

2ZB MAORI ANNOUNCER TO TOUR U.S.

Oriwa Haddon Is Taking A Rare Collection Of Records With Him

USEFUL publicity should accrue to New Zealand from an overseas tour which is being made in the near future by Oriwa Haddon, 2ZB's Maori announcer, who has secured a year's leave of absence from the NCBS, and intends lecturing and giving radio talks throughout America under the auspices of the Chatauqua Association and Lyceum Bureaux. A presentation was made to him at a farewell function held at 2ZB recently, and he sails for Australia and the U.S. in the near future.

ORIWA TAHUPOTIKI HADDON, to give him his full name, is a son of the late Rev. Tahupotiki Haddon, distinguished Maori scholar and missionary.

From his early childhood he has interested himself in tribal lore and traditions, and in the history of early tribal wars, particularly those in which his famous grand-uncle, Titokowaru, played a leading part.

Oriwa's first overseas lecture tour was made when he was only



ORIWA HADDON
"Why can't a Maori boy?"

19 years of age. Then, too, it was the Chatauqua organisation which sponsored him. Other celebrities who were touring for the Chatauquas at the time were explorer Amundsen and evangelist Billy Sunday.

The Chatauquas, who do a considerable amount of charitable work in the U.S., guarantee an artist or lecturer a certain fee, all money received above and over that fee going to charity.

Oriwa's second tour of the U.S. was made in 1920, this time with a Maori concert party. It was the first time that anything of the kind had been seen in America, and the tour was a big success.

Hakas by the party were incorporated into a Burton Holmes travelogue, and the party itself added a spectacular, live drop scene when the travelogue was screened at Graumann's Theatre, Los Angeles.

THIS time Oriwa is touring alone, but he has a large collection of recordings of old Maori chants and songs which he is taking with him.

It is becoming increasingly difficult, he admits, to find Maori singers who have not become almost completely Europeanised, or Maori music which has not been spoiled by the same influence.

He himself, however, Oriwa claims, was able to secure a unique series of recordings, owing first to his long association with and understanding of the Maori race, and second to the fact that he and his brother, James Haddon, took a recording outfit right into Maori meeting houses.

In this way the Haddons were able to persuade elder men and women to render chants and songs which the younger Maoris do not know.

In a similar way, Oriwa's knowledge of Maori custom has enabled him to collect an almost unique fund of folk lore, history and tradition, some of which he hopes eventually to incorporate into a book. All this has been passed on to him in the true "lip-to-ear" method of the old Maori historians.

An Artist

Oriwa HADDON is also an artist of no mean ability. His work for the "New Zealand Artists' Annual" was highly praised by Mr. Punch, and reproductions of three of his paintings appear in a Centennial booklet issued by the Government Tourist and Publicity Department.

Oriwa is undertaking his coming tour with the full approval and co-operation of the controller, Mr. C. G. Scrimgeour (owing to whose enthusiasm, incidentally, station 2ZB has built up one of the finest collections of Maori recordings in New Zealand.)

Reason Oriwa gives for embarking on his trip: "If Aunt Daisy can do it, why can't a Maori boy?"

He Cabled To The "Children's Hour"

CABLE addressed "Children's Hour, 4ZB, Dunedin, New Zealand," proved to be New Year greetings from Captain Karlsson, of the Penang, Finnish barque which broke the news during winter after suffering disablement in a storm.

During the stay in Dunedin, the Penang and the southern commercial station became very friendly. Captain Karlsson was a frequent and popular speaker in the children's sessions, relays were made from the vessel, and while the ship lay anchored outside the heads awaiting news of one of her men dangerously ill in hospital, special bulletins were sent from 4ZB.

That listeners are still interested in the barque is shown by the number of requests for copies of the compass chart autographed by Captain Karlsson and his crew.

John Batten On Transfer To 2ZB

NEWS of interest from 2ZB includes an announcement of the temporary transfer to the station of John Batten, of 1ZB. No stranger to Wellington radio audiences, John, for the past year has been attached to the announcing staff of 1ZB, where he conducted a daily film session and attracted an average of nearly 300 letters weekly.

On the plan that "a change of work is as good as a rest," he is now being heard in the morning and early afternoon at 2ZB, and last week was responsible for a neatly arranged interview with Miss Inga McLennan, just returned from a tour abroad.

