

SERVICE AT EASTER DAWN IN N.Z.?

Memorable Spectacles Of Worship By The People

IF Aunt Daisy has her way, New Zealanders, at Wellington and Auckland will witness a wonderful spectacle next Easter—a dawn service to commemorate the Resurrection. While in America on her recent trip, Aunt Daisy saw one of the most impressive Easter Day dawn services. At the recent seventh anniversary of the Friendly Road she described them in detail, and hoped a similar service would be held in New Zealand.

AUNT DAISY took part in the dawn service on Easter Day in Honolulu. Services are also held in Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

"At Honolulu I saw this remarkable spectacle," said Aunt Daisy. "From Maundy Thursday till Easter Day there was a great white cross on a green hill, the cross be-

cross is clearly outlined, sing hymns to the accompaniment of a full symphony orchestra.

"On the slopes of the hill under a huge tower, 40,000 people gather as the sun rises. Simultaneous with the sun's rising, hundreds of pigeons are released from the tower as a symbol of faith and peace.

"This great Easter Dawn Service is broadcast over the coast to coast network, to Canada and also through the BBC."

Similar services, says Aunt Daisy, should be held on the summit of Mount Victoria, Wellington, and Mount Eden, Auckland. She is going to do her best to see that a start is made next Easter to hold dawn services at Wellington and Auckland.

Opening On Xmas Night

New 3ZB Studios

CHRISTMAS NIGHT is set down for the opening of the new 3ZB studios in Christchurch, replacing the ones that were burned some months ago.

The Minister of Industries and Commerce (Hon. D. G. Sullivan) will perform the opening, and there will be a special Christmas programme to celebrate the event. This new commercial station embodies many features found only in the most modern Continental and American stations. The NCBS advises that in future it will be necessary for visitors to 3ZB to obtain a permit, which may be had by writing to the station director.

In next week's "Record" photographs of the new station will appear.

ing floodlighted by searchlights from the American Navy. Crowds gaze on the cross at evening.

"Then, as the sun rises on Easter Day, the main service begins. It is a marvellous sight—one that I will never forget.

"Similarly at Forest Lawn Park, a great white cross is placed on the top of a hill half-way between Hollywood and Los Angeles. Here, in the clear Californian air the dawn service is held.

"A choir of 400 women in white, arranged in the form of a cross, with men in dark clothes filling in so that the

Brilliant Young Violinist's U.S. Debut

PRODIGES of the violin are nothing new in the musical world. Menuhin may be said to have started the most recent wave, and at the present time there are probably anything up to half a dozen youngsters who are being hailed as geniuses.



ROBERT VIROVAI
Blind people stamped and
shouted.

Most recent prodigy to startle critics with his mature virtuosity is 17-year-old Robert Virovai, a Yugoslav of Hungarian parentage, who recently made a sensational debut in the U.S.

Robert Virovai was born in 1921 in the Yugoslav mountain resort of Daruvar, but when he was six he was taken to a local teacher of the violin at Belgrade, and four years later his family moved to Budapest.

At 13 he emerged from the Budapest Conservatoire, already showing promise of rare brilliance,



★ Elaine Hamill and R. L. Grant

It was a real Empire gathering at the Elstree studios when these four got together on the set where "The Outsider" is being filmed. Prominently cast are Elaine Hamill (left), well-known young New Zealander, Mary Maguire (centre), the Brisbane girl who is making her name in both Hollywood and London, Paul Stein, the English director, and R. L. Grant (right), the popular New Zealand film executive.

(Continued from foot Column 2.) and his playing deeply impressed the late Jeno de Syalatna Hubay, one of Europe's most famous teachers, who took him as a pupil.

Virovai soon became famous in Budapest, and before he died last year, Hubay remarked of him, "He plays so beautifully as to astonish even me."

And Hubay, through whose hands have passed some of the world's finest violinists, including Joseph Szigeti, knew fine playing when he heard it.

Few of the Philharmonic Symphony concertgoers who attend Virovai's U.S. debut had heard of him, but before his recital was half-way through, the staid audience was stamping and shouting with delight.

Critics present immediately placed him in the front rank of present-day violinists, and described his appearance as one of the most exciting debuts they had attended.

Virovai's playing is remarkable not only for its brilliant technique and beautiful tone, but for masterly restraint and timing.

Class-mate Of 3YA Man Now At Covent Garden

YEARS ago Percy Heming, artistic organiser of the recent opera season at Covent Garden, had as a classmate at the Royal Academy of Music, Will Hutchens, now conductor of 3YA Orchestra. Mr. Hutchens told the "Record" last week that Heming's plans for his company included a scheme to give the pick of English opera singers steady occupation for 30 weeks in the year.

Mr. Heming, it seems, intends to produce all types of operas. "Because the old favourites are old," he says, "they are not to be treated perfunctorily. 'Faust'—and what a splendid work taken in all!—will be properly refurbished. As for the singers, the names of most speak for themselves, but there are a few newcomers who should interest the public. One of them is the New Zealand bass, Oscar Natzke.

Every Day Should Be A Christmas Day

AT this Christmas season, Professor James Shelley, Director of the NBS, gives a special message to "Record" readers:

I am grateful to the Editor of the "Record" for this opportunity of wishing his readers the compliments of the season.

If we human beings were not such weak mortals and so apt to slip in the pursuit of our ideals and the carrying into effect of our good intentions, every day of the year would be a Christmas Day—that is, a day dedicated to the new life and the cause of vigorous peace.

But, alas, we ARE weak, and we need regular reminders of what the spirit of man yearns for in its exalted moments; and so the festival of Christmas is a great agent in the progress of civilisation.

I hope we shall realise its deeper significance and carry its message through the year, and not be content to let it be a mere excuse for jollification which ends with the day.

On behalf of the National Broadcasting Service, I wish everyone a happy Christmas and a New Year of prosperity and joyous service.

New Broadcasting House For NBS In Wellington

PLANS for the new five-story Broadcasting House building for the NBS in Wellington were made public last week.

Building will be erected immediately behind Parliament Buildings on the site of the old museum. Foundations are now being prepared.

Plans show office and studio accommodation for all national broadcasting services in Wellington. Site alongside will be ultimately used for extensions and for the Conservatorium.

Two blocks of studios will be built into the centre of the new building, designed to give full insulation against outside noises.

Studios include one large concert studio, two medium-size for orchestral and choral work, and a number of smaller studios for talks, dramatic productions and recordings.

All studios will be fitted out for the direct production of programme material, rehearsals and recordings.

A somewhat interesting sketch of the front elevation plan of the new Broadcasting House is now available.

The "Record," however, will publish later a proper perspective drawing of the proposed new building.