

Times Change.

I HAVE from time to time forwarded comments re programmes, mostly of a critical nature, but I am glad to be able to say that there has been a very great improvement in programmes from 2YA and 3YA.

I have been a travelling demonstrator for nearly five years, and have unique opportunities for gauging the popular vote, and I regret to say there is almost complete unanimity in the opinion that the programmes from 1YA could be much improved. This opinion does not refer to the afternoon sessions or the children's hour, which are very well spoken of.—C.J.F. (Auckland).

"House of Disappearance."

EVEN speaking as a Scot, I must admit that the broadcasting service is well worth the money; I can say nothing higher in its praise. One thing I cannot understand, however, is the almost total lack of any definite appreciation of the various items broadcast by the New Zealand stations in the letters published in your correspondence columns.

They mostly state, what is quite correct, that the programmes are excellent, but very few pick out the items which please them most and let the Broadcasting Company and the various artists "blush to find it known" how much their efforts have been delighted in. Personally my ideas seem to coincide with "An Old Sea Dog" (July 26) in every way, and I'd like to shake hands with him. However, if you are giving any prizes for picking out the most popular artist on your programmes (leaving out Mr. Announcer) I will give my vote for Mr. Victor S. Lloyd as often as you like.

His Saturday night's series of little sketches kept my feet on the mantelpiece the whole evening—quite an unheard-of proceeding for me—and his gloriously impertinent adaptation of



Will correspondents please practice brevity, as heavy demands are now made on space. All letters must be signed and address given as proof of genuineness; noms de plume for publication are permitted. Address correspondence Editor, "Radio Record," P.O. Box 1032, Wellington.

"The House of Disappearance," which in its finale included at least two other perfectly splendid shockers, filled me with profound admiration for his genius. I had to take the book from the shelf and reread it once more to find out exactly what he had done.

Doubtless those who haven't read the book will still be wondering who killed the policeman and what happened to the butler!

However, may I say that the Broadcasting Company, and Australia as well, missed the opportunity of its life last night when they failed to relay the landing and reception of the voyagers in the Graf Zeppelin at Tokio. It was the most gorgeous and weird performance which I ever had the pleasure of listening to. Conditions were such, from JOHK in particular, that every cough and movement of the feet on the boards of the reception platform were distinctly audible; and the singing of the old familiar hymn tune which in my ignorance I always thought was the Austrian National Anthem was perfect, whilst every word of the speeches

and their translation into Japanese were particularly clear. The "Oh, Oh, Oh's" of appreciation, corresponding with the British "Hear! Hear!", would have brought joyous reminiscences to the heart of any "Digger" who had sojourned in Cairo, and the thundering "Banzais" (incidentally, the only Japanese word I know the meaning of, even "sho" is beyond my comprehension), with which the performance ended at about 10.15 p.m. was worth the price of the license fee and the whole outfit thrown in. But what a win for 2YA if they had relayed it! —J. Fraser (Ohura).

"Purest Ray Serene."

I have much pleasure in saying "Amen" to the letter of "Champion of One Who Can't Hit Back." We get better results from 2YA than any other station in New Zealand, and the announcer is "a gem of purest ray serene." Carry on, Mr. Announcer, and please do not leave out your second good night, or we shall be sadly disappointed. That cheery good-night brings forth an appreciative smile to every face here.—Neutrodyne (Otago).

V.U.C. Debate.

WE enjoyed listening to the debate at Victoria University very much indeed, and hope more of this style of item will soon broadcast.—I.R. (Kaitiaki).

Maori Pageant.

I CANNOT let the occasion pass without a word of congratulation on the Maori Pageant performance. In fact, all programmes are excellent, and it beats me how it is there are so many growlers. Once again, congratulations for a programme which has never been excelled in Australia or New Zealand.—Nidray (Karetu).

I TAKE this opportunity to express our appreciation of the service rendered to the listener-in by the R.B.C. Have greatly enjoyed the Maori Pageant programme this evening, and wish the company every success for the coming year.—Mr. Smith (Master-ton).

PLEASE convey to the party voicing the Maori Pageant on Thursday and Friday last our best thanks and admiration of their entertainment. It was certainly the best programme yet put forth from any of the New Zealand stations; in fact, it was the first broadcast we have ever listened to in its entirety, not having to turn off the button once. Instead, it was so good that we sat up the following evening

to listen to it again. The theme was excellently thought out, keeping interest at high pitch all the time. It was wonderful to live a day 900 years ago, to hear the Maori canoes arriving in New Zealand waters, and almost, in imagination, to see them. The speaking was always good, and wonderfully articulated, the music was elevating (one thought what a treat to have one evening clear of that horrid, raucous, jarring jazz). The singing was as our Maori brethren always sing, soothing and satisfying, their rendering of "Home, Sweet Home" the finest we have ever heard. And the thrill of the whole evening when Parakaia spoke. We could almost see the old chief tottering up to the microphone, leaning heavily on two sticks, almost overcome with emotion having his little say. His rendering was superb. The whole, truly a great entertainment, not capable of being surpassed, the world over, I am sure. At this same time, may we add a word of appreciation and thanks to the Maori children from the Kaik who provided such an excellent native entertainment at the Dunedin Radio Exhibition. There we had the added pleasure of actually seeing them as well as hearing them, and the young lady whose mat, or skirt (which ever you call it) would keep slipping, provided unrehearsed, real merriment to the large audience. Maori friends, we thank you; please think out another as great entertainment, and let us hear you again next year.—G. Steel (Dunedin).

Old-time Music.

I NOTE a good suggestion by J.T. Kaitangata ("Radio Record," 9/8/29), re old-time dance music and songs. I believe we don't get enough of them. I would suggest that each of the YA stations put on an old-time night on the lines suggested by J.T. once a month. This would mean an old-time night each week, and each station would have a whole month to arrange each programme. It would help to draw more of the old people into the fold of listeners. It is a delight to watch the old people when the good old songs they understand come over. Trusting to see more on this subject in your columns.—P.B. (Wyndham).

Old-time Dancing.

IN the last copy of this paper just to hand, I read where J.T. (Kaitangata) protests against the dance programme, and wants old-time dance music. I don't altogether protest against the dance programme, but I will back J.T. up in regard to old-time music by offering you a suggestion. Would it not be possible for 2YA to set aside, say, one Saturday night before the winter is over, to an old-time dance programme? No doubt the dance music put over is only catering for the town people, who are next door to a dance hall. The country people can get to dance only once in every two or three months. They know nothing about the latest dances, yet if they want to arrange a party and dance to radio music they have to put up with jazz, with perhaps two waltzes during the evening. Is it fair to the country people? If they knew that one Saturday night was going to be old-time dance music look what fun they would have. One night not long ago I tuned in to 3LO, Mc Bourne, and apparently they had advertised this night for old-time dance music, and the announcer said

Mezzo-soprano solos—Miss Millicent Jennings, (a) "O Lord, Have Mercy" (Stradella); (b) "Coming Home Along" (Brahe).
Tenor solos—Mr. W. J. Trewern, (a) "Prelude—Cycle of Life" (Landon Ronald); (b) "Spirit so Fair" (Donizetti).
Organ solo—Reginald Goss-Custard, "The Answer" Wolstenholme (H.M.V. Record R415).

8.15: (approx.)—Rebroadcast of 2YA, Wellington. (Relay from His Majesty's Theatre of concert by the Wellington Municipal Tramways Band, under the conductorship of Mr. E. Franklin.)
Close down.

4YA, DUNEDIN (650 KILOCYCLES)—SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8.

5.0 : Town Hall chimes.
5.1 : Selected gramophone items.
4.30 : Close down.
5.30 : Children's song service, conducted by Big Brother Bill.
6.15 : Close down.
6.30 : Relay of service from Methodist Central Mission:
Preacher: Rev. G. B. Hinton.
Organist: Mr. C. A. Martin.
8.5 (approx.): Relay from His Majesty's Theatre of concert by the St. Kilda Band, under the conductorship of Mr. James Dixon.
9.15 : Close down.

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