

# APPLAUSE UNHEARD

## DEAF BEETHOVEN'S TRIUMPHANT "MISSA SOLEMNIS"

BEETHOVEN was in his forty-eighth year when he began his astonishing "Missa Solemnis"—at the very height, that is, of his powers. The eight symphonies were behind him; before lay the tremendous "Ninth" and the last String Quartets.

In the summer of 1818, the composer's friend and patron, the Archduke Rudolf, was appointed Archbishop of Olmutz, and Beethoven conceived the idea of writing a grand mass for his installation, fixed for March, 1820.

He worked at it enthusiastically and sometimes under most trying conditions. In fact, the work became almost an obsession with him, and he often forgot to eat for 24 hours at a time.

Schindler describes the circumstances under which the "Credo" came into being. Beethoven was at Modling, and there was no fire or any comfort in the house, the servants had all left, no doubt on account of the composer's sudden fits of temper, and

the master in his room was "singing, shouting, stamping as if in actual conflict of life and death over the fugue, 'Et vitam venturi.'"

During Beethoven's lifetime the Mass was only once performed in full, and then in St. Petersburg; three of the movements, however, were played in the presence of the composer at the famous concert in 1824, when the "Ninth" first burst upon an astonished world. The audience was wildly enthusiastic over the new works and clamoured for the composer, but he did not hear a sound and had to be turned to face the audience so that he could see their applause.

Entirely unecclesiastical in character, this work is suited only for the concert hall—as if Beethoven had composed his "Mass" for a wider congregation than that of the official church. It marks the composer's entrance into that realm of metaphysical music which includes all his greatest work.

On Sunday afternoon, July 3, 2YA will broadcast Beethoven's "Missa Solemnis," sung by the Bruno Kittel Choir, with the Philharmonic Orchestra of Berlin, under the baton of Bruno Kittel.

Movies" on Saturday evenings. Under a national plan, film sessions are to be broadcast always at 9.30 on Sunday evenings in future.

### Hymn Broadcasts

MEETING the demand for broadcasts of a religious nature, the NCBS will shortly inaugurate a daily session at 8.45 a.m. from Tuesdays to Sundays beginning on July 4, called "Hymns of all Churches." A perfectly balanced mixed choir sings the favourite hymns of the leading churches of England and America, with a short explanatory note of origin and meaning. The series originated in America.

### Back To Duty

OFF the scene through illness for 12 days, Jay McNamara has made a welcome return to 2ZB. His listener popularity brought scores of phone calls at the station, and his home, where he was visited by dozens of callers solicitous for his welfare.

### New Radio Journal

SIDELIGHT on the progress of Radio Advertising in New Zealand. . . . Mr. Jack Morris has resigned from Radio Features, Ltd., to take over the managing editorship of New Zealand Radio Advertising, a new monthly magazine published to educate the New Zealand radio advertiser in the efficient use of the new medium. Mr. Morris had had varied career in the advertising and publicity world.

### Shoppers' Service

NEW "Shoppers' Session" from 1ZB gives current prices and shopping notes. Ruling prices in meat, groceries, fish and fruit, etc., are broadcast

as a guide for the housewife. This 10.45 feature is fast becoming an information bureau for housekeepers, who listen on Friday morning just before the week-end shopping rush.

### New Coates Suite

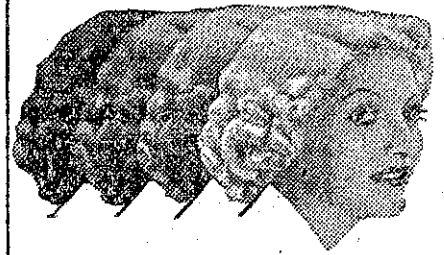
THE light compositions of Eric Coates are popular throughout the world, and 2YA will present a number of this prolific writer's works at 8 p.m. on July 6. Included in the programme is a new composition entitled "Spring-time Suite" in three movements.

### Pies, Peas and Mashed

MANY a sober-sided couple homeward bound after theatre must plead guilty to a couple of surreptitious sniffs when they pass that delectable cafe on wheels, the pie-cart—pardon, coffee stall. They would love to slip under the curtain, but, somehow, dignity forbids. So, for the benefit of the uninitiated in the art of dealing pies, peas and mashed on a street corner, 3ZB the other night took its microphone into one of the most aristocratic of Christchurch pie-carts and told listeners all about its culinary arrangements, its chef, waiters and customers. The session was capably handled by Ian Mackay, whose side-lights feature, by the way, is to be taken over by Bob Pollar when Mac goes to Wellington.

### For Men

STRANGE as it may seem, "Magazine for Men," new Saturday morning feature at 1ZB, is not made up of borderline jokes and "bright" humour. Editor John Gordon played an operetta overture as interlude in the first issue, and introduced an entertaining talk on mountaineering and another on the



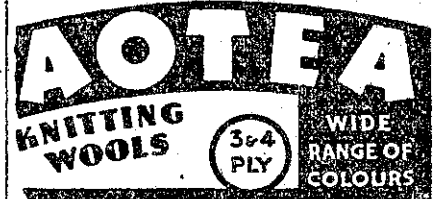
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