect piano playing.

Of The Inland

TALKS by the Rev. John Flynn and Mrs. Flynn for the NBS are listed as follows:—Mr. Flynn speaks from 4YA on April 6 on "The Mantle of Safety—the Story of the Flying Doctors in Australia," and from 1YA on April 26 on "Australia and New Zealand, Resemblances and Contrasts." The NBS hope to record his first talk for presentation from other national stations. The talk by Mrs. Flynn from 3YA on March 28 will be called "The Women of the West, Life in the Australian Backblocks." G. E. Evans, Australian poet, wrote of these women in his lines:

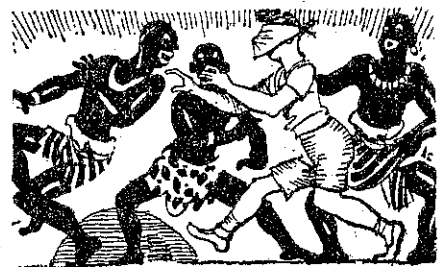
*In the slab-built, zinc-roofed homestead of some lately taken run,
In the tent beside the bankment of a railway just begun,
In the huts and new selection, in the camps of man's unrest,
On the frontiers of the nation live the women of the west.
The red sun robs their beauty and, in wilderness and pain,
The slow years steal the nameless grace that never comes again . . .*

Many New Zealand outback women will be able to appreciate to the full

both the lines of Evans and this talk by Mrs. Flynn.

Frontier Tales

ENGLISH journalist now in New Zealand, Mr. C. Harcourt Robertson, who recently gave a very lively account of his adventures in Shiraz,



Persia, during one of the minor wars that arose out of the Great War, is to give a talk on a similar subject in the Eye-witness series called "Sideshow in Persia," in which he tells of interesting facts about things that happened on the frontiers and went unnoticed in the clash of great events.

Sweet Home

HOUSING is very much both in the air and in the wood at the moment, and to-day is a subject of much practical interest. It is instructive to note what has been done in England and compare it with what has been done in New Zealand. Mr. J. W. Brimblecombe, an official of the Housing Department in New Zealand, is to give a talk on housing in England and New Zealand. Mr. Brimblecombe had ex-