When Radio Alarms The Czechs

TRAVELLER TALKS OF HIS OWN COUNTRY

(Continued from page 9.)

nean passages.

They are filled with traps so that an enemy ocupying the lines could be annihilated by the touch of an electric button, which would ignite the explosives.

"HOW did the Czechs get word of Germany's intention to march. that time some two months ago?" I asked.

The Czech traveller said a surprising thing.

"I was told in letters from home," he said, "that it came from the British Intelligence Service." That may be an idle rumour, of no value whatever. He had only "heard it from home." On the other hand, the improbable these days is so often true and the probable false.

APART from giving in to domination. says Joseph Erben, Czechoslovakia is willing to make concessions to the German minority within its borders. The Czech Premier, Benes, had said he was willing to meet the German minority on the best possible terms as regards their home rule, but by no means is he willing to sacrifice the country's integrity. From a military and economic point of view, says Benes, that would be Czechoslovakia's suicide

For the Sudeten Germans in Czechoslovakia live on the frontier inside the shadow of those very mountains, so highly fortified, that give the country its protection.

Czech programmes are very much like those in New Zealand. Propaganda. commercial or political, is prohibited, but the Government tries to use broadcasting for the education of the masses on a non-partisan plan. Farmers receive radio instruction from specialists. Lectures in health and popular sciences are often given. There are programmes for pupils and stu-

(Cont. from previous column.)

of the Christchurch society and played lead in its performance of "Libel"which seems to be a repertory special.

Just one final word about the executive which has worked so well to imake the society what it is to-day. Mrs. Richard Hudson has been the society's one and only president: Mr. W. R. Brugh has been chairman since 1934. Mr. A. G. Smith, an original committeeman, has been deputy-chairman for several years, and rendered reoman service with the society's publicity. work gained recognition this year when he was made vice-president. Mrs. E. T. Moller, another original member of the committee, has long played an important part on the social side. Mrs. F. Wakefield Holmes, vice-president, has done untold work for the society almost since its inception.

But the younger committee members are fired with the same characteristic zeal that has so successfully inoculated the Dunedin Repertory Society against "Repertory Blues."

These are some of the older hands.

dents of high schools; sports, travel, comics, songs and music, operas and direct transmission of events from abroad are broadcast.

"So we listened to the grief of London," said Joseph Erben, "when the death of King George the Fifth was announced, and some tears of friendly feeling were shed in far-off Czechoslovakia in sympathy with a friendly nation.

THERE are several broadcasting stations in Czechoslovakia. Prague broadcasting station, situated in the Street of Marchel Foch, is a modern building, many storeyed, of the sky-scraper kind. It is built to conform with all the latest requirements, and divided into chambers adapted for lecturing, for group speakers, for play production and the stage effects required to accompany them-thunder. passing trains, motor-cars, rain and storm.

Then there are chambers for single musicians, larger ones for smaller groups, and finally a large orchestral hall for philbarmonics. Besides this there are offices, cloakrooms, a refreshment hall, shops for the recording of sound, mechanical shops, sitting-rooms for listeners, and rooms for archives.

The whole building is beautifully furnished and lighted, and part is reserved for the use of the State and postal service. Broadcasting is financed by the State, a half-share being claimed by a private company.

IN Czechoslovakia, says Joseph Erben, even the smallest wage-earner owns a radio receiver, but the working class does not favour the artistic recitals, high school music, science and art critics. After the day's work among noisy machinery and a stupefying stifled atmosphere, the workers like to refresh their nerves with a noisy wild jazz band, or latest songs from the talkies, like "In the Rain," "The Music Goes Round and Round" or "Empty Saddle." As in New Zealand, the management daily receives letters from critics. The academic classes ask for artistic and selected music and plenty of instruction in learning, but the proletarians condemn such programmes as "nerve-breaking rubbish."

Even New Zealanders, said Joseph Erben, can listen to the broadcasts distant Czechoslovakia, time when they are most likely to be successful is in the early morning round about 7 o'clock New Zealand time.

"A countrywoman of mine living a long time in Wellington," he said, "sent the Prague authorities a letter asking the broadcasting people to play her a song she had not heard for many The answer was favourable, years. and a time was arranged. At the given day and hour the lady's wishes were realised. She could hear the recital clearly. She even heard her name men-Across stormy seas and vast continents flashed the message from the far-off motherland."

EVERY LIMB "LOCKED"

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No remedy can bring permanent relief from rheumatism unless it performs three

separate functions. These are (a) dissolution of the needle-pointed uric acid crystals which cause the pain; (b) the expulsion of these crystals from the sys-(em: (c) prevention of a further accumulation of uric acid.

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