

The Optimists Entertain

2YA Children's Session

THE Optimists staged a delightful programme from 2YA on Thursday afternoon last. All was stir and bustle as they gathered to take a trip to Nursery-land by the fairy train. Of course, Aunt Molly was invited and Uncle George. What party would be complete without them? And equally, of course, they took the radio children along, too. Such fun, waiting for the train, when Uncle Len simply insisted on everyone present joining Albert Russell's "Good-morning" club. He explained that you have to smile and say "Good-morning" to everyone you meet, the butcher, the baker, and the candle-stick maker; but it must be a cheery "Good-morning," none of your half-hearted "Here's another day to be got through somehow" sort of "Good-morning."

Naturally, the Optimists were only too pleased to enrol—just the thing they're always doing, going about cheering people up—and what a cheerful "Good-morning" they gave, when they showed us how to say it, although it was afternoon.

It was not long before the fairy train was heard in the distance, and soon all were aboard, the Optimists gaily singing, "Here we are! Here we are!" as they embarked. Of course, the Optimists sang all the time. First "Early in the Morning," and then, when a hold-up was experienced on the way, that, too, was made subject for song, "Fairy Bridge Has Broken Down," and we heard the story of the lad who thought he could, "I can't, I think I can, I knew I could."

Great excitement, vocally and musically expressed, as Nursery Town was reached, and all the familiar nursery characters inspected, to the tune of "Little Bo-Peep" and other nursery rhymes. Uncle George, sending the birthday fairies off from Nursery Town, was interrupted by a suppressed scream from Aunt Molly, as she saw a mouse. The pussy cat who looked at a queen was called, and the mouse ran up the clock to music. Then with a song, "Heigh-ho! Come to the Fair," from Uncle Harry, everyone proceeded to do so. The time passed all too quickly with the delightful songs and music from the Optimists, and we were all very sorry when it was time to take the fairy train again for home and sleep.

Dance Music

SEVERAL Wellington listeners have mentioned to "Switch" that the Australian programmes contain far too much dance music and talk for their liking. As a rough impression the writer is inclined to believe that compared with other days the trans-Tasman stations do seem to indulge in more dance music and talk items. Whether Australian listeners approve of the programmes or not is what matters, and we New Zealanders cannot be considered for a moment.

NOTES and NEWS from the NORTH

IT is hoped to be able to arrange for the Auckland Watersiders' Silver Band to broadcast regularly each month from 1YA, beginning in the near future. This band has broadcast previously, but not for about two years, and will be welcomed back by listeners who remember hearing it over the air in the past. As is well known, band music is one of the most popular types with the average listener.

AN artist of exceptional merit and of some novelty is Barend Harris, bass baritone, who is to sing from 1YA on June 3, 6, and 12. Mr. Harris, who comes from Australia with a big reputation, specialises in Hebrew music.

THE talk on "How to Become an Amateur Transmitter," which was to have been given by the Auckland Radio Society on May 5 by Mr. H. B. Arthur, has been postponed, and will now take place at the Leys Institute, Ponsonby, at 8 p.m., on Monday, May 19. It is stated that there is a possibility of this society giving another concert from 1YA, as they did last year. The next concert, if it eventuates, will be well rehearsed, and not so impromptu as the previous one.

THE concert organised by the Rev. Jasper Calder, and given from 1YA on Wednesday last, was quite a merry affair, and went off very well. In between items the results of the

Parnell by-election were announced to listeners, and later in the evening Mr. W. P. Endeau, the successful candidate, spoke for a few minutes.

THE first of a series of special half-hour recitals, given from 1YA on Friday, May 2, was a success, and was well received by the majority of listeners, many of whom wrote or phoned their appreciation. Such recitals do much to break the "scrappiness" which is otherwise apt to creep into programmes. Three very talented musicians have been engaged for the next recital, which will be given on June 13. They are Signor Torzillo, harpist, Miss Amy Hansard, L.R.A.M., mezzo, and Miss Lillian Chalker, pianiste. Miss Chalker last year received the gold and silver medal of the Trinity College of Music. At future recitals of this type it is hoped to include gramophone records of orchestral suites which, owing to their length, would be difficult to give at any other time. For the recital on June 13 the suite "Carnival of Animals," by the French composer Saint Saens, has been chosen. This will take about half-an-hour to play.

A NUMBER of interesting talks are set down for delivery from 1YA during the next few weeks. As previously announced, two series of educational talks will be given by Mr. N. M. Richmond, Director of the W.E.A., and Mrs. Crane is at present giving a series

on Women and Health every Tuesday afternoon. Mr. J. F. Montague, well-known as a director of the Comedy Players, is shortly to commence a series of lecturettes on Maori pronunciation. Mr. Montague could talk Maori before he knew English, so he is well qualified to lecture on this subject. Incidentally he gave a series of talks on the Maori language about four years ago, that being his first introduction to 1YA listeners. Another series to commence soon is to be given by Mr. Alan McSkimming, who will talk on "Voice Culture, Ancient and Modern." Mr. Adolph Kohn, of the well-known Auckland firm, will give two talks on May 27 and June 10 on "Timepieces, Historic Gems and Jewellery Manufacture," all of which subjects he knows from A to Z.

IN charging a man with bookmaking at the Auckland Police Court the other day, it was stated that his house contained a powerful radio receiving set. The police contended that this was evidence that he carried on business on extensive and up-to-date lines, the set being used for getting race results expeditiously.

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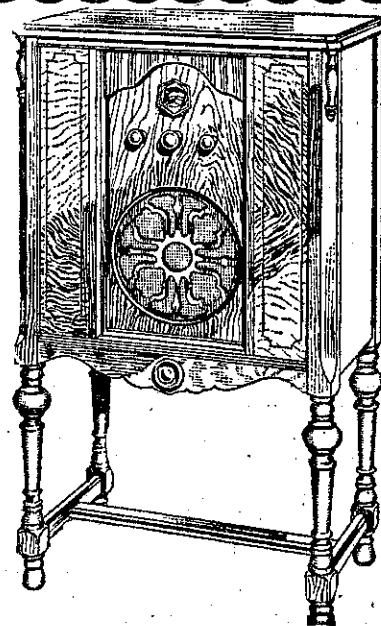
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