



OF FEMININE INTEREST



By "Patricia"

THE more I listen-in to the talks put over the air from the different broadcasting stations, the more I realise that not only are they interesting, but the majority are of valuable assistance in our daily life. From these lectures we gain information on many subjects that have a broadening effect on our outlook, and that give us peeps behind the scenes of what other people are doing to make this country of ours—as General Higgins remarked at the civic reception held for him in Wellington—really "God's own country." The organisation of the Junior Red Cross, the Health Department lectures, the Women's Division of the Farmers' Union, the educative addresses by the W.E.A. and the Board of Education are only a few of the activities that go to demonstrate the fact that New Zealand is well to the fore in her efforts to smooth the path that we visualise as necessary in the ideal corporate state. If the depression keeps us at home to listen to the wireless, we shall be better off for it, as there is no greater fount of information in this country to-day than that supplied by our own radio.

THE first of the series of educational talks for this season to the school-children of New Zealand was put over the air from 2YA on Tuesday afternoon, April 5. Mr. T. B. Strong gave an interesting address to the teachers and children, in which he said a message was being sent to Earl Jellicoe—who has been ill at his home in the Isle of Wight—from the children of New Zealand, expressing the hope that he would soon be in sound health and able to make his proposed visit to this country. Mr. Strong also thanked the Radio Broadcasting Company for their assistance last year. Mr. Jenner then went to the microphone and spoke on music and songs, giving illustrations on the piano of the value of the different notes, etc. Songs from the school song book were demonstrated by Mr. Jenner and his assistants, during which Mr. Jenner asked the children to remember they were not to spoil music by shouting. Mr. F. C. Brew made his lesson on poetry and how to write it quite fascinating. These lessons over the air should prove of infinite value to both teachers and pupils, and mothers would be well advised to interest themselves in the subjects put over the air for their children's benefit.

AFTER listening to the school broadcast on Tuesday afternoon, I was reminded of a letter recently received from a friend in Birmingham, who is much to the fore in civic affairs—in which she says that an educational experiment is being made whereby sixteen schools are to visit the cinema on Saturday mornings, under a scheme arranged between the proprietors and the education authorities. The first performance, I believe, took place on February 27. The films have been

selected for their educational value, and will be supplemented by pictures dealing with current events and scenes of interest at the moment.

I CONGRATULATE Mr. Heigho on his ability to delude the listener. During a popular programme he put on one of those delightful little Etudes No. —, which even the unmusical would enjoy, but he did not announce it. It is the nomenclature which frightens them off.

EDUCATIONAL broadcasts are a special feature in the B.B.C. programmes. To show how effective these are in language lessons, recently a party of English tourists in Norway had occasion to ask a question of a little boy. The boy replied in perfect English. When asked where he got his pronunciation, he replied, "from wireless lessons, and listening to announcers of British broadcasting stations."

Hints for the Housewife

ICES are always popular with the little people, whether they are eaten at a birthday party or on a hot summer's day, and when the youngsters get excited it is not easy to see that frocks and suits are kept free from stains. If the party frock should get stained with the ice cream, place the garment under running cold water as quickly as possible, and then wash in nice warm lather; then there is no reason why the little garment should not be restored to its original freshness. Of course this applies only to washing fabrics.

AN excellent idea for smartening up elderdowns that may look shabby but are by no means worn out is to make a washable cover toning with the colour scheme of the room and slip it over the elderdown. When the cover becomes soiled or crumpled it can be removed and washed in lukewarm sudsy water, dried and ironed with very little trouble, and it will add a dainty appearance to the bedroom.

SALT will take away that drab and dusty look from wicker furniture and bring it up looking as fresh as new. Scrub it with a fairly strong solution of salt and water, and use a small soft scrubbing brush. Rinse afterward.

SALT will also remove stains of all kinds from pie-dishes and those ugly brown marks that sometimes disfigure our tea-cups. Dip a damp cloth in a saucer of ground salt and rub the dish or cup thoroughly till the stain goes.

