

when it suited. I know that that was my immediate impression.

However, I think that I have been only lulled into a false security. Listening in to 1YA last evening I decided to get away from their wrestling description at 9 p.m. I tuned to 2YA only to find that their programme was taken up likewise. From there I hopped across to 3YA only to discover to my chagrin that boxing held sway. Unfortunately static prevented my listening to 4YA.

I fail to see where this conforms with the plan the board assured us they were adopting. What the board should do is issue another programme plan and on it make the stipulation that the programme will only be available to listeners in the event of wrestling or boxing bouts being cancelled.—I am, etc.,

CONSISTENCY.

More Memories of Music Halls of Old

To the Editor

Sir,—What a pleasure it gave me, and no doubt other readers as well, especially any who had been in the music hall profession as I have. Of course Mr. Broad's business was on the boards—mine below the footlights in the orchestra.

There are not many theatres or music halls in London where I had not been engaged as deputy and, holding the shop for years, I naturally came across those artists whom Mr. Broad knew. I remember C. H. Cherwin when I was at Gatti's, Westminster Bridge Road. His first appearance there for 25 years.

Mr. Broad states that Kate Carney's great song hit was "When You're Living Down Poverty Street," but I really think "Three Pots a Shilling" was her greatest hit. But with all that she had to rely a lot on stage assistants for her business.

I often wonder what became of Julia Mackay, she was great in "Her Name is Rose." Now, Mr. Broad, do not finish at present.—I am, etc.,

THOS. G. MEASURES.

Ohinemuri.

The Rights and Wrongs of Maori Vowels

To the Editor.

Sir,—It was with interest and much amusement that I read the controversy in your columns about Mr. Drummond's pronunciation of Maori names, and in particular his pronunciation of "Nepia," but after reading the contributions of "Arawa" and "William W. Bird," I feel I must enlighten these two "authorities" upon the correct pronunciation of Maori vowels.

Following are the five vowels in the Maori language, and their approximate corresponding pronunciations:