

the 10 p.m. to midnight period. Innovations introduced include rumba, swing and old-time vaudeville sessions, and another real old-time dance programme is being arranged similar to that produced on Easter Saturday. Michael, responsible for the Wanganui hour, is also Speed Man in 2ZB's children's hour. He is now working on a stage presentation of J. B. Priestley's "Dangerous Corner."

Hockey

ENGLISH women's hockey team will be given a radio welcome by 2ZB on arrival at Wellington on the morning of Monday, June 13, and arrangements are in hand for a fairly extensive coverage of the team's activities



JAMES LANDRY.

... But the famous American baritone comes to 4ZB's microphone actually through wide-range recordings.

whilst in Wellington, and also of the provincial fixture, Wellington v. England on July 9.

Queries

SO many and varied have been questions showered on 2ZB's children's hour Question Man that he now has a session all to himself on Saturdays, at 5 p.m.

Old Folks

"SONGS and Melodies for the Old Folks" is the name of 2ZB's newest Sunday session. Competently handled by Jay McNamara, it has brought pleasure and enjoyment to a radio group, hitherto somewhat neglected in the way of special radio treatment.

Sidelights

STATION 3ZB was not stuck for a sidelight on Christchurch the other day when an enterprising member of the staff conceived the idea that the head of each department should tell listeners something about the way the disastrous fire affected him and his work. The public learned, too, a good deal about the operations at the transmitting station at New Brighton. There were hundreds of callers, and the only way the staff was able to keep inquiring children out of the way was to tell them that the big mast might take it

"THE STRING OF PEARLS"

"PRINCESS IDA" IS ONE OF LOVELIEST WORKS IN ALL OPERETTA

ON one of his former visits to London, many years ago, Richard Strauss, doyen of German composers, dined at a certain house in company with a well-known English composer. Strauss was regretting the absence of opera in London. The other composer put in his spoke.

"No opera in London?" protested the Englishman. "What nonsense! Where in Germany or any other country can you point to a dozen operas written 40 years ago, by a composer 20 years dead, all of them not only in the repertory but capable of filling a large theatre night after night? It is an unparalleled record. You ought to go and hear them at once."

We are not told whether Richard Strauss acted on this good advice and went to discover Savoy opera for himself—but it would have rejoiced his heart if he had seen and heard "Princess Ida," one of the loveliest works in all operetta. For "Princess Ida" contains what is probably the best light concerted music since Bizet wrote

"Carmen," Rossini "The Barber of Seville" or Mozart "Cosi fan Tutte."

The text of the work is based on a version of Tennyson's poem, "The Princess," adapted by Gilbert for dramatic performance. The play was not a success, but Gilbert had the idea of remoulding it for use with Sullivan's music. It was produced in 1884 and was once described quite fittingly as "A String of Pearls."

It is in three acts and is an amusing satire on the Women's Rights Movement. The characterisation is better than the plot, the music better than either.

Being written in blank verse, "Princess Ida" greatly puzzled one G. and S. enthusiast who hailed from Yorkshire. When asked what he thought of the opera he replied: "Well, I do like t' music as it's bang up-to-date, and full of tunes I can whistle, but t' words sound too much like Shakespeare for t' likes o' me to understand."

A complete recorded musical version of the Gilbert and Sullivan opera "Princess Ida" will be heard from 1YA on Sunday, June 12.

into its head to drop to earth. Normality is rapidly being reached in the temporary town studio, even if a kitchen table is being used for the announcer's desk.

"Impressions"

NEW 4ZB session that is liked is Alec McDowell's afternoon presentation, "Impressions." To the many listeners to whom poetry means more than mere rhyming, the session comes as a welcome interlude. Alec devotes care and thought to the selection of verse for his session, but perhaps the secret of its success lies in the choice of the associate records. In this Mr. McDowell's long apprenticeship to music stands him in good stead.

NBS Play

MAX AFFORD'S radio play "Sacrifice at Dawn," will shortly be produced from the NCBS by Mr. Geoff. Lloyd, of the staff of 2ZB, 19-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Lloyd, well-known to followers of the drama in Wellington. Mr. Leon Gotz and Miss Leslie Hall of the staff of 2ZB are in the cast.

Amateurs

KINGI TAHIWI, whose 2ZB's weekly Hawera Hour has added greatly to his mana in the butter province, is now responsible for that station's bright 30-minute amateur trials at 9 p.m. on Saturday. About 200 entries have

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