IN various countries of the world the Red Cross Society has taken up the fight on behalf of those afflicted with tuberculosis. In South Africa, Canada and Australia the work is being carried on with great success. In New Zealand the matter is being efficiently handled by the Department of Health, and the Red Cross Society co-operates by providing the patients with extra comforts, recreational amusements, etc.

THE speaker at 2YA on Monday, April 4, after an interesting talk on Dr. Edward L. Trudeau, in whose life-time a revolution occurred, in which he had no small part, in the relations between the human body and the bacillus of tuberculosis—made a special appeal on behalf of the president of the Ladies' Red Cross Auxiliary for further supplies of boots and clothing for women and children; also beds and bedding, or any useful article of household furniture. Parcels

should be tied up and addressed to "Red Cross Society, Wellington." There are many middle-class families who, until the present depression, have been strangers to dire want. They conceal out of pride their need, and it is more by accident than design, the result of personal visits by voluntary workers, that their circumstances have been disclosed. To help these is a privilege.

ALL women who are interested in the fashions (and what woman is not?) should listen to the talks from 2YA on Tuesday mornings, on "Fabrics and Fashions," by Mrs. T. W. Lewis, of the D.I.C., Wellington. To begin with, Mrs. Lewis possesses one of those rare voices that come from the microphone with a clarity that makes it a delight to listen to her. In her talk on Tuesday, the 29th, she said:—"Don't give up the idea of a new evening dress, or a warm velvet or velveteen to change into at home in the evening. If you can make it yourself, so much the better; it won't cost much, and you must not let the fact of a depleted income show too much in your appearance. That is a possibility we must all fight against. Those who cannot afford to buy good ready-made models, and who cannot already make their own clothes, should set themselves to learn the rules of dressmaking and get to work in earnest. Friends could help each other by having sewing meetings and working together. There is generally one girl or woman in a group of three or four who is clever at construction, and another who sews well. Now is the time for co-operation—an amalgamation of forces. It is just as easy to be fashionable as unfashionable, and we must do our individual best toward retaining the generally high dress sense New Zealand women have acquired during the last ten or fifteen years, in spite of the fact that it is going to be a hard struggle." Mrs. Lewis's suggestion of sewing circles for replenishing and renovating one's wardrobe must appeal to every woman in these days of limited incomes.

AGAIN, salt will keep your cherished winter flowers from fading. Add a little to each bowl or vase every day when you change the water. Salt is fatal to growing flowers, but it is a good way to preserve cut ones.

IT will also clean aluminium in a jiffy and remove obstinate egg-stains from the spoons. It will take out a fruit stain from a frock or tablecloth, too, if you cover the place with it directly the accident has occurred.

SALT will also aid you when the painters have splashed a window with paint. Hot salt will remove the tiresome mark.

NAILS driven into plastered walls usually become loose as soon as any object such as a heavy picture is suspended from it. They can be rendered perfectly safe and firm by the following method: Drive the nail into the wall, remove it, and fill the cavity with a mixture of plaster of paris and water. Place the nail in this paste so that it will harden round it.

NEVER throw away orange and lemon peel. There are many uses to which it can be put. A piece of lemon peel boiled with towels or tea-cloths makes them very white. Into a well-stoppered jar put lumps of sugar and fresh lemon peel. Leave for a few days, then crush the sugar. This will be found delicately flavoured with lemon, and will be useful for sprinkling over puddings and pancakes.

IF there is one thing more than another that the majority of women to-day are interested in, it is bridge. Now we all want to improve our game, and Mrs. Long's lessons from 2YA will certainly be of the greatest assistance to us in this popular pastime. Do not think that because you are a poor player you will never learn, for good players are forever learning. To become a good player one must practise concentration, and this must be backed by elasticity of mind to enable a player to adapt himself to all conditions. Contract bridge has made great strides abroad, but has not made much headway in this country, the majority still playing auction, and it is about auction bridge that Mrs. Long so ably speaks. Many of my friends and I are looking forward to the next talk on this fascinating subject.