

JUTLAND RECAPTURED



WORLD'S FINEST SHIPS FOUGHT ON JUTLAND EVE Told by WILL GRAVE

THERE is a theory, fantastic as it sounds, that some day man with his radio set may pick up the sound vibrations of past ages.

Turning the dial of his set, he may pick up a message out of the centuries of the past.

He might hear the voice of a Roman Governor saying 2000 years ago: "What is truth?"

It is fantastic, certainly. Impossible? So were aeroplanes, so was electric light, so was wireless itself, to the earlier generations.

I WONDERED if he felt something like this, the ex-naval officer who sat beside me one morning last week in the 2YA studios while we heard a radio preview of the NBS production of "Jutland."

The swish of the sea's waves, those messages in Morse, the echo of great guns firing in the greatest naval engagement the world has ever known, meant more to him than to most listeners.

He had been in the Battle of Jutland.

THE whole production means much to New Zealanders, too. The man who held the responsibility of an Empire in the hollow of his hand on the fateful night of May 31, 1916, was later to become a well-loved figure

AT 8 p.m. on May 31, 2YA will broadcast an anniversary programme entitled, "Jutland—May 31, 1916." This recorded programme is written by Captain Tafrell Darling, D.S.O., F.R.Hist.S., R.N., better known to the public as "Taffrail," the author of many seafaring stories. He himself took part in the Battle of Jutland. The recording will be broadcast later at the main National stations.

in New Zealand.

New Zealanders remember the way he fitted into colonial life, his natural and unaffected ways, his strength and friendly nature. . . .

Remembering him like this, listeners will find, as I did, perhaps, a tenser interest in a production that gives a glimpse of the tremendous issues that had to be fought out in that man's brain.

HE was criticised afterward.

There was—and there are still echoes of the affair—a hot controversy over Jutland. There was a wild popular conception at the time that Jellicoe had turned aside from a decisive action that would have smashed the German High Seas Fleet to smithereens.

In the light of all the facts, the theory seems absurd. The ex-naval officer who listened with me to the broadcast had no doubt about the brilliancy of Jellicoe's handling of that mighty fleet of 154 vessels of war.

"THE broadcast is a fine production," he said afterward. "It is exciting and stirring. It gives a good idea of the phases of the action, but it has one fault. It lies in the script. The brilliance of Jellicoe's manoeuvring is not made plain enough, so that listeners could understand it."

We were in the (Contd. on p. 42.)



CAPTAIN TAFRELL DORLING

. . . Wrote the script.