

## A Noted Australian Artist

### Concludes New Zealand Tour

MR. BAREND HARRIS, the Australian bass-baritone, who has just concluded a tour of the Dominion under engagement to the Broadcasting Company, has been a great delight to New Zealand listeners. He sang from IYA, 2YA and 3YA.

As a regular broadcasting artist in Australia, Mr. Harris was, of course, greatly interested in the New Zealand



stations, and before he left this Dominion he had some interesting comments to make concerning the New Zealand service.

"I hardly knew what to expect when I came to New Zealand," he said, "but I certainly anticipated nothing like the experiences I have had. I have nothing but praise for the stations, the staffs and the organisation. To enter a New Zealand station is like walking into one's own home. There is a delightfully friendly and homely attitude everywhere which does not in the least interfere with the efficiency with which the station is run—but it means a lot to an artist. I have no reason to suppose that I have been favoured any more than anyone else, but I speak as I find the YA stations."

"I have been particularly charmed with 2YA station," went on Mr. Harris. "It compares well with any station I have ever visited. The studio furnishings at all the YA stations have greatly impressed me. They are luxurious and yet they fit in so well with the general homely atmosphere which pervades that an artist feels as he walks up to the microphone that he is in a well-appointed drawing-room."

Speaking of New Zealand programmes generally, Mr. Harris praised the high standard of entertainment. "It was a pleasure to note the absence of 'low-brow' music. He said that during the time he had been in this country he had met many people and discussed the broadcasting service with them, with the result that he was returning to Australia convinced

## Australian Programmes

Thursday, July 17.

STATION 2FC.—9.30 p.m.: The A.B.C. Musical Comedy Company presents "Little Nellie Kelly," a musical comedy. 12 p.m.: Cricket results, Scotland v. Australia.

2BL.—9.30 p.m. and 9.54 p.m.: The A.B.C. Male Quartet, in selected numbers. 10 p.m. and 10.47 p.m.: Fred Bluett, comedian, will entertain. 10.9 p.m. and at regular intervals following, the Bondi Beach Concert Band will present selections.

3LO.—9.30 p.m.: "The Local Lads," in vaudeville numbers. 10 p.m.: Dance music by Clarrie Collins and his orchestra. These items will be interspersed with variety numbers.

3AR.—9.30 p.m.: Relay from 2FC, Sydney, of the musical comedy, "Little Nelly Kelly."

Friday, July 18.

STATION 2FC.—9.30 p.m., 9.47 p.m., 10.3 p.m., and 10.36 p.m.: Organ recital by Ronald Marston. 10.9 p.m.: "The Mellow Fellows," in "A Spanish Idea." 10.45 p.m.: James Donnelly, in songs at the piano. 10.50 p.m.: Relay from 3LO, Melbourne, of the Malvern Tramways Band concert.

2BL.—9.30 p.m. and 10 p.m.: The A.B.C. Orchestra present "Zampa" (Herold) and "Tangled Tunes" (Ketelbey). 9.43 p.m. and 10.17 p.m.: Miss Edith Harry, the distinguished Welsh pianist-composer, will present a pianoforte recital prior to her departure for London. Miss Harry recently concluded a successful tour of New Zealand, having broadcast from all the YA stations. She will play the following: First group: Selections from "Six Maori Sketches" (Harry), "May Night" (Palingren). Second group: "Nocturne in E Minor" (Chopin), "In a Boat" (Zeekwer), "Melodie" (Rachmaninoff). 10.34 p.m.: "The Drama of the Marseillaise," by Captain Frederick Aarons.

3LO.—9.30 p.m.: An hour of popular classics by the National Broadcasting Orchestra. 10.30 p.m.: A description of the proceedings at the opening of the Melbourne Radio Exhibition will be broadcast. 10.50: The Malvern Tramways Band, in selected numbers.

3AR.—9.30 p.m.: Mr. Earle Cooper will speak on "The controversy concerning the death of Baron Manfred von Richtofen," the famous German war aviator. 9.45 p.m.: Community singing from the Ballarat Town Hall.

Saturday, July 19.

STATION 2FC.—9.30 p.m.: Relay of the concert from the Sydney Town Hall, arranged by the Professional Musicians' Union.

2BL.—10 p.m.: Relay of boxing contest from Sydney Town Hall. Before crossing over, there will be a half-hour popular programme contributed by John Warren, tenor, Colston Carter, novelty pianist, Craig and Graham, entertainers, and Grace Quine, vocalist. After the contest these artists will again entertain.

3LO.—9.30 p.m.: Transmission from the Radio Exhibition at the Melbourne Town Hall. During the evening the Victorian Postal Institute Champion Choir of 100 voices will present selected numbers. 10.15 p.m.: Special reproduction of the speech of the Rt. Hon. J. Ramsay MacDonald at the opening of the recent Naval Conference.

