

Hollywood stars, concluding with a Gracie Fields impersonation. The Desmond-Fields voice had just died away in song when the announcer said, "After that little bit of imitation, perhaps you will also appreciate the real thing," and put on the real Gracie in one of her own rare numbers. Listeners may have been surprised, but the remark seemed to herald a more human form of announcing.

Vivid Sidelight

"THERE goes the ambulance!" is a frequent cry in the city streets. Through 3ZB, Bob Pollard provided an interesting sidelight recently, when he took the microphone and gear to the St. John Ambulance headquarters in Christchurch. Listeners were given full details of the working of the service, from first-aid to blood transfusions. The relay ended, dramatically, with a representation of a van going out to an urgent call.

Feeding 1ZM

THE NBS is now feeding 1ZM, Auckland, with some good recorded features, and at present the feature, "Every Walk of Life," and the Coconut Grove Ambassadors Orchestra, are particularly well-liked. Station 1ZM has always had entertaining items, for Mr. W. W. Rodgers, who started the station at Manurewa years ago, is recognised as one of the best programme organisers in the Dominion. The new features now included make 1ZM's offerings all the brighter.

The Great

"GREAT Lovers of History," weekly 1ZB broadcast, shows the influences (unrevealed in most history books) that played greatly on masters of men in the past. The domestic affairs, very often, were the greatest influences on their lives. Imagine Burns without "Chloris"; Browning without Elizabeth Barrett; Napoleon without Josephine; Chopin without Georges Sands. History surrounds its heroes with a glamour that enshrouds the man within—a glamour which "Great Lovers of History" pierces to create a series of fine stories. Accompanied by appropriate music, the episodes are broadcast from 1ZB every Wednesday at 7.45 p.m.

Accident

BEST radio joke of the year in the south: The Dunedin Community Sing Committee entertained Captain Karl Karlsson, of the barque Penang, at the last sing. When the skipper had taken his seat, Leader H. P. Desmoulins turned to the audience, "I want you all to stand up now," he said. "Alfie (Alf Pettitt, pianist) has some-



thing special to play now." Everyone stood up, and even listeners-in could appreciate the respect and deep feeling with which "Alfie" handled an unfamiliar air. At last it was ended, and "Demmy" turned to the visitor, "That," he said proudly, "was, I think, the Finnish national anthem." The reply was quick and devastating: "No," Captain

HAYDN WENT TO LONDON

SOCIAL AND MUSICAL SUCCESS IN THE METROPOLIS

ON his two visits to London, 1791 and 1794, the old master, Haydn, had a strenuous time. Among the works he composed while there were twelve symphonies, six being completed and performed during each visit.

On the second excursion he thought of taking Beethoven with him as a companion, but either Beethoven was too proud to go or Haydn thought Johann Elssler, his faithful copyist, would be more useful to him. Haydn was growing old and needed such a companion to help him through the arduous work that faced him in London. Lucrative though these engagements were, they left him "tired out and exhausted."

On this visit, which lasted from January, 1794, to August, 1795, he wrote his last six symphonies. Among these was Symphony in G (The "Military"), which owes its name to the use in the orchestra of a rather larger array of the noisy instruments than was usual in Haydn's day. The big drum, cymbals and triangle, are all energetically employed.

The "Military" Symphony had its first performance in London, and Haydn's success, depending now less upon the novelty of his presence, was more profound than ever. The Court did him more honour than before he was officially invited to make his home in England.

Haydn relates how the Prince of Wales—afterward George IV (who was a fair performer on the cello) gave him an invitation and charmed him with his kindness. "He is the handsomest man on God's earth," reported

Haydn. "He has an extraordinary love of music, and a great deal of feeling, but very little money."

Haydn was touched by the beauty of English women—two especially. Mrs. Shaw and Mrs. Hodges quite swept him off his feet. The first, he said, was "the



HAYDN

... Did Not Take Beethoven.

most beautiful woman I ever saw," and the second was "the loveliest, ditto." Such were the beauties of London of the gay 1790's.

Haydn's "Military" Symphony will be played at 1YA by the Auckland Municipal Band under Mr. T. J. O'Connor on Thursday, July 28.

Karlsson explained that the tune was not the national anthem—only a national air.

Suitable

WINTER has descended on the south with a vengeance, and perhaps that fact has guided Professor T. D. Adams in his selections from classical literatures to be read before 4YA's microphone next Friday evening. Taking pride of place in a programme of four readings is Leigh Hunt's "On Getting Up on a Cold Morning." The other items are: Joseph Addison's "Sir Roger at the Assizes," Dr. John Brown's "Jeames, the Door-keeper," and "Picture of Country Life," from Oliver Goldsmith's "Deserted Village."

Success In Sydney

BOUQUETS are flying in Australia for Warren Barry (better known in New Zealand as Warren Toogood, of the Wellington "Thespians"), who has caught the critics' ear with his performance as Carver Doone in the new radio serial "Lorna Doone." "Lorna Doone" is to be heard on the air in New Zealand shortly, and the talented Wellington man will then be appearing (on records of course) in no less than four serials on the air in this country—"Mutiny on the Bounty," "Little

Women," and "Trilby" (both of which are to be heard from the NBS) and "Lorna Doone." He will also be heard in one of the leading roles in "The Queen's Necklace," an adaptation from the Dumas story, when it reaches the air here. Warren Barry is under contract to B.A.P. in Sydney—one of Australia's best-known producing firms—where he is associated with Gwen Munro, who was the winner of Australia's "Search for Beauty" contest, and has toured New Zealand with J. C. Williamson productions, and another Wellingtonian, Lola Kelly.

Echoes

"ECHOES of Stage and Screen" heard every Sunday at 10 p.m. from 2ZB, is an interesting presentation recalling highlights from the entertainment world of yesterday, interspersed with programme notes of current productions overseas.

Family Matter

THE popularity of "One Man's Family" in America, where the famous radio serial has been running for over six years on the air without a break, has now aroused the interest of men of science, who felt that there must be something about a serial that can retain a devoted audience for so long. A