

AROUND THE STUDIOS.

LAUNCHING OF A LINER

*Christening Ceremony Of Dominion Monarch—Rebroadcast
From Daventry—All Night Session From 3ZB—Otago
versus Southland At Rugby—French National Day*

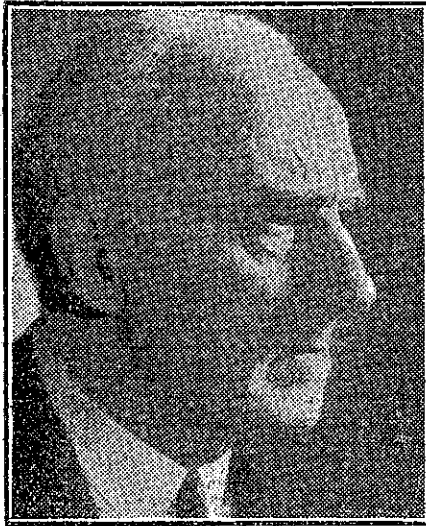
REBROADCAST from the Empire Station, a description of the launching of the motor liner "Dominion Monarch" will be heard from Station 2YA at 5.30 p.m. on Thursday, July 28. Built at Newcastle-on-Tyne for the England-New Zealand service, the "Dominion Monarch" is the largest vessel to be constructed at the shipyards of Swan, Hunter, Wigham and Richardson since 1907. Designed to carry 525 passengers, her 27,000 tons will be used to inaugurate a new service route direct from the Mother Country to New Zealand, including stops at Tenerife, Cape Town, Durban, Freemantle, Melbourne and Sydney.

THERE will be no break in the transmission from 3ZB on July 22-23—an all-night session in fact. This system will operate once a month for the benefit of farmers, and others who have to rise before the dawn. Most men on the land retire so early at night that they have little chance of a long and enjoyable spell at the radio set. Now, once a month they will have the whole day and night to set aside a listening period.

THE big question—to Otago people—is will Otago lift the Ranfurly Shield from Southland on July 30? Station 4YA will broadcast a running commentary on the match from Rugby Park, Invercargill. Mr. Robert McKenzie will "whang" it in his customary able fashion.

THE large number of listeners to episodes of "Victoriana," the NBS production on the life and reign of Queen Victoria, will hear the fourth episode broadcast from 2YA at 9.5 p.m. on Sunday, July 24. This episode, entitled "The Fight for Peace," covers the years 1848-1851. It has special interest to New Zealand, for it includes the departure of the four ships that brought the first settlers to Canterbury. Vivid pictures are given of the industrial distress of the years and of Prince Albert's pursuit of a dream of International Peace taking

concrete shape in the building of the Great Exhibition of 1851. There are glimpses of Balmoral Castle, of the Prince Consort deer-stalking, and of Palmerston, the bete noire of the court for his independent foreign policy. "Victoriana No. 5" is in preparation.



—S. P. Andrew, Photo.

S. K. RATCLIFFE

Noted English journalist to speak from 3YA on July 25.

"I WAS delighted to wake up on Thursday morning, in this distant land of the Antipodes, to the rousing strains of the "Marseillaise," wrote the French Consul for New Zealand to Station 2ZB, "Many French citizens and friends of France must have felt, on this French National Day, that they were not so far away from the Mother Country." The 149th anniversary of the storming of the Bastille in Paris was commemorated by 2ZB on Thursday with a special programme of music from the France of to-day and yesterday. The French theatre, grand opera, variety, and famous vocalists and performers were drawn upon to provide the musical portion of the programme. At Station 1ZB, a well-presented 15-minute cameo was broadcast. It was a smart piece of continuity work, with the references worked out well and all historically correct. It led up to a good climax—the taking of the Bastille.

Talks On Music

NO sooner had he arrived back in Christchurch from an extensive tour abroad, than Mr. Victor C. Peters, conductor of the Christchurch Harmonic Society and the Liedertafel, and well-

known musician, was besieged by secretaries asking for talks on everything from Gracie Fields to the use of bamboo flutes in English schools. The public en masse will hear Mr. Peters, however, from 3YA at 9.5 p.m. on July 28, August 1 and August 8, when his subjects, respectively, will be "Musical Activities Abroad," "Some Celebrities I Met Abroad" and "Pageants and Personalities Abroad."

Indian Visitors

TUAHIWI, 12 miles from Christchurch, will be en fete on July 24, for the Prince of Manavadar will visit the Maori settlement and talk about India, hockey and, possibly, the culture of the two famous dark peoples. The Prince will be welcomed traditionally with speeches and songs. The proceedings will be broadcast by 3ZB at 2.30 p.m.

He Unbent

ANNOUNCER from 4YO introduced an unexpected note into the stereotyped style adopted by NBS stations the other day after that familiar recording "A Hollywood Party" had been presented. In that particular recording, Florence Desmond imitates several

FAREWELL

DEPARTURE OF NCBS ANNOUNCER

HIGH appreciation of the services of Cecil Agassiz ("Aggie") to commercial broadcasting in New Zealand was expressed at a full gathering of Head Office and 2ZB staffs last week. He sailed for Sydney on Thursday.

On behalf of the staffs of the four commercial stations, Mr. B. T. Shell presented Mr. Agassiz with a handsome piece of Maori art. Mr. Shell said his first acquaintance with "Aggie" was some years ago, when Mr. Agassiz was at the microphone describing a welcome to the late Sir Charles Kingsford-Smith.

On the establishment of commercial broadcasting in New Zealand, "Aggie" had joined the service as chief announcer at Auckland. Subsequently he had trained the announcers at Wellington and Christchurch. His decision to return to Australia was a loss to broadcasting in New Zealand.

For the staff of 2ZB, Mr. M. S. Bullivant, station director, presented "Aggie" with an inscribed gold watch.

The function, broadcast by 2ZB, led to dozens of calls to the station, Mr. Agassiz being kept busy thanking listeners who telephoned their regrets.