

## Overseas Artists

## Mr. Harris and Miss Smith

IN June New Zealand listeners will hear Mr. Barend Harris, a well-known Australian broadcasting artist. While on a visit to New Zealand, he will fulfil engagements with the Broadcasting Company.

Mr. Harris has an exceptionally fine bass voice of great range and excellent quality, and is one of the most popular radio artists in Sydney and Melbourne. He sings folk songs in Russian, Hebrew and Yiddish, besides singing in Italian and English. He has a vast repertoire.

LISTENERS-IN to 4YA have recently had the pleasure of hearing a visiting Melbourne artiste, Miss Jessie Shmith, contralto. Miss Shmith arrived in Dunedin last month and will spend a few months in New Zealand before extending her tour to America.

She is a very versatile artiste. She does not confine herself to one type of ballad, but is able to render operatic or oratorio excerpts, or a lilting fox-trot, with equal facility, thus making her an ideal artist for a country tour. Though she is remarkably successful in all her numbers, she naturally shows to great advantage in songs of her own composition, which have enjoyed a great popularity both in Australia and overseas.

Miss Shmith has been broadcast since the early days of radio, and is a very popular performer not only in Australia, but to those New Zealand listeners who tune in to the overseas stations.

## Mr. Rex Harrison

## Sunday Recital at 3YA

MR. REX HARRISON, baritone, who has already fulfilled two of his four engagements at 3YA, and delighted his audience on each occasion, will make his third appearance before the Christchurch microphone on Thursday, April 10. He will then sing the prologue to "I Pagliacci" and "Oh, Night, Oh Love" (by Sanderson).

Mr. Harrison's fourth appearance at 3YA will be on Sunday, April 13, when he will give a special after-church recital. His items will be:—

"Abide With Me."

"The Blind Ploughman."

"From the Land of Sky Blue Water."

"Far Off I Hear a Lover's Flute."

"The Moon Drops Low."

"Hark What I Tell to Thee" (Spirit Song).

"It is Enough," from "Elijah."

Mr. Harrison's voice is a sheer delight to all who hear it. It is a true baritone, and he presents his songs with a rare sense of interpretation, while his enunciation is perfect.

Have you secured your copy of

"N.Z. Radio Listener's Guide"?

Dealers and Booksellers 2/6: Post Free 2/9—P.O. Box 1082, Wellington. Now Available.

## OVER 53,000

## Licenses Show Healthy Increase

The licenses issued at the end of February, 1930, total 53,183, and are distributed as under:—

DISTRICT	CLASS.					
	Receiving	Transmitting and Receiving	Dealers'	Special	Experimental	Free
Auckland	16,769	61	299	2	—	94
Canterbury	9,029	38	235	—	—	51
Otago	4,553	28	170	1	—	28
Wellington	21,237	75	472	—	1	40
	51,588	202	1,176	3	1	213

## 1YA Musical and Dramatic Committee

## A Year's Work

A MEETING of the 1YA Musical and Dramatic Committee was held on Friday, March 14.

Present: Messrs. F. McCallum (Little Theatre Society), C. B. Plummer (Auckland Choral Society), J. F. Montagu (Auckland Comedy Players), N. M. Richmond (Workers' Educational Association), V. Trask (Athenium Club), L. C. Barnes (Station Director), O. M. Pritchard (Programme Organiser). Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Chappell, Mr. Tait and Miss Walker. Mr. McCallum was elected to the chair in the absence of Mr. Atkinson.

Discussing proposals for the future, Mr. Barnes referred to the Hadyn Evening, Wagner Evening and Brahms Evening which had been arranged for. There would be a concert by the choir on April 8, and, incidentally, all the soloists would be members of the choir. That week also there would be two interesting programmes arranged by Mr. Lew James of "Potash and Perlmutter." These would be a play "Give and Take" and a vaudeville programme.

Numerous lectures were mentioned: two by Mr. Alf. Eady on the history of musical instruments; a talk on cremation; talks by Mr. Richmond on "Life and Labour in the Nineteenth Century" and on the Problems of Capital and Labour; talks on Maori pronunciation, on stamp collecting, on tramping clubs; talks on old English laws and old English music.

