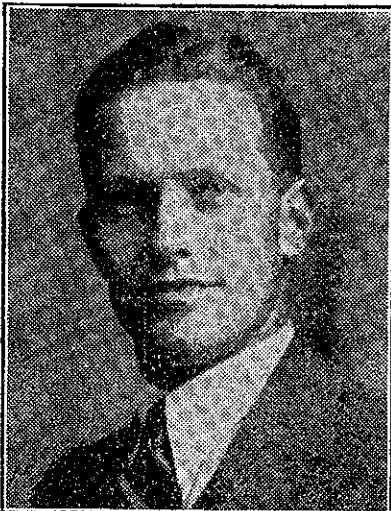




-S. P. Andrew photo.

Meet 3YA's Wrestling Announcer

IN Wellington last week for the Walker-Rumberg wrestling match was Norman Batchelor, the man attached to the voice that listeners to Christchurch wrestling broadcasts know so well. Mr. Batchelor has been broadcasting the matches for 3YA for a considerable time, and the big mail that he receives every week is ample evidence of his popularity with the fans.

"I don't believe in boosting a bout," he said to a "Radio Record" representative. "I tell the listeners what I see—no more, no less. I always make a point, too, of knowing the wrestlers, and I have a great collection of signed photographs. Wrestling has been a hobby of mine for years, first in Auckland and then in Christchurch, and at the present time I'm a member of the executive of the Canterbury Wrestling Association."

And take note, all you Michaels who imagine that the Michael that Mr. Batchelor talks about over the air is one of yourselves. Michael is the announcer's dog—and when "his master's voice" comes through the loudspeaker, Michael fastens his forepaws on the front of the set and "stays put" till the broadcast is over.

Norman Batchelor has an enviable record in the sporting world. He has held all the Canterbury middle-distance swimming records and is at present a member of the Taylor's Mistake Surf and Life-saving Club. With him in Wellington last week was his wife, a Christchurch girl who, before her marriage, gave exhibitions of dancing at many charity functions in Canterbury. Mrs. Batchelor is a keen wrestling fan, too. She expected to be bored to tears at the first wrestling bout she attended and took a book with her. The bout thrilled her so much that she not only left the book unopened, but left it at the stadium and never saw it again!

A NEW ZEALANDER who is appearing at present in the national programmes in Australia is Miss Louis Homfrey, a singer with a wide experience of radio entertainment in Australia, and who was heard over the British Broadcasting Corporation's network during her visit to London. She possesses a rare voice of remarkably low register, and is accurately described as a feminine baritone.

MR. PERCY GRAINGER, the eminent Australian composer-pianist, has made a very generous contribution to music in Australia in the form of a gift of a museum of music. The museum will be erected in the grounds of the Melbourne University at Mr. Grainger's expense. The architecture and the nature of the exhibits will not be decided until Mr. Grainger has had an opportunity of discussing such matters with interested parties. Mr. Grainger intends to pay for the upkeep of the building, and in his will he will make provisions for concerts at which his own works, and those of his contemporaries will be kept before the public for an indefinite period.

SARGENT'S charcoal portrait of Mr. Grainger, now in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, and other paintings and drawings associated with music,

will be placed in the museum. The piano on which Mr. Grainger practised in Melbourne from six to twelve years, will be included in the exhibits as well as various instruments on which he made his first experiments or used at important first appearances. Mr. Grainger is making arrangements whereby a wide variety of original musical manuscripts and relics will be preserved in the museum. In addition there will be records of English folk songs, Spanish gipsy music and Oriental, Madagascar, and South Seas music. Manuscripts of Grieg, the Norwegian composer, who for a number of years was a close friend of Mr. Grainger, his watch, and other Grieg relics will form a separate collection. As the museum grows in importance it is bound to attract a great deal of attention, and it is hoped that, eventually, the collection will be unique in the world.

ALTHOUGH listeners hear most of the recordings which find their way into the library of the Broadcasting Board there are many which, for various reasons, are not heard over the air. Some are not bad, but are not considered of sufficient entertainment value to be included in programmes. Some are rubbish, with gleams of gold, and some are too "risque" for programme purposes. During the past few years one of the Australian stations, 3DB, has collected a large number of this type of record and has decided to make use of them in a late night session from 11 to 11.30 p.m. on week nights.

Alice Has Been Found!

Alice has been found!

In other words, the search for a girl to play the title part in Paramount's film version of Lewis Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland" has been concluded with the selection of Charlotte Henry, of Brooklyn, New York, for the part.

The search for a suitable girl has been world-wide, and the New Zealand nominees were brought into touch with the Paramount Film Service through the columns of the "Radio Record," which sponsored the search in this country. The American directors let it be understood that the ideal Alice should be young, small, talented and semi-experienced. Miss Henry meets all these requirements, and more closely resembles the "child of pure, unclouded brow and dreaming eyes of wonder" than any of the other 7000 applicants.

We present here the first photograph of Miss Henry, published in New Zealand. The lucky young actress will proceed immediately to Hollywood, where the rest of the cast for this great picture has already been chosen—Gary Cooper as the White Knight, Bing Crosby as the Mock Turtle, Jack Oakie as Tweedledum, Charlie Ruggles as the White Rabbit, Louise Fazenda as the White Queen, Ford Sterling as the White King, Alison Skipworth as the Duchess and Leon Errol as Uncle Gilbert.

