

Auckland Notes

(By Listener.)

THE Minster Quartet party made an initial appearance at 1YA on Thursday evening, and proved themselves a fine addition to the number of groups of entertainers who are now catering so well for the public in the Auckland district.

MRS. T. BASHAM and **Mr. A. Briggs** delighted everyone with their renderings from such old favourites as in comic opera as were all the rage in pre-war days. The tuneful melodies were splendidly rendered, a noticeable feature being the distinctness of the enunciation of both artists.

THE University debate relay broke new ground last week. All with a sense of humour must have enjoyed the delightful fooling in which some of the speakers indulged, and even the appropriate interjections which were occasionally picked up by the microphone. The talent at our university colleges is a source which may well be further exploited, for students are an enthusiastic body, and would assist radio with the same heartiness that they put into their annual capping races and concerts.

MEMBERS of the local radio trade as a whole, are well satisfied with the present outlook for business, which is much brighter than it has been for some time. While there is no recurrence of a boom, there is a steady demand for sets, and what is more, for sets of a good type. The "all-wave" receiver is in popular favour, and several most creditable kinds are being assembled and turned out by local firms. Auckland, with licenses over the thirteen thousand mark, is pulling up on its rival district, which secured a lead when the big station came into operation, and the struggle for "figures" supremacy between the two postal areas is always followed keenly. Here, as in the south, the Tasman flight broadcasts gave a fillip to licenses, but the steadily improving programmes, and the work of our new and much enjoyed orchestra are greater contributors to progress. Just wait until we reach the 20,000 mark in our district! It will not be as long as many think.

IN some things Aucklanders do envy Wellingtonians. One is in the evening concerts with which citizens are supplied on a Sunday evening. Here we have, on alternative weeks, our organ recital, and our splendid municipal band, the finest of its kind regularly broadcast in the southern hemisphere would be no idle claim to make for it. But we do not have those popular Sunday evening concerts to which, as we judge from listening in, such big and enthusiastic audiences regularly roll up. Few local possessors of valve sets miss the chance of hearing Wellington for at least part of the time on Sunday evenings, and they do thoroughly appreciate the programmes.

RADIO served football patrons well last Saturday, when Taranaki defeated Auckland in the last inter-provincial game of the season. The rain simply teemed for about an hour before the match commenced, and many followers of Rugby, rather than face the elements, enjoyed "football in the home," through Mr. Meredith's able description of the struggle.

THE racing season has started again, and there will be few Saturdays during the coming months in which there is not a meeting in or near Auckland. Last summer we were privileged to follow these meetings by listening in. Radio folk fully appreciated the privilege, and were duly grateful to both the Broadcasting Company and the racing authorities. They are still aware of the willingness of the former to continue the service, but are wondering how long the ridiculous ban will continue. The weight of public opinion here is so strong against it that a general feeling of optimism regarding its waiving prevails.

Hawke's Bay Notes

AS the main "news" topic in this quarter at present, the success of the H.B. Radio Society's concert on September 25 is holding sway. This was presented by the Hastings Orphans' Club, and the students of Te Aute College and Hukarere School, and was un-

