

"The Arcadians"

Programme from 2YA

EXCERPTS from the fantastic musical play "The Arcadians" will be heard from 2YA on Friday evening February 28.

Apart from the catchy tunes, "The Arcadians" has an interesting story. When James Smith of London falls from an aeroplane into Arcadia he scandalises the inhabitants by telling a lie. For this heinous offence he is ducked in the Well of Truth, where he is transformed into a cherubic, scantily-clad Arcadian. He is dubbed Simplicitas, and, accompanied by two Arcadian girls, Sombra and Chrysea, sets out on a mission to convert the wicked citizens of London. The three Arcadians make a dramatic appearance on Askwood racecourse, where Jack Meadows, who loves Eileen Cavanagh, is backing his own horse, "The Deuce," to win the Corinthian Stakes. Doody, the jockey, having been put out of action, "The Deuce's" prospects look black until Simplicitas saves the situation and rides to victory.

The Arcadians then become the fashionable craze. Mrs. Smith, who fails to recognise her husband in Simplicitas, opens an Arcadian restaurant, where a Well of Truth is set in the midst of a painted canvas glade. All goes well till Simplicitas tells another lie, whereupon the Arcadian cherub is transformed into the bewhiskered, henpecked James Smith. Sombra and Chrysea, realising that their mission is a failure, return home, whilst Jack and Eileen plan their own Arcadia.

An Early Morning Broadcast

New Zealand Welcomes Chichester

A WELCOME deviation from the usual routine of broadcasting was afforded listeners to 2YA on Thursday morning last, when this station went on the air at 8.40 to broadcast the arrival of the New Zealand airman, Mr. F. C. Chichester, who was arriving by the Maunganui from Sydney, whence he had flown from London. Just before we were taken over to the "improvised studio" listeners were accorded some selections of excellent music. On switching over to Queen's Wharf the cheery voice of Mr. Ball told us the station was broadcasting from an observation point in a box of one of the huge frames on that wharf. This is one of the most novel points in which the microphone of 2YA has found itself. It can be seen in the centre of the photograph depicting the lowering of the aeroplane.

After having described the huge crowds that were assembled to welcome the intrepid New Zealand aviator, Mr. Ball diverged a little to discuss modern development and how it was exemplified in the scene that was being enacted before him. "Before me lies a huge liner, up-to-date in every respect, almost like a floating home. How this contrasts with the crude shipping of our forefathers who came to these shores a hundred years ago. On the wharf I can see moving-picture men recording the whole proceedings

on film, thus making eternally a record of this scene. Then there is the broadcasting: another marvel of the age. From this viewpoint we are telling the whole of New Zealand that this gallant airman has arrived. Only a relatively small number have the facilities to see him, but all can hear of him through this modern marvel. He himself flew from London to Sydney in a small 'plane that is to be carried round the town on a motor-lorry—another marvel. Had the weather been fine, several 'planes from the Wellington and neighbouring aero clubs would have gone up to meet him. Thus from every aspect this is a scene typical of the modern age."

THIS was an excellent picture to paint, but the announcer in trying to paint a different picture for the fairer sex failed completely. "Were I a fashion designer, I should probably be able to convey to you something of the gay appearance of the young ladies who have been deputised to accord Mr. Chichester a rousing welcome," and then Mr. Ball told us of the "pinkies" and "blueys," the "greyies" and the "brownies" in which these young ladies were dressed. The interlude, although not as enlightening as the announcer would wish, was most amusing. The young ladies are seen in the photograph below.

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*Girdling the Earth**A New Era*

WITH the establishment of a regular wireless telephone service between England and Australia, another stage in that unceasing process of annihilating space which is characteristic of our time has been passed. This development is an event of extraordinary interest and importance, for it is obvious that present methods of intercourse will undergo a revolutionary change when people are able to talk to one another from the remotest places on the earth as easily as if they were in the same room. And this is what the new development implies.

Sooner or later, wherever there is a telephone, it will be possible to communicate without hindrance or loss of time with any portion of the globe. It is evident that we are at the commencement of a new era in international communication. The wireless telephone service which will link the farthest corners of the earth by speech will before long present them visually to each other.

It is almost impossible to imagine the world without telephones. Business has changed fundamentally through their use, and the present age is coming more and more under the sway of personal intercourse.

The extension of wireless telephony, with its at present barely guessed possibilities, will undoubtedly turn what is at present almost a novelty into a normal procedure. It is producing a faster and smaller world; and there seems at least a reasonable hope that it will produce a better one.



Mr. F. C. Chichester welcomed to New Zealand after his solo flight from London to Sydney.