

In New Zealand the Service is co-operating with the Army Education and Welfare Service in providing music and entertainment for the Forces. Camps throughout the country are being supplied with musical performances (orchestral and vocal), variety concerts, and gramophone recitals organized by the Service, and assistance is being given to camps in the development of their own talent. Thanks are due to many artists and members of the staff, who have given their services so generously. In addition, 30 programmes written by local authors, including the late W. Graeme-Holder, were recorded for the Army Education and Welfare Service.

During the year the broadcasting of signalling instruction was discontinued at the request of the Air Department owing to the comparatively small number of trainees now requiring this service.

*Music.*—The past year's published programmes show that a wide and varied selection of good music was available to listeners. In addition to the regular presentation of recorded music by world-famous artists and composers, 2,767 broadcasts were made by New Zealand artists of broadcasting standard, and there were 560 recitals by local musical societies, choirs, and bands. Works by New Zealand composers were also featured, and Douglas Lilburn was heard conducting the N.B.S. Orchestra in his own compositions. Organ recitals, presented monthly on Sunday afternoons and sponsored by the Wellington City Council and the National Broadcasting Service, were relayed by Station 2YA from the Wellington Town Hall. A number of school choirs were broadcast.

There were 78 broadcasts of complete operas from recordings.

*Plays and Feature Programmes.*—In addition to serial and feature programmes, approximately 125 major dramatic productions were broadcast, including works by the following authors: Shakespeare, G. B. Shaw, John Galsworthy, Rabindranath Tagore, John Masefield, Arnold Bennett, St. John Ervine, A. A. Milne, H. R. Jeans, John Steinbeck, and J. J. Farjeon, as well as the New Zealand writers, W. Graeme-Holder, Grace Janisch, John Gundry, J. Wilson Hogg, and F. W. Kenyon. Of the 270 scripts submitted for broadcasting, 208 were dramatic scripts, 61 were short stories, and 1 was a novel; 70 were accepted, 29 of these being by New Zealand authors.

Special programmes were written and produced by the Service, including programmes for the Victory Loan and the National Patriotic telephone appeal, a Christmas good-will message in French to the children of New Caledonia, and the dramatic serials, "Susie in Storyland" and "In the Days of the Black Prince," the last two being broadcast weekly in the Broadcasts to Schools session.

Among serials produced by the Service were "Anthony Sherwood Laughed," by Francis Durbridge; "Fumbumbo The Last of the Dragons," by the New-Zealander, the late W. Graeme-Holder; and "It Walks by Night," by Max Afford.

*Light Music, Variety, and Bands.*—Variety programmes from the best overseas recordings and by local artists and combinations were broadcast. Community sings were broadcast, as also were special sessions of dance music by New Zealand players from studios and cabarets. Various bands, including that of the R.N.Z.A.F., were broadcast, and variety concerts arranged by the Service for the Forces were relayed from military camps. Relays of pipe-band music were arranged during the year.

*Outside Broadcasts.* Relays of events of national interest included the opening of the Returned Services Association's new premises by His Excellency the Governor-General, ceremonies at Auckland and Wellington in connection with American Memorial Day, speeches by the Hon. D. G. Sullivan and Admiral Halsey at a Government luncheon to the latter, the State luncheon and the Civic reception accorded to Mr. Forde (Deputy Prime Minister of Australia) and Dr. Evatt (Minister of External Affairs); and the State luncheon for Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser.

*Parliamentary Broadcasts.*—The proceedings of the House of Representatives were broadcast regularly, with necessary observance of wartime restrictions.

The national observance of a minute's silent prayer at 9 p.m. during the chiming of Big Ben was recognized by members of the House standing while the chimes were broadcast in the chamber.

The speech by the Minister of Finance when presenting the Budget was broadcast over the main stations, while during the Victory Loan Campaign, in addition to the usual parliamentary broadcasts, all stations were linked for periods of a quarter of an hour to broadcast speeches by Members of Parliament in support of the loan.

*Religious Broadcasts.*—Broadcasts of Church services each Sunday morning and evening, devotional services each week-day morning, a brief wartime prayer service on Wednesday evenings, and the observance of a silent-prayer period during the chiming of Big Ben at 9 o'clock each evening were continued. Intercessory services held on days of prayer, specially requested by His Majesty the King, were relayed.

A military field mass conducted by American Army and Naval chaplains was broadcast, while the broadcasting of Church services in Maori was inaugurated. A rebroadcast from England was made of the Chief Rabbi's New Year message to world Jewry. Dorothy Sayers' series of religious plays, "The Man Born to be King," was presented from the main National stations. This was a particularly successful feature, and repeat broadcasts are being arranged.

The helpful co-operation of the Central Religious Advisory Committee and the local Church committees is greatly appreciated by the Service.

*Broadcasts for Schools.*—The general policy for these programmes is decided by a committee representative of the National Broadcasting Service, the Education Department, and the New Zealand Educational Institute. The broadcasts are organized on a national basis.

In 1944 there were four half-hour sessions each week for primary schools, and this was increased to five sessions at the commencement of the 1945 broadcasts. These sessions comprised music appreciation and singing, rhythm for juniors, literature and history through literature (dramatized), and talks on news, social studies, nature-study, and science. A total of 1,243 schools (about 88,000 pupils) listened to these broadcasts.