

shock when the man produced the full script from his pocket. This was received. The next day a letter was sent (together with the script) telling the poor chap that unfortunately such a talk could not be presented.

Apple Sauce!

AFTER he had done some announcing about the virtues of apples and pears as part of a well-balanced diet the other day, Jack Maybury, of 3ZB, found himself the recipient of dozens of bags of fruit. Just by way of an exclamation of public thanks, he took a large bite from a luscious apple, in front of the microphone. That peculiar noise—reminiscent of the mastication of celery at a party—came through very clearly.

1ZM Service

STATION 1ZM is still serving the public faithfully and well. Its musical programmes in particular are well chosen and presented and entertain a big audience of listeners. The several personality features continue to exert a strong pull for the station among its admirers. The director and programme-organiser, Mr. W. W. Rodgers, whose "Cavalcades" are an outstanding feature, is to present another on Sunday, March 27, at 8.45, preceded by a recorded version of "Merry England" at 8 p.m. If the letters received are any guide, Monday evening's Hawaiian swing sessions are listened to all over the Dominion.

The "Tummy Club"

LISTENERS to 1ZB acclaimed Jack Davey for his bright sessions in the morning and evening last week. His "Tummy Club" from the station every morning between 6.30 and 7, was really a riot—so successful in fact that he



compelled three of 1ZB's executives to rise from their beds and carry out the exercises which he directed in the studio. Nothing better has been put over from 1ZB. Listeners were sorry when he had to say au revoir at the end of last week.

Solomon II

THE wisdom of the ages and the brainwaves of the sages were the fruit of Jack Davey's nutty 8.30 p.m. sessions, "Solomon the Second," from 1ZB last week. Solomon, the all-wise, has an illustrious "successor." For nearly three years the second Solomon has reigned over a quarter of a million breakfast tables in Sydney, giving unwanted advice to thousands. A front-ranker in repartee and known as the "biggest nit-wit in Australia," Solomon II is the undisputed ruler of radio-comedy. No session that Jack Davey could bring to New Zealand listeners would have a greater appeal than this, the masterpiece of a master of comedy. Jack, who was on exchange for Otene Paora, of 1ZB, arrived at Wellington last Sunday by air, and after three days at 2ZB he flew north

Elgar's "Nursery" Suite

MUSIC ABOUT CHILDREN FOR GROWN-UPS

SIR EDWARD ELGAR more than once showed a sympathetic interest in little people in his "Nursery" Suite, in the two "Wand of Youth" Suites and in his real enthusiasm for children's choral work in his native city of Worcester. It needs no great gift of prophecy to foresee the warm affection in which the "Nursery Suite" is certain to be held by those who realise the greatness of his achievements in almost all musical fields. The chief characteristic of the work is a charming wistfulness, rather remarkable in this jazz-ridden age, but all the more welcome on that account. In a word it is restful music. This applies to the three more lively movements as well as the four pensive ones. It is obvious that the "Nursery Suite" is not so much music for children as music for grown-ups about children. The suite, of course, is really a tone poem in sections, based upon child-life episodes, but child-life idealised by the musical imagination of a great composer. The work was dedicated to H.M. Queen Elizabeth, when she was Duchess of York, and the Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret Rose. The Queen's interest in music is genuine and real, and this interest was evidenced by her presence at the studios when the work was recorded under the direction of the composer. Another distinguished visitor present was Mr. George Bernard Shaw. Many years have passed since any young people of our Royal House had so great a Master of the King's Musick to write

for them; nor has it often happened in our history, that little people, quite so universally beloved, inspired a great master.

The suite, although scored for a full modern orchestra, is all laid out with that clear, straightforward simplicity which Sir Edward could turn to such purpose, and none of the movements calls for much in the way of detailed explanation. There are eight numbers. No. 1, "Aubade" (Awake), in its first section flows with a gentle lilt, and in the second section there is a quotation from a hymn tune, "Hear Thy Children, Gentle Jesus," that was written by the composer in his youth. No. 2, "The Serious Doll," is as economically written and as spare of notes as the music of the modern French school at its best. The chief melody, wistful yet tinged with humour, is given to the flute, and is supported by a delicate string accompaniment. No. 3, "Busy-ness," is a brilliant piece of orchestral virtuosity, and the title fits the music perfectly. No. 4, "The Sad Doll," has the character of a slow waltz, and contains some lovely string writing. No. 5, "The Wagon Passes," is imbued with the phantasy and mystery associated with the nursery tale told at dusk. No. 6, "The Merry Doll," moves along briskly and suggests the activities of Punch. For sonority and poetic feeling No. 7, "Dreaming," takes first place in the suite. Its mood of sadness and regret leads without a break into No. 8, "Envoy," which rounds off the whole work. Elgar's "Nursery Suite" will be heard from 3YA on Wednesday, March 30, played by the London Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of the composer.

again on Wednesday (March 23) to join the Awatea, of which his father is the master, on the return to Sydney.

The Big Tent

ALWAYS awake for some novelty to please and entertain children, Neddo and Thea, of 1ZB, conducted Monday's children's session from beneath the big tent of Wirth's Circus, on the Old Dock Site. The microphone was taken round to each of the numerous cages in the menagerie, Neddo and Thea and the menagerie man explaining about the animals to the juvenile listeners.

Healthy

I IMAGINE that there are very few societies in New Zealand and even in England which are in such a healthy position," remarked Dr. J. C. Bradshaw, president, at the annual meeting of the Laurian Club, Christchurch, the other night. A credit balance of £32 was disclosed—not bad for an amateur musical combination in the Dominion. This club was founded by Mr. Harold Beck, formerly conductor of 3YA Orchestra, and now doing well in Australia. Mr. Victor C. Peters took over the conductorship from Mr. Beck and will conduct again when he returns from London. The first con-

cert of the new season will be on April 30.

Whirligig

"TIME flies you cannot they fly too quickly"—punctuate that if you can, but then listen in, if time permits, to the "Whirligig of Time" series of talks which has been launched by 3YA. Speakers in this vast field, which includes subjects from botany to music, have been chosen for their ingenuity in condensation. And that the selections have been wisely made was shown by at least the first talk by Mr. G. T. J. Wilson, who chatted about "The Place of Personality in History." If succeeding talks are as good as the first, this should be one of the station's best features.

Midday Music

CRITICS have said that all music is good if played sincerely, and they are right. But Dr. J. C. Bradshaw, of Christchurch, a master of the old and best school, adheres strictly to the classics, eschewing anything that deviates in the least from the defined paths. His midday recitals, free to the public, at Canterbury University College, on Wednesdays, have proved themselves an inspiration to those who love the best in instrumental expres-