



FROM THE HOME FORUM

Elocutionary Suggestion Supported

To the Editor

Sir,—Further to the letter of "Hoping," I should like to second the very excellent suggestion that more elocutionary items should be introduced into the programmes.

I am enthusiastically interested in these items; and feel certain that if, as "Hoping" suggests, the services of capable elocutionists were enlisted, this class of talent would receive an estimable reception.—I am, etc.

"STILL HOPING."

Palmerston North.

A Grumble and Some Plaudits

To the Editor

Sir,—I will begin with a grumble, and get it off my mind, the praise will come later! There is supposed to be a classical hour in the afternoon, though more often it is half an hour or less. On Wednesday, July 3, I looked in the "Record" and saw that from 2.30 to 3 o'clock was to be classical hour (?). So I hurried through my work, and turned on the wireless at about 2.40 only to hear a man and a woman yowling the most awful tripe (one could not call it singing), and, alas! adding insult to injury by emitting the awful sounds through their noses! This was followed by jingles and jangles on all sorts of queer instruments till I fled in dismay!

Now, I know that those who love this sort of thing have a perfect right to have it provided for them, but not all the time: there are so many hours given to jazz and crooning and comic items that surely the very short time allowed for good music need not be cut down. Judging by the way people flock to hear classical concerts there must be many who enjoy that type of music.

I see that "Bored Stiff" is complaining about the Sunday programmes. Now I know many who enjoy the restful and beautiful music played on Sunday afternoons. "Bored Stiff" appears to be unable to enjoy anything but musical cocktails. His nerves are evidently in a bad way if he cannot listen to anything which needs concentration and a restful mind, but why not be enough of a sport to give other people a chance?

I also want to tell you how much we all enjoy Mr. Allan Mulgan's talks. We look forward to them so much that if asked out on that night we plead a previous engagement, said engagement being to meet in our living room and listen to Mr. Mulgan!

Lastly, much has been said lately against the announcers and their voices, and the mistakes they are supposed to make. I am English, and have lived in various other parts of the world before coming to New Zealand, so have had some experience, and I am certain that the announcers at the main New Zealand stations would be very hard to beat. They all have splendid speaking voices. Probably they do make mistakes sometimes, but then they are only men, and not super-men like their critics!—I am, etc.

BUSY MOTHER.

Manurewa.

"Sweeping the Floor" With Critics

To the Editor

Sir,—From time to time in your columns someone or other will revive that old intolerance in the matter of criticism of broadcasting, and in a masterstroke of a letter such as "A

RADIO LICENSES

Steady Increase in Figures

THE steady increase in the number of radio licenses issued by the Post and Telegraph Department in May of this year is further indication of the continued and increasing popularity of broadcasting in the Dominion. The increase over the number of licenses issued at the corresponding time last year remains at much the same figure as in previous months, 35,000.

At May 31, the number of receivers licensed in Auckland, Wellington, Canterbury and Otago respectively were 48,142, 58,955, 28,701 and 21,710, making a total for New Zealand of 157,508, compared with 120,893 at the corresponding date last year. There was an increase of 61 in the number of dealers' licenses issued as compared with last year, and an increase of 72 in the number of licenses issued to experimental amateurs. The free list was increased from 252 to 339. Broadcasting stations were reduced by one in number to a total of 24 licensees.

Female Wayback's" sweep the floor with what she terms our "spoilt New Zealand listeners" who dare to see anything to query in radio management.

After your correspondent's all-embracing floor-wiping of critics, I can see "The Home Forum" being an absent feature of the "Radio Record" in many issues, and when anything does appear therein that it will be entirely in words of praise and thanksgiving to the powers that be. So here we have the very best announcers—I take it "Female Wayback" means—in the world. One up, N.Z.! "The board must go to tremendous trouble"—listeners, shed a tear for the board. Thank heaven all of us are not in the position she has been in, and states she

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