

LAWRENCE TIBBETT TO SPONSOR HIM

Brilliant Career Is Expected For Owen James, Young New Zealand Tenor

FOR Lawrence Tibbett to impress is one story, but for the great Tibbett to be impressed is something decidedly different.

Such, however, was the good fortune of tenor Charles Owen James, who is visiting New Zealand after an absence of five years in Australia.

When Lawrence Tibbett was in Sydney he heard Owen James singing, and was so impressed that he offered to sponsor this former New Zealander in the United States.

OWEN JAMES has achieved for himself considerable success in musical and radio circles in Australia. Apart from returning with an attrac-

tion of the best in the world, has given this young tenor a sound musical foundation.

He comes from a well-known Waikato family, and spent his boyhood days in Pukekohe. As a boy soprano he distinguished himself in competition singing and platform work in Auckland, and will also be remembered by radio audiences for his singing of Irish ballads over the YA stations.

It was during the visit to New Zealand in 1934 of the late Miss Mary Campbell, then singing principal of the Albert Street Conservatorium of Music, Melbourne, that James "got his break." The "local boy" so impressed that Miss Campbell offered him free tuition in the development of his voice if he cared to go to Australia. He went.

On the death of Miss Campbell, Adolf Spivakoski arrived in Melbourne and James furthered his studies under this master. He was also fortunate in receiving encouragement from famed Italian tenor Tito Schipa, who visited Australia in 1937.

Raymond Beatty, Australia's leading baritone, at present on tour in New Zealand under contract to the NBS, is another prominent artist with whom James has been associated.

At 27 years of age this young New Zealander has every prospect of going on to bigger and better things. Apart from his voice he has also developed a pleasing stage personality. Of medium height, he is dark and rather rotund (he tips the scale at 12½st.).

Since his return to New Zealand James has fulfilled various professional engagements, as well as assisting generously at functions at his home town, Pukekohe.

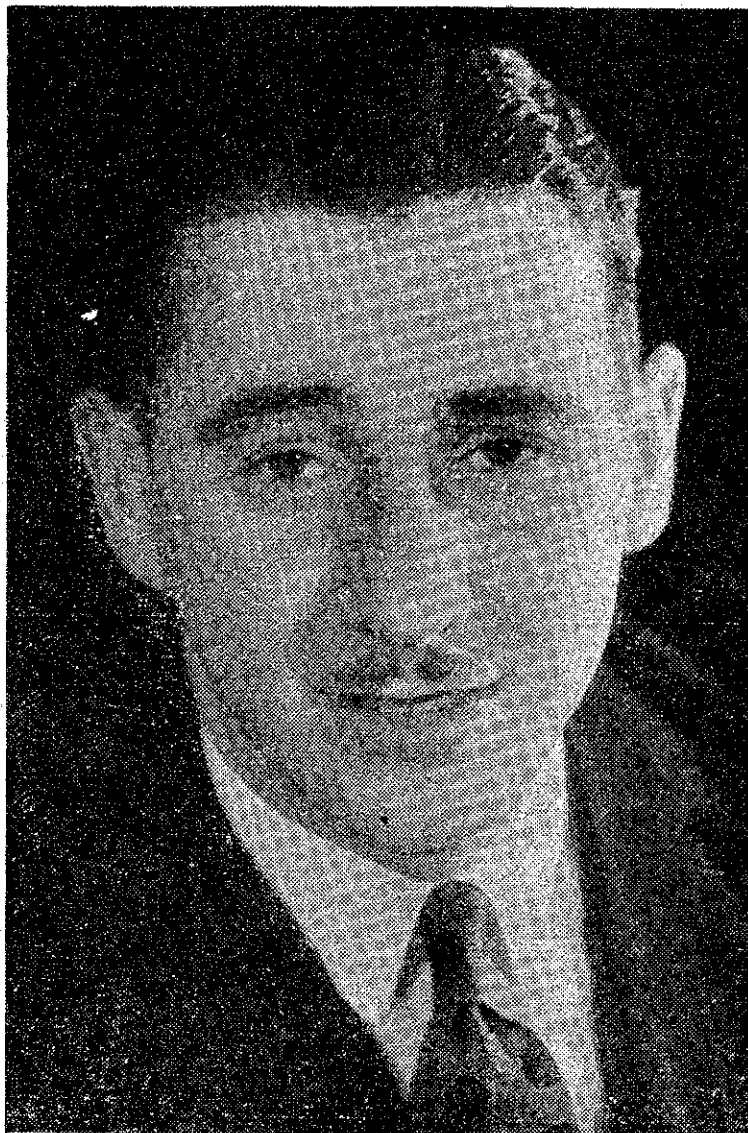
He will be returning to Australia next month for further study, and hopes to proceed to the U.S. later in the year.

Talented Artists From 2YA Studios

SEVERAL talented artists will be heard from the 2YA studios next week. Pianists in particular will be interested in the appearance of Paul Schramm, brilliant Viennese musician now resident in Wellington, in a performance of Beethoven's "Waldstein" sonata on Sunday, February 12.

