

AROUND THE STUDIOS

SOUTHLAND ON THE AIR

*Station 4YZ Makes Its Debut—One Man's Family Seasons
Curtailed—"Aunt Daisy" To Speak From Davenry—
Contralto To Tour For NBS—News From The Commercials*

STATION 4YZ, Southland's new NBS broadcasting station, took the air last week, the station being opened with the broadcasting of a talk recorded by the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. M. J. Savage, and speeches by the Acting-Minister of Broadcasting, the Hon. F. Jones, and the Director of Broadcasting, Professor James Shelley.

TWO good-sized studios have been provided, and, in addition, a smaller talks studio. The control equipment is installed in a centrally-situated room where the control technician is able to view the artists from the operating desk.

THE transmitting station is situated at Dacre, 15 miles away. From this site it was determined by exhaustive tests, that practically all the populated area of Southland would receive a high-grade non-fading service. The building to house the transmitting station is ferro-concrete and is so planned that there is provision for future developments in the broadcasting service. This building has an emergency studio from which programmes may be presented if required.

THE fundamental need was to provide an adequate coverage for the remotest parts of Southland and this has now been done. 4YZ has equipment which places it on an equal footing with the other national stations.

DECISION of Controller C. G.

Scrimgeour to make available episodes of "One Man's Family" during Sunday morning hospital sessions at all ZB stations, which met with great popularity in country districts, has had to be revised owing to copyright restrictions. These now prohibit broadcasting of more than one episode weekly.

DAY-TIME dignity of Wellington's Town Hall will be disturbed for a period by the annual Wellington Competitions Society's Festival. These competitions have done much to encourage the pursuit of the arts of entertainment among New Zealanders. The opening ceremony of the 1938 Festi-

val will be broadcast on relay from the Town Hall by 2YA on Saturday, August 20.

UNDER contract to the NBS for a six weeks' tour of the Dominion, Grace Wilkinson, New Zealand-born contralto, gives her first broadcast of the season from 2YA on August 30. This will be her second appearance before YA microphones. Her first tour of her native land was in 1936. She has studied extensively in England and Europe, and has made many appearances at recitals and symphony concerts in the course of her travels. Miss Wilkinson has a rich, well-rounded voice of power, and a delightful presence.

Wednesday night relay from 2YA. Much of the band's instantaneous success is due to the ability of the personnel to successfully perform the intricate scores provided by the two arrangers, who are kept continually busy by the insatiable demands of modern swing music enthusiasts for up-to-date renditions of popular melodies. The Americanadians can be heard from 2YA at approximately 10 p.m. every Wednesday.

Swiss News

UNUSUAL 2ZB programme last week commemorated Switzerland's Independence Day. Enhanced by a well-chosen musical background the des-

"AUNT PAT"

PRIVATE AND PUBLIC FAREWELLS

"I COULD never have carried on my work without the help of the voluntary assistants. I am going straight away from Christchurch as I shall miss you all so much," said "Aunt Pat" (Miss Maynard Hall) at a 3YA staff farewell on the eve of her retirement. "A child wrote to me the other day saying, 'I am going to miss you something horrible.' And that is just how I feel about my friends of the staff of 3YA—I, too, will miss them, 'something horrible.'"

Director James Shelley, who attended the presentation, said that the NBS owed much to those who blazed the trail. "Aunt Pat" had set a great tradition, but this would not be the last time she would speak over the microphone. "I thank her deeply for her work, on behalf of the service," added the director.

Latecomers to the Christchurch Civic Theatre gathering for the public farewell to "Aunt Pat" had no chance of getting into the building. Though the function did not take place until 5 p.m., a queue extended round into Worcester Street two hours before the opening.

Miss Hall, like a true radio aunt, showed not the slightest sign of strain, was cool and calm, and not forgetful of the smallest detail.

The public children's session was organised by the honorary staff of 3YA's children's hour, and the way in which the public responded was a singular tribute to her immense popularity.

To cope with the overflow of would-be farewellers, a loudspeaker system did duty in the area behind the theatre.



J. F. SKEDDEN

... Station director of 4YZ.

—S. P. Andrew, photo.

"Aunt Daisy's" Voice

THE NCBS has advised that Aunt Daisy will broadcast from Davenry at approximately 6 p.m., New Zealand time, on September 1. The broadcast will be relayed to all ZB Stations.

Poems

NUMEROUS requests have come to 2ZB lately for copies of poems heard in various sessions, mostly in items and programmes recorded overseas. The copyright in such matters is very strongly held, which makes compliance with such requests beyond the power of the station.

Swing

NOTHING quite so exciting in local dance music has been heard as that provided by Sammy Lee and his Americanadians, at present giving the