

Invercargill May Fair

Services of Broadcasting

DURING the progress of the May Fair, which is an annual event in Invercargill, broadcasting of various parts of the Fair was carried out by relay over land-line to 4YA, and on some occasions to 3YA, Christchurch. The undertaking, while successful from the technical point, failed of giving complete satisfaction to all listeners because of some little lack of organisation, due in a measure to the very nature of the function being broadcast. At the same time the radio service was made as full as possible, any gaps that developed in the programme through disorganisation due to time, etc., being filled in as far as possible to the best advantage. There is no doubt that broadcasting rendered a distinct service to the success of the Fair in Invercargill, in that the promptest of advice was available to the rural population of Southland as to the weather conditions in Invercargill and the attractiveness of the display in general.

In the course of a newspaper interview at the conclusion of the Fair, the president, Mr. Stephenson, made the following remarks:—

"Like most successful and pleasing functions," he said, "May Fair 1929 has left not only pleasant memories, but has proved undoubtedly a great inspiration and a great anticipation towards May Fair 1930."

"I want to express most sincerely my warmest thanks for the very general and very genuine assistance given by the people in almost every direction. Especially would I like to mention the very kind and very thorough help extended to us by our local press. It is almost superfluous for me to state that the whole of Southland is deeply grateful to Sir Joseph Ward for the very material help and great courtesy which he has extended to us in every direction. We think the fact that May Fair is the first occasion for the broadcasting of events from Invercargill, will be long remembered. The thanks of not only the directors of May Fair, but of the whole province of Southland are due to Mr. Ball, the director of the broadcasting activities for the very excellent manner in which he carried out his duties and entered so enthusiastically into the whole spirit of the great occasion. Another event which will be remembered was the visit of so many of our Otago friends, on the concluding day of the festivities. We appreciate their having made a special point of seeing Invercargill for themselves."

Bishop of Aotearoa

To Broadcast from 3YA

VISITING Christchurch at present is His Lordship the Bishop of Aotearoa. He will speak from 3YA on Wednesday, June 12. The first Maori Bishop is a very interesting personality.

Broadcast of "Caractacus"

Presented by Christchurch Choral Society

ON Wednesday, June 5, the Royal Christchurch Choral Society, under the conductorship of Mr. W. H. Dixon, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., will present "Caractacus." This will be the first public performance by the society since the appointment of Mr. Dixon. Before leaving England, and when in charge of the Ipswich Choral Society, he produced "Caractacus," and that other of Elgar's masterpieces, "The Dream of Gerontius." The Christchurch performance on Wednesday evening can be relied upon to be a splendid entertainment.

First-class soloists have been engaged. They will be:

Soprano, Mrs. C. Tait (Timaru).

Tenor, Mr. Hubert Carter (Wanganui).

Baritone, Mr. Wm. Gemmell (Auckland).

Bass, Mr. T. D. Williams (Christchurch).

"Caractacus" was composed by Sir Edward Elgar. The words were written for the music by Mr. H. A. Acworth, C.I.E., for the Leeds Musical Festival, 1898, and dedicated by Sir Edward Elgar by special permission to Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria.

The Britons throughout the south, east, and centre of England having been subdued by the Romans, Caractacus is driven with his remaining forces towards the Welsh frontier, and establishes a great camp on the Malvern Hills, on the summit now known as the British Camp, or Herefordshire Beacon. Wandering in the forest below the hills, Eigen, the daughter of Caractacus, and her betrothed lover, Orbin, are met by a Druid maiden, who enjoins them to warn the King not to advance into the open country against the Romans. This warning they convey to Caractacus.

On the ensuing night the omens are taken at a solemn assembly of the Druids. They are read by Orbin, who belongs to the half-priestly order of minstrels, and are declared to be unfavourable.

"Tristan and Isolde"

First Instalment of Act III Next Week

COMMENCING at 2YA on June 7 the first portion of the third act of "Tristan and Isolde" will be presented. This act of Wagner's great music-drama will be received with great enthusiasm by all lovers of grand opera—and, in fact, by all music lovers. The score, technically considered, is marvellous. Yet, such is the skill of the master that the resultant effect is appreciable in the highest degree to the most technically-uninformed listeners. It is like a grand specimen of cathedral architecture. The opera adapts itself to the individual needs and the inner feelings of a thousand listeners. It searches the emotions of men and

favourable. The Arch-Druid deceives the King as to their character and Caractacus resolves to advance against the Romans. Orbin endeavours to protest, but is cursed and driven forth by the Druids.

On the following morning Orbin meets Eigen in a glade of the forest, where youths and maidens are with her gathering flowers for a sacrifice, and bids her farewell, telling her of the deceit practised on the King by the Druids, and of his own expulsion. He adds that he himself is flying from the Druids and intends to join the British forces.

In the next scene Eigen and her maidens witness the return of Caractacus with the remnants of his army to the camp on the Malvern Hills after their total rout by the Romans. Caractacus and his family, including Orbin, are soon after betrayed into the hands of the enemy. The last scene represents Caractacus with Orbin and Eigen before the tribunal of Claudius, the Emperor of Rome. Claudius is at first disposed to condemn them to death, but is so struck by the intrepidity of Caractacus that he pardons them and assigns them an honourable residence in Rome. The general lines of history or, failing history, of tradition, have been followed. The British camp on the Malvern Hills is locally attributed to Caractacus.

It is doubtless a British work, and is of such an extent as infers occupation by very large numbers. The scene of Caractacus's last disastrous battle is much disputed; but it was almost certainly on the line of the Severn (Habren) and may probably have been at Caer Caradoc, in Shropshire. The unusual circumstance of mistletoe growing on the oak may be still observed in the woods below the Herefordshire Beacon. Caractacus's appearance before Claudius in Rome, his bold defence, and the pardon of himself and his daughter are historical. Orbin is an imaginary character.

women as perhaps no other music in the world does. The extracts cover five twelve-inch records, and suffice it to say that the singers go to prove that this of all Wagner's works most arrests and enchains the imagination.

The dates for the four stations are:—

2YA—June 7 and 14.

1YA—June 11 and 18.

4YA—June 17 and 24.

3YA—June 19 and 26.

Distant Fields

A SYDNEY correspondent writes:—

"I have experienced no difficulty with the set over here, and have had some good concerts, although, candidly, I like Wellington better. There is far too much interruption here to give Press notices and police notices, etc."

Rugby and Soccer

Broadcasts for June 3

ON the afternoon of June 3, King's Birthday, there will be two sporting broadcasts by 2YA.

The first, at 1.30 p.m., will be a running description, given by Mr. Frank Campbell, of the Association football match between Wellington and Canterbury representative boys' teams.

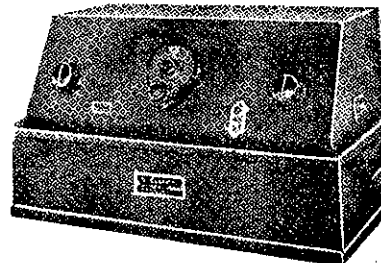
The big match of the day will commence at 3 o'clock—the New Zealand Rugby trial match. Mr. Chas. Lamberg will be the announcer.

It is expected that the first Ranfurly Shield match will be played at Masterton on Saturday, July 20, between Wairarapa and Hawke's Bay.

Permission to broadcast all matches played under the jurisdiction of the New Zealand Rugby Union has been granted, and the Broadcasting Company will accordingly make arrangements to relay from Masterton a description of the first Ranfurly Shield match for 1929.

It was in 1927, on the occasion of the match in which Wairarapa beat Hawke's Bay for the Shield, that the first broadcast from 2YA took place.

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