

Tenor solo—Mr. James Osborne, "A May Morning" (Sanderson).
Instrumental sextet—Victor Olof Sextet, "To a Water-Lily" (MacDowell) (H.M.V. Record B2690).
Quartet—English Singers, "Though Amaryllis Dance" (Byrd) (H.M.V. Record E292).
Contralto solo—Mrs. Phyllis Ramsey, "How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings" (Liddle).
March—Coldstream Guards Band, "Marche Militaire" (Gounod) (H.M.V. Record C1176).
Close down.

3YA, CHRISTCHURCH (306 METRES)—SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 1929.

8 p.m.: Gramophone recital of selected items.
4.30: Close down.
5.30: Children's song service.
6.30: Relay of service from Edgeware Road Methodist Church (Preacher, Rev. Samuel J. Werren; organist, Miss Stella Osborn; choirmaster, Mr. C. James).
7.45 (approx.): After-church studio concert.
Orchestral—"Symphony in G Minor" (Mozart) (First Movement, Allegro Molto) (H.M.V. Record C1347).
7.53: Mezzo-contralto solos—Miss Kathleen Johns. (a) "Still as the Night" (Bohm), (b) "Smiling Through" (Penn).
7.59: Orchestral—Royal Opera Orchestra, "Sylvia Ballet" (Delibes): (a) "The Huntress," (b) "Intermezzo and Valse Lente" (H.M.V. Record C1417).
8.7: Baritone solo—Mr. Cyril Rishworth, "When God Gave You to Me" (Nicholls).
8.11: Male choruses—Parlophone Melody Co., "Convivial Songs" (Parlophone Record A2511).
8.15: Mezzo-contralto solo—Miss Kathleen Johns, "My Dear Soul" (Sanderson).
8.19: Violin solo—Renee Chemet, "Serenade" (Toselli) (H.M.V. Record DA955).
8.23: Baritone solos—Mr. Cyril Rishworth. (a) "Where the Abana Flows" (from "A Lover in Damascus"); (b) "Kashmiri Song" (from "Four Indian Love Lyrics" (Woodforde-Finden); (c) "The Garden of Kama" (Woodforde-Finden).
8.32: Grand organ solo—Marcel Dupre, "Prelude and Fugue in G Major" (Bach) (H.M.V. Record D1402).
8.40: Instrumental and vocal items will follow until 9.30.
9.30: Close down.

4YA, DUNEDIN (463 METRES)—SUNDAY JANUARY 6, 1929.

5.30: Children's song service conducted by Big Brother Bill.
6.30: Relay of service from St. Andrew Street Church of Christ.
8.0: Relay from St. Kilda of concert by the St. Kilda Band.
9.15: Close down.

Care of Accumulators

APPENDED are a few notes on the care of the accumulator, for, if an accumulator is left in a bad condition, it will be in a much worse condition when it is to be used again.

IF you are fortunate enough to know of a really good service station, your accumulator should be automatically kept in condition by this charging station. The actual condition of the whole battery and its separate cells should be checked there by experts, who know just how to cure any little troubles that may arise. Particularly should this be done if the owner contemplates having the battery for any time.

The symptoms by which the condition of a cell are tested are the voltage and the specific gravity. The voltage is tested by means of a voltmeter, before, during, and after the charging, and also while the accumulator is discharging.

Similarly, the specific gravity of the electrolyte is tested during the various stages of charging and discharging, and if the tests are scrupulously carried out, the slightest disorder in the cells will be detected at its very beginning.

The chief points watched in a charging station, apart from the rates of charge, etc., are:

(a) "Topping up" the cells (distilled water is used to make up for any losses

of the acid solution due to evaporation).

(b) Scrupulous cleanliness of the connections is essential. The connecting bars should be tight and well fitting, the terminals coated with petroleum jelly to prevent them being attacked by the acid, and in general the battery should be kept clean, cool, and dry.

(c) The little filling plugs should always be placed back in position after the electrolyte has been tested or renewed, and it is important that the small holes in the plugs (arranged for allowing gases, etc., to escape), should not become blocked up.

About every twelve months, the old electrolyte should be poured away and replaced by new electrolyte of the correct specific gravity.

New Year Sports

All Features Covered

THE New Year season will be a very busy time for the stations. Wherever there are sports meetings, they will be covered. At all stations, special studio programmes have been arranged for the evenings of both December 31 and January 1. On the occasion of New Year's Eve, the broadcasters will be busy till well after midnight. A reference to the programmes of each station will show the nature of entertainment proposed.

Our Mail Bag

Will correspondents please practice brevity, as heavy demands are now made on space. All letters must be signed and address given as proof of genuineness; noms de plume for publication are permitted. Address correspondence Editor, "Radio Record," P.O. Box 1032, Wellington.

Suggestions.

RE letter from Achilles and your invitation for suggestions for characteristic sounds for broadcasting stations. How about a wind machine for 2YA; a noise like a harbour for 1YA; and the pipes or the snip of a shut purse for bonny wee 4YA?—**Christchurch Bells.**

The Singing Ladies.

I DESIRE to congratulate 2YA on the completely delightful programme rendered on Monday evening (December 10) by the ladies of the Singing Circle of the Pioneer Club. The glees were beautifully sung and very much enjoyed by a party of musical guests present at my home. Would it be too much to ask the circle to repeat the concert, or come on the air again with a similar type of programme?—**"Musicus."**

Constructive Ideas.

THERE are two classes of writers to your mailbag. One says, "Everything in the programmes is right and dare anyone say otherwise on penalty of . . ." etc. The other class generally finds all wrong. Now I propose to strike another note. I don't think all is right and certainly all is not wrong, but there is another point of view. With the exception of special relays all the programmes of 2YA from the beginning have been built on one model: Overture, soprano solo, instrumental solo, contralto solo, and so on, repeated again and again.

I entirely agree with G. Fraser, Ohura (December 7) in what he says re light entertainment and Schubert and Co. Now what I would suggest is that 2YA omit some of the Schubert, Verdi, etc., items and occasionally take

a leaf out of 1 and 3YA's books and give us half an hour of connected light music such as we are getting to-night in the Greek Slave (but not as that particular one is being given—broken up by other items). There must be several of these light operas or even cantatas suitable for the purpose, and why not utilise that splendid orchestra to accompany? If this could be done either Monday or Tuesday night instead of the present style it would be a great improvement. It may be said, "Why not tune in these items from the station that is giving them?" The answer is that in this district both 1YA and 3YA fade badly, and items that would be very enjoyable are spoilt for us. If it were not for this, one would thoroughly enjoy, say, the Radiolians and the Russels at 3YA.

Another suggestion re the orchestra. One would like soloists to play accompanied by the orchestra, not as is often the case, the orchestra accompanied by the soloist. This applies especially to the cornet, flute, and clarinet. The violin and cello solos are almost always clear, and not overpowered by the others.

Now for a word of praise. More than 90 per cent. of the items are good, some very good, whilst such relays as the recent Scottish night, the Wellington Orchestral Society's concert, and especially the Wanganui concert were excellent. In fact, it would take far too much space to mention even a tithe of the good things. In conclusion, I suggest that if 2YA can see its way clear to give us an occasional half hour of connected solos, duets, choruses, etc., accompanied by the orchestra, of the class mentioned above they will add yet another to the good things provided.—**"Haweraite."**

Picnics by Train

A Popular Service

THE popularity of the train for the conveyance of picnic parties can be gauged from a perusal of the latest figures available. During the quarter ended March, 1928, 172,336 picnickers were carried by ordinary and special trains throughout the Dominion. Notwithstanding the exceptionally cheap rates, the revenue from this source amounted to £19,119 1s. 7d.

Undoubtedly the principal reasons for the preference accorded the "Picnic Train" is the low cost and the convenient service given. Picnic organisations find it very convenient to make use of the system which permits of the inclusion in the fare of additional moneys for disbursement in prizes, fruit, sweets, etc.

In the past, schools, friendly societies, trades unions and other organised bodies were restricted to one cheap fare excursion annually. This restriction has now been removed, and the resultant increase in business has fully justified the extension of the privilege.

Multi-Wave Relays

BEFORE the end of the year it is likely that some interesting relays of American broadcasting concerts will take place in Europe. It is likely that the short-wave transmissions from America will be picked up in England on five different receivers.

The transmissions will also be made on five different wave-lengths from five different stations. At Keston (England) the five receivers, each tuned to one of the five transmitting wave-lengths, will be able to make up for any losses in fading, etc., which might occur on one specific wave-length.

The united production of the reception by the five receivers will then be fed into amplifiers, passed on to Savoy Hill, and then rebroadcast to British listeners. Technically, this method is considered the best way to avoid the fading of signals, which have marred many long-distance relay broadcasts.

THE plaintiff in a recent case in a London police court said: "He swore terribly at me in a broadcasting voice."