

## Auckland Notes

(By Listener.)

**MR. PLUMMER**, a member of the Musical and Dramatic Committee of 1YA, has aroused much interest and no little comment by his suggestion that a 2s. levy be made upon all listeners, the money thus raised to be used in subsidising musical and other societies, who would thus be guaranteed against financial loss in allowing their performances to be relayed. The general opinion expressed here is that while there is much to be said in favour of Mr. Plummer's proposal, its one serious drawback is to secure the assent of listeners to the levy, which would have to be compulsory upon all, and which, therefore, would require Government sanction. It is felt that Mr. Harris has ably followed up the original proposal by the announcement that the Broadcasting Company will consider the whole situation and make definite proposals which will achieve the object in view without placing any further financial burden upon listeners. It is recognised that there are many difficulties in the way of securing broadcasts of public performances, from the viewpoints of both the promoters and the broadcasters, but the determination of the company to tackle the problem in a thorough manner will doubtless find a means of overcoming them.

**HOLIDAY** time for teachers has been responsible for a treat for local listeners this week. Mr. Norman Day, a schoolmaster at Tauranga, and his wife, who was well known in Auckland musical circles as Miss Cora Melvin, are spending a fortnight in Auckland, and their services have been secured for 1YA. Both are vocalists of note, and on Sunday evening, and again later in the week, they delighted their invisible audiences with excellently rendered solos and duets.

**1YA** laid itself out to give full prominence to the exciting Plunket Shield cricket contest here this week, and it did the job to the entire satisfaction of all. Each afternoon the station was on the air with a resume of the morning's play, and periodic descriptions of the struggle as it progressed. In the early evening session a full description from the pen of Mr. Gordon Hutter was also given, so that

those who had no opportunity for daytime tuning were kept fully and breezily informed of every incident. On relay, the station did full justice to the tense closing moments of one of the finest games ever witnessed at Eden Park.

**THE** initiative of our Musical and Dramatic Committee in offering prizes for locally-written radio plays and poems should bestir much of our literary talent into activity. The writer has come into contact with several who have studied the conditions laid down in the last issue of the "Record," and who are determined to try their 'prentice hands at radio dramatisation. The competition should attract numerous entries, and listeners are sure to find additional attractiveness in radio plays that are New Zealand products and have a New Zealand atmosphere.

**LAST** week the Salvation Army Band, under Adjutant Goffin, supplied a long-felt want in our programmes. Its selections on both evenings were most enjoyable, interspersed as they were with good vocal items.

**FREAKISH** atmospheric conditions have made distant tuning much of a lottery during the past few days, and there have been times when even 2YA could not be relied upon. Particulars of the Trentham race meeting, however, were heard clearly, though there was some disappointment at the delay in sending out results. Listeners are aware that while restrictions of broadcasting race meetings remain in force, they cannot expect the excellent service to which they were accustomed of yore.

### Directorship of Station 4YA

### Mr. Len. Barnes Appointed Permanently

**MR. LEN BARNES**, of Wellington, who has, since the resignation of Mr. J. W. Webb, been acting as station manager at 4YA, has now accepted permanent appointment in that capacity. Mr. Barnes will be a decided acquisition to the musical life of Dunedin.

## Radio in Second Place A Voice from Brisbane in U.S.A. Industries

**FROM** a beginning a few years ago as a new idea and a new industry, radio to-day is second only to the motor-car industry in the United States of America.

Imagine two train loads, each of 20 huge cars, full of radio receivers, leaving a factory every day. And this is only one of America's huge radio manufacturing concerns.

The enormous field in the United States of America for something good at a low price is staggering to New Zealanders. A New Zealand distributor, for some make of radio receiver, would feel very pleased to have reached a total of 2000 receivers for one year's effort. But imagine how the American manufacturer views this business (which would be to the above man, one half-day's production), and we wonder why they are not keen to manufacture especially for 230 v. A.C. when their standard is 110 v.

One average-sized distributor in America has little hesitation in placing an order for 20,000 receivers for spread delivery over one season. The enormous concern referred to above, the manufacturers of the Majestic Receiver, conceived the idea of offering a musical instrument to the public, instead of a small metal cabinet, plus some wires and a separate speaker (the typical radio receiver of the past) at a price that was within the reach of all.

Estimating on a huge output, and consequent low production costs, this company decided to invest in the quality of the material the saving effected by quantity production. Even then, they found they could give better quality at lower prices than competitors manufacturing one-tenth of the number. Having at their disposal all the latest developments and improvements in wireless circuits, the Majestic engineers adopted the R.F.L. balanced circuit, and perfected this radio receiver until they produced the present wonderful instrument, a seven-valve (and rectifier) receiver, all electric, working from any 230-volt lighting socket, one-dial control, wonderfully selective, and a great "distance getter."

To ensure that the results of this splendid piece of apparatus were not spoiled by being hooked on to an inefficient loudspeaker, a genuine moving coil speaker was built to suit the exact characteristics of the set. The correct matching of the speaker to the receiver gives perfect reproduction, and immense volume without distortion. By attaching a gramophone pick-up to the cheapest of gramophones, and using the amplifier stages of this receiver, it is converted into a perfect electric gramophone. Realising that their new production was so perfected as to be classed as a musical instrument, the manufacturers proceeded to house the apparatus in a beautifully-designed and finished walnut console cabinet, fit to adorn the most elaborate drawing-room. Last year's popular models of radio receivers are not usually found in the music room, but in father's "den." This year, mother will claim the receiver for the music room. Thus, the radio receiver of to-day has climbed from the position of a "wireless set" to that of an "electric radio musical instrument." This splendid all-electric receiver will be retailed in New Zealand at below the price of the six-valve ordinary table model battery set

**OPPORTUNITY** was taken by 2YA of the presence in New Zealand with the party of Queensland bowlers of Mr. W. A. Jolly, C.M.G., Mayor of Brisbane, to put him on the air. After agreeing to this course, Mr. Jolly learned of the celebrations in connection with Anniversary Day in the Early Settlers' Hall, and expressed a willingness to visit that gathering, which was being broadcast by 2YA. In company, therefore, with Mr. J. Ball, and following on arrangement made by the Director of 2YA, Mr. Jolly visited the function and delivered an address which was one of the outstanding features of the gathering. Mr. Jolly gave a very fine speech, which struck the right note throughout. He expressed pleasure at meeting some of the old pioneers who had laid the foundation of this wonderful country. A wonderful heritage had been handed to the present generation, and if they emulated the spirit of the early pioneers an era of great prosperity would be reached.

Mr. Jolly commented that the idea of an Early Settlers' Association appealed to him so much that, on his return to Brisbane, he intended to set about the organising of a similar association there to perpetuate the memory of those who had assisted in establishing that State.

Arrangements were also made by the Radio Broadcasting Company for Mr. Jolly to speak from 1YA, Auckland, on Saturday night at 9.30. Telegraph advice of this arrangement was sent to 4QG, Brisbane, with the idea that, if they could secure good reception of the New Zealand stations on that occasion, they might broadcast the Mayor of Brisbane on the occasion of his delivering a radio address in New Zealand.

This incident demonstrates the care taken by the Radio Broadcasting Company to endeavour to see that all worth-while visitors from overseas who visit these shores are secured for broadcasting purposes.

of last year. The manufacturers claim that this year's production, the "Majestic," is nearing perfection in radio.

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