

and the Palmer Trio back at 2YA. Can we look forward to the return of Mrs. Kenny and her party to this station at an early date? I would like to direct attention to the number of times certain artists put over the same item. It is all right to repeat by request. I have asked for this myself, but some artists seem to have a very limited repertoire, and so grind the same few pieces over and over. One in particular has got me beaten, as, after putting over one or other of two items at nearly every appearance last year, this artist is off again this year by starting away to-night with both of them as her contribution to the programme; said items both having got tired of shaving, have grown whiskers. Old timers are all right, but go to Ngahauranga to slaughter them. Thanking you for so much of your valuable space, and wishing the "Record" and the R.B.Co. the best of good wishes and success.—CHAS. H. (Kaiwarra).

Southland Sports in Trouble.

YES, I am one of the growlers, but not the type who wants better programmes, more variety, etc. What I am complaining about concerns practically the whole of Southland, especially the sporting fraternity. Owing to our geographical position 4YA is the only YA station we receive satisfactorily in the daytime, especially during the summer months. Now this is where my growl comes in: 4YA was scheduled, according to the "Record," to broadcast sports results at 4.25 p.m. on the 22nd. inst. I, with some friends, listened from 3 till 4.35 p.m. close down. Sports results were not mentioned and, mind you, this is the day of the big gallops at Wellington. Again at 7.15 p.m. we listened but not a word about them, although the scratchings for Forbury trots were mentioned. This is not the first time 4YA has let us down. I would suggest that 2YA—which can always be relied on after dusk—broadcast racing results at 9 p.m., when the weather report is broadcast.—R. F. CLOUGH.

1YA Mystery.

YOUR issue of January 18 just to hand. I notice a question by a correspondent signing himself M. R. Cardon (Auckland) asking if the music which comes through during the news session, 7.15 p.m. to 7.45 p.m., is connected with the studio at 1YA or is a separate station. This music is in no way connected with KHJ, the Californian which causes the heterodyning on 1YA's wavelength, and is easily raised when the local station is not working; but comes from a nearby orchestra, just as the motor-car horns of passing cars can be heard from 2YA any time that station is working. This can easily be proved any Tuesday evening, as this music comes on the instant 1YA switches on and stops immediately on closing down at 7.45 p.m. The company would do well to investigate the cause of this interference. I suggest it may be due to some fault in one of the land lines from one of the private theatres connected to the studio.

This question has been asked by several previous correspondents, but always answered as an American on the same wavelength. This is not so, as I work 1YA with one valve cut out and volume and filament cut down to lowest, where it would be impossible for me to pick up any but a local station. With apologies for the length of this note, I trust this may be of some use to you.—JOHN LUKE (Clevedon).

The Unmusical Tremolo.

I WAS intensely amused with your correspondent T. Proctor in your issue of January 18 styling this particular brand of singing as the outcome of "voice production." On showing this particular letter to an authority on voice production I was informed that a bad guess had been made and that the real reason for this "tremolo-cum-wobble" was for the purpose of disguising a rotten voice. This seems to me to be nearer the mark, and if the R.B.C. must engage this class of singer I respectfully suggest that they all sing on the one night, preferably

Wednesday so far as 2YA is concerned. It is certainly painful to listen to.—"ANTI-WOBBLE."

Programme Improvements.

AS one who greatly appreciated the mid-day sessions during the Christmas holidays, may I suggest that these mid-day sessions be continued in lieu of the afternoon sessions? The afternoon week-day sessions are but little availed of, most of the community being away at business, the children at school (or wanting to play) and even the housewives mostly out visiting or marketing. For the benefit of the thousands of "home-to-lunch" business people mid-day sessions, 12 noon to 2 p.m., would be a boon, and would lead to a big increase in listeners. Gramophone selections and two operators working in shifts from 12 to 1 and 1 to 2 would surely not be a difficult matter.

