

## 1YA Sessions

### A Suggested Change

#### Interesting Correspondence

RECENTLY the secretary of the Auckland Radio Society, by instruction of his committee, wrote to the Radio Broadcasting Company suggesting a rearrangement of the evening schedules of 1YA. These suggestions were advanced by the society with the thought that adoption of the proposal would be in the interests of Auckland listeners and give improved service. The suggested rearrangement of evening schedules was as follows:—

5.30 to 6.30 p.m., Children's Session.  
6.30 to 7.30 p.m., Dinner Music.  
7.30 to 8 p.m., News Session.

In reply to the letter making the suggestion, the general manager of the Radio Broadcasting Company wrote stating that the company was now introducing a dinner music session at 2YA, Wellington, between the hours of 6 and 7 p.m., commencing from April 29. This would necessitate bringing forward the children's session to between 5 and 6 p.m. The general manager proceeded:—

"The question of introducing a dinner session from 6.30 to 7.30 p.m. would not, we are afraid, be generally acceptable, as we find it impracticable to restrict our news session to half an hour. Our investigations show that the most convenient time for the dinner is 7.30 p.m., and we endeavour to provide all lectures that interest the 'man on the land' to commence at that time. We also find that immediately after the dinner hour is the most acceptable time for information generally

of an instructional nature, whereas later on in the evening only items of an entertaining value and wide interest are wanted by the majority of listeners.

"The information handled at our news session has become so wide and varied to meet the requirements of the majority of our listeners that we find we cannot handle it all in thirty minutes, and in this respect propose to bring our Auckland, Christchurch and Dunedin stations in line with our Wellington station to allow a whole hour between 7 and 8 p.m. for this service."

It was further explained that it was the company's policy for the immediate future to improve the service at 4YA, Dunedin, in order to bring that station on to a greater parity with the stations at 1YA and 3YA. In the past the service at Dunedin had approximated 22 hours weekly, as compared with 30 to 32 hours' service on the average at Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch. Accordingly the position at Dunedin had been examined, and the decision reached that any further extensions to the company's service should be centred on that station until such time as it was brought into line with the other centres of the Dominion. In these circumstances it was proposed to introduce to 4YA the same hours of service as were in operation at the other centre. This would be commenced as from April 30, when it was expected the erection of towers on the "Evening Star" building would be completed. The existing plant would then be transferred to the same site, and the programmes transmitted from the old studio by means of a land line. In addition to this temporary arrangement, arrangements were being made to proceed with the installation of an entirely new transmitter at Dunedin and new and up-to-date studios.

"We hope to have the official opening about September next, and its completion will bring this station into line

## Auckland Notes

(By "Listener.")

THIS week 1YA supplied us with grand opera in which the vocalists were among the most famous of the world's artists. Of course, the medium of presentation was the disc, but the story of "Rigoletto" was vividly conveyed by Mr. Karl Atkinson in his interesting remarks interpolated with the items, and the continuation of the presentation will be eagerly awaited next Wednesday.

THERE is no doubt about the attitude of the Auckland Rugby Union towards broadcasting. At its last meeting the union willingly acceded to the company's request for permission to describe the Saturday competition matches at Eden Park. It is not likely that the union would have adopted this course were broadcasting seriously affecting its gate receipts. The Rugby authorities here recognise that broadcasting provides one of the best advertisements for their games, and in consequence they are keen to encourage it. It is not yet known whether Mr. W. J. Meredith, who was so successful at the Eden Park microphone last season, will again describe matches, or whether that duty will be undertaken by Mr. Gordon Hutter, who now does most of the sports announcing for 1YA.

MR. HUTTER has made the best of almost insuperable difficulties in connection with his racing announcements, and as a result the whole province has been kept in immediate touch with recent meetings at Ellerslie and Avondale.

1YA has done its very best to provide thousands of anxious listeners with the latest news regarding the missing airmen. As soon as any particulars

with our other three stations, which centres have been enjoying a somewhat better service for some time than has been the case at Dunedin. In doing this, we are anticipating a considerable increase in the public patronage of the service, and in the circumstances you will appreciate our position at the present time in respect to introducing a further extension of the service at Auckland."

Finally it was advised that, as soon as the company had brought the Dunedin station into line, and had tried out the dinner music session at the Wellington station, it would be glad to give consideration to the question of introducing a Christchurch and Auckland dinner music session.

have been available over the air from Sydney the local station has had them, and they have gone out to the New Zealand public, who feel they have almost as much interest in the unfortunate venture as have the Australians.

IN the north the most important event of the week has been the by-election for the Bay of Islands. At the time these notes are being written, and within three hours of the closing of the poll, the final results are coming over from 1YA, and the whole of the province is aware that Mr. Rushworth is again entitled to write M.P. after his name. Through co-operation between the Auckland station and the Auckland "Star," progress reports as they come to hand in the newspaper office were telephoned to 1YA, and announced forthwith. Thus hundreds of voters in the far north learned the result through radio service far more quickly than they could have done without it. I wonder if any will drop a note of thanks to 1YA for the service rendered.

THERE is nothing fresh to report regarding the controversy over the broadcasting of the Municipal Band. The City Council still adheres to its financial demands, and justifies them by a peculiar contention about benefiting private enterprise. It neglects in doing so the great consideration that the band can exercise a great educational influence, and that it exists mainly for that purpose. If the council can find any means of extending this musical influence that is in any way comparable with broadcasting, the public is entitled to know it. Candidates for mayoral and municipal honours are bound to be closely questioned on the "band question" by the large number of listeners who are now on the rolls.

NO official figures of licensing for 1929 are yet available here, but one gathers from the expressions of opinion of those who ought to know, that all is well, and that the number of the licenses for the New Year will be quite satisfactory. The radio trade is experiencing brisk business, the demand being greatest for electric sets and "all wave" types. This feature in itself indicates a permanency for broadcasting that was not so assured in the days when almost everyone depended upon the humble crystal and the inconvenient earphones.

MISS Mina Kronfeld, one of Auckland's young singers, who has a cultivated and charming voice of great range, will make her appearance at 1YA on "Shakespeare" night, next Tuesday. Miss Kronfeld's selections will include "Where the Bee Sucks," "When Daisies Pied," and "A Tiny Little Boy."

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