# FOR OUR CENTENNIAL

## EVERYBODY GOES ON THE AIR IN BUDAPEST

TDEA that might well be used during the New Zealand Centennial Exhibition in 1940 is one from Budapest. During the annual Industries Fair in Budapest, time on the air can be bought by everybody.

The Hungarian Broadcasting Company reserves four hours daily, during the ten days while the fair lasts, for the transmission of messages spoken by anyone who wishes to try out his talent as a speaker and personally deliver into the microphone messages to the home folks who sit around the loudspeaker in remote villages or outlying places, eagerly waiting for the voices of absent friends or relatives to sound from it,

For a very small sum, anybody may step before the microphone and talk for 60 seconds. Messages must first be written down and submitted to the broadcasting censors. If passed, the papers on which they are written are returned to the would-be radio speakers, who often stand in long queues, biding their turn until they can be admitted into the studio. A professional speaker receives them and "coaches" them. Some of the amateur broadcasters are badly in need of encouragement. There is no one, however, who does not get a thrill from the sense of being heard by thousands of people.

This popular institution, "Everybody's Broadcast," turns out ten thousand new radio "experts" and broadcast fans annually-for anybody who has ever said before the microphone: "I am having a grand time . . ." is told by countless friends and relatives at home that she, or he, as the case may be, has a much better radio voice than the professional announcer. And anybody who has been told that becomes a radio expert for life!

ville Barker's "The Voysey Inheritance," specially adapted for broadcasting, will be presented by the "Mercury Players."

#### Continental

A FINE range of Continental recordings has been received by 2ZB, covering a wide range of music. The recordings will not be used in miscellaneous programmes, but will be pre-sented from time to time in special cameo presentations. Listeners to 2ZB's Sunday programmes have already heard two of these "Continental Cameos."

#### 1YA's Pianist

OWEN JENSEN, 1YA's pianist, will shortly have the opportunity to exploit the individuality of his playing, which, as a good accompanist, he must carefully avoid in the performance of his official duties. On Friday, July 29, he will be featured with the Studio Orchestra from 1YA during the concert programme, playing Mozart's "Concerto in C Major," This work will occupy 30 minutes c the evening programme. A brilliant planist, it is a pity he is not beard more often.

## Rising Totals

DURING the five weeks Jack Maybury, of 3ZB, has conducted community singing at the Civic Theatre. Christchurch, on Thursdays, the contributions toward the relief of distress have been increasing steadily. The first sing brought £46, the next £62, the third £42—shocking weather—and the last two £68 and £60 respectively. The other day the Tuahiwi Maoris assisted. The leader has a different stage setting for each week's session.

### Check-Up

CHECK-UP on mail received at 1ZB shows that New Plymouth and Thames write more letters to 1ZB than other towns outside Auckland. No doubt the reason is that 1ZB broadcasts local sessions to these places. Hamilton, Dargaville, Whangarei, Tauranga, Ngaruawahia, Huntiy, Te Awamutu, Morrinsville, Te Aroha, even to Te Kuiti and Whakatane, provide up to 100 letters a week each. The King Country, notoriously bad as an area for good reception, and Nelson, similarly situated, and the West Coast of the South Island also yield their own crops of correspondence. Surprisingly, over a week or more, a dozen fan-letters arrived for personalities from Australia, Tasmania, Norfolk Island, and Fiji.

#### First Birthday

THE practice of calling children's birthdays from the YA stations during the children's hour seems as popular as ever. Every day many written requests are received from parents who enclose the names and ages of their children for mention over the air. One day last week the station had a request from one mother to greet her son's first birthday! The event was not "covered" in the session, as the child would get little pleasure from hearing his name called. It would seem that some parents simply like their neighbours to know what is going on. Mention of children's birthdays is limited to those children between the ages of four and 10 years.

#### Readings

MR. D'ARCY CRESSWELL, whose readings of prose and poetry, with appropriate music, have been highlights of 1YA's programmes for some months past, has been engaged to give five readings from 2ZB prior to his departure for England. These will cover a wide range of literature and poetry.

#### Appeal

AN annual appeal is made to the Christchurch public by the com-bined orphanages of the city. All ar-tists give their help for the concert. The date for this year's concert at the Radiant Hall is July 27, with 3YA doing the relay. The Cathedral Grammar



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