As this was the last meeting of the present committee, Mr. Len Barnes took occasion to express his personal thanks to the members for the help they had given him. He said that he had enjoyed working with the committee. He had had experience as a committeeman, having served on 2YA Musical and Dramatic Committee, and he appreciated the position from that point of view. He added that he had come up to Auckland as a stranger, and he was grateful for all the help the committee had given him. He welcomed members of the committee along at the studio at any time.

The committee in turn passed a vote of thanks to Mr. Barnes for the good work he had done during the year and expressed pleasure at having had the opportunity of working with him.

The first meeting of the new committee will be held on Friday, April 11.

## Equipping Cars with Radio

## A Standardised Feature

SINCE radio as a means of entertainment first gained popularity in the United States, some seven or eight years ago, there have been isolated cases where automobiles have been radio-equipped. These early examples, however, were more of a novelty than anything else, and their use was restricted more or less to purposes of advertising. There were too many technical difficulties to be overcome, and the cost of intensive experimental work was not recognised as commensurate with the likelihood of immediate public demand. In recent years radio has developed from a novelty and luxury to something closely approaching the indispensable.

The phenomenal expansion of the radio industry is something unmatched except by the amazing development of the automobile industry. The product of each has become an item of paramount importance to nearly every family, and the possibility of combining the advantages of radio and the automobile has long since been considered by far-visioned car manufacturers; and now radio equipment for motor-cars and omnibuses is a standardised feature of the products of many leading American automobile manufacturers.

## Radio as a Life-saver

A STRIKING example of the value of the wireless direction-finder in saving life at sea is reported in a wireless message from New York which states that when the liner Fort Victoria was sunk in a collision tugs were brought alongside in thick fog by following bearings given by the direction-finder installed in the Fort Victoria. The 280 passengers and the whole of the crew were transferred without confusion or panic to other craft in thick fog. This in itself is a striking justification of the policy which is being rapidly developed by British ship-owners of fitting all their ships with the wireless direction-finder.

## An Amusing Incident

## What's in a Name?

MR. L. CURRY, announcer at 4YA, is at present on holiday leave. Mr. D. W. Wrathall is acting in his stead.

Mr. Curry is the gentleman who earned some notoriety throughout Australia and further afield during the two-way conversations with New York.

Mr. Hitt (2XAF, Schenectady): "What is your name?"

Mr. Curry: "4YA, Dunedin, New Zealand."

"No, we want the name of the announcer."

"Curry," said Mr. Curry.

"Beg pardon, we did not get that."

"Cu' y."

"Sorry."

"Curry! C-U-R-R-Y. Something hot. You eat it with rice. Curry!"

Eventually the name got through, and 2XAF said: "We sure enjoyed your joke."

The incident was picked up by numerous listeners, who thoroughly enjoyed overhearing the joke.

## Personal

## MR. A. WALMSLEY.

MR. A. WALMSLEY, the Dunedin tenor, who has recently returned to New Zealand from England, where he attained great success as a member of the Carl Rosa Opera Company, will sing on Sunday night at 4YA. His items will be "Deeper and Deeper Still" and the aria "Waft Her, Angels," from "Jepther," by Handel, and O'Hara's famous "There is No Death."

The remainder of the programme will be provided by Miss Molly Vickers and the Kaikorai Band, whose most interesting items will be "Schubert's Works," a composition comprising all of Schubert's most popular works, and a composition of English part songs by Rimmer. Listeners have a rare treat in store for them on this occasion.

Mr. Walmsley is a personal friend of Peter Dawson, of whom he relates an amusing anecdote. Mr. Dawson, it appears, is of no mean size, and in consequence has to regulate his diet for the sake of his artistry. He is extremely fond of cream, which liking he shares with Mr. Walmsley, a true New Zealander. Thus, whenever Mr. Walmsley went to dinner with the Dawsons, Mrs. Dawson was wont to put a small dish of cream on the table. The visits grew more and more frequent—Mr. Peter Dawson ringing up Mr. Walmsley to come to dinner "as he wanted some more cream!"

## A Record Mystery

QUITE a number of listeners have been mystified during the presentation of dance programmes from 2YA at the way several records are sometimes played with no perceptible break between. The mystery is dispelled when it is known that two turntables and two pick-ups are utilised in such a way that at the conclusion of one record another is instantaneously switched on. Apropos of this, a listener rang up 2YA recently and humorously inquired if they were using a cartwheel for a record.