



FROM THE HOME FORUM

American Reply to the English Supporters

To the Editor.

Sir,—I don't know whether you will publish this answer to "Briton of the South" and "Caius," who wrote in your columns last week. I can reply to them both in one word, and that is NERTZ.—I am, etc.,

N. ZEDDER.

Mount Eden.

"One Night of Love" as Good-night Melody?

To the Editor.

Sir,—Would it be possible to record "One Night of Love" as the 2YA good-night melody? As Miss Moore's picture proved such a success with the public, I'm sure it would be welcomed.

I wish to add my congratulations as to the variety of programmes given, which I feel should be appreciated by all listeners—especially the classical hours.—I am, etc.,

JEAN HARMAN.

Wanganui.

Many Laughs at Letters About Announcers

To the Editor.

Sir,—We enjoyed those two letters by "Pax Britannica" and "Modern Music" quite a lot, and the whole family had a good laugh over the phrase "good kick in the pants."

Them's my sentiments. We do not know the name of the Christchurch announcer, but we all like his speaking voice, and we think his programmes are by far the most modern.—I am, etc.,

E.B.

Kawhia.

[The chief announcer at 3YA is Mr. A. I. Currie.—Ed.]

Content, Except For Lack of Carillon Music

To the Editor.

Sir,—I cannot refrain from inquiring why we never hear the Wellington Carillon broadcast? I've been listening-in for two years now and so far have never heard it, and none of my acquaintances has memory of it.

Is it never played or is the volume unsuitable for relay? With pleasant memories of the peals of bells from old country churches in England still in my mind after 20 years, I would be indeed grateful for the opportunity to hear beautiful hymn playing.

The whole network could pick them up

on such occasions as Anzac Day and special occasions, and no one would be dissatisfied, at least not from the old folks and English people, like myself who can never get down for that "week" we've been going to have off for umpteen years.

Despite the wails of the minority I think the majority of listeners are satisfied with the fare from the Board's stations, and personally I consider 25/- cheap for 12 months of Harry Thurston, Eb and Zeb, etc., and the various interesting travel talks put over by competent speakers. I can hear KFI and the A.B.C.'s network and GBS and DJN, like many others who use the columns of your paper to air their grievances, but I prefer to know beforehand what's on the air, and the programmes in the "Record" prove the only way to keep on the best items from the best stations.—I am, etc.,

OLD DART.

Kibi Kibi.

Not Enough Dance Music From Main Stations

To the Editor.

Sir,—I notice from the "Radio Record" that at any rate for a fortnight the 9.20 to 11. dance programme from Auckland has been cancelled, and that 3YA is the only station to broadcast a dance programme from that hour, in comparison with the programmes three months ago Auckland in their 87 hours' programmes a week give five hours of dance music, plus a few numbers in miscellaneous programmes. Wellington in 87 hours gives six hours, Christchurch in 87 hours gives five hours ten minutes, and Dunedin in 87 hours gives five hours, five minutes. (This is excluding Sundays.)

The above is just from one week, and though not always general, it fairly well represents the small amount of dance music we get, and then one has to wait till 10 o'clock to get it.

Australia not only allows B class stations but co-operates with them, and 2UW gives a 24-hour service. England have their hotels, and the Continent, but in New Zealand we are forced to listen to programmes which are enjoyed by 30 per cent. (or less) of the population.—I am, etc.,

DISGUSTED.

Christchurch.

Americanisms Loathed in New Zealand

To the Editor.

Sir.—Your correspondent "Pax Britannica" gives me, in the vernacular of his beloved "States," a pain in the neck. I recently wrote to your paper complaining of too much classical music being broadcast by A stations, but what "hobo"

("States" again) would dare to make insinuations against our beloved announcers?

"Pax Britannica" says that "what our announcers don't know would fill several large tomes," but he does not say what his own knowledge of the matter is. Our announcers are, at least, correct in pronunciation, polite, and evince an interest in the programmes. No "Zedder" would like to hear a record announced as a recital of Dick Wagner's work or Franz Liszt's "Hungarian Rhapsodies." Such an announcement would cause a riot in this country, where any form of "Americanism" in speech is loathed. Then think of the stress laid upon one's temper if the announcer confidentially invited one to try "Simpson's Silent Soupspoons, obtainable at all good stores." It would be colossal!

All I hope is that the American tendency to advertise will not gain popularity in New Zealand, and that such men as "Pax Britannica" will seek the doubtful pleasure of living in the "States." New Zealand is better rid of them.—I am, etc.,

SINKAPLATE.

"Bach and Handel Were Misrepresented"

To the Editor.

Sir,—Your Auckland contributor "Modern Music" distorts the facts in his diatribe against the broadcasting of recorded classical music when he quotes Mr. Ernest Newman as stating that the music of Bach and Handel was good for the period, but that essentially it is second-rate stuff which is inflicted on our audiences. This is a common case of isolated statements being quoted apart from the context, with the result that the intentions of the writer are misconstrued.

If I remember correctly (and I trust my memory rather than that of your correspondent), Mr. Newman was complaining impatiently of the fashionable and indiscriminate adulation with which the essentially unmusical, or, rather, non-musically public, accepts every Bach or Handel work which is presented. No one would be more concerned than Mr. Newman to have it understood that he had classed the music of Bach and Handel in general as essentially second-rate stuff. Mr. Newman merely pointed out that Bach and Handel, like all other composers have turned out music that was less worthy than their best works and that was essentially second-rate, and he was pleading for a recognition of that fact.

The following quotation from Mr. Newman's recent article on the occasion of the 250th anniversary of the births of Handel and Bach may help to give better perspective to an important musical