

RELIGIOUS BROADCASTS

National policy governing religious broadcasts is determined by the Central Religious Advisory Committee, which is representative of the national bodies of all churches broadcasting regular services. In the four main centres there are also local church committees whose main function is to decide how national policy can best be adapted to meet local requirements. The Service desires to place on record its appreciation of the work of these committees and the helpful co-operation received from them during the past year.

Relays of Church services each Sunday morning and evening, broadcast devotional services each week-day morning, and the observance of a silent prayer period during the chiming of Big Ben at 9 o'clock each Sunday evening were continued. In addition, during the closing of the schools because of the poliomyelitis epidemic, a weekly quarter-hour Sunday school session was broadcast for children in collaboration with the Church authorities.

These regular services were supplemented by a number of special broadcasts, which included Anzac Commemoration and Armistice Day Remembrance Services, the Annual Toc H Service of Re-dedication, a St. David's Day Service in Christchurch, and the Christmas Service by combined churches in Dunedin. In October the installation of Archbishop McKeefrey as Coadjutor to the Metropolitan of New Zealand was heard from Auckland. The Requiem Mass and the Funeral Service for the late Hon. D. G. Sullivan, Minister of Supply, were broadcast, together with the Requiem Masses for the late Hon. James O'Brien, Minister of Transport, and the late Hon. Mark Fagan, Speaker of the Legislative Council. The Civic Funeral Service and the Requiem Mass for those who lost their lives in the Ballantyne fire at Christchurch were relayed.

Sunday evening Church relays included two services in Maori, one from St. Joseph's Girls' College Chapel, Greenmeadows, and one from the Methodist Maori Mission in Auckland, the preacher being the Rev. Maharaja Winiata. There was also a service broadcast from St. Matthew's Anglican Church, Hastings, where the sermon in English was preached by the Right Rev. F. A. Bennett, Bishop of Aotearoa, and the choral music was sung in Maori.

"Men of God," a religious programme of serial type, was broadcast during the year under review and received much favourable comment from listeners.

BROADCASTS TO SCHOOLS

The general policy for broadcasts to schools is determined by an Advisory Committee representing the Education Department, the New Zealand Education Institute, and this Service. The programmes, which include a wide variety of subjects, are worked out in detail by officers of the Broadcasting Service and total two and three-quarter hours each week. With the country schools in mind, where many ages and grades are assembled under one teacher, the programmes are graded to cover a wide range in age and attainment.

After consultation with teachers, the time-table was adjusted this year to allow a longer period of music and rhythm for juniors. The plan for musical-appreciation lessons for the year was based on the Music Appreciation Scheme for Post-primary Schools, and the Education Department issued a post-primary bulletin in connection with these broadcasts. Each week the *New Zealand Listener* printed a list of the programmes in a special panel.

The major social-study programme for 1948 is "New Zealand in the Making," and the Service was fortunate in having Professor C. A. Cotton, Dr. R. A. Falla, and Mr. R. Duff as consultants or writers for this series.

A new series of French lessons for post-primary schools was prepared and recorded and a new booklet compiled and published.