Another session that has achieved quick popularity is "The Woman's Forum," conducted by Mrs. Muriel Lewis at 11.15 a.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, in which interesting New Zealand women and overseas visitors discuss topics of the moment. Bright

VETERAN

Stan McKay "Still Going Strong"

"THE J. C. Williamson of the provinces" is a term that might well be applied to Stanley McKay, who for nearly thirty years now has been engaged in presenting theatrical attractions of one kind or another throughout Australia and New Zealand. Regularly every year Mr. McKay leaves Sydney for the north of Queensland, and conducts a tour that takes him down as far as Tasmania, thence to the West Coast of New Zealand for Christmas. From 12 to 14 weeks are usually spent here, after which he returns to Sydney for reorganisation. Just at present the company is playing at Christchurch, and after a short southern tour, a start will be made in the North Island at New Plymouth on February 16.

He hopes to be at the Grand Opera House, Wellington, early in March. This year's company is said to be a particularly good one, several first appearances being numbered, including some fine specialty acts, notably George Hurd, a Royal Command performer. There are, as usual, some old favourites, among whom are Stan ("Stud") Foley, comedian; Stella Lamond, "personality girl"; Nellie Kelle, chorus singer; "Scotty" McKinnon and partner; Barry Ross; Stella Collier; and Max Reddy.

spot for listeners last week was an expertly handled analysis of the reasons why fencing is one of the best of all exercises for women, from the skilled Wellington instructor, Miss Barbara Gillespie, whose part in the progress of this ancient sport in the Wellington province has been considerable.

The midday broadcasts, "Voices of Industry," continue to attract interest, and have already widened Wellington's knowledge of the capital city's extensive manufacturing plants.

Another announcement of interest is that in future the drawing of the Hammond and McArthur Art Unions will be relayed nationally on the ZB chain. First broadcast was held on Monday last at 5 p.m., which has been fixed as the regular time for the broadcasts.



PASSED THROUGH AUCKLAND the other day on their way to an engagement with Australian and New Zealand Theatres Ltd., Francois Bouillard, Melton Moore and Ethel Moore, who is Mrs. Moore in private life. Shown in the picture above, which was taken by the "Record" on the Mariposa, are Mr. Moore (left) and Mr. Bouillard (Ethel Moore didn't want to be photographed, as it was Friday). Melton Moore, who sings, has appeared in several New York shows, including the 1936-37 edition of "The Follies," and he made a musical short at Hollywood when he passed through the film capital to join the Mariposa. Francois Bouillard, whose stage name is Francois, is a ballet master and dances as well. Last show he was with in America was the well-known "Revenge With Music." The Moores and Mr. Bouillard expect that their first show in Australia will be "Me and My Girl," which features the Lambeth Walk, but they expect to appear in several revivals as well.

Movies Would Spoil Illusion, Says Nicola

ART of Nicola the Great, which has to be seen to be believed, will never be depicted on the screen.

"The screen allows too much of fakery already," Nicola told the "Record." People who went to the movies did not trouble to think, they accepted everything thrown on the screen. Camera-fakery was acknowledged as an inevitable part of a picture performance, and no one worried about it.

"If the illusions I perform were shown upon the screen," said Nicola, "they would lose all their value. Picture-goers would at once look upon them as other examples of screen fake, and would not give any credit where credit was due."

The "Record's" hint that some idea of how the remarkable illusions were performed might be whispered confidentially was greeted with a pleasant smile—but no more. Despite Nicola's quiet, unassuming manner, when the "Record" reporter offered the magician a cigarette, he kept an eagle eye on the packet lest it suddenly disappear or be converted into a brace of ducks.

Nothing happened, somewhat to the reporter's disappointment.

Children's Items Began In A Small Way

PART of 4ZB's children's session for some time has been the impromptu performances by children visiting the studio. Begun in quite a small way when Jill and Peter invited one or two children from the lounge to sing or recite, the idea has grown so much that it has become impossible to use all available talent. Latest innovation by Jill and Peter is the holding of a weekly community sing in their session. Opportunity to sing, recite, or play before the microphone has given encouragement to many juveniles.

CHRISTCHURCH musicians of the older generation will remember cellist George Ellwood, who was heard in many a concert performance before broadcasting became a national affair. Clem Williams told the "Record" that Ellwood is now broadcasting director for a South African radio station, is living in Durban.

Baseball Broadcasts

Listeners are invited to send for illustrated description of the game of baseball, obtainable post free from Ford Motor Company of New Zealand, Limited, Lower Hutt, Wellington.

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