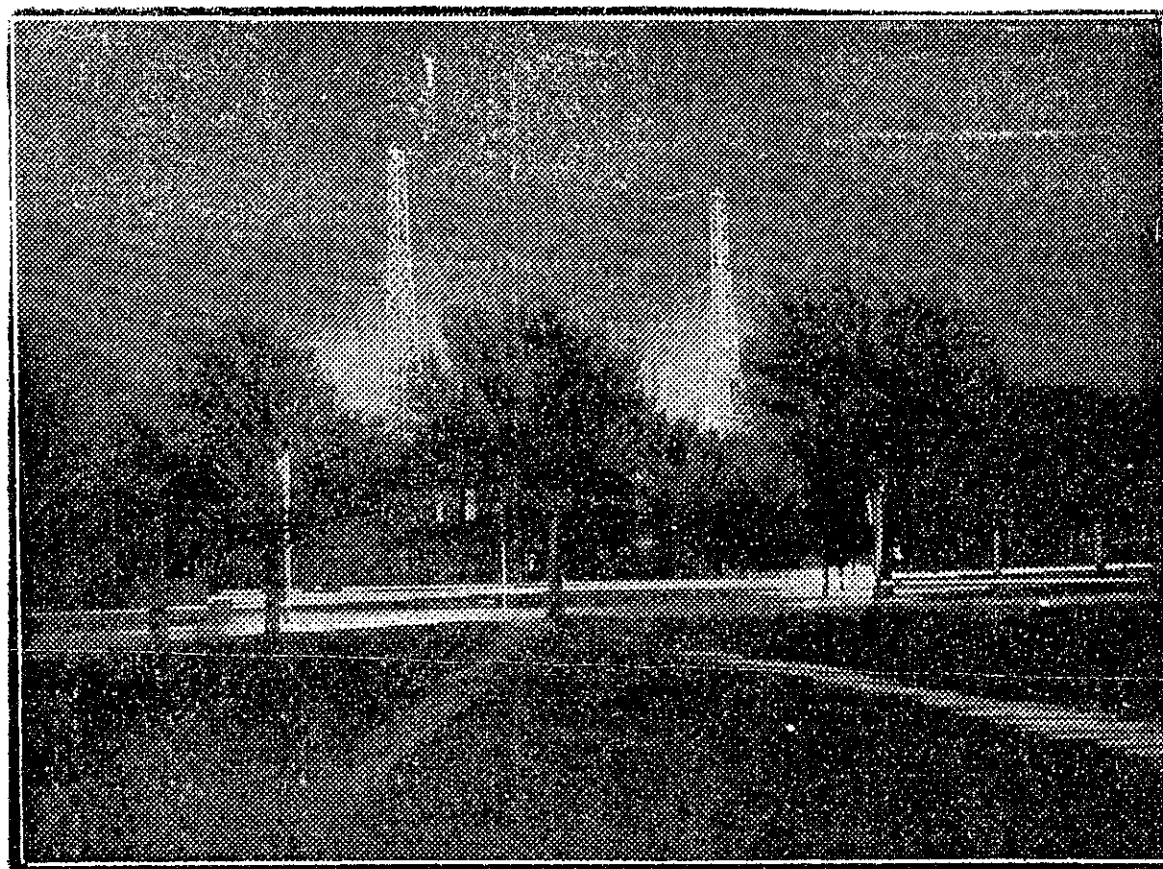
THE club has also instituted a Morse class which, judging by the first meeting, promises to be very successful.

WITH almost 120 members, the H.B. Society is now a power to be reckoned with, and the keenness which is shown augurs well for its future.

THERE has been no great improvement in reception conditions of late, but they have certainly not been as bad as a few weeks back. All the New Zealand stations continue to come through with good volume, but the "Aussies" have been somewhat patchy.

GENERAL satisfaction is expressed at the R.B.C. announcement that the Dominion stations will follow through the return flight of the Tasman flyers. The doing of this will complete a great record of fine broadcasting feats by the company.

AT the last meeting of the Radio Society a resolution was passed supporting the North Taranaki Society in a request for a test transmission of 2YA on 1YA's wavelength. In fairness to listeners in Hawke's Bay, as well as Taranaki, it is up to the company to



One of the most striking sights in Christchurch. Illuminated by floodlights, the tall, graceful, Eiffel-like towers of 3YA stand conspicuously against the evening sky.

doubtedly one of the best concerts ever staged in Hastings. What an ideal programme it would have made for 2YA to put through the "mike!"

THE concert was staged in aid of funds for the local hospital receiving set, and resulted in a profit of about £60, which at the popular charges of 3s., 2s., and 1s. is quite a healthy return. With the amount in hand it is now hoped to get on with the work at an early date.

IT is fairly certain that the Hastings radio people are a pretty live crowd, for in addition to this concert the club's committee members are organising an annual ball which is to take place on October 10. There is every indication of it being a great success.

make this test. The company knows full well the poor reception conditions which rule at Taranaki, and a new member of the local Radio Society, who recently arrived from New Plymouth, states that reception of 2YA in Hawke's Bay is the same as in Taranaki.

ANOTHER matter which was brought up was the delay in commencing dance programmes on Saturday nights, and it was decided to place the complaint before the committee, with a recommendation also that at least one of the three main stations should present dance music from 9.30 p.m. till 10 p.m. each night the stations to take alternately.

IT was further decided to seek information as to when the proposed dinner music session was likely to commence.

THE semi-Government control of broadcasting in Britain (by the British Broadcasting Corporation) is causing much dissatisfaction among listeners as well as the corporation's staff. A London journal says: "Well-informed opinion in broadcasting circles is doubtful whether Captain Eckersley (the corporation's chief engineer) will tolerate the corporation much longer. The ever-popular chief engineer at Savoy Hill is being subject to increasing restrictions in several directions and pressure is not far from bursting-point. If Captain P.P. does chuck in his hand, there will be real fireworks. The Press and public will get some first-hand news of what goes on in the inner councils of Savoy Hill (the headquarters of the corporation). From all accounts, Commander Daniels' revelations would be surpassed. There is, indeed, a rumour that a well-known London daily recently approached Captain Eckersley. He would not, of course, accept an offer of this kind, at least not yet."

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