I should like to add my quota of appreciation, as an Australian conservatorium-trained musician, of the gramophone items, which gain so appreciably over the wireless that my dislike of the gramophone direct has been turned into the warmest appreciation, thanks to radio. For that reason alone it is worth keeping on, for those musicians who would not have a gramophone in the house. The lectures could be made a great educational and advertising factor, in the way of graphic descriptions of scenic resorts in New Zealand, and I would commend same to the Tourist Department, who should be prepared to pay a substantial subsidy for such broadcasting. Lectures, stories and speeches of an educational, amusing or historical nature could be much extended, and would be much more appreciated than newspaper articles.—I.G. (Wellington).

Rebroadcasting Band Music

Mr. Harris Replies to Criticism

COMMENTING on Mr. J. Reid's statement to the Wanganui Band Contest Committee that the Radio Broadcasting Company was anticipating the contest music by broadcasting its pieces, Mr. A. R. Harris characterised it as a storm in a teacup.

"It would seem," said Mr. Harris, "that Mr. Reid has not had a full grip of the facts, or is distorting them. In addition to the telegraphed report, we have perused a report in a Wanganui newspaper which gives the full text of the secretary's statement. It would appear that he seized the opportunity to make a loud protest against the Broadcasting Company because 2YA broadcast a gramophone record of an orchestral interpretation of 'Moorside Suite,' which is to be one of the A grade test pieces at the contest.

"In connection with this, he makes the accusation: 'Evidently the Broadcasting Company when it learned of the selected music for the contest, sent Home for the records, secured copies and broadcast it without consulting the executive controlling the contest,' and that in so doing the company had filched the rights of the committee,

rights for which it had paid the Brass Band Association £60.

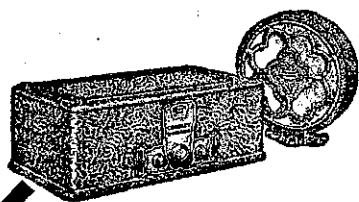
"The secretary may as well know now, before he makes any further wild statements, that this company would not be infringing the rights of anyone if it broadcast all music available by means of gramophone records. Under the new Copyright Act, the Broadcasting Company is required to set aside for the current year an amount up to £3000 for payment of copyright claims approved by an independent competent authority. Notwithstanding this right, the company has expressed itself willing to favourably consider any reasonable request to refrain from broadcasting any copyright music that may be purchased by other interests for performance in New Zealand. It was in accordance with this policy that the Broadcasting Company at once agreed to the Band Contest Committee's request to 'refrain from broadcasting its contest music.' This arrangement was confirmed by letter. It was not, however, until yesterday that the administrative office was advised by telegram from the secretary what were the titles of the contest pieces. Although the test pieces are already recorded, any bandmaster can procure and reproduce them privately on a gramophone.

"It would appear, however, that, unknown to head office, 2YA broadcast an orchestral (not a brass band) interpretation of 'Moorside Suite,' being probably advised by the gramophone representative that it was a test number, that fact being announced to add more interest to it. It is therefore quite evident that this record is available to anyone in New Zealand, and can be used by a brass band conductor for all the good it may be to him.

"The Broadcasting Company knows exactly where it stands, legally and morally, and it has shown its keen desire to fall in with the wishes of the Band Contest Committee in every way possible. If the Band Contest Committee decided that it would help the contest if all the test pieces were broadcast over and over again, the Broadcasting Company would do it (if the records were available); if the committee wishes otherwise, the Broadcasting Company will refrain, although it may think that from a real publicity point of view the committee is mistaken in its policy."

Railways Parcel Traffic

SOME time ago a system of parcels freight stamps was introduced by the Railway Department. Although the innovation necessitated the imposition of a penal charge on other than "prepaid" parcels, it was expected to prove helpful to business houses in eliminating the numerous small cash transactions entailed by the existing system. Experience, however, proved that the advantages were not sufficiently great to compensate for the forfeiture of the consignors' privilege of railing "carriage forward." The disability thus imposed on certain classes of business has been recognised by the Department and a modification of the original scheme has been introduced. Whilst the benefit of the freight stamps are still available to those who find them advantageous, their use is not essential, and consignors may consign their parcels "carriage forward" at no extra cost if they so desire.



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