

The presence of American forces in the Dominion and the importance of understanding the American point of view in war and post-war action by the United Nations has led to the introduction, by arrangement with the United States Office of War Information, of a specially prepared commentary rebroadcast from America on five nights of the week.

At 9 o'clock each evening the main stations broadcast the N.B.S. Newsreel, and at 7 o'clock news by courtesy of the daily newspapers, as well as sports results, market reports, &c. The broadcasting of a weekly summary of overseas news in the Maori language was introduced.

*Talks.*—Rebroadcasts of talks by distinguished speakers overseas were a very important feature of the programmes. Among these speakers were His Majesty the King; the Right Honourable Winston Churchill; President Roosevelt; Field Marshal Smuts; the Right Honourable D. Lloyd George; Mr. John G. Winant; Mr. Cordell Hull; Sir Stafford Cripps; Mrs Winston Churchill; Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt; the Honourable Walter Nash, New Zealand Minister at Washington; the New Zealand High Commissioner in London, Mr. W. J. Jordan; rebroadcasts of talks by leading British commentators, such as J. B. Priestley and Wickham Steed, continued to be popular. A B.B.C. feature of special value to New Zealand was a series of talks on civil defence.

In New Zealand His Excellency the Governor-General was heard in a national talk and a New Year message to the Dominion. A number of broadcasts were also made by the Prime Minister, while speakers from Parliament, the Services, and other sections of the community broadcast on a number of subjects connected mainly with the war effort.

Among overseas visitors to broadcast in New Zealand were Mr. W. Bankes Amery, of the British Ministry of Food; Mr. C. W. Hamann, Deputy Chief Engineer, British Ministry of Home Security; Mr. A. D. Wilson, Assistant Fire Force Commander, National Fire Service of Great Britain; Dr. Charles O. van der Plas, leader of the delegation representing Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands at the Tasman Ter-Centennial celebrations in New Zealand; and Mr. N. C. Tritton, Pacific representative of the B.B.C.

Health talks prepared by the Department of Health and Winter Course Educational talks were again featured. The services of the Local Advisory Committee in connection with the Winter Course talks are gratefully acknowledged.

Obituary tributes were paid to many eminent men and women, including Sir James Allen, Mr. S. Saunders, Professor C. Coleridge Farr, Professor H. J. Denham, and Commander Frank Worsley.

Special talks prepared by the Service on places in the news included Ceylon, Syria, Tunis, Bath, Madagascar, and the Volga.

*Overseas Rebroadcasts.*—A listening watch was kept on overseas stations, and daily talks, commentaries, and programmes were rebroadcast or recorded for future use. Among other rebroadcasts were the ringing of the church bells in Great Britain and Northern Ireland to celebrate the victory of the Eighth Army; "Salute to New Zealand," a special B.B.C. programme on Dominion Day; the enthronement of Dr. Temple as Archbishop of Canterbury; a description (with recorded extracts) of the Solemn Requiem Mass at Westminster Cathedral for the late Cardinal Hinsley; a programme featuring the New Zealand Forestry Unit in Great Britain; a programme from the City of Edinburgh to Dunedin; a birthday tribute to Sir Bernard Freyberg; and the Melbourne Cup Race.

*Broadcasting and the Forces.*—By means of our Broadcasting Unit with the forces in the Middle East and the generous co-operation of broadcasting authorities overseas personal greetings and talks by New-Zealanders serving overseas were frequently broadcast in New Zealand. Over 4,550 personal messages to relatives and friends were broadcast in the programme "With the Boys Overseas," this number being nearly double that broadcast in the previous year. Of these messages, 3,139 were from the forces in the Middle East, 640 from Great Britain, and 771 from Canada and the United States of America. Owing to the increasing number of greetings an additional programme each week was introduced. In addition to personal greetings, many members of the forces overseas recorded discussions, personal experiences, and commentaries, and 86 of these were broadcast. A number of the personal greetings and talks were from members of the Maori Battalion, and these were broadcast in a special programme.

Arrangements have been made for sending a Broadcasting Unit to the Pacific area to obtain messages and talks by members of our forces there.

Recorded talks on subjects of New Zealand interest were supplied to the B.B.C. for broadcasting in England and to the Broadcasting Unit in the Middle East for broadcasting to members of the New Zealand Forces in Africa.

In New Zealand the Service is co-operating with the Army Department of Education and Welfare in providing music and entertainment for the forces. Camps and posts throughout the country are being supplied with musical performances (orchestral and vocal), variety concerts, and gramophone recitals organized by the Service.

The broadcast signalling instruction for trainees for the Air Force was continued, and there was a weekly programme for members of the Air Training Corps.

*Music.*—Regular programmes of recorded music by the world's leading composers and artists were broadcast, as well as the best available local artists, musical societies, and choirs. 2,107 broadcasts were made by local artists and 708 by local musical societies, choirs, bands, &c.

Music by New Zealand composers was broadcast, in which works by Douglas Lilburn were outstanding.

A poem, "Landfall in Unknown Seas," written by Allen Curnow in connection with the Tasman Ter-Centennial celebrations, was presented in a special musical setting composed by Douglas Lilburn and played by the N.B.S. String Orchestra, conducted by Andersen Tyrer.