

and yet the 2YA wrestling announcer was allowed to continue week after week. Radio listeners seem to be getting tired of jazz records, but I'm quite sure there would be little dissatisfaction if some official of the board had the happy knack of being able to differentiate between recordings made by cheap inferior bands and recordings made by first-class tuneful, well-balanced combinations.

If it were not for the fact that listeners can now enjoy overseas stations by means of short-wave and good broadcast sets, there is no doubt that radio licenses in New Zealand would fall considerably.—I am, etc.,

AMERICA FOR ME ALSO.

Auckland.

Light Items in Evening Welcome to Worker

To the Editor.

Sir,—In a recent issue of the "Radio Record," Margaret Macpherson asks, "Are we really good listeners?" To quote further from the remarks of this gifted lady, as she extols the musical culture of women:—"They develop a fine musical culture which is denied to their husbands, who are working away all day and who hear only the 'popular and often rubbishy programmes of the evening.'" To my way of thinking, all those who buy a receiver and pay promptly on due date, the prescribed listening fee, are good listeners. It should be the aim of the Broadcasting Board to do all that is possible to bring pleasure to the listeners in an effort to keep them good listeners, and to induce others to find interest in radio.

I am one of the husbands who work away all day, and I must admit that I am thankful that the classical hour is during my working day. Sunday afternoon programmes are spoiled through lack of variety, and I should very much appreciate a more varied arrangement of items. If the classical programmes were diluted somewhat, even husbands who work away all day may eventually develop a fine musical culture. May I suggest that the various directors of our national stations should give a request night once a month. Twenty listeners who are unknown to the director should be asked by mail to choose an item, and the programme arranged to the best advantage from the items chosen. We should then have at least one programme each month which would give some satisfaction to twenty listeners. There should be no difficulty in getting the addresses of twenty listeners each month from the Postal Department.—I am, etc.,

WORKER.

Frankton Jn.

More Maori Music Wanted To Vary Programmes.

To the Editor

Sir,—Just a few lines to express my great pleasure and appreciation of tonight's programme from 2YA, and especially the Maori theme programme. After a deluge of Strauss, Guards Bands and symphony orchestras, it was a treat to listen in to a well-varied programme. I fully appreciate good music—but let us have more variety in the programmes. Why not more Maori items on the night

programmes? Our Maori music is delightful, and is worthy of a place on any programme, and I'm sure would be of interest to listeners overseas.

Cannot something be done to improve the Sunday programmes? Sunday is the day when we can all relax, and listen to the radio, but at present there is a sameness about the music which becomes monotonous, and at times I am almost bored to tears when I find that station after station are all sending forth the same music.

Just a word of appreciation of the "Radio Record." I enjoy reading it, and it gives excellent value.—I am, etc.,

HINEMOA.

Wellington, February 5.

Another Champion of N.Z. Announcers.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I read with much interest a letter written by "No Pin Pricking," and I agree with him concerning "Linguist." Announcing is one of the most difficult positions anyone could wish for, especially when there are thousands of listeners at the other end ready to find fault with the slightest mistake. I think that the main stations are well off for announcers, especially with the chief ones at 1YA, 2YA and 3YA—the last two would hold their own with any.

One has just to listen in to an American station to hear what our friends across the Pacific have to put up with in the way of music as well as announcers.—I am, etc.,

Palmerston North.

SATISFIED.

League of Nations: Please Take Note.

To the Editor.

Sir,—No doubt you will be interested to know of still another use for radio in the home. When our neighbours next door, who by the way live the proverbial cat and dog life, have one of their periodic outbursts, we find that switching on our set rather loudly has an immediately quietening effect. I do not know if it is the result of the soothing strains of music or whether it is considered a counter-attack upon them.—I am, etc.,

LULLABY.

New Plymouth.

Answers to Correspondents

A. Craig (Wathi): Many thanks for your enclosure, but the topic has been exhaustively dealt with since Christmas.

Satisfied (Palmerston North): The announcer on the morning of Sunday, February 3, was Mr. K. G. Collins. He is related only by marriage.

T.N.T. (Invercargill): Mr. Courtenay Hall has now taken Mr. Strachan's place as the 2YA announcer on Wednesdays.

Ab No Sing (Christchurch): A check of the programmes from the station mentioned in your letter reveals the fact that, during the past week, there has been a greater proportion of instrumental music.

Anti-Crooner (Palmerston): A broadcasting service is firstly to please the greatest number, and the "awful piffle" you mentioned is eagerly looked for by thousands of listeners.

Quissie (Auckland): Post and Telegraph regulations forbid the sending of a letter to a nom de plume. Please forward your name and your query will be answered.

W. J. Bardsley: Sorry, not suitable for publication.

Creator of "Ole Bill" to Tour YA Stations

HARRY THURSTON, ranked among England's first half-dozen comedians, and creator of the famous "Ole Bill" stage sketches has been engaged by the New Zealand Broadcasting Board for a tour of the national stations. Mr. Thurston's engagement is one of the most important programme moves made by the board, and it is the first time that a departure has been made from the musical side in the engaging of overseas celebrities.

Mr. Thurston arrived in Auckland recently en route to Hollywood, but the negotiations just completed with the broadcasting authorities means that he will now remain in the Dominion for the next few weeks. His tour will start next month.

