

OTAGO NOTES.

Fatuous Complaints from Listeners

"Classics of Comic Literature" in Dunedin Papers Recently—
Inter-Station Debate Proves Very Successful — Alpine
Drama From 4YA This Week.

WHILE it would be fatuous to suggest that either side actually proved which is the mightier, the pen or the sword, the teams which competed in the recent inter-station debate certainly introduced points strongly in favour of their arguments, and beside providing entertainment for their listeners, they instructed them along one or two new lines of thought. Both Otago and Canterbury listeners were

the Municipal Baths, and the broadcasts took place during the two major events on the programme. The service was greatly appreciated, especially by those residing in the country.

SOME of the complaints rushed into print by listeners, who imagine they have a grievance against the board's stations, are classics of comic literature. Many are written without any knowledge of why certain things are broadcast, or are not broadcast, as the case may be, and very often expose the writer as a lone hand player. One has a shrewd suspicion that ninety per cent. of the letters are almost wholly re-written by members of the editorial staffs of the papers before they can be reasonably thrown at a suffering public. Instances of such cases have helped to fill the Dunedin Press columns lately.

NOT only Otago listeners, but many of those throughout the country will be disappointed in the announcement that the Broadcasting Board has found that technical and other difficulties will preclude broadcasts by the main stations of the Sanders Cup races at Stewart Island in January. It is, however, recognised that Stewart Island is outside the board's area, but in view of the fact that the races will be of widespread interest the board will probably arrange for short telegraphed reports from the island, and for all stations to broadcast the results. Detailed matter will then be left to be spread in the regular channels.

WHAT is reported to be one of the best recorded programmes from the B.B.C. to date. "Flags on the Matterhorn" is due for local presentation on December 7. Its merit has preceded it, and many are keenly awaiting the broadcast from 4YA. Recorded work from England is definitely popular, not only in this area, but, as Mr. E. C. Hands, general manager of the Broadcasting Board, remarked recently, in practically all parts of the country.

THE rebroadcast of the Royal wedding ceremony by 4YA was excellent. Reception conditions on short-wave were as near perfect as they have ever been, and every word spoken in the Abbey rang out as clear as a bell. The outside commentary before and after the ceremony was not so clearly received, due partly to the noise creat-

ed by the crowding mass of people, who were obviously excited and very enthusiastic.

A FEW days after they reached New Zealand, Whitehead and Nicholl, the aviators who last month hopped across the Tasman, gave a surprise broadcast from 1YA, their remarks being relayed to 2YA and 3YA. The reason for 4YA's exclusion from the national chain has not so far been given.

J. Alexander Browne To Be Heard Again From YA Stations

THE Broadcasting Board announces that J. Alexander Browne the brilliant Australian baritone, has been engaged to make a second tour of the Board's main stations. Mr. Browne will commence this tour at 1YA on Friday, December 7, and after two further performances at that station, he will be heard from stations 2YA, 3YA and 4YA.

Mr. Browne is regarded as possessing a perfect radio voice, which the microphone reveals in all its beauty. Although it is not absolutely necessary to see a singer in person to fully enjoy his item, those who hear Mr. Browne in concert work marvel at his reserve and effortless performances. He makes both watching and listening pleasurable experiences, and any recital by this artist is a model for all to follow.

interested in the debate, as the teams were representative of the Otago Law Students' Debating Society and the Canterbury College Debating Union. Probably the majority will agree with the judge (Mr. E. J. Anderson), who, in awarding 129 marks out of a possible 150 to the Otago team, said that they succeeded in making better use of their arguments than their opponents in Christchurch, who gained 111 marks. The debate, of course, was broadcast by both 4YA and 3YA, and as a result of its success, the authorities will probably be encouraged to arrange for further debates at suitable intervals.

THE auxiliary station came in useful the other night, when it was able to broadcast descriptions of aquatic events while the main station was engaged in broadcasting a scheduled programme. The occasion was the night on which the Australian and New Zealand touring swimmers appeared at

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