

The Service is most grateful to these two Organizations for their co-operation, which, during sittings of the United Nations Assembly, made possible the broadcasting of the voices of New Zealand delegates speaking direct from Lake Success about the progress of their work. Other talks and special programmes were recorded by the United Nations Radio Division and flown to New Zealand. "Provincial Letter," an experimental session, was designed for the purpose of keeping New Zealanders informed about current growth and trends within their own country. The Service feels it has a special responsibility in this connection. By making use of its widening network and expanding technical resources it is hoped to give listeners a fuller understanding of the life and work of fellow New Zealanders, and of the potentialities of the Dominion and its dependencies.

The B.B.C.'s weekly review of foreign affairs, contributed in turn by several distinguished observers, was rebroadcast in New Zealand each Sunday. From time to time this was supplemented by more detailed commentaries on the news from countries whose internal politics impinge upon world affairs.

TALKS

Talks of wide variety were broadcast. More stations included talks as a regular part of their programmes, and the year was notable for the progress made with the broadcasting of discussions, debates, "forums," and "brains trusts." All main stations now conduct at least one such session weekly. The aim of these developments in "controversial broadcasting," whatever the method of presentation, is rather to stimulate public thought and discussion than to reach conclusions. Speakers were carefully chosen to give as nearly as possible a balanced presentation of the various aspects of the question under consideration. In this way the subject was fully opened up, and by the end of the session listeners were equipped to carry on their own discussions at home.

The pattern of more formal talks was designed to combine information and instruction with entertainment. Increasing attention was paid to New Zealand history, in which connection a noteworthy series was Alan Mulgan's "The Making of a New Zealander," a social history of the Dominion by one of the founders of her native-born literary tradition.

To coincide with the Centennial Celebrations of the Province of Otago, the Service organized and broadcast widely three distinct series of talks. On the first night of Otago's hundredth year, Dr. A. G. McIntock, her Director of Historical Publications, spoke over the national link, assessing the province's contribution to the general growth and development of the Dominion. Later in the year Dr. McIntock traced the main thread of Otago's history in talks broadcast from Dunedin and Invercargill stations. As a complement to these, a panel of provincial historians contributed talks on special aspects of the first settlement, on some of the local communities in Otago, and on the main economic trends of the hundred years. These, also, were broadcast from Dunedin and Invercargill stations. A third series, popular talks on Otago history by Douglas Cresswell, was broadcast from northern stations.

An Otago series typical of what is being done to record and broadcast the history of the Dominion generally was "The Blue Pool of Wakatipu," by "Florrie Hogarth."

In keeping with the New Zealander's liking for travel, talks about the life and peoples of other countries continued to be popular. From the Canadian Arctic, Norway, and France to Borneo and Fiji; from China, through Malaya, Kashmir, and Rhodesia, to Peru, listeners have roamed the world with broadcast speakers, many of whom were themselves New Zealanders. A Service unit that visited Western Samoa with the United Nations Trusteeship Mission, primarily to record proceedings for the United Nations Archives, collected also a variety of locally-spoken material that was later built into broadcast talks on the Trust territory.