3AR.—9.30 p.m.: Relay of 2FC's programme (see above).

New Zealand was well catered for by the Broadcasting Company and that New Zealand listeners were satisfied with the service.

Mr. Harris's success in broadcasting is in a measure due to his mastery of broadcasting technique. He has made a careful study of the microphone, its capabilities and its limitations, and he sings to it in the manner calculated to give the best results when reproduced through the loudspeaker. He therefore had some qualms when asked to sing at the Christchurch Radio Exhibition, for there was there an audience before him to which he desired to give his best, and there was also a microphone into which he desired to sing as he knew he should sing for the unseen audience.

"Your station announcers all seem to be very popular with listeners. I have heard no serious criticism of them," remarked Mr. Harris. "Altogether, my experience of broadcasting in New Zealand has been a great pleasure and my recollections will be of the happiest. Every broadcast station always receives a lot of adverse criticism, for it is impossible to please every one. However, I am sure that no company could cater better for listeners than does the New Zealand Broadcasting Company."

## Maori Music

(Concluded from page 9.)

coming in before his breath is exhausted. If the song lags, the leader urges the singers by adding volume to his voice—that is whakarewa. If a leader or chorus forgets a song, and the tahi is broken, that is ka whati; the break is whati, and is an evil omen. Sometimes, when all is going well, the leader will raise his pitch and sing a tenor harmony: that is hi. At Whareponga, on the east coast, a company of women were singing; the song was going briskly and without restraint, and one of the singers raised her pitch, singing very softly a fifth above the others. This was very effective.

There is a word, irirangi, which I first heard at Palmerston North when speaking of music to Dr. Buck (Te Rangī Hiroa). He remarked casually that the people often thought they heard a floating voice, or spirit-voice, singing with them; they called it irirangi. It was a chance remark, but

I remembered it when, at Whareponga, I first heard, as it were, a faint voice sounding above the voices of the women singing. I asked the Hon. A. T. Ngata, who was present, if the faint voice, to which I drew attention, was what they called irirangi; he said, Yes; and soon one of the women, who also must have heard it, raised her pitch and sang the same note as the faint voice. Speaking to Dr. Buck again later on, he remarked that the old people would often sing together to get the voice, to reo irirangi, and when they heard it, would sing the song over and over, listening to it. In "Williams's Dictionary," under irirangi, is a quotation, "Mehemea ka waiata tatonu ki roto i te whare, a ka rangona te waha e waiata ana i waho, he waha wairua, he irirangi tena." (If we are singing in the house and a voice is heard singing outside, a spirit-voice, that it is irirangi). It was said to be an evil omen; but it certainly was not always so regarded. The note heard is a harmonic, and may occasionally be heard when singing on an ng sound. At Te Araroa, Bay of Plenty, a woman struck in now and again a third above the others, maintaining the soft harmony not only on the principal note, but also on intricate embellishments. Incipient harmony is indicated, and no doubt all harmony had such simple beginnings; the ear perceives the harmonics before science teaches what they are, and the ear finds them pleasing or otherwise before science explains why. Probably harmonics are heard more commonly than is realised; they may be heard occasionally in the notes of birds, and it is no doubt the harmonics that form the basis of at least some of the morning choruses of the bellbird and ful.

A mellow voice is meant by the expression puwhawhango—a voice that sounds as if slightly muted, with just a trace of the effect of singing through a comb—a slightly nasal resonant quality. The restricted i sound (ee) is avoided as much as possible, as it makes the sound thin; it is made e (as in "net") or a if it cannot be avoided, or is preceded by a to make ae: this is especially observed at the head-ends (line-ends).

The motion of the hands during singing is aroarohaki, or aroarokapa. There is a saying, Ka kawea e te manamānau ka aroarohaki (The singer was so elated by the song that he broke into the appropriate accompanying gestures). There is an infinite variety of these gestures, and great trouble is taken in perfecting them, certain movements seeming to the Maori to go better with certain types of music. The hands are moved now here, now there, now bending at the wrists, now trembling with the wrists as pivots, now held to the right, now to the left, now close to the body or head, now at arm's length; the knees are bent in rhythmic time, the foot taps, the head is inclined, the shoulders and the hips sway, the eyes are expressive, the lips—not a portion of the body but enters into the movements. As different songs are sung, one is astonished at the variety of the gestures, and the difference of the gestures, accompanying the different songs, at the unison of the performers. They give whole-hearted expression to their feelings, whatever they may be, and the listener-observer is continually tempted to join in, so powerful is the effect of the rhythm and the movements and the expression of the music.