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WELLINGTON

Day and Night Service



if he were good enough. Mention of the Lancashire miner and his dog recalls that this makes a redeeming feature of the dismal soot smothered landscape of the coal and cotton district towns of Lancashire. It is a familiar sight, on a Sunday morning, to see a number of miners squatting on their haunches, in a circle, with the dogs enclosed in the middle of the street, discussing the merits of "Towser," with an occasional mention of the puling ricket-racked youngster at home. Mr. Moore, a real dog-lover, said he didn't own a dog, because he had not the time or facilities to give it, and the Lancashire miner is a real dog-lover, too. In times of unemployment, the last to feel the pinch is the dog, and perhaps that is just, for the canine cannot be blamed for human economic failures. The story about the man who absented himself from his fellows' company because his dog had died, and "a man feels such a fool without a dog," I had always understood to be an Australian one, but apparently it was imported from Lancashire.

If you happen to leave puss in over night and he comes to the bedroom door to let you know that it is time he was out, so that he can arouse the neighbours' roosters, in order that they may herald the dawn, have a try at getting some of the European stations. As the signals come from the West you may just as well go back to bed if the sun has beaten "Tom," but from three o'clock onward some of the super-powered Europeans are quite audible. Madrid, Rome, Prague, Bordeaux, Mulacher, Leningrad, and many others, are to be heard on favourable mornings, while Heilsburg seems to be capable of getting through any day. On a recent morning when there was a total absence of static, Goteborg came in with strength exceeding that of 4YA. It is listed as a 10 kilowatt only. Increased aerial power in European stations is almost a daily occurrence, and it may be that Goteborg has quite lately grown up, but many comparatively low-powered stations are to be heard if the cat only calls one in time.

WITH the memory of a previous performance from the Town Hall with a fuller orchestra I was thoroughly disappointed with the first movement of Rachmaninov's Second Concerto for the piano in C Minor, from 2YA. The double forte passages were totally without definition, a mere jumble of noise. At the Town Hall a larger number of instruments was given the opportunity for each to impinge its own characteristic upon the microphone without being crowded, and the performance was one of the finest piano and orchestral items ever broadcast in Wellington. I would have rather heard the whole concerto, without a "howlitzer" organ being sandwiched in.

WITH the gramophone and wireless as vehicles to let the world know exactly the talent of master musicians, it is not surprising to hear that some of them make money. We may even expect that Szegeti will add to

his fortune while holidaying in New Zealand. But a hundred years ago, and when newspapers were few, it was quite a different matter. Perhaps it was because of few aids to publicity that so many of the giant composers and executants remained poor, but when one did acquire a tidy fortune the merit could not possibly be below genius rank. I suppose it would be safe to say that more people had heard of Paganini than Szegeti twelve months ago, and by reason of that, perhaps there is something in the rumour that Szegeti carries with him a reprint of the unexcelled Paganini's will, and appearing in "The Era," London, dated July 19, 1840, thus:—

"The will of Paganini has been opened at Genoa (says a letter from that place in the "Debats"), and the following account of its contents is given as authentic: The greater part of the fortune consists in houses and lands; the remainder is in the funds in France, England and Naples. The total amount has been officially estimated at 1,700,000 francs, which is said to be rather an under than an over estimate. Paganini has left to his elder sister the life interest of a capital of 57,000 frs., which is, after her death, to be divided equally between her sons and daughters. To his youngest sister he has left a life interest of 50,000 frs., on similar conditions. To a lady of Lucca, whose name the will declares is not to be mentioned, he has left 6000 frs. a year for life, and to the mother of his son 1200 francs for life. This lady is not a Jewess, as has been generally said, but a Roman Catholic, and a distinguished singer who travelled with Paganini from 1820 to 1823, and sang at nearly all the concerts he gave during that time. The bulk of the property, after deducting the legacies, is bequeathed to his son, Achilles, who is by the will placed under the guardianship of Marquis Lorenzo Furato, of Genoa."

"My Favourite Poet"

New Talks from 2YA

COMMENCING the first week in November a new series of eight talks will be broadcast on Friday evenings from 2YA, when prominent citizens and members of the Legislature will speak on "My Favourite Poet."

The schedule for the talks is as follows:—

Friday, November 4—Hon. Mr. McCallum, M.L.C., "Thomas Bracken."

Monday, November 7—Mr. P. Fraser, M.P., "Robert Burns."

Friday, November 11—Hon. Mr. L. M. Isitt, M.L.C., "Lowell."

Thursday, November 17—Hon. Sir James Parr, "Shakespeare."

Saturday, November 19—Mrs. E. W. Kane, Ph.B., "Kipling."

Thursday, November 24—Hon. Mr. James Craigie, "Masefield."

Monday, November 28—Miss C. S. Forde, "Keats."

Friday, December 2—Hon. Mr. Hanan, M.L.C., "Moore."