

The Lyric Minnesingers

Broadcast from 4YA

MR. JOHN T. LEECH'S well-known Lyric Choir was founded in 1924.

It is composed entirely of vocal students and has been formed for the purpose of cultivating a desire for choral music. From its ranks are drawn many 4YA artists and the well-known Minnesingers are also part of the main body. The Lyric Choir has a great record in contests, being successful on six occasions in mixed, male and female choir contests in Dunedin. Since its inception the choir has taken as studies all branches of choral art— oratorio, opera, madrigals, part-songs, glees, etc., from Palestrina to modern compositions. The conductor of the Lyric Choir and Orchestra is its founder, Mr. John T. Leech, who is also conductor of the well-known Soldiers' Choir.

The Lyric Minnesingers will broadcast "The Bohemian Girl" from 4YA on Wednesday, September 23. A concert orchestra will support the production. The choir strength is over 100 voices.

The music of "The Bohemian Girl" has enjoyed unbroken popularity for nearly 100 years, throughout the entire English-speaking world. The exquisite tunefulness of the old Irish melodies seems to have found an outlet in the melodic compositions of Balfe. It is the natural sentiment, flowing melodies and dramatic situations that have made "The Bohemian Girl" linger lovingly and fully accounts for its great popularity.

Stations for Sale

Exaggerated Values

ONE can still make a fortune in America by selling a broadcasting station. The supply of available stations is so far behind the demand that churches and schools are disposing of their broadcast transmitters at fabulous prices.

Among other examples, a 100-watt station in New York is now on the market for the modest sum of £17,000. This station's equipment originally cost £180; to-day it is a third-rate station with an obvious illusion about the size of its audience and the value of the one-fourth time it is licensed to remain on the air. Another in the same vicinity, a 500-watter, is now being "offered" for £32,000. A year ago its owners were tearfully begging for £10,000.

The management of still another New York station, a 1000-watter, is known to have placed a "conservative value" of £50,000 on it. Station WOR, Newark, with 5000 watts, is understood to have refused £600,000 for plant and goodwill, presumably offered by a well-known newspaper magnate.

N.Z. League of Penwomen

Concert from 1YA

THE New Zealand League of Penwomen, which is scheduled to provide a programme for 1YA on Wednesday, September 23, was established seven years ago with the object of promoting and encouraging original creative work among its members. The membership includes writers, artists, musicians and women engaged in intellectual professions.

Mrs. Victor Macky (Edna Graham Macky) president and founder of the League, is a well-known writer, contributing to many publications, both in New Zealand and abroad. Mrs. Macky is the authoress of a delightful book of poems entitled "Adventure." Readings from her works have been given in many of the literary circles of London, America and Australia. Mrs. Macky has also been actively engaged in organising and publicity work for various societies and movements in Auckland.

The membership of the League includes the novelist, Mrs. Mary Stuart Boyd, first president of the League; Mrs. Carr Rollett (Hilda Keane), writer and journalist; Miss Jean Boswell, short story writer; Mrs. Gordon Robertson, writer, musician and lecturer; Mrs. Carr Tibbitts, writer and journalist; Miss Hutton Whitelaw, and many others of marked literary ability. The various activities include the literature study section, convened by Mrs. John Barr (wife of the city librarian), a book reviewer and lecturer on literary topics, and the dramatic section, convened by Mrs. Cufford Bell, elocutionist and teacher of dramatic art, who is much in request as judge of elocution at competitions.

The journalist section is convened by Mrs. Victor Macky, assisted by a board of editors of some of the leading publications of the city. The art section is under the convenorship of Miss Edith Melville, who is well known for her beautifully executed metal craft work. There are two divisions in this section, viz.: artists and the exponents of various crafts.

The music section, convened by Miss Gertrude Bertram, Mus.Bac. (the

League's representative on the 1YA Musical and Dramatic Advisory Committee) includes in its membership many brilliant professional musicians, some of whom will broadcast on this programme. Mrs.

Robt. Neil (Mary Brett) is a composer whose music may be described as a lyric gift, a genuine spontaneous outcome of delicacy of feeling and personal vitality. Her songs have been included in the Suffolk (England) competitions and many of her compositions are already familiar over the air.

Mrs. Herbert Bloy, a pianist of outstanding ability, is well known throughout New Zealand as a solo pianist and teacher.

Mrs. Greenfield (Isobel Langlands) the brilliant Melbourne violinist, is noted for her definite individuality and interpretation, characterised by a wonderful technique and tone. Isobel Langlands has toured with Stella Power, Althouse, Middleton, Sverjensky and other celebrated artists, and has reached the pinnacle of fame in the musical world of Australia and New Zealand.

Miss Amy Hansard, L.R.A.M., vocalist, has attained a definite position in music. Her singing is most artistic and she is the composer of some delightful songs. Miss Renee Satchwell, L.R.A.M., is well known as a teacher, lecturer, pianist and composer of songs and pianoforte music.

Miss Amy Stevenson is too well known to need an introduction to music-lovers, being a prominent member of two orchestral and chamber music societies in Auckland, and a skilled performer on the piano, violin and viola. Miss Ida Walker, the possessor of a rich contralto voice, studied under her relative, the late Dame Nellie Melba, and is deservedly popular with both Australian and New Zealand audiences.

Miss Molly Atkinson is already well known to 1YA and Auckland audiences. Her singing is distinguished for its thoughtful expression and gifted artistry. The programme to be presented contains a large percentage of original compositions, and presented by such gifted performers as the League contains, a very enjoyable evening should be spent.



MRS. VICTOR MACKY
President and Founder of the League.



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