

**SOME** little time ago the Radio Branch of the Electrical Federation called for reports from listeners in various districts concerning Station 2YA. It was desired that these reports should cover all features in connection with the station, viz., reception of the transmission and the quality of the programmes put over.

In response to that appeal, a number of reports were received by the Federation, covering the months of April, May, June and July. These reports have been summarised insofar as they emanate from the area definitely within the sphere of influence of Station 2YA. The summary shows some interesting features, which it will be instructive to outline under the different heads.

In relation to reception, it is interesting to note that different districts give different reports of the quality of reception at the same time. For instance, in June the Hutt Valley district reported that throughout that month fading was practically continuous in that area, but throughout the balance of the area served by 2YA the reports on reception were that it was excellent. A seasonal factor would also seem to affect reception. In the autumn months, April and May, the country districts returned a fair number of unfavourable reports of the reception of Station 2YA, but the same districts in the winter months gave credit for very good reception. In April and May, Wellington and suburbs, judging by the reports received, characterised reception as poor, but in the same months and for the same time Wairarapa recorded reception as good. Manawatu in the same month also reported reception as fairly satisfactory.

In the month of June the Wairarapa reported reception as being good, and Taranaki characterised the month as a particularly good month for the reception of both 1YA and 2YA. Hawke's Bay also recorded reception as being good, apart from several bouts of fading. The Blenheim area for this month recorded the reception as being particularly good.

In July, without exception, all areas under review reported favourably upon reception.

#### The Programmes.

IN connection with the programmes, a general note of appreciation characterises the reports received. In April and May some complaint was made regarding the orchestral numbers from 2YA, but appreciation was expressed of the inauguration of the Dinner Music Session. Complaints, however, regarding delays between the groups of items or tacet, were fairly general. Hawke's Bay reported the programmes as being satisfactory and Wellington in June also commented favourably on the programmes. Wairarapa for this month

recorded objection to the frequent repetition of items by artists and the orchestra. Hawke's Bay recorded the programmes as satisfactory. Taranaki also was satisfied according to the summary, but suggested that additional instrumental solos and trios from members of the Studio Orchestra should be presented.

#### A Special Trouble.

A SPECIAL trouble is recorded as occurring in the Manawatu, centring upon Palmerston North. Local



Mr. George Barnes, lyric tenor.  
Often heard from 1YA.  
—S. P. Andrew, photo.



Mr. Stan Pritchard, a leading  
Auckland baritone.  
—S. P. Andrew, photo.

interference is the main problem worrying listeners there. This is held to be due in large part to experimental operation of home-made sets by boys and juveniles. One report states that this is provable by careful watching upon drill nights. The report states:

"On regular nights in each week reception is clearer and better than others, due probably to the habits of certain listeners, particularly boys who may be absent from home attending drill on these evenings. When special attraction is provided by an Australian station and is duly advertised, the reception is generally very mushy and distorted, but on these occasions the YA stations are received with exceptional clarity."

Deduction is made from these facts that the mushiness of reception of Australian stations on this evening is due to the special attention being concentrated upon receiving those stations by operators of sets which may be under strain to receive the station. Because of this concentration upon Australian stations the YA stations on those evenings are particularly clear.

#### A Summary of Views.

A CONCISE summary prepared for the Electrical Federation of the July reports may be quoted in its entirety:

## Report on 2YA.

### Summary of Views

**News Session.**—The manner in which the news is put over is favourably commented upon at all points.

**Weather Reports.**—Prior to the inauguration of these reports it was thought that the weather report might be considerably curtailed. The position disclosed, however, shows that throughout the country districts the weather report is of great value and is of interest to the majority of listeners.

**Dinner Session.**—From its inception the introduction of dinner music proved a great success, and the extension

**Programmes.**—In the majority of instances exception is taken to the substitution of items other than those advertised and, judging from the statements received in this connection, it would appear that changes are frequent and in some cases apparently quite unnecessary.

**Radio Exhibition.**—Reports from all districts state that the special programmes in connection with the exhibition were enjoyed, and from the listeners' angle it is apparent the show was a success.

**Announcing.**—The remarks relating to the announcing are in all instances most complimentary to the announcer, and his work appears to give more general satisfaction than any item in the programme."

## The Secret Station

### New Book with Radio Theme

OUR readers will be interested to know that "The Secret Station," written by Eilersley Hall, of Christchurch, will be on sale in the Dominion within the next few weeks. As "Peterkin," of 3YA, Mr. Hall is already known to a wide circle as a writer and story-teller and the many listeners who are familiar with his voice may look forward with pleasant anticipation to a thrilling and interesting book.

"The Secret Station," as the name suggests, is a story for boys, and the heroes are two New Zealand lads who discover that an unknown radio station is broadcasting a strange and mysterious force which interferes with radio communication. The book is well illustrated and should be particularly acceptable to boys—and girls, too, for a very courageous young lady plays an important part in the unfolding of the plot.

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