

While not committing itself, the board decided to congratulate Mr. Martin on his enthusiasm. Curiously enough, this is the very thing Mr. Victor C. Peters, Christchurch musician just back from abroad, is advocating. Mr. Peters believes, as he told the "Record" in an interview only the other day, that some proficiency in music makes a child at least 25 per cent. more efficient in all other subjects.

"Wings"

CIVIL as well as military aviation is creating much interest in New Zealand to-day, and all aero-clubs are engaged in a drive for membership. Extremely helpful in fostering aviation interest are the flying talks given over 3ZB by Lionel McGovern, of the station's staff, himself an aviator of wide experience in various parts of the world. "Mac's" popular Sunday afternoon feature, "Wings Over Irak," is being resumed.

With Wide Range

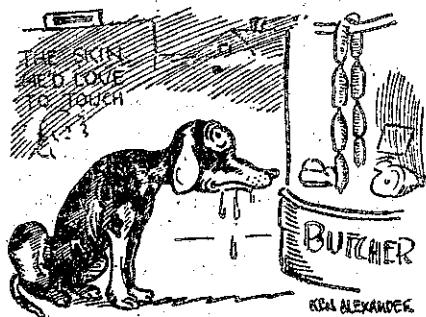
"CUSHLA DE LANGE sings with wide range," new session, not only to 1ZB but also to New Zealand, is broadcast by the Auckland commercial station on Tuesday evenings at 6 o'clock nowadays. Miss de Lange has been away from the microphone for a considerable time, and her return last week showed that in the interim she had been giving a great deal of time to her studies. The promise that her voice showed when Auckland voted her first lady in the Radio Personality Quest 18 months ago is being well fulfilled.

Entertainer

ENTERTAINER at the piano, Will Bishop is no stranger to New Zealand radio listeners. Mr. Bishop has modelled his material on the lines of the English radio and concert artist, Norman Long, and has made a reputation in his work "A Piano and Will Bishop" is a feature of the 2YA evening programme on August 13.

Canine

IT is said that those who love dogs, love them for their devotion, but also for the great variety between breeds and between dogs. "Dog Heroes," dramatic feature now being heard from 1ZB on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays

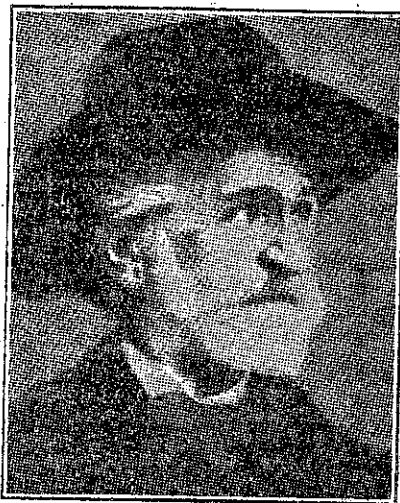


days at 8.45 p.m., should appeal to more than actual dog lovers. It is a series of authentic stories of the heroism of dogs. Internationally famous Frank Foster Davis, authority on dog lore, is the author. He vouches for the truth of every episode.

TRINITY OF GENIUS

"OTELLO" BROUGHT NEW LAURELS TO 74-YEAR-OLD COMPOSER

BY the time the great composer, Giuseppe Verdi, had reached the age of 62, he was tired and very pessimistic about political



GIUSEPPE VERDI.

... Thought he had finished with music at 62—and wrote "Otello."

affairs in Italy. It seemed he would never write much more music, so with greater assiduity than ever he devoted himself to his agricultural interests, attending the weekly stock market at Cremona, schooling his horses, and trying to induce the peasants to cultivate their vines properly. Then, in 1879, a benevolent conspir-

acy was hatched between Ricordi, Verdi's publisher, Faccio, a conductor, and Boito, a composer-librettist of brilliant quality, who longed to provide Verdi with a worthy opera libretto. Years passed, but eventually in 1886, the joint-masterpiece of "Otello" was finished. In the following February when it was produced at La Scala, Milan, it was a musical sensation. All agreed that here was a new Verdi. The blending of words and music was as intimate as Wagner's, yet quite different. The vitality of this work by a man of 74 staggered the critics, and old Verdi was the hero of the hour.

Certainly, much of the success of "Otello" was due to Boito's exceedingly skilful work of adaptation. Music requires more room to spread itself than does speech, for the very essence of music is the elaboration and intensification of emotion. Where the poet can say "I love you" in three words, the musician will need anything from 10 bars to 10 pages to say the same thing in his way. A full-sized drama often calls for drastic concentration before it can be fitted for opera.

In this work Boito was brilliant and Verdi found in him at long last his ideal librettist. The happy results of the collaboration are to be found not only in "Otello," but also in "Falstaff," one of Verdi's greatest operas. It is no accident that both are constructed from plays of Shakespeare—a trinity of genius has unlimited possibilities.

3YA listeners will hear a complete recorded version of "Otello," a lyrical drama by Verdi, on Sunday, August 7.

"Tara Trio"

EVERY ship that arrives at Auckland from overseas is watched closely by the scouts from 1ZB for people who will give interviews, talks and musical items. And if the new arrivals are not heard from the station—well, it's no fault of 1ZB. The station presented to listeners last week a talented and unusual musical combination, the Tara Trio. As the name would suggest, there was a harpist among the three—Miss Eileen O'Donnell, leader of the combination which comprises a piano, harp and violin. After an interesting interview, the trio played some beautiful music and then proved that they can play the popular as well as the classical. The trio is over here and will soon be heard in concert work.

"Popeye"

THE original of the voice of "Popeye the Sailorman," Billy Costello, was the highlight of last week at 1ZB: Juvenile Auckland acclaimed him with energy—even on the wharf before breakfast. Three times Neddo broadcast with him—from the wharf, from the entrance to His Majesty's Theatre, where "Popeye" is playing with the Frank Neil Revue show, and from the studio in the sponsored programme in the evening. Crowds thronged the

wharves and theatre and held up traffic in order to see him. Neddo was in his element, for he had been Auckland's own "Popeye" for a year or more. "Popeye's" voice was easily recognisable as that of the famous cartoon character. It was no effort to Billy Costello to make his voice as deep and rasping as the one we all know, or to raise it to a light tenor. From "Popeye" he became "Donald Duck," with hardly a pause for breath.

Revival

AFTER being without an amateur operatic society for a few years, Christchurch is looking stageward again and has re-formed a strong company with a chorus, already, of more than 70, under the musical directorship of Mr. Len Barnes, well-known radio singer. The committee has been somewhat concerned about the choice of a first production, so has sought the advice of Mr. Elliott Lloyd, production manager of 3ZB.

The League

VISIT to England and Europe was made last year by the professor of history at Victoria University College, Professor F. L. W. Wood, to study the international situation. He went to Geneva and saw the League of Nations at work, and he visited France and Germany. The professor is a leading