The following evening Junior Farrell will demonstrate his remarkable ability in a recital of classical compositions. Later in the week, on Thursday, Nola Pritchard will play Brahms and Debussy, including items from the "Children's Corner" suite. She will be supported on this programme by Claude Tanner, well-known Wellington cellist, whose recital will include works by Granados and Faure.

Earlier the same evening, the Cameo Three present another of their entertaining broadcasts.



★ OWEN JAMES, New Zealand tenor who was highly praised by Lawrence Tibbett, and who will be visiting the U.S. this year.

Scenic And Historic Glories Of Old Ireland

Including An Old Man Of Tralee

THE humour, charm and generosity of the Irish are proverbial, and we have named our happiest inspiration in witty verse after one of Erin's most picturesque and most ancient cities—Limerick.

The type of humour characteristic of Ireland is summed up in the favourite example:—

*There was an old man of Tralee
Who was bothered to death by a flea,
So he put out the light,
Saying, "Now he can't bite,
For he'll never be able to see."*

If we could remember this side of the Irish, and we must, in the words of H. V. Morton, "forget hosts of prejudiced, and often ludicrous, ideas about her and her people, which have accumulated during many centuries of strife and misunderstanding, and she, let us hope, will some day achieve a sense of historical perspective and live less in the unhappy past."

When we visit the Emerald Isle what a host of "sights" Ireland has to offer! The wild rock coasts of Connemara, with the grey stone cropping through the surf and countless islands flecking the deep blue sea. The Georgian squares of Dublin, the shabby city that wears its grandeur like an old coat that still fits.

The summer glories of Ballinacorney and the Bloodstock Sales; the cream of the world's horse-flesh, gathered together in an assemblage of men and women to whom horses are the only really vital thing in life.

The rugged coast of Donegal, where the Irish comes more easily than the English to the tongue, and the incredible beauty of Kerry, where the landscape falls naturally into an uncanny series of picture-postcard views.

The grass-grown quays of Galway, with its ruined warehouses still displaying the carved badges of the great merchant families of Spain. The melting loveliness of Killarney; the awesome majesty of Giant's Causeway. The great flat plain of Ireland, and the unexpected wildness of the Dublin mountains, and the cabined loveliness of Avoca.

And then the Irish themselves! The thin-legged horse-dealers of Ballinasloe; the red-faced cattle-drovers of Mullingar; the market-women of Galway, and the sturdy, rather grim men of Ulster. Variety, thy name is Erin!

In the "Ports of Call" series at 2YA on Saturday, February 18, listeners will be taken on "A Visit to Ireland."

AN interesting innovation was inaugurated at 2YA on Sunday afternoon, January 29, when a new series of recorded features was begun. The first was "These Served Mankind—A Tribute to Musical, Literary and Dramatic Celebrities who died during 1938."

Four further instalments of "Musical Confessions" will follow on successive Sundays.

NCBS Executives Here And There

REPORTING all well at 4ZB, K. W. Kilpatrick, national programme director, returned to Wellington last week from Dunedin, where, for a few weeks, he relieved 4ZB station director L. J. Greenberg. Mr. Greenberg was away spending a quiet holiday on a farm.

Radio highlights of Mr. Kilpatrick's stay in Dunedin were a lavishly produced community sing and 4ZB's relay of the sensational long-distance swim.

On holiday at the present time is "Stew" Duff, station director of 3ZE. While he is away, the most luxurious station director's office in Australia or New Zealand is being occupied by Harry Bell, national secretary.

2YA Features Five Radio Serials

THE success of the radio serial must be apparent to the most casual observer. Each week, episodes of stirring and entertaining dramas are to be heard from all the National stations.

During the coming week 2YA will broadcast no fewer than five instalments of current serials. "Grand Hotel," a dramatisation of Vicki Baum's famous novel will be heard at 9.5 p.m. on Monday, February 13, and two evenings later further episodes of "Into the Light" and "Soldier of Fortune" are to be presented.

The former is a romantic serial of the Middle Ages and is an NBS production, while "Soldier of Fortune" deals with the adventures of an ex-war pilot in a mythical kingdom, and is presented by James Raglan and Company. These players will be remembered for their fine work in "Singapore Spy," which recently concluded from station 2YD.

On Saturday, February 18, "Coronets of England" proceeds to chapter 5 in the life of Queen Elizabeth. This is probably the most popular feature of its kind heard over the air since the inception of this type of entertainment.

Backache-Nervy Get Up Nights?

Thousands of sufferers from Kidney trouble and Bladder weakness have stopped Getting Up Nights, Backache, Circles Under Eyes, Swollen Ankles, Nervousness, Stiffness, Rheumatism, Dizziness, Lumbago, Burning, Itching, Smarting, Acidity and Loss of Vigour by a Doctor's new discovery called Cystex (Siss-tex). Gently soothes, tones, cleans, and heals, raw sore kidneys. In 15 minutes Cystex starts eliminating Kidney Poisons. Brings new health, youth and vitality in 48 hours. Guaranteed to end your troubles or money back. Get Cystex at all chemists.



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