

The Sultan's Lady Saved Her Life

COLOUR OF THE EAST IN RUSSIAN OFFICER'S BRILLIANT SUITE

LIKE more than one of his gifted compatriots, Rimsky-Korsakov began his career as a musician from the amateur's point of view. Born in that class of Russian society whose sons had a choice of but few careers, he was a sailor until his thirtieth year.

Even after his fine musicianship had earned him the appointment of Professor of Composition in the St. Petersburg Conservatoire, he carried on its duties for some time without relinquishing his rank on the active list of the navy.

That there was nothing amateurish in his musical equipment is by now fully recognised. He was one of the most brilliant members of the modern Russian school, whose work combines something of Eastern gorgeousness with the sombre traits of the Slav character.

Oriental subjects always had a strong fascination for him, and in the "Scheherezade" Suite, the East, with its blazing sunshine and its brilliance of colour, is vividly presented in the music. The subject is, of course, from the

"Arabian Nights," and the composer prefaced his score with the following note:—

"The Sultan Schahriar, convinced of the infidelity of the whole race of women, has sworn to send each of his wives to death after only one bridal night. But Scheherezade saves her life by interesting him in tales which she recounts one after another for one thousand and one nights. Impelled by curiosity, the Sultan puts off from day to day the fate of the lady, and ends, as all the world knows, by renouncing his bloodthirsty intention."

The four stories which are used as subjects in the several movements in this Suite are: (1) The Sea and Sinbad's Vessel; (2) the Story of the Prince Kalender; (3) the Young Prince and the Young Princess; (4) Fete at Bagdad. The Sea. The Ship is wrecked against the rock surmounted by the Warrior of Brass. Conclusion.

All through we can trace the Sultan's wrath and the seductive pleading of the music is brilliantly interpreted by Stokowski and the Philadelphia Orchestra. The suite is featured at 2YA on Tuesday, April 29.

Parlophone version—and to-day that particular recording is unobtainable in New Zealand.

Farewell

DAUGHTER of Sir William Carn-cross, recently appointed to a further term of office as Speaker in the Legislative Council, is Miss S. Carn-cross, until recently head receptionist at 4ZB. Miss Carn-cross's brief reign at 4ZB has been a happy one. Her decision to return to her home at Eltham, there to remain as companion to her mother, was accepted reluctantly by the southern commercial. Before leaving, Miss Carn-cross was presented with an attractive dressing table set in chromium and enamel.

New Lines

TWO 2ZB activities on the way to the air, are the staff Glee Club and a junior orchestra. The former has been in the programme attractions. The orchestra is also under steady rehearsal but will not be ready for public appearances for several weeks. Both activities are being conducted by Mr. B. L. H. de Rose.

That Night

LAST Friday's 2ZB "In Town Tonight" session included a man who described how he had travelled the British Isles on a twenty-pound note; the woman occupier of the house farthest north in New Zealand; and a member of the band attached to Eng-

land's crack Honourable Artillery Company.

Let's All Sing

SECOND community sing of the season, from the Mayfair Theatre on Wednesday next, from 12 to 1.30 p.m. will be relayed by 1ZM because 1YA will be engaged in covering the second day of the Avondale Jockey Club's autumn meeting. As in past seasons, the proceeds of the sings are to be distributed among charitable organisations.

Who?

STATION 4ZB has a new competition. Who is Sproggins? The only facts known are these: That he has a husky voice with a Lancashire accent; he has

ROMANCE OF AIR

BLIND MAN OF WRESTLING WEDS

GORDON HUTTER, 1YA's sports announcer, officiated in an entirely new role on Wednesday of last week when he acted as best man at the wedding of Peter Moreatas.

Peter, as everyone knows who has listened to the wrestling relays from the Auckland town hall in past years, is the cheerful, humorous and sightless Greek who sits alongside Mr. Hutter at the edge of the ring and enjoys the bouts, despite his affliction.

Peter has not missed a wrestling match for five years. His asides and comments to the well-known commentator are greatly enjoyed by listeners, and Peter is a favourite with them all.

The wedding was the sequel to a romance of the air, for Peter's wife was the lady to whom he always sent greetings over the air in between the bouts at wrestling matches.

"From now on Peter, you won't be able to get down as early and as freely to the matches as before," remarked Gordon to Peter after the wedding. "By golly, won't I," replied Peter in his quaint broken English.



NBS and CBS staffs in Wellington who met at cricket on a recent Saturday. Radio personalities in the back row—Phil Shone (extreme left), Peter Whitchurch (captain CBS), Courtenay Hall (captain NBS), Clive Drummond (centre, group in blazers), Kingi Tahurangi (fourth from right), and Harry Bell, National secretary, CBS (second from right).