

SONGS OF WARTIME

WHEN a programme reminiscent of war days was organised for 2YA on August 4, it could not have been fully realised how wonderfully successful it would be. Judging by the correspondence received, nearly every "Digger" from North Cape to Bluff must have listened-in. We will quote a few of the letters received:—

"I WISH to offer the best congratulations on the programme of Saturday evening last (August 4). There was not one dull moment from 8 o'clock till 10. I hope 2YA will give us some more of the like quality in the near future. Personally, this was the best evening's entertainment I have yet heard by radio from any station in Australia or New Zealand."—E.W., Wellington.

"I REALLY must write and thank you for the beautiful "Diggers" concert you put on the air for us last night. It was perfectly lovely to have all the old memories brought back to me. Each item was so realistic, as I spent five years with our dear boys, and knew so well all their little tricks and sayings. There was only one item left out. It was: "First offence, Sir." I was told by our sergeant-major that that was always a good chestnut to excuse them when brought before

their colonel. We laughed till we cried, and I am sure this letter will only be one of many thanking you for all the great trouble you must have spent in arranging such a programme. Of course, although I am writing expressly to thank you for the "Diggers" programme, please do not think we haven't appreciated all former concerts, as they have been a source of real delight and pleasure to us."—Ex-Sister, late N.Z.A.N.S.

"CONGRATULATIONS on Saturday's programme. As one whose family left its brightest and best on Gallipoli and in France, the silly wartime songs to-night brought to me a slight tightening of the throat, and—I admit it—a moist eye. All the peace talk and twaddle—all they write about the horrors of war—do not impress me, but your little programme made me realise how different 1928 is from 1916. I sat by my set and realised many things—the declaration of war, our boys on final leave, their last hand-clasps, and those telegrams—'Killed in action.' The humour—despite its fun and genuine sparkling wit, helped your programme drive home its lesson of the utter futility of war. Put on a programme like that every August 4, and you will earn the gratitude of everyone who hates war for the horror and useless slaughter it is."—K.H., Christchurch.

Hawke's Bay Notes

A GENERAL improvement has marked local reception conditions during the past week, there being a much appreciated absence of static, whilst interference from motors has been at a minimum in most quarters. This suggests that a lot of this interference has come from cool storage motors in the various fruit stores, for with the cold weather, these motors are not kept running.

AT the same time, there are a lot of other motors which are causing trouble and at present these are being made the subject of a search by the interference committee of the Hawke's Bay Radio Society. At the last meeting of the society this committee submitted an exhaustive report covering their search operations, and if the owners of the motors will meet the committee reasonably there is every hope of most of the interference being eliminated.

ALL the New Zealand stations have been coming through well, and once more top place goes to 3YA, Christchurch. Auckland comes next, but has been subject to a lot of fading. The Wellington station comes through with any amount of volume but is not by any means clear, and so often is it distorted that listeners begin to think their sets have "conked"—until they try Auckland or Christchurch and find everything O.K.

A WORD of praise is due to 4YA, Dunedin, for its broadcasts of recent boxing contests, but many sighed because 4YA did not have more power. Some nights it comes in fairly well, but generally it has been a case of listening hard to get it. In view of the great interest which is being taken in the boxing in Dunedin, it is a wonder 3YA has not made an attempt to re-broadcast the contests for the benefit of North Island listeners.

HAS 3ZC, Christchurch, gone on higher power? Usually this station has been audible under good conditions, but last Tuesday night it came through with good loudspeaker volume.

AT its last meeting, the Hawke's Bay Radio Society passed a resolution urging the New Zealand Racing Conference to reconsider its decision not to allow future running broadcasts of race meetings. The protest has been sent to the conference, the local M.P., and several other radio societies. If this broadcasting is cut out, radio will lose a lot of its charm for country people.

THE next meeting of the Hawke's Bay Radio Society will be its annual affair. It is hoped that all members and listeners will be present. The membership is now past the century, but only 85 of the total are financial. The sub. is only 2s. 6d., too.

ABOUT £94 is now in hand for the local Hospital Radio Fund, and lately collecting has been quiet. A big concert is being organised, however, and this should help things along.

THE new Auckland Salvation Army Congress Hall Band, under Adjutant H. C. Goffen, will provide brass

band selections during the latter part of the programme on Thursday, August 23. This will be the first appearance of the band at 1YA for over twelve months, and its return will be very welcome.

I HOPE the "Radio Record" will be inundated with letters of appreciation of the first-class entertainment provided by the "Diggers" on Saturday night. —Appreciative.

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