

Shortcomings of Dance Music Broadcasts

To the Editor,

Sir,—What I am mainly interested in is new release dance records. It is nearly six months since listeners of dance music had the pleasure of hearing a whole session of new releases. Today they are few and far between. The programme organiser seems to have very little to do in organising dance sessions, and for some three or four months listeners have heard the same sessions over and over again. Enthusiasts will recognise some of the following titles as the usual opening numbers on the main sessions: "Be Careful, Little Soldier," "Two Can't Sit on a Three-piece Suite," "The Naked Potato Man."

Have the motion picture film companies banned the broadcast of dance recordings from musical films before the film is released in New Zealand?

Continental dance sessions are still numerous, but this type of dance music is rather prehistoric. Nothing is more annoying than to listen to an hour of recordings without any vocal refrain. The singing in Paul Godwin's Orchestra, even though it is often in German, is more pleasing to the ear than the awful crooning of American and English bands. Those who may have arranged a dance in their homes, relying on the radio for music, have my sympathy when a Continental session is broadcast, for dancing to the Polydor Orchestra is next to impossible.—I am etc.,

NEW RELEASES.

Christchurch.

Scientific Analysis of Good Announcing

To the Editor

Sir.—Surely it is time for the Broadcasting Board to take in hand the matter of announcing and put it on a correct and scientific basis.

The requirements of first class announcers are:

1. Radio penetration.
2. Correct and clear enunciation.
3. A knowledge of the correct tone inflection of terminal syllables.
4. The correct speeding of words.
5. Correct accent.

To my mind there is only one announcer in New Zealand who comes near to possessing these necessary requirements, and that is the chief announcer of the 3YA station. His announcing of the evening news session could be taken as a model, and is always a pleasure to listen to. There is far too much of the sing-song "boudoir" style of talking in most of the New Zealand and Australian stations, and it seems to be conducive to excessive speeding.

May I point out that there are probably 10,000 New Zealanders listeners every evening who would like to have the Australian stations announced before each item. It is common to get from four to six items without the station's being announced. I would also make it compulsory for all announcers to use the word "station" before the letters of their studios. It would be of great help to the beginner, the deaf and the far distant listeners.

May I congratulate you on your won-

derful little journal and I am fully expecting to see it enlarged in the near future. I am sure subscribers would not mind an extra penny if you did.—I am, etc.,

Timaru.

N.K.C.

A.M.P. Society's Business Progresses During 1934.

MR. W. T. IKIN, manager for New Zealand of the A.M.P. Society, has received the following cable from his head office, Sydney:—

"Pleased to advise new business,

1934. Ordinary Department £18,731,677, Industrial Department £4,229,807; total, £17,931,484. Increase on 1933. 1934. Ordinary Department £18,731,677, Industrial Department £4,229,807; total, £17,931,484. Increase on 1933. £2,345,000. Splendid result, all have share. Congratulations."

In New Zealand the Ordinary Department new business was £2,599,562, being an increase of £550,097 on the previous year, and the Industrial Department new business £515,660, being an increase of £38,589 on 1933.

IF I were a political speaker, I think I should always manage before hand the questions I should be asked at the end of a meeting.—Mr. Robert Lynd.

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