

LETTERS FROM LISTENERS . . .

"Sunday's Programmes Are Always the Week's Best."

To the Editor

Sir,—The programmes to-day (Sunday) have been so delightful that I feel I must write to tell you. The programmes on Sunday are always the best of the week from my point of view and to-day they have been even better than usual.

It seems a pity that we can't get a little classical music from each station every night as we do during the afternoon sessions. I think listeners will appreciate the new method of publishing briefly the items to be given from the B stations.—I am, etc.,

W.D.G.

Christchurch.

English Programmes From Soviet Radio Station

To the Editor

Sir,—Radio Centre Moscow, in reply to a letter from me, have supplied full particulars of their English programmes.

They state that broadcasts in English take place on Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 12 midnight, Moscow time, which is 9 p.m., G.M.T., on wavelengths of 1724 metres and 50 metres. On Sundays, three further English broadcasts take place: 6 a.m., Moscow (3 a.m. G.M.T.), and 6 p.m. Moscow time (3 p.m. G.M.T.), on a wavelength of 25 metres. Also at 2 p.m., Moscow time (11 a.m. G.M.T.), an English broadcast is given every Sunday on 1724 metres and 25 metres. They also added that the times, days, and wavelength of their broadcasts do not vary all the year round.

I am forwarding this information, as I thought it might help "all-wave" listeners to obtain more enjoyment from their radios.—I am, etc.,

G. A. ARCHIBALD.

"To-be-or-not-to-be Jazz Controversy"

To the Editor

Sir,—If I may be permitted to impose further upon your patience in the jazz to-be-or-not-to-be controversy inaugurated by J. D. Parkin, I should just like to briefly point out that the latter rather misrepresents the position when refuting my statement that jazz ranked most high on your recent ballot. He neglects to mention the issue of crooning which appeared on your ballot paper as a separate subject, though, incidentally, this was, to my mind, indeed splitting straws. Well, then, add the total votes allotted to crooning to those of dance music (and jazz is the chief form of dance music, to what extent a matter of opinion) and what have we?

It also perplexes me to find, as he says, that I, as well as "Bing Vallee," have

"unconsciously supported his complaint as to the superfluity of jazz records." For my part, as I touched upon in my previous letter, I find that the reverse is the case in radio programmes, inasmuch as to hear a modern fox-trot or waltz one has of necessity to wait till an inconveniently late hour for there are none at any other sessions, but the "dance" sessions, excepting the "auxiliaries" two or three at tea-time. The inclusion of

readers who enjoy well-rendered jazz as a recreation to the ear, and they have for company musicians of world renown, will appreciate Mr. Parkin's parting shot that "frivolous minds always turn to frivolous music"?—I am, etc.,

AMUSED.

Wellington.

"The Letters From Listeners Have Gone to the Pack"

To the Editor

Sir,—As a constant reader for three years past I must say that I agree with "Free Lance Disgusted" of Upper Hutt when he takes you to task over your correspondence columns.

During the past few months the "Letters From Listeners" page has gone to the pack. Is it, as your correspondent alleges, that you carry your editor's rights too far in excising or deleting the various letters received—publishing only the friendly or puff criticisms and rejecting the constructive—if unfriendly ones? If so, surely the writers must become disgusted and discontinue their efforts.

I most particularly noticed the "puff type" of letters a few weeks ago, when you published several highly complimentary epistles remarking upon your 1934 annual edition. Surely someone or other before now must have told you how sadly behind the 1933 edition was the 1934. Your efforts retreated instead of advancing.

I wonder if this letter will be scrapped or abridged? I must in fairness state that your regular copy is always worth 4d. for the weekly programmes.—I am, etc.,

DISGUSTED.

Hamilton.

["Disgusted" apparently overlooks the fact that there is a law of libel, possessed of very wide powers, in New Zealand. As for his remarks on the 1934 "Radio Record Annual," every newspaper of importance in the Dominion has given it unqualified praise, one going so far as to say that it is the best annual published in this country for several years. The letters he refers to were genuine testimonials.—Ed.]

"Mr. Parkin May Have Sunday"

To the Editor

Sir,—In reply to Mr. Parkin I might say that dance music would have come considerably higher on the list had it not been divided into two sections—a ridiculous classification. License figures would certainly suffer if there were no dance music (Mr. Parkin's "jazz," I presume) on the air. I would turn in my set for what else worth while is there to listen to? And Mr. Parkin keeps "trivial" pictures and trivial books out of sight. But this definition depends entirely on the individual. What he calls such does not

"Eb and Zeb"

New Comedy Feature From YA Stations

THE New Zealand Broadcasting Board announces that it has secured the New Zealand broadcasting rights of a new humorous recorded feature entitled "The Country Storekeepers, Eb and Zeb." This is a comedy serial which it is intended to present from the main stations in 10-minute instalments at regular intervals during the next few months.

Eb and Zeb are two old cronies who run a general store in a small country town. The mix-ups and misunderstandings of these two homely characters and their flair for getting things wrong will undoubtedly provide many laughs for listeners. The first instalment of the serial will be broadcast from Station 1YA on December 24 and from Station 2YA on December 31, and will later be presented at Stations 3YA and 4YA. Succeeding instalments will follow from all stations at regular intervals.

just a few of these numbers in other sessions—and their musical value in most cases fully equals and often surpasses other light items—would add a bright and an up-to-date touch to the broadcasting service.

As for Mr. Parkin's bold assertion that nobody would discard their radio set because no jazz was broadcast, well, I can say emphatically that I would dispose of my own were his plea for the abolition of jazz to be complied with, and if thousands of others did not also do so I think most people would be surprised. Mr. Parkin stresses at some length the art value of music. No one can deny that there is such a thing. But is that any reason why serious art should monopolise the air, if there is a large demand also for another form of entertainment?

I am wondering how those of your