

The Conversion Loan Seven One-Act Plays

Definite Service by Radio Favourable Review From 2YA.

THE use made of broadcasting by the Government for creating interest in the conversion loan is a definite tribute to the value of the radio service in a time of national need. From 2YA during the past week the Minister of Finance, the Rt. Hon. J. G. Coates, spoke not only to 2YA listeners, but by relay to all radio listeners throughout New Zealand. That service was supplemented on other evenings by brief speeches from representatives of the Wellington Stock Exchange. These took the form of explaining to the public the purpose of the conversion loan and important details of the scheme. The talks throughout were clear-cut and effective.



Mr. Matt J. Dixon,

who was long associated with 2YA, has been appointed to the position of studio pianist at 3YA, and has now taken up his duties in Christchurch.

2ZW Programmes

Wednesday, March 22.—7-8.30 a.m.: Daily breakfast session. 10: Devotional service. 10.15: Session for womenfolk. 12-2 p.m.: Lunch music. 5-6: Children's session (Uncle Toby). 7: After-dinner music. 8: Bright half-hour with the Merry-makers. 8.30: Popular musical programme. 10: Dance session, including relay of dance music from Majestic Lounge.

Thursday.—7-8.30 a.m.: Daily breakfast session. 10: Devotional service. 10.15: Session for womenfolk. 12-2 p.m.: Lunch music. 5-6: Children's session (Auntie Joan). 7: After-dinner music. 8: Concert programme. 9: Classical concert. 10: Brief dance session.

Friday.—7-8.30 a.m.: Daily breakfast session. Silent remainder of day.

Saturday.—7-8.30 a.m.: Daily breakfast session. 10: Devotional service. 10.15: Session for womenfolk. 12-2 p.m.: Lunch session. 7: After-dinner music. 8: Popular concert programme. 10: Dance programme, including relay of music from Majestic Lounge.

Sunday.—11 a.m.: Devotional service by the Padre. 6.30 p.m.: Session of evensong music. 7: Relay of evensong from St. Paul's Pro-Cathedral, Mulgrave Street. 8.15: Studio concert, including recital by Signor Lucien Cesaroni. 9.55: Epilogue.

THE volume, "Seven One-act Plays," which has just been issued as a first contribution to the dramatic literature of New Zealand, was favourably reviewed from 2YA by the 2YA book reviewer (Mr. H. C. South), on Monday evening last.

"At the present time," he said, "dramatic societies are flourishing, and play reading has become quite a feature of club life, especially women's clubs and women's institutes, and any book that provides good acting or reading plays, within certain defined limits, is sure of a hearty welcome. It must be remembered that most of the acting and reading of plays in New Zealand is done by amateurs who have very little time to study the niceties of drama. There are of course, a few drama societies in the main centres whose performances reach a very high standard, and compare favourably with amateur work overseas. To all groups of people or individuals interested in drama, there has just been published a book that should meet with a very warm welcome.

"SEVEN ONE-ACT PLAYS," published by the "N.Z. Radio Record," under the auspices of the New Zealand branch of the British Drama League, is a very satisfying volume.

There are seven plays printed in the book, entitled:—

"The Touchstone," by V. Targuse.

"Fear," by V. Targuse.

"Lantern Night," by Manie Inglis.

"Epilogue," by C. N. Surrey Dane.

"The Man Called Jones,"

by Eric Bradwell.

"Re-Union," by John Deane.

"Rabbits," by V. Targuse.

Four of the plays are typically New Zealand, with a New Zealand background, while one is based on an island in the Pacific, and the others are overseas stories. The judge has placed "The Touchstone" and "Fear" equal for first prize. In my judgment "The Touchstone" is easily first. I like a play that tells a story and tells it definitely and completely. "The Touchstone" does this. It is an episode in the lives of four people, and the story is complete and leaves a satisfying feeling when finished. And I think it would act well. "Fear" is also good, more dramatic perhaps than "The Touchstone," and might easily develop into pathos if certain parts were not skilfully done. It could be overdone and so spoiled. "Rabbits," by the same author, is also very good, and falls little short of the other two. Indeed, with the right acting or reading, it could quite easily equal them. Mrs. Targuse, the author of these three plays, has done very good work.

These three are undoubtedly the best plays in the book, but "Lantern Night," by Manie Inglis, is also a good piece of work. The author has created a delightful character in Janet, and the setting is in Janet McGruther's cottage and garden, just out of a small New Zealand town. The dialogue is good, and this play would act or read well. The other three plays are also very creditable. "Epilogue," by C. N.

Surrey Dane, is a fantasy, and is in parts very clever, but would require skilful acting or reading. "The Man Called Jones," by Eric Bradwell, is a story of life in one of the islands of the Pacific, and tells the story well. It also would need skilful acting. "Re-union," by John Deane, is the story of a tragedy that has come into a family life, and the theme is worked out well.

The publishers and authors are to be congratulated on this book, as are the sponsors, the New Zealand branch of the British Drama League. It is a real contribution to New Zealand literature.

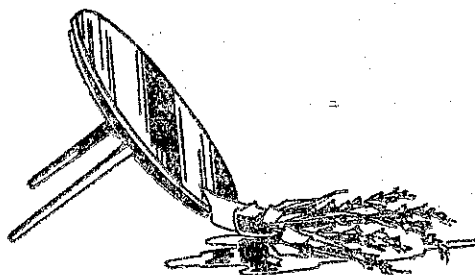
The reviewer concluded by quoting the very sincere letter of appreciation contributed to the volume by Dame

Sybil Thorndike, to whom the book is dedicated. It is pleasing to know that this initial effort is meeting with a favourable reception from the public.

"Seven One-Act Plays" is available from leading booksellers or the publishers, Radio Publishing Co., Ltd., P.O. Box 1032, Wellington.

ENCOURAGED by one of the large wireless concerns, a German inventor named Alronheim has taken up residence in the U.S.A. to continue his experiments in television in colours. Though colour cinema photography has not yet successfully emerged from the experimental stage, it is stated there are promising hopes that such a refinement in television is possible in the near future.

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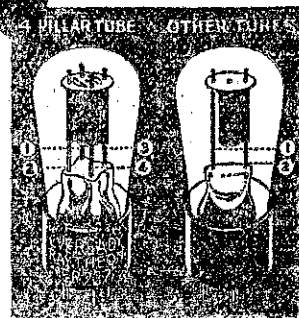
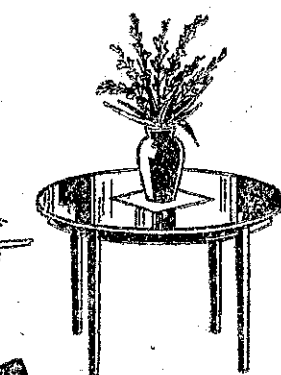
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