



Praise For Auckland Band Concert

To the Editor

Sir,—I cannot refrain from writing to you in reference to the Auckland Municipal Band. What a splendid combination, and what good musicians they are. Those who were listening in, and had good reception, must have enjoyed Sunday's programme last week. The cornet duet by Messrs. F. Bowes and J. Davies was played particularly well. The piccolo solo by Mr. Hal C. McLennan, "Sylvia," was out on its own, both in execution and tone. All credit must be given to their able and respected conductor, Mr. Geo. Buckley, in the way he has trained the band to the high pitch of performance it now enjoys.—I am, etc.,

T. G. MEASURER.

Waikino.

Have Announcers a Hard Row to Hoe?

To the Editor

Sir,—Just a pat on the back for E.Y. When an announcer makes a slight error it is for all the (listening) world to hear, and there are plenty of critics to take him to task for even a slip of the tongue. If we were to adopt the same attitude toward every book or magazine we read, I am afraid every editor and author would incur our displeasure. Pronunciation is also another matter we must be tolerant toward, for who is to say which is the correct way of pronouncing the name of India's lofty mountain range, Hima-layas or Him-ah-layas, as we have it from overseas speakers?

My son has just brought home a circular headed "Students' Fees," and tells me that the apostrophe is there because it is possessive case, but what I wish to know is how can they be possessive when the student parts with them?—I am, etc.,

POOR OLD JOE.

Levin.

Alarming Symptoms of a Correspondent

To the Editor

Sir,—Your correspondent "Sinkaplate" in a recent issue lays himself open to one piece of advice, as follows: "See his medical adviser immediately—do not delay one moment!" The symptoms he describes—"a perspiring heap, with tingling ears and wild eyes"—are those mostly prevalent among the inmates of a Government rest home.—I am, etc.,

ROA.

Hamilton.

Opinions of Reader "With Deplorable Taste"

To the Editor

Sir,—Maybe I'm just plain plebian, but I do prefer the "middling" types of broadcast recordings to the very high-brow or the very lowbrow—hoop-oop-o'-doop sort of thing. I made a mental note of a Sunday morning programme from 2YA the other day and found that the music played then gave me more satisfaction and relaxation than practically the whole of the rest of the week's programmes! As a few examples—there were played the musical scores of "The Maid of the Mountains" and "The Student Prince"—both splendid recordings and excellently sung. Then Maggie Teyte sang, one of her numbers being Noel Coward's "I'll Follow My Secret Heart." Marek Weber's orchestra gave us some numbers, then Richard Crooks sang. A girl with an attractive contralto voice sang "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes," then Gertrude Lawrence gave us a few numbers. The musical score of "Music in the Air" followed, with some Kreisler violin solos to round off the programme.

As I said before, my taste is probably deplorable, but then I know what I like when I hear it. Perhaps some other of your readers agree with me?—I am, etc.,

Wellington.

MEZZO-BROW.

Little Courtesy Which Costs Nothing

To the Editor

Sir,—I wish to give praise where praise is due. There is a new announcer at 2YA on a Wednesday evening each week lately. Every night during the week 2YA broadcasts their programme to either Palmerston or Masterton, but when their portion of the programme is finished the announcer simply says: "That concludes our broadcast to such-and-such a place," and that is a finish. This new announcer is quite civilised, and it sounds so different when he finishes. He always says, "That concludes our programme to so-and-so," and then always wishes them "Good-night, so-and-so listeners." It really does sound nicer, for surely they are entitled to a "Good-night" the same as anyone else, for we all pay the same amount for our license. I am sure there are thousands of listeners who have noticed this little act the same as myself. I think the announcer deserves to be congratulated on his politeness, for he has surely set an example which other announcers should follow. These other listeners only get "Good night" once a week, but I guess they appreciate it.—I am, etc.,

REGULAR LISTENER

Brooklyn.

Dance Music Not Wanted on Sundays

To the Editor

Sir,—Just a few lines to voice an appreciation of the programmes put on the air from the YA stations. In last week's paper I noticed some letters from a few jazz devotees complaining about the Sunday programmes. I, and I am sure there are many who agree with me, thoroughly enjoy the music on Sunday afternoons. One of your correspondents objects to classical music. Surely one does not have to be "high-brow" to appreciate pieces like "1812," the William Tell Overture, and similar works?

I like jazz as much as anybody, but don't we get enough of it after 9.15 p.m., and at various other times as well, without our Sunday afternoons with it? If our jazzy friends like it so much, let them tune in to KFI and leave New Zealanders to enjoy their programmes in peace.—I am, etc.,

ALSO SATISFIED.

Gisborne.

Alternative Programmes and Dull Dinners

To the Editor

Sir,—Because I am not blessed with a broadcast receiving set which will give me more than local reception, I feel justified in raising a tiny voice, to which owners of larger sets needn't listen. The point is that I understood the function of the alternative stations was to provide a programme each night which would be to a large extent in contrast to the type of broadcast from the main station. This contrast is in most cases provided, but two or three times a week the idea seems to slip a bit. I am not one who can sit down to an evening of dance music and allegedly funny items any more than to two solid hours of symphony or ballad music—not counting the dreary daily dinner sessions from both stations. But now and then it happens that the types of programme from the main station and the alternative station are too much alike. This should be a nice, easy little job for the new board to start off with, before they tackle the bigger things for which they are being paid.

Talking of dinner sessions reminds me of another little point. I have an awful confession to make: I am not temperamental or hyper-sensitive; in fact, I am often accused of being thick-skinned. But I must admit that most dinner session music is a challenge to a conscientious alimentary system. There is so much unmelodious, piping, hum-drum, cheerless music broadcast between 6 o'clock and 8 o'clock each evening that out of respect for digestive organs which are much more valuable than such dull musical