

Revolt Among Musicians Is Spreading Now To Christchurch City

DRAW a long bow in the business world and you'll get found out. Draw it over the heart-strings of a cello and, if you know how, you can make music to delight thousands. This is what Nancy Estall, daughter of the Woolston Band conduc-



NANCY ESTALL
Draws the long bow.

tor, R. J. Estall, does for a living.

Cellists of ability are comparatively rare in New Zealand. When they appear on concert programmes, some treat audiences to a vast amount of deeply-pitched scraping, while a piano accompanist does his or her best to "explain" the melody. But the Dominion can boast of a few excellent exponents and Miss Estall is one.

She had been playing with piano accompaniment for some time, she told the "Record" the other day, but when, through the instrumentality of Mr. H. G. Glaysher, a harpist, of Christchurch, she realised how the two types of strings could be combined, the idea was put up to the NBS, with the result that this fine duo is heard regularly from 3YA.

Member of a family that just about lives on music, Miss Estall gives up all her time to the cello and before long hopes to take further lessons overseas.

She is too young to have a clear recollection of Jean Gerardy, probably the greatest cellist ever to visit New Zealand, but she has heard his records, makes a point of regularly listening to his presentations.

The "Record" recently printed an article which said that Auckland musicians had formed a club for their own protection. Briefly, the Auckland scheme is aimed at those societies and clubs who ask artists to perform at their gatherings for nothing more than cakes and ale.

Miss Estall, who has had her share of experience of this intellectual greed on the part of the best and not-so-best people, told the "Record" she was in hearty agreement with the Auckland musicians who had formed a club of their own. It is mooted that some Christchurch musicians will follow the northern lead.

Miss Estall claims that such clubs should be formed in every New Zealand centre, with a properly-constituted governing body, drawing up its own scale of fees, and keeping to them.

Radio Globe-Trotters Now Reach Portugal Chequered Career Of A Country

FOR every one who knows that the rich red wine we call "port" derives its name from Portugal's "Porto" (the port), there must be thousands who don't, and simply associate it with those engaging ladies on the wrong side of the bar who dilute (and spoil) it with lemonade.

have sat upon the throne of Portugal.

But many Portuguese monarchs were noble and brave men, good rulers, and far-sighted. The Burgundian House which continued in possession of the throne for 440 years, gave to Portugal some of its best kings.

Portuguese sailors, who included Vasco da Gama and Bartholomeo Diaz brought power and wealth to Portugal, but thanks to the expulsion of the numerous wealthy and industrious Jews, on whose able financial management the commercial interests of the Portuguese were largely dependant, and the introduction of the Inquisition of the Jesuits, this prosperity abruptly declined.

Portugal's empire shrank to a mere shadow of its former self after the loss of Brazil a little over a century ago, and in 1910, the last king of Portugal, Manoel, was de-throned. Britain's ancient ally has had a truly hectic past in which assassination has played no minor part.

Today the population of Portugal is something under seven millions, that of its colonial possessions about ten millions. The country's story is a thrilling one.

Much can be learned from the particular chapter in the "Ports of Call" series which deals with Portugal, and will be broadcast by 2YA on Saturday, January 27.

ALL of us at one time or another must have found ourselves in some deplorable and banal situation haunted by literary parallels and have discovered how actual life provides the untraditional twist: the untimely hiccup; the laugh in the wrong place.—Mr. Graham Greene.

Nervous O.B.E.

FIRST lady in the entertainment land, "Our Gracie" Fields came into the world above a Rochdale fried fish and chip shop on a dark morning.

Father Fred Fields was a Lancashire mill mechanic, mother a natural singer with some of Gracie's nightingale notes.

First engagements in the pubs, and clubs; then came revue choruses, where she preferred the back row. She was too shy and nervous to take her stand next to the footlights—had to be "kidded" out of her nervousness before she would do a single turn.

Even to-day, at £80,000 a year, O.B.E., and life hospital governor, she blushes nervously when singing to friends in private.

Portugal is a wonderful country with its grape vines and olive trees, its tunny and sardine fisheries, and its incredible history. Not one of the bluest legends of our Plantagenets, Tudors, Stuarts and Hanovers can hold a candle to the stories of some of the royal rotters in the lengthy string of those who

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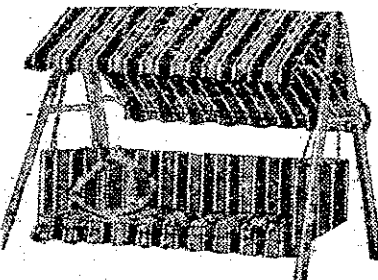
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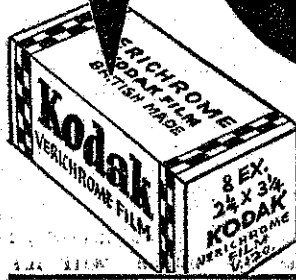
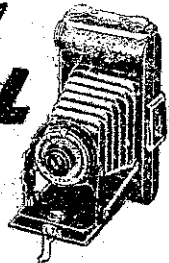
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