

A closing suggestion is that either an earlier hour for concert session or a half-hour broadcast of gramophone records say from 7.30 to 8, from one of the four stations would give great pleasure to country folk whose calling calls for early retiring.—E. B. Stevens (Whakatane).

### The King's English.

IN your last issue Mr. Stuart W. Hunt is ever so willing to condone the announcer's mispronunciations and other mistakes, because he has a pleasant voice and cheerful manner. That is quite nice of Mr. Hunt, but it does not cure our squirms when we hear simple English words pronounced almost out of all recognition. Mr. Hunt tells us he likes the present announcer better than previous ones. Well, that's a matter of opinion. At least the previous announcer spoke cultured English in a man's voice, rich and full. That "pleasant voice and cheerful manner" seems to me to come over the air like a mother crooning her baby to sleep. His "Good night" reminds me even more so of the same thing.—Homo.

### Mr. Howard and Race News.

I CAN only say you are wrong in your summary of my position re broadcasting. As a fact I took up the attitude that broadcasting is a news service, that the Government has no more right to interfere and say what shall be broadcast than they have to say what news shall go in a newspaper, and that the matter of broadcasting the races was purely a domestic matter between the B.C.C. and the racing fraternity. Now get that point clear—my argument was that it was not a question for the Government.

It was urged by others that the Government should interfere and force the Racing Conference to allow racing to be broadcast. All right, once admit the right of the Government to do that and where will it stop? I hold the B.C.C. should be as free as the "Dominion" to publish what it likes.—E. J. Howard.

[Our point was that Mr. Howard showed no concern for the people being deprived of their just rights in news. It is not a question only between the Racing Conferences and the Broadcasting Company. It is a question of the rights of the public to news at the earliest moment after the event. In this case broadcasting is being refused the privileges of the Press, and an attempt made to suppress the distribution of news by one medium while permitting it at the same time by another. Mr. Howard's attitude is not logical or democratic, and is opposed to the interests of a sport-loving people. Does he support the Racing Conferences in their demand for some of the few shillings of listeners? If broadcasting is a news service, as stated by him, why permit monopolistic and partial restrictions to operate against the people's interests?—Ed.]

### 9XF Trying Out.

I HAVE just received a letter from 9XF stating that he will be testing out every Sunday evening our time from 7.30 to 10.30 with the call WENR on 288 and 240 metres, and wants reports on tests; he is using 50,000 watts. Also, WLW will be on the air September 17, using 50,000 watts on 428 metres; these two stations want reports on their tests.—S. Ellis, Okato, D.X.

### Best of the Week.

I WOULD like to express my appreciation of the concerts broadcast from 2YA on Sunday evenings. I do this because you have published one or two letters protesting against these broadcasts, and I am in a position to assure you that opinion is almost unanimous that these are the finest entertainments of the week. I make this assertion as one who is travelling in the radio business, demonstrating nightly, and coming into contact with practically every set owner in my districts. There is plenty of sacred music, etc., for those who want it, in the Children's Hour, services from N.Z. stations, and then from Australia. But it must not be overlooked that there is a large number of subscribers who do not want four or five hours of this. I think, however, that such concerts should not be relayed, which obliges many to listen to them or nothing.—C. J. Fleming (Auckland).

### Broadcasting Announcers.

WILLIAM FERGUSSON and others have complained of the quality of announcing from 2YA. Now, Sir, let me tell these critics that this Dominion is fortunate in the standard of its announcing. 3YA, Christchurch, and 1YA, Auckland, have announcers who will compare favourably with any announcers in the world, and that is saying a lot. The present announcer at 2YA is fair, but I feel sure will improve, and the man at 4YA is also good, so in my opinion the listeners in New Zealand are very fortunate. I would draw the attention of the company, however, to the fact that from 2YA the quantity of news is not as great as from the other stations, nor does the man at the microphone use as much discretion in what he puts over the air. If Mr. Coates attends a dog fight we get the fact the same evening supplemented with a five-minute talk, which is nothing more than propaganda, which should be cut right out. Hoping for more news and less rubbish.—Listening-in (Rangataua).

### Unusual Station.

COULD anyone give me the call sign of a station between 400 and 420 metres, which broadcasted a description of a boxing match at 11.45 p.m. on August 25. I picked this station up, but bad fading and heavy static made me miss the call-sign. The announcer called one of the fighters "Marks" or "Markis," and said that no blood had been drawn and that the boxers were not warmed up.—C. Hodgson (Wairoa).

### "Rubber Dolls."

THE announcers advice to listeners on the 20th instant is as follows:—"Radio sets are not rubber dolls, and they will not squeak unless they are squeezed." Well, sir, I think there must have been some rubber dolls at the studio on this date, and they were getting squeezed very much, for when the Instrumental Studio Trio were announced it took them fully one minute tuning in. It would make a person sick listening to them. I would like to know why the same man sings four songs on end? Why not give him a spell and let him get his breath, for the further he goes the worse he gets.—Constant Reader (Petone).

### Well Satisfied.

THE new size of "Radio Record" is certainly a big improvement on the old style, and I wish to congratulate you. The souvenir number was

absolutely A1. I see some of your correspondents are growling. All I can say is that some people are never satisfied. The programmes being put over the air are voted first-class by all those of our friends who hear them. Anyone who is dissatisfied with them ought to give up listening in.—"Interested Listener" (Granity).

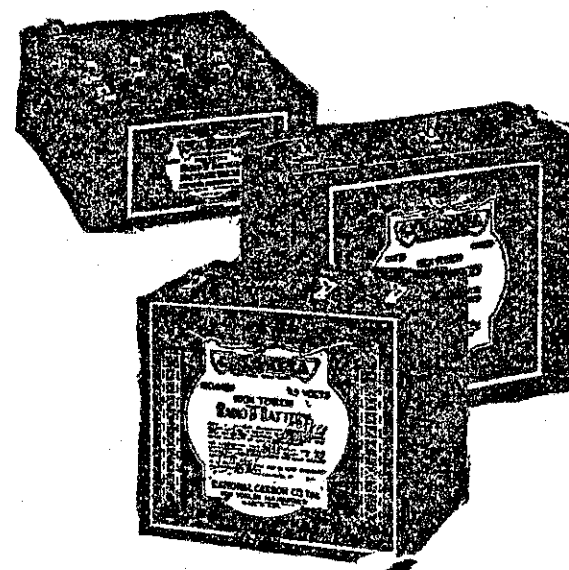
### Ahead of Australia.

I WOULD not be without this paper for double the price, as I consider "Megohm's" constructional articles alone are more than worth the subscription. I have constructed his five-valve shielded "Browning Drake" and can hold 2FC at speaker strength all day. The programme of New Zealand stations are quite all right, but I would like to see 2YA get going before 3 o'clock. In a farming community the farmers are about from eleven till three, and dealers have not a chance

to demonstrate, as you cannot hold a cow cocky in town after three. Again, Saturday is the busy day in a large number of country towns, and all we get on that day is football, a poor thing to demonstrate with. I am not growling at the football broadcast, but a little music from, say, 2 till 3 would be a benefit.—G.L. (Inglewood).

### 2YA The Favourite.

I HAVE read the criticisms in your paper one from Palmerston and one from Trentham, both running 2YA down and lauding Australia. Although 2YA fades here, on account of, I believe, earth condition, 2YA is everybody's favourite, and no doubt beats all the Australian stations, both in programme and clearness. However, if these two listeners like Australia best there is nothing to stop them tuning in there and staying there.—E.C.P. (Ngaruawahia).



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