

Your Side of the MICROPHONE



WAR is our greatest enemy. The radio is our greatest friend. Men's actions are the interpretations of their real thoughts, for "as a man thinketh in his heart so is he."

Could not this great friend of ours, the radio that can penetrate into the loneliest and most remote parts of the country, do more to influence the minds of men for peace and goodwill?

Since Sweden and Denmark managed to keep aloof from war even on the doorstep of European turmoil, why not New Zealand, situated so far away from it all?

Some of the recordings that came over the air during Easter seemed very suitable for this purpose, but need we wait until next Easter to hear more of them?—"A Mother," Waipukurau.

Radio Schooling

FROM the educational viewpoint the adult gains on the one hand and loses ground on the other. In spite of an average high standard of schooling, the adult rapidly forgets the rudiments of many subjects such as English gram-

CHOICE OF BOOKS

Advice on Authors Old And New

FOR some years past we have listened regularly to reviews of the latest books. These, while being both interesting and helpful, are, for many of us, a little premature. First editions are expensive to buy, and difficult to borrow from libraries. Could we not have, occasionally, a talk on the lives of authors old and new. Three or four writers—novelists, dramatists, humorists, etc.—could be selected for a twenty minutes' talk. I suggest a brief account of the writer's life, a list (not necessarily complete) of his or her works, followed by brief summaries of some of them. This service would be a great boon to many readers, such as myself, who, though constantly looking for fresh writers, are diffident about choosing books at random.

—John D. Lawrence (Auckland).

This week's prize-winners are: John D. Lawrence, Auckland (7/6); "Twixt-and-Tween," Auckland (5/-); "A Mother," Waipukurau; E. N. Crook, Auckland; "Amron," Timaru; "Wahine," Auckland (2/6 each). Address your entries (not more than 150 words each) to "SAFETY VALVE," P.O. Box 1680, Wellington. Prize-money will be forwarded at the end of each month.

pared course of "radio schooling" would be welcomed by many listeners. Such a course, embracing the elementary laws of English grammar and composition, and such other subjects as might be considered advisable would become extremely popular. Adult education in simple form should be a regular feature of national broadcasting. In such a programme lies the opportunity to raise the general standard.—Miss E. N. Crook, Auckland.

Radio Quests

TALENT-FINDING contests seem popular these days with certain stations. From a listener's point of view, I think, public auditions and quests can become very boring, and to encourage amateur talent is to make the young people who appear before the microphone unsettled for life. They imagine their fortunes made, only to find that the ranks of professionals are full up, and that work for them is almost non-existent. It is a risk. There may be just one in a hundred who will reach stardom; for the rest there is disappointment and difficulties undreamed of.

Yet how are we to get new talent without these "quests"? In New Zealand, only the larger cities have their own radio stations. If the smaller, medium-sized towns each had its own station, much local talent could be used, and, who knows?—perhaps a new radio "star" would be discovered.—"Amron," Timaru.

Maori Melodies

IT is quite evident that the Maoris understand and appreciate the value of the radio, but there are numbers of their women not sufficiently educated to grasp fully the significance of many important subjects which their pakeha sisters find so educative and necessary. I suggest, therefore, that the time is opportune for the Commercials (which have Maori announcers) to broadcast, say, once a month a specially-prepared health instruction session, simply worded—particularly information regarding contagious diseases.

This would ultimately prove beneficial to the pakeha. Maori women would soon become interested listeners to such a valuable session, especially coming to them in their own language

from their announcer, or perhaps a medico could be found who can speak Maori.—"Wahine," Auckland.

Please Remember

THERE are ever so many people from whose lips we grow very accustomed to hearing the words "I forget" or "I forgot." It has even been dark-

ly hinted that I myself have an excellent forgettery.

Now, to avoid this sort of thing, would it be possible to arrange for a series of talks on mind and memory-training? I am sure there are numbers of listeners who, although they most likely would not take the trouble to

WIDE APPEAL?

"A Middle-Brow" Session

I WAS interested in the comment by the writer of "In the Wake of the Week's Broadcasts" in the "Record" of April 14, regarding a programme presented by Station 4YO, and featuring orchestral and band items and songs by Paul Robeson, Nelson Eddy and Jeanette MacDonald, and Gladys Moncrieff.

I have been wondering whether we could not have a "Middlebrow" Session regularly. It would have, I think, a wider appeal than either the NBS Classical Hours, or the "Latest Film Hits" Session which we have from the Commercials. I believe the National Auxiliary Stations would earn listeners' gratitude by presenting, on one evening every week, the sort of "good" but not "highbrow" music which is popular with everyone.

Such a session could easily, however, become vague and non-descript, and I suggest it keep a definite individuality by featuring only well-known artists such as those mentioned above, together with Grace Moore, Deanna Durbin and Richard Tauber.

—"Twixt-and-Tween" (Auckland)

buy books on this subject, would enthusiastically welcome talks on "How to Cultivate the Memory" or "Train Your Mind." The whole series would probably take quite a long while, so would have to be delivered by a good, forceful speaker who would be sure of retaining the listener's interest and who would really inspire him to remember before he forgets!—"Tve Forgotten," Christchurch.

mar and composition. Furthermore, there are many adults who, for no fault of their own, were denied many of the benefits of education. A carefully-pre-