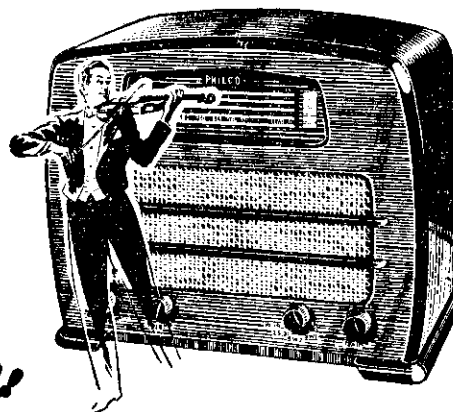


... you'd think he was standing

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EDMONDS
ACTO BAKING POWDER

The Ace of Rising Agents



LETTERS FROM LISTENERS

(continued from page 5)

THE THOREAU FAMILY

Sir,—In a recent issue of *The Listener* I noticed a write-up about the Thoreau family, especially Aubyn Thoreau. I don't know where you got your information from, but there is a lot of distortion and really it's all piffle and gives the idea I was living a hermit's life. Here is the real version. We (my wife and I) came to Pleasant Point (Timaru) in 1914, started in business, and have lived in the township ever since. We have a home of our own with every electric labour-saving device there is and we don't have to go to the riverbed to gather sticks for the winter.

My wife is a daughter of Horatio Henry Couldery, a celebrated Royal Academy artist for over 20 years who was commissioned to paint pictures for the galleries in Canada, Australia, and South Africa, where they can be seen. Mrs. Thoreau does some baking for the Women's Division of the Farmers' Union and also takes goods for various farmers every Friday to be sold through the Women's Division Market, and not as you put it in your write-up. Now I think it is up to you to put an explanatory note in the next issue of *The Listener*.

AUBYN L. THOREAU (Timaru).

(If our correspondent will read our article again he will find that the source of every statement was clearly indicated. We are at the same time glad to have this first-hand statement from Aubyn Thoreau, and it will be sent with the rest of the material to H. D. Thoreau's biographer in America.—Ed.)

NEW ZEALAND'S SHORTWAVE SERVICE

Sir,—To those keenly interested in broadcasting it is gratifying to note that at long last New Zealand is "putting herself on the map" in radio. Your recent illustrated article reveals that this is no half-hearted attempt at shortwave broadcasting, but one will at the same time tune to Radio New Zealand with some apprehension. Two-hour programmes will offer ample opportunity for this country to present its fare in a manner which New Zealanders may be proud of. It is therefore to be hoped that the BBC will be our model rather than Australia and existing local services.

C. B. MacMILLAN (Whangarei)

WELLINGTON CATHEDRAL

Sir,—Perhaps it may seem strange that, I, a Moslem, should endorse the sentiments of your Christian correspondent "8676"—or perhaps it is not so strange since we both worship the same God.

Like "8676" and Michael Underhill I too have seen wonderful mosques rubbing shoulders with slums—I have seen the homeless starving on its very steps. The beautiful old churches and mosques — poems in stone, we cannot deny their beauty, nor do we wish to, but they were built at a time when men were attempting to shake off the fetters of paganism. These builders can be forgiven their blindness as to their real needs—they gave of their best in craftsmanship—but we have come a long way since then. Shall we commit the same error to-day? Those who would build a cathedral in the supposed interests of piety should remember that it is alien from the spirit

(continued on next page)