



P 2 A

TO AUSTRALIA

Increased T. E. A. L. schedules now
provide 2,000 air passages every month. Travel
when you wish. Return fare only £50 8s. (single £28)

You're there in a few comfortable hours,
saving precious days for
business or holidays.


T.E.A.L. TASMAN EMPIRE AIRWAYS LIMITED

Reservations: Leading travel agents and T.E.A.L., Auckland.

**WRITE FOR
THIS
BOOKLET—
FREE!**

It tells all about our
R. D. Scheme which
takes care of all BSA
orders and ensures
fair treatment.

Write to our address
below for booklet
sent post free with
Reservation Order form, illustrated leaflet, full specifications, prices,
terms, of all BSA
models or get
details from
local dealer.




**R.D.
SCHEME**

THE ONLY CHANCE TO SECURE
A R.D. IS TO USE OUR
"RESERVATION
DEPOSIT"

THE R.D. SCHEME CALLS FOR ALL ABOUT
THE R.D. SCHEME WHICH WE HAD TO MAKE
THE R.D. SCHEME IS THE ONLY

SKEATES & WHITE LTD.



SKEATES & WHITE LTD.
48 FORT STREET, AUCKLAND

Asthma Agony Curbed in 3 minutes

In 3 minutes the new prescription, **Mendaco**, starts relieving choking, wheezing, gasping Asthma and Bronchitis. Soon you will breathe easily and freely and sleep like a baby. **Mendaco** must do you good no matter how long you have suffered, because it dissolves and removes the mucus and phlegm that may be poisoning your system, sapping your energy, ruining your health, and making you look old and feel worn out long before your time. Just take pleasant, tasteless **Mendaco** tablets at meals and enjoy relief in next to no time. **Mendaco** is so successful it is guaranteed to give you free, easy breathing in 24 hours or money back on return of empty package to Box 977, Wellington. Get **Mendaco** from your Chemist to-day. The guarantee protects you.

Mendaco

Relieves Asthma, Bronchitis, Hay Fever
The Knox Company Inc., 1651 North Argyle
Avenue, Los Angeles, U.S.A.



PHOTO CORNERS

GOOD ENGLISH POCKET CORNERS, Black or Grey.
6 boxes (100 each) for 6/- posted.
ALBUMS, 11 x 9, Black, Blue and Red, 18/5, postage 8d.

G. B. TOMKINSON

39 VICTORIA STREET WEST,
AUCKLAND.

PHOTOGRAPHIC AND
HOME MOVIE SUPPLIES



Letters

PURSUIT OF A CRITIC

To the Editor—

Sir,—A. R. D. Fairburn does himself a disservice when he attacks brass bands in so bigoted and extravagant a manner. He would do better to confine his remarks to those subjects with which he is acknowledged to have some slight familiarity. To compare brass band music to bear-baiting and pole-squatting is a gratuitous insult to musicians who at least show sincerity in their approach to music. Admittedly the repertoire of brass bands is limited, but does your correspondent know that it has in recent years been widened by compositions from the pens of such as Elgar, Holst, John Ireland, Bliss and others? Surely A. R. D. Fairburn does not contend that these men occupy a lower cultural strata than himself—or perhaps he does . . . He typifies the musical snobbery of a small section of the New Zealand quasi—intelligentsia. If he is really interested in forming his own opinion on brass bands and not the loose "I am told" type of criticism he indulges in, let him attend a brass band recital.

J. D. GOFFIN (Timaru).

Sir,—Never in my life have I read such a small-minded criticism as that offered by A. R. D. Fairburn. Band music is not only a necessity (as at military parades) but an art, a very high standard of musicianship being required to perform well and to arrange and conduct. I consider his puerile remark concerning Mozart's *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* in extremely bad taste as he admittedly had not heard the performance . . . Regarding his final paragraph, I should say that as a critic of music, Mr. Fairburn would make a jolly fine grocer.

PATRICIA DOHERTY
(Wellington).

Sir,—Mr. Fairburn would do better to study the bands and not the Dictionary . . . Bantock, Elgar, Fletcher, Ireland and Wright write music for brass bands. Malcolm Sargent, Sir Henry Wood and others have mentioned the thrill experienced when conducting massed bands. Regarding the Mozart "Night Music" played at Auckland, I was one of the rhinoceroses, although the paper musical critic, Dr. Nalden, seemed to like my style in playful mood . . .

R. SIMPSON
(Christchurch).

Sir,—Brass bands admittedly play music of a lower standard than the symphony orchestra. But then there has been no Beethoven or Mozart to write for brass bands . . . The age of the brass band is slowly approaching. Already the brass band earns great respect in England, the home of brass bands. Gradually

this respect is spreading in New Zealand . . . Does Mr. Fairburn maintain that the average bandsman has less appreciation of music, proper or improper, than the average seat-filler at symphonic concerts, the average queuer for opera-tickets, or the average swing-fan? I would say that the tone of the tenor horn was emotionally bleak compared with the mellow, rich tone of the French horn, so important to the symphony orchestra. Perhaps Mr. Fairburn meant "the treacly sentimentality of the euphonium." . . .

BRYAN M. CRAVEN
(Auckland).

Sir,—Your correspondent would have been better advised to have paid his one and sixpence and gone along and heard for himself rather than pass comments about something he did not hear. . . . He obviously knows little about brass bands or the hard, self-sacrificing work that is put in by bandsmen (and bandswomen), but if he had taken the trouble to go and hear for himself he would have heard playing, particularly in the Championship Grade, that would have surprised him . . .

P. A. BOOTH (Petone).

Sir,—A. R. D. Fairburn says that brass band playing has little or no relation to music. What does he mean by music? Comic opera, grand opera, the National Orchestra, a piano concerto, or a violin solo? And would he class the concertina and the ocarina as being music, instruments not found in a brass band? While we have such composers as Denis Wright, Eric Coates, Eric Ball, Ord Hume, W. Rimmer, and the late Major Alford, writing for brass bands, and when we can fill Carlaw Park for a hymn test, and Eden Park for the Marching Contest, brass band music must appeal to a large section of the community. . .

A. G. BARNES (Auckland).

Sir,—Mr. Fairburn's first sentence is a plain statement of fact with which there can be no disagreement. The remainder of his letter tells us much more about Mr. Fairburn—which I grant you is an interesting subject—than it does about brass bands. He criticises at second-hand and without quoting his authority, then uses a trick which is unfair to the reader, of argument by analogy—the identification of band music with athletics and by a shift with all the graceless forms of athletics that he can conjure up including even "pole-squatting" . . .

A. J. SOUTHGATE (Dunedin).

Sir,—What scathing criticism and a dismal picture A. R. D. Fairburn has painted of our bands. It is obvious that