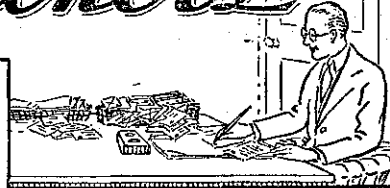


Letters from Listeners

EDITOR



Perfect Reception of 1YA From Central Otago

To the Editor.

Sir,—I wish to congratulate the management of the new 1YA station on the perfect reception I am enjoying here. I receive this station as good as the other YA stations. I am about 110 miles by rail from Dunedin and I am using a 5-valve set (battery operated). There is no doubt the new station is a big improvement on the old one.—I am, etc.,

G. STEWART.

Central Otago.

Ear Assailed by "Amazing Hodge-Podge of Music"

To the Editor.

Sir,—I am in hearty accord with "Ida" who, writing in last week's "Radio Record," complains of the sea of music that assails one nowadays. Wherever one goes—to a restaurant, into a store, to a picture theatre, in a taxi-music bombards the ear. What possible appreciation of music can our young people have after listening, day in and day out, to this amazing hodge-podge of sublime and jejune music, all treated with equal enthusiasm and zest?

People are becoming grateful to be able to eat in silence. One of Christchurch's biggest tearooms has recently done away with its orchestra, while many of the leading restaurants overseas are now advertising "No Music." There are some stores, where music is blared at one through a loud-speaker, that I now purposely avoid.—I am, etc.,

SCHERZO.

Christchurch.

Deaf Listener Appreciates Devotional Services

To the Editor.

Sir,—I wonder how many listen in to 3YA every morning from 10.0 to 10.15? The devotional service is wonderful. The speakers all talk just as if we were in the room with them. It is all so friendly, and such a help to us all day by day to carry on in the difficult times we are passing through. The hymn records are beautiful too, and should not be missed. It is 15 minutes full of the best that is sent over by the Broadcasting Board, and that is saying much, for the programmes are all well-chosen for the YA stations.

I have been deaf for over 20 years, and have missed so much at church services, concerts, operas and so on. Now I have them all, and have only to sit at home and hear them. I hear every instrument in the orchestras and only those who are deaf can fully appreciate what a treat it is.—I am, etc.,

ACTUALITY.

Kokotahi.

Canadian Applauded for Opinion on YA Stations

To the Editor

Sir,—I read with much interest the editorial in a recent "Radio Record," the letter from a Canadian on New Zealand programmes. It is a treat to hear a little commonsense written about radio in this one-sided country of ours: however, I suppose the Broadcasting Board will be too "highbrow and selfish" to see the point in the letter. I would like to ask the Broadcasting Board this: If dance music and its like are classed as "popular music," why are we forced to listen to so much "unpopular music," and why, when the Board operates eight stations in the country, we can't have one putting over "popular music" from eight o'clock each night?

Now—show me the man who says the Broadcasting Board is not thoroughly selfish. The New Zealand programmes are dull because there is no competition in the trade as our Canadian friend has stated in his words of wisdom.—I am, etc.,

BUTTERFAT BILL.

Wellsford.

Rights of Anonymity in Correspondence

To the Editor

Sir,—Recently two correspondents to your columns have taken to task those whom they allege to be anonymous writers, claiming that they insult readers by not disclosing their names. Obviously, these two seek publicity, and naturally, to gain this, they must see their names in print. As a writer who from time to time has had his views published (anonymously, horrible thought!!), may I state that I have intentionally not revealed my name, as I seek no publicity, having no desire to strut around, puff out my chest and have a gaping multitude point me out as the author of certain articles. That these two writers boldly append their names means absolutely nothing to me, for I am none the wiser. They must expect criticism whether their names are published or not.—I am, etc.,

BE MODERN.

Te Awamutu.

N.Z. Bands Not Wanted For Dance Sessions

To the Editor.

Sir,—I read in the "Radio Record," a suggestion by "Modern Dance Lover," that the Board stations should have their own dance band. I'm sure that all listeners like myself, who have favourite bands, do not relish the idea. I know that I would rather listen to a recorded session than to the other type, no matter what they played. Anyway, no N.Z. bands can come up to Jim Davidson's, which in its turn, isn't so very wonderful. Again, the merit of the number itself doesn't influence the decision, when it comes to

"to listen, or not to listen." It is always interesting to listen for the individual touches in an orchestra. Also, the vocalist's merits help to make a tune worth listening to. The actual tune isn't so vital. I don't think that it would be so very enjoyable to hear a local band playing all the time. I agree with everything else the correspondent says, of course. I would like to say that the 9 p.m. dance sessions from 2YA are much appreciated. And what about some more talks on astronomy? I could put up with astronomy talks at 10 o'clock, and that's saying something!—I am, etc.,

BING VALLEE.

Timaru.

New Dance Music Releases Not Broadcast

To the Editor.

Sir,—It did my heart good to see "Modern Dance Lover's" letter, which I sincerely hope will be noted by the Broadcasting Board—especially the reference to the present dance programmes. You have explained that the board cannot give you these programmes in time for publication, as they wish to include new releases at the last minute. But records months and often years old are the rule, and worse still, Continental polkas and marches (they call them foxtrots) predominate to an alarming extent. The classical programmes, the best arranged on the air, are drawn up by experts, so why cannot somebody with a knowledge of dance music be obtained?

May I make a suggestion which I hope will receive attention. On Sunday afternoons, one of the few times when we can hear complete major works, these are presented at 2YA, 3YA and 4YA at 3 p.m., with the result that we can hear only one. Surely common sense dictates that they be given at different times from each station.—I am, etc.,

REPEAL.

Dunedin.

[Although this correspondence is closed these letters were unavoidably held over from last week.—Editor.]

Challenge to "Linguist's" Attack on Announcers

To the Editor

Sir,—Those who read the letter of "Linguist" in the issue of January 4, must be wondering why "Linguist" is not a radio announcer. I have decided that it is because the Broadcasting Board do not know about him.

If "Linguist" really wishes to improve the standard of radio announcing, I would suggest that he overcome that inferiority complex and apply at once for the position of announcer. The