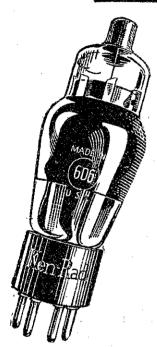
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Singing Blacksmith

JOB ON RELIEF WORK

(Continued from page 10).

depression came and the Natzkes lost everything they had. After spending some time in Auckland they returned to live quietly on Waiheke Island, where young Natzke accepted a job on relief works, Mrs. Natzke was his first teacher. Together they worked hard. Said Mrs. Natzke: "Realising that Oscar had an outstanding voice I wrote to Galli Curci and her husband, Homer Samuels, before their arrival in Auckland, and we were delighted when they gave Oscar an audition and much encouragement by telling him that if he got the proper musical training he would be all right. After that John Brownlee and Mary Campbell heard him sing. Then Mr. Anderson Tyrer gave him an audition. 'I'm sorry I did not hear him before, Mrs. Natzke,' he told me.

"He advised Oscar to nurse his voice until he (Mr. Tyrer) returned to New Zealand from England. To our joy, Mr. Tyrer communicated with us on his return six months later. Then Oscar one day received a cable from London containing an offer by Trinity College to give him free training for three years. Mr. Tyrer got a number of Auckland businessmen interested, and they provided the money to send him home and pay his expenses while in England and Vienna. At last our

dream had come true!

"Often Oscar and I went to picture theatres to hear great singers. When I would say to him, 'Oscar, you'll be a great singer some day,' he used to laugh and reply, 'Mother, that will never be. It is too much to hope for.'"

AND now Mrs. Natzke is waiting for the day when she will go to England to see her son make his first public appearance in opera or on the concert platform.

That may not be just yet awhile, for word was received in Auckland last week that the Trinity College authorities had granted him a further year's free tuition—a most unusual thing for them to do. Then Natzke will go to Milan for further training.

Spelling Bee

(Continued from page 14).

these:
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"Single or double I's and m's and m's are the ones to catch them out," he told me, rubbing his hands with pleasant anticipation. "Sch" is tricky in a word. "Miliary" is a nice little word. It means resembling a millet seed, but millet, you see, has two "I's."

"AND when they are gonged?" I ask-

"Some realise immediately that they have made a mistake," he said. "Some are quite positive that they haven't. But nobody ever really minds."

"But what makes people go in for it?" I asked again. "Does it give them some prviate sort of ecstasy when they win?"

A dreamy look came over his face. "Spell ecstasy," he said.