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Family Estates

ADDITION to this week's programme from 4YA is a recorded talk by Douglas Cresswell to be given on Friday night. This, first of a series on "Famous New Zealand Estates," discusses the "Deans of Riccarton." On June 3, Mr. Cresswell will talk on "John Grigg of Longbeach," and on June 10 "The Rhodes Family" will complete the group. Listeners who have liked hearing these fascinating accounts of pioneering life in New Zealand will be pleased to learn that Mr. Cresswell is now in the Wairarapa and Hawke's Bay gathering material for North Island talks on the same lines.

Care Of Pets

NEW session of interest to young listeners is being instituted by Aunt Pat. It is a series of talks on pets and their care. Mrs. White, sec-



BISHOP BENNETT

... Will talk on Marsden from 2YA on May 27.

retary of the Junior Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, is to give the talks on the third Monday of the month.

English As Spoke

THERE is no excuse for slipshod English now, if you have been listening in to 4YA regularly. In his series of talks, "Plain Man's English," Professor Arnold Wall, late professor of English at Canterbury College, has been doing his best to help listeners out of little grammatical difficulties. The talks have been as entertaining as they have been instructive, and it is a pity the end must come. Final talk in the series will be given from 4YA next Thursday night.

In Town

IN TOWN TO-NIGHT, 2ZB's modified BBC feature heard on alternate Fridays, will, in future, be broadcast on alternate Sundays, probably at 9.30 p.m.

Had A Voice?

SOME people think there is some sort of mystical power that makes singers of them—that you call in at a radio station to have an audition, just as you are vaccinated or inoculat-

BAGPIPE GIRLS

RUMOUR IN CHRISTCHURCH CITY

ARE women physically fitted to play the bagpipes, and, if so, should they? All Christchurch, at least the Scottish part of it, has been awaiting an answer to the first portion of this question for a long time.

It was rumoured in the city on two or three occasions that some of the "bright young things" were seriously considering forming a pipe band, but that is as far as it went.

There was another whisper abroad last week, and it came from a reliable source; but, try as I might, I was unable to secure official confirmation that the city streets would ever see the bonnie lassies skirling their way through long lanes of Highland admirers. However, stranger things have happened in New Zealand before to-day.

This question of whether women, in general, are physically strong enough to blow the pipes was keenly debated at the beginning of this year by the Scottish Piping Society of London, which assisted in making arrangements for a national piping contest to be held.

One of the Scottish officials in the piping world is reported to have remarked, trenchantly, "It's no' the thing for a woman to blow the pipes, and it's unheard of for her to belong to a society."

Another, even less gallant, expressed the view that women were "making plenty of noise in the world to-day without taking up the pipes and squeezing a bag to supplement their lung-power."

And this same Scot became a trifle grim when he remarked, in passing, that there was a time, following the '45 Rebellion, when the playing of the pipes by women was made punishable by death, even in Scotland.

ed, and lo, you are a singer. Last week a young woman entered a New Zealand radio station and requested an audition. "What type of work do you specialise in? Are you a musician or a vocalist?" she was asked. "Well, my friends tell me I've got a good voice," she replied, "but, of course, I've never had a lesson." Such people fail to realise that stations must present experienced, case-hardened artists, used to singing to an audience.

Cowboy

2ZB's real live cowboy, Happy Hill, with his hill-billies and tales of the Golden West, is back at 2ZB again, and appears in the new Sunday afternoon music, mirth and melody programme. The ex-rancher will be heard regularly at 2.45 p.m. approximately.

Women's Work

ALTHOUGH the Male Voice Choir of Christchurch is now many years old, feminine influence is allowed in the choir's vocal efforts only when a soprano or contralto soloist or a visit-