

Power of 2YA.

I WAS pleased to read in your "Mail-bag" of this week the letter over the initials G.C.C., of Nelson. I agree with him that the transmitting power coming from 2YA has greatly deteriorated lately, whether accidentally or intentionally I don't know. Twelve months ago, no matter how much static troubled us on other stations, the superior power of 2YA enabled the listener to either defuse or cut down, and so cut out the static, whilst for some time past static is very nearly as prominent on 2YA as on the other YA's and Australian stations. Many other listeners in this locality complain in the same strain, and I would be glad to learn of any other reason save that of decreased power from 2YA. On several nights during the last few months, I have closed down, as static absolutely prevented reception of 2YA, which occurrence never happened last winter, or until, say, four months ago. The rating of 2YA does not come into the argument; comparison between reception at the present time with that of a year ago is the only bone of contention. If 2YA has not decreased its power, the efficiency thereof has greatly lessened.—V.A.S. (Wanganui).

Oliver Twist's Appetite.

THE promised relay of 3YA, from Invercargill on Saturday night, May 18 (after being assured by the announcer of the above station that it

was a unique occasion, etc.) was, to call it at its best, a dismal failure. From 7.57 to 8.5 p.m. the only things that came over the air were squeaks and "Are you there's?" At 8.20 p.m. another break; at 8.30: "Just stand by, we are having trouble with the line." Then at 8.33 for a period of about two seconds—music out of all modulation; then a break and some more "Are you there's?" Then we were assured by 3YA that it was only an experiment. What I would like to know is why not carry out these experiments at other times, instead of at the usual broadcasting hours. We do not spend our money a year for the Broadcasting Company to experiment with. The experiment still being in progress, I switched over to 2FC, Sydney, and enjoyed a really excellent programme. Just in passing, I would like to compliment Mr. Ball on his very fine description of May Fair on Wednesday afternoon, which I heard from 4YA, Dunedin. Unfortunately for listeners this station is only receivable in daylight. Might I suggest that the Radio Broadcasting Company put on a record, or records, to fill in the time instead of closing down for five or ten minutes before commencing the evening session at 8 o'clock. At this time, I am sure, records would be better than nothing, but nevertheless, I feel that I voice the opinion of all listeners that fewer gramophone records be used during

programmes. For example, take 4YA's programme for May 22, from 8 p.m. until 9.30 p.m., and note the number of records being used. What we want is more variety by better artists. The dinner music session is not before time. But it would be more acceptable if supplied by the 2YA Orchestra instead of the records. How much longer is "tacet" to be inflicted upon us?—"Disgusted" (Invercargill).

The Shepherd's Dog?

IT often strikes me very forcibly when reading the "Record" that the broadcasting station is in very much the same position as the shepherd's dog (with apology to Jack London). When you do wrong (imaginary or otherwise) you receive a kick. When you do right—your reward is a kick withheld. I have been in this district for two years now and it is very rarely that I go away from 2YA unless it is for a special item on one of the other programmes. I built "Megohm's" five-shielded B.D., the only difference being that I fitted condenser controlled reaction and instead of bottom of reaction coil going to plate I reversed them, top to plate, bottom to transformer, through condenser, of course, and a better working set and sweeter toned nobody could ask for. Selectivity is ideal, from my point of view. Here is an instance. I have no trouble sorting 1YA, JOAK, 2BL, without losing any side bands. I am not a DX hunter, but I can pick up 50 watt stations in Australia, and, of course, anything I go after in New Zealand. I wonder would it be any

advantage to give particulars of valves used. There are so many who have trouble neutralising. R.F. stages, two 630's "B," 90V; detector, 201A B, not over 45 volts; five audio, 609—90 volts, 43V. "C"; power valve, 171A, 135V, "C" 25V. A good cone speaker, primary windings according to impedance of valves; reaction coil 20; and I have just fitted R.F. choke between plate and transformer, but the machine was working so perfectly before that it is hard to say whether it is an improvement or not.—A. H. Probert.

Football on Saturdays.

AS a licensed listener, I presume I have a small claim on your kind attention, and I take this opportunity to express the feelings of myself and many other listeners of my acquaintance, regarding the description of football matches from 1YA on Saturday afternoons. Football is all right once in a while, but to have to endure it week after week is—well, constant dropping wears away the stone, you know. How about the farmer's family away up north? Do they want the results of a football match droning through the loudspeaker? No, sir, give us some real lively music, as you did before, and we'll raise your praises to the sky. While I am here, I hand you my thanks for the splendid services given in the seven months I have been a wireless fiend.—C. Russell (Auckland).

For Sale or Exchange.

See page 32 for column of casual advertisements.

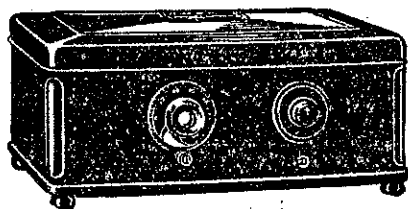
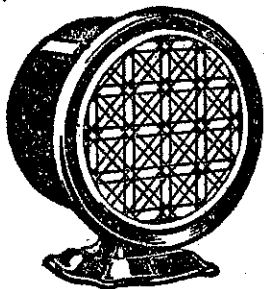
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