



FROM THE HOME FORUM

Freer Hand Suggested For Announcers

To the Editor

Sir,—The following suggestions, in my opinion, would make radio even more interesting to listeners. Dispense with the concert session at 8 p.m., which seems too much of a fixture. The news to start about 7 p.m. and continue no later than 7.30 p.m.. At 7.30 p.m. a novelty and variety session would introduce something that could be made very popular. The scope is extensive, and a good organiser has a wonderful opportunity to introduce all kinds of novelties and varieties. A little imagination will suggest many avenues to explore.

After this be as formal as you please. I think the great drawback in our broadcasting is "stiffness," and this suggested session would prove as popular as the 5 to 6 p.m. hour is to the children. The 7 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. breakfast session can easily be brightened up by giving the announcers a much freer hand. Allow them to broadcast the high-lights of the day's news or other information between records, and I am sure the announcers would rise to the occasion. This would be a long way from the American "wise-cracking" announcer, and it would put some real life into the breakfast session. I suggest the announcers are allowed a much freer hand (or voice) and they will soon take the "stiffness" out of our broadcasting. The New Zealand announcers are a really good lot, and they can be trusted with much more liberty, and I might say here that my favourite announcer is "Cinderella," as I like the free and easy children's hour.—I am, etc.,

"SANS SOUCL"

Te Awamutu.

What Has Happened to Paul Cullen?

To the Editor

Sir,—Why is it that we get no broadcasts from Australia of Paul Cullen, as I understand that is where he went? Since he left these shores he seems to have vanished, and I haven't seen in your paper any mention of him in the Australian programmes. After all the fuss everybody made of him at his send-off, and the way your paper gave so much space to his doings, I think it strange.

My next question is Why, oh why, do we get the same stuff from all the National stations at the same time? Children's sessions come from the main stations at the same time, likewise dinner music, news and reports, and

the concert sessions begin at the same time. Surely it is time the Broadcasting Board looked into this matter and gave the poor listeners a change. There is surely no sense in giving the same thing from different stations at the same time, and especially when it comes from the main four. We are made to pay pretty hard for our license fee, and by the way, it could easily come down another five shillings. Anyhow, the listeners' complaints should be taken notice of, for after all, if there were no listeners—well let's not start that again.—I am, etc.,

Hokitika.

NONPLUSED.

Opinion of 3YL Dance Music Endorsed

To the Editor

Sir,—May I, in every detail, heartily endorse "Rhythm Lover's" opinion of the programmes from station 3YL. He hits the nail on the head in each point he brings forward, and little can be added except that it seems a pity the YA stations of New Zealand do not imitate this well managed station to a greater extent.

I took the hint from his letter in this week's "Record," and at present I am listening to a delightfully arranged programme of pleasant variety from 3YL, and I must say it is a relief to get away from the monotonous classical programmes of the YA stations. Each one to his own likes, but give me 3YL.—I am etc.,

ANOTHER RHYTHM LOVER.

Rotorua.

What About Uncle Scrim Being Traffic Cop?

To the Editor

Sir,—I have always agreed with your editorial notes, but your issue of March 8 surprises me.

You stated, firstly, "There is always a 'traffic cop' to see that we don't go too fast, do not travel on the wrong side, and do not endanger others." What is your meaning behind this statement? Do you mean that "by going too fast" the Friendly Road is becoming uncomfortable for the Government? By this I mean that with the world in its present state (perhaps on the brink of war) the wholesale condemnation of people blowing their fellow-men to bits, and the faint aroma of Douglas Credit issuing from IZB, things may not be going just as officialdom would wish. It is my opinion that his success emphasises the need not for a traffic cop but for the abolition of traffic cops.

You state that if the Friendly Road has a transmitter, why not other denominations? This shows that you do not as yet know what the Friendly Road stands for. It is neither a denomination nor an organisation. It is a collection of those of any denomination or organisation whose sole aim is to be friendly with any person of any creed. Why this prohibition of his power? Can you hear speech from --- during daylight on your radio, and does it come through clearly at night?—I am, etc.,

K. SPEEDY.

Hamilton.

[Our correspondent's notes us. We did not use the phrase "other denominations." We said the "religious organisations." We have excised from our correspondent's letter repeated questions as to what we mean by this phrase or that, as well as a reference to another matter which was not editorially expressed. Our viewpoint was quite plainly expressed, and does not need re-interpretation. We appreciate all that Uncle Scrim has done and is doing, but would not welcome an action which would arise if the air was made free of control.—Ed.]

Announcer Caught Out in Error of Grammar

To the Editor

Sir,—Your recent paragraph in the column of "Hot Shots" about an announcer's ungrammatical error prompts me to point out that Mr. Culford Bell, of 1YA, frequently commits one just as bad, the latest occasion being quite recently. His particular failing is to say, "if anyone, etc., etc. will they please, etc., etc." "One" and "they," as any fourth standard boy should know, do not go together. He has been doing this to my knowledge for years, as I myself have drawn attention to it twice previously back in the days of the Broadcasting Company, as reference to the files will prove. It seems a pity he doesn't know better, but a worse pity he doesn't know corrected.—I am, etc.,

H.P.

Taipuha.

80 Years Old, But Likes His Radio

To the Editor

Sir,—I have for the last two or three years looked forward to the "Radio Record" as a fine, up-to-the-date magazine. I spend a lot of my spare time reading through it again and again, and find what a pleasure it is to be able to read most excellent film stories and the different things that have happened during the week in the radio world.

The programmes are suitable, although I regret to say the "Japanese Houseboy"