

CANTERBURY NOTES.

Christchurch's Noisy Radio Sets

City Council By-law Helps in Suppression of Unnecessarily Noisy Receivers — Burns Anniversary Concert to be Relayed — 3YA Studio Renovations Completed.

IN reference to comments made in Auckland by Sir Henry Fowler, of the Noise Abatement Committee in Great Britain, on the annoyance caused by misuse of radio sets, the Christchurch City Council exercises control over radio sets played in the shops of dealers, the council having a by-law dealing with this subject. Occasionally complaints were received of the noise made by sets played in business premises, and the usual practice was to send an inspector to ask the operator to tone the set down. Generally speaking, requests in this direction were readily complied with. The City Council, however, has now a by-law dealing with a nuisance created by a neighbour playing a radio set too loudly. The Auckland City Council once sought to introduce a by-law to cover this position, but the legal advice it received was that a municipality had no power to legislate on such matters except where a nuisance or annoyance was caused to persons in a street or public place.

THE Burns Anniversary concert is to take place in the Scottish Society's Hall on Thursday, January 24, and will be relayed by 3YA. Judging by the well-known artists who are contributing to the programme, an enjoyable evening is promised. Mr. R. B. Spiers will speak on "The Laughter of Burns,"

the Christchurch Harmony Four are to sing "O, Willie Brewed a Peck o' Malt," the words by Burns. Items by Mrs. D. W. Stallard, contralto, Mr. E. Rogers, tenor, Miss Kathleen Chapple, soprano, Messrs. P. Caithness, baritone, J. L. Tennent, bass, H. J. Francis, tenor, Miss Madge Brown, soprano, Mr. James Brown, violin, the Highland reel by a company of four girls, and selections by the Scottish Society's Pipe Band, complete the programme. Mrs. A. T. Gibbs will act as accompanist.

THE staff at 3YA celebrated the hottest day of the season by shifting into their new quarters. The station director and programme organiser have been given new offices, and instead of the record library occupying the walls, it is now arranged in high cabinets in the new room. The offices now constitute the whole frontage of the second floor at the New Zealand Broadcasting Board's studios in Gloucester Street. The renovations have an appearance of considerable permanency, all of which confirms the long-harboured suspicion that it will probably be a long while before the board builds its new studios on the property bought for that purpose over a year ago.

FOR the year 1934 the total number of new licenses issued in Christchurch was 3807, making a

grand total of 16,116 sets licensed in Christchurch for the twelve months. During December, 297 new sets were licensed and sixty-seven were dismantled, making an increase of 230 for the month.

LOVERS of Chopin will be interested to learn that on Sunday, January 20, from 9 till 10 p.m., 3YA will broadcast a B.B.C. programme entitled "Chopin." This is a play specially written for broadcasting, and concerns the life of the famous composer.

LISTENERS on a recent Sunday evening were privileged to enjoy nearly three hours of opera. This was from 3YA, the opera in question being Verdi's "Aida," and, as listeners know, it is a particularly bright and tuneful one. One listener wrote from Queens-town stating how much the opera had been enjoyed by members of his family, and had been worth the loss of the hour of beauty sleep. The broadcast did not finish until well after 11 p.m.

AS the name implies, "Letters For Sale" concerned a case of blackmail, and this sketch was admirably given from 3YA last Friday evening. "Letters for Sale" is a dramatic episode adapted for radio by Ellis Price, and was produced by Miss Ngaio Marsh, of Christchurch. Miss Marsh, as Mrs. Howard Blake, was splendid, and the part of the blackmailer, Foster Kinlop, was well taken by Mr. Dundas Walker.

MADAME BETTS-VINCENT, a talented pianiste, is playing a group of classical items from the studio on Friday, January 25. Lovers of chamber music should make a point of listening in on this evening, as Madame Betts-Vincent, who is on the staff of the Wanganui Girls' College, is a clever exponent of the piano. The same evening a newcomer to the microphone will be heard—Miss Hilda Hutt, the possessor of a fine soprano voice.

ON Thursday, January 24, during the relay of the Burns anniversary concert, a return to the studio will be made by 3YA at 9.43 to broadcast the talk on World Affairs. This talk will be given by Mr. R. K. Palmer in place of Mr. Leicester Webb, who is at present away from New Zealand. Mr. and Mrs. Leicester Webb left during Christmas week on a holiday visit to Australia.

THE famous Garde Republicaine Band, because it belongs to the State, was never allowed to broadcast from privately-owned French stations; but now that the State controls broadcasting the band is to give a number of broadcast concerts during the coming winter.

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