

# The New Zealand Radio Record

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N.Z. RADIO PUBLISHING CO., LTD.  
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WELLINGTON, FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 1929.

## AUCKLAND MUNICIPAL BAND.

**A** REGRETTABLE position has obtained for some time past in Auckland in relation to the Auckland Municipal Band and radio broadcasting. Imbued with a sincere appreciation of music, the members of the Auckland City Council in the past have devoted some £2000 of the taxpayers' money annually to the maintenance of a very creditable City Band. It has been the duty and function of this band to give, freely and regularly popular concerts to the ratepayers in return for the sum expended on them. As indicated, a motive for the maintenance of this band is to give to the populace the joy and pleasure of listening to popular music, and so raise the standard of citizenship and spread a love of culture. Part of the city's expenditure on the inculcation of music has been devoted to the maintenance of a City Organ and City Organist, the objective being the same, viz., the improvement of the popular musical taste.

**WITH** the advent of radio broadcasting, it became possible for the objective to make good music available for citizens to be more comprehensively attained, and arrangements were early made for the broadcasting, free of charge, of the band's Sunday evening concerts. Later, the business heads of the City Council considered that the Broadcasting Company might pay something for the privilege; and, on negotiations being opened, the company agreed to pay the sum of £300 per annum for the right to broadcast all band and organ performances, exclusive of the performances given at the Auckland Zoo. This arrangement obtained for some time, and under it listeners in Auckland district and elsewhere were regaled with some very fine performances by the band, but not so many by the organ, as those recitals proved to be unsuitable for broadcast purposes.

**IN** September of last year, however, the Auckland City Council conceived the idea of raising the price for the right to broadcast band performances, and in lieu of the former figure of £300 per annum, demanded £750 for the series of band concerts and Town Hall concerts, plus the organ recitals, which latter had proved by experience to be unsuitable for broadcasting purposes. This amount was considered by the Company to be quite excessive in contrast with the cost of providing a similar service from other sources. A statement published in another section of this paper outlines the negotiations that have been conducted since, in the effort to co-operate with

the Auckland City Council in their prime objective of providing good music for the people.

**WE** are bound to say that, in our opinion, perusal of the statement made will show listeners that the Auckland City Council, in taking up the line it has in demanding £750, has failed to measure up to the conception on which the expenditure of the ratepayers' money was originally appropriated to this purpose. If before the advent of broadcasting the Auckland City Council felt justified in spending £2000 per annum in providing music for the people, then surely with the advent of broadcasting, and its possibility of extending those benefits to a far wider audience than formerly, the Council should be glad of the opportunity of securing a wider circle of influence without extra cost, rather than seeking to reimburse its general funds at the expense of listeners' money. The Radio Broadcasting Company, it will be apparent from the recital of facts, is quite prepared to pay a reasonable fee for the concerts that it finds suitable to its clientele. Even though a number of the concerts provided by the band are free for the public, the Broadcasting Company was prepared to pay for them on the basis of seven guineas per concert; the total offer amounting to £352 16s. per annum. This offer, at writing, stands refused. We cannot help regretting that so narrow a view has been taken by the Auckland City Council on this matter, and sincerely trust that ratepayers and listeners, who are most intimately concerned in the position, will use their influence to effect an adjustment.

## One-Act Play

### Prize Winners Announced

**AT** the last meeting of the IYA Musical and Dramatic Committee, the report of the sub-committee which adjudicated in the One-Act Play Competition presented its report.

There were thirty-five entries, six of them being so good that the judges have been unable to allocate the three prizes in order of merit.

The sub-committee, therefore, recommended as follows:—

- 1st Prize to be divided between "Breeze," Timaru, "Devil's Rock," and Frank Hill, Wanganui, "The She-male Bachelor."
- 2nd Prize to be divided between "Jehosaphat," Auckland, "Interlude," and "Crystal," Auckland, "No Imagination."
- 3rd Prize, "Hemi Pango," "Ebullitions"; "Leave it to Trixie."

## Dealers' Licenses

of radio-dealers' licenses shall be as follows, payable in advance:—

	£	s.	d.
(a) For a Class I license ..	15	0	0
(b) For a Class II license ..	7	10	0
(c) For a Class III license ..	2	0	0

## New Rates and Conditions

**FULL** details of the new regulations imposing an increase in the fees payable by radio dealers and other adjustments are given below.

Radio dealers' licenses shall be divided into three classes as follows:—

Class I: (a) Licenses of dealers carrying on business in any of the four main cities, viz., Auckland, Christchurch, Dunedin, Wellington, and within ten miles by the nearest practicable route of the Chief Post Offices at those cities. (b) (Portable) Licenses of dealers without any fixed place of business who are not representatives of Class I (a) or Class II licenses.

Class II: Licenses of dealers carrying on business in all other areas.

Class III: (Portable) Licenses of dealers without any fixed place of business who are the representatives of Class I (a) or Class II.

The fees payable for each year ending on the 31st day of March in respect

In the event of a license being granted after the 1st day of April, the fee shall be paid up to the 31st day of March following, at the rate of:

- (a) For a Class I license, £1 5s. per month or fraction thereof.
- (b) For a Class II license, 12s. 6d. per month or fraction thereof.
- (c) For a Class III license, 3s. 4d. per month or fraction thereof.

The fee for the first year, or portion thereof, shall accompany the application.

In cases of renewals, where payment of the above-mentioned fee is not made on the due date, the radio-dealer's license shall automatically lapse.

On payment of the foregoing fees, each radio-dealer shall have available to him, free of charge, during the currency of his license, the New Zealand patent rights held by Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia) Limited, in respect of radio receiving apparatus.

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