

# The New Zealand Radio Record

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## Home Journal

(Incorporating the "Canterbury Radio Journal.")

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### POPULAR INTEREST IN SHORT-WAVE RECEPTION.

THE interest in the short-wave side of radio is steadily expanding, and at the present time there are literally hundreds of enthusiasts in this field throughout the Dominion who habitually search the ether for direct contact with the short-wave broadcasting stations in the United States, the Continent of Europe and Britain. At the moment the best reception is naturally recorded from the United States, with PCJ (of Holland) a good second. In the summer months the present British station is not heard with sufficient clarity and volume to make reception attractive, but improvement is always effected in the winter months. The growing interest in this field indicates that a very hearty welcome will be accorded the big British short-wave broadcasting station that is contemplated, when it does come on the air. Plans are in prospect for this station to be made of outstanding character and quality. It will be quite in accordance with British tradition to be perhaps a little late in entering the field, but listeners can be assured that when the station does appear it will take first rank for service in the fields of power, quality and nature of transmission.

IT is pleasing to see this growing interest in overseas reception. This is the one field in which radio can render a most distinct service. Internal broadcasts of a musical and entertaining character are, of course, highly valuable, and popular. At the same time New Zealand, because of its very isolation, feels the need of contact with overseas countries, and the lure of direct contact by radio is very real. The enthusiasts now in the field derive a very great deal of enjoyment, entertainment and culture from their pursuit of short-wave radio reception. Time undoubtedly carries in its bosom the certainty of steady improvement in the services to be made available, and in accordance with our close family contact with Great Britain the joy derivable from short-wave reception will be intensified when the British broadcasting station comes into being. Under present conditions the benefit is individual rather than collective, but as the power put into overseas stations increases and the quality of reception improves, it may be taken for certain that an increasing number of broadcasts of important occasions will be picked up by the main YA

stations and rebroadcast for the general body of listeners in the Dominion. At the last Imperial Conference, plans were discussed for the proposed big station in Britain. It was candidly stated, of course, that prosecution of those plans was dependent upon the economic position. That is understandable, but with the lightening of the general depression, progress in this field will be rapid.

### 2YA Children's Session Grand Opera From Committee 2YA

#### Picnic Postponed

A MEETING of the 2YA Children's Sessions Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, February 10, Pastor W. G. Carpenter (Uncle George) presiding. There were also present:—Mrs. L. Sommerville (Federation of University Women), Mrs. Chatfield (University Women), Mrs. Chatfield (Society for the Protection of Women and Children), Mr. G. W. Morgan (Radio Children), Mr. W. E. Howe (Sunday Schools' Union), Brigadier Grey (Salvation Army), Mrs. D. Basham (Aunt Daisy), Mrs. D. Evans (children's organiser), and Mr. J. Ball.

The principal subject discussed was the proposed picnic, and it was decided, owing to the untoward happenings recently and the widespread concern occasioned by the earthquake, that it should be postponed.

The committee approved of Uncle George substituting a special Anzac Day service for the ordinary sessions.

Referring to the earthquake, Brigadier Grey said he was commissioned to voice the Salvation Army's warm appreciation of the service rendered by 2YA. The officers at the station had given their fullest co-operation and radio had been of the greatest possible assistance to the Army, while the spontaneity of the people's response to broadcast appeals had been wonderfully generous.

Other speakers also eulogised the tremendous part radio had played in this time of emergency.

### Special Programme Features

#### From 1YA

SOME outstanding programmes will be available to 1YA listeners next week.

On Monday evening, Miss Kate Campion (late prima donna of the Carl Rosa Opera Company) and Mr. Ralph Eskrigge (eminent New Zealand tenor, late of Sydney) are each giving a half-hour recital.

On Wednesday a concert is to be given by the Auckland Artillery Band.

On Thursday there will be an old time nigger minstrel show, which will be "true to type," and really good.

An evening of play, story and song, under Mrs. Zoe Bartley-Baxter's direction, is scheduled for Friday.

Saturday will see a week-end variety programme.

LOVERS of grand opera will be pleased to learn that arrangements have been made for a series of recitals to be given by Signor Lucien Cesaroni and his company at 2YA. The first, "Lucy of Lammermoor," will take place on Sunday, March 8.

### Salon Orchestral Performances

THE 2YA Salon Orchestra, which performs regularly under the conductorship of Mr. Mat Dixon, will broadcast some outstanding numbers in the near future. On March 7 will be heard the selection "Lilac Time," based on some of Schubert's immortal melodies and a serenade specially composed for the violin.

On March 14 one of the most interesting personalities in the musical world, namely, Coleridge-Taylor, will be represented on this date by his "Petite Suite de Concert," an extremely melodious example of his work.

The composer, who died only a few months ago, was probably one of the most famous composers of the day, this being the more interesting when it is considered that he was of negro extraction.

### St. David's Day

#### Traditional Music

MANY special concerts and commemorative services are being arranged for St. David's Day. The music of Wales contains musical fragments which are probably of greater antiquity than any found elsewhere in the British Isles, for "Wild Wales," as one of the English bards calls it, was the last stronghold of the original inhabitants of Britain.

The music does not have the element of humour like that of the Irish, but is of a serious and frequently of a martial character. Many of the Welsh folk songs are vocal melodies of a stirring quality, which were evidently used as battle songs in the days gone by.

That the Welsh, however, are not entirely given to the expression of rugged and heroic emotions in their music is evidenced by such a tender poetic song as "All Through the Night." This is a fine traditional Welsh melody of great age; simple, dignified, and expressive, and it is the most popular Welsh air in England.

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