

W.E.A. Talks Association's Aims

THE introductory series of talks offered by the Otago W.E.A. from 4YA will deal with *The Crisis* (Mr. Lloyd Ross) and with *Russia* (Dr. A. G. B. Fisher).

Before outlining the topics which it is proposed to discuss, a word should however be said as to the purpose of the association in organising this part of its work. The basic principle upon which the association is built is a profound belief in the urgent necessity in the modern world for men and women with educated minds, minds trained to evaluate evidence, to consider problems free from prejudice—or, if this is thought too much to expect of human nature, to be conscious of the prejudices which affect their judgment, and to take long views of the results of human action.

A little knowledge, it is true, is a dangerous thing, but it is not nearly so dangerous as no knowledge at all, and the world's sufferings to-day are largely the result of the fact that so many people are unable to distinguish prejudices from rational judgments, unable to take long views, unable to look into the future and develop a line of action suitable to deal with the problems which may confidently be expected to arise in the future. Instead we usually wait till the problems have arisen, and naturally in our feverish search for remedies, we not infrequently have to be content with something that is only fifth or sixth-rate.

With this objective before us, we have concentrated mainly on the formation of classes which meet together regularly for study and discussion. Obviously many people are unable to attend such classes, and we have therefore arranged as well correspondence courses, and now propose to broadcast regularly over the air material which we are confident will be useful as the foundation for thought and discussion. The W.E.A. library is available for listeners-in, and we shall be glad to help with advice on reading any who wish to probe more deeply into the subjects of our discussions.

In similar activities in Great Britain, it has also been found an advantage for listeners to form local circles where discussions of the talks can be organised immediately after the talks have been heard. We shall be glad to hear from listeners who wish to form such circles, and will endeavour to keep in touch with them through correspondence or through the loan of literature. Especially in dealing with subjects of wide interest, it is not always easy to know beforehand exactly what aspects are most likely to arouse discussion and provoke thought. In this connection, too, we should be glad to have the co-operation of listeners.

PERMISSION to broadcast Rugby matches having been granted by the Wellington Rugby Union, descriptive broadcasts are now a regular feature on 2YA programmes for Saturday afternoons. Mr. Chas. Lamborg is the narrator at the microphone.

Variety Entertainment by Stella Musicale

MUCH interest will be manifested in the forthcoming radio presentation by the Stella Musicale from 4YA on April 17. This organisation has been formed by Signor Giovanni Stella and Madame Martinelli-Reggiardo, and its performance of a variety entertainment from the southern station promises to be one of exceptional interest. Listeners all over the Dominion will recall with pleasure the previous recitals and concerts provided by Signor Stella and Madame Reggiardo, and the highly artistic performances that have invariably resulted. This latest concert will do much to establish further the prominent position these artists hold in the regard of music-lovers. It will be a judicious blend of the classic and popular, and will combine many interesting features.

Of outstanding importance will be the celebrated "Miserere" scene from "Il Trovatore," which will be presented in full by soloists, choir and orchestra. Clare Dillon, the accomplished Dunedin soprano, will sing the poignant music of Leonora, and James Humm, a young tenor, will take the role of Manrico. Under Signor Stella's direction, this should be a memorable presentation. The other items will also command wide interest. Among the soloists will be Signor Stella, Kathleen Geerin, Vanda Duncan, Thomas Kennedy and John Devereux. Light orchestral selections by Madame Reggiardo and her instrumental sextette will add considerably to the enjoyment of the programme.

Trade Personal.

A RECENT acquisition to the Stewart-Warner radio sales organisation is Mr. Ivan M. Levy, who has been appointed to take charge of Messrs. Levestam and Company's Wellington agency for that famous set. Mr. Levy has been widely known in broadcast listening circles, dating back as a "fan" to nearly ten years ago. He was a foundation member of the Amateur Radio Society of Wellington, and after filling the post of an active vice-president for some years, was ultimately made president of that body.

Mr. Levy inaugurated and most successfully conducted the "Radio Notes" columns of "The Dominion" newspaper, under the nom de plume of "Aerial," and during the six years in which he served in that capacity received correspondence from broadcast listeners from the North Auckland district down to Bluff. Mr. Levy has also been a frequent contributor to the columns of the "Radio Record." On the inception of the 2YA Musical and Dramatic Advisory Committee, he was appointed to that body to act on the committee until broadcasting was taken over by the board. Mr. Levy has always been keenly devoted to long-distance reception, and his knowledge of trade conditions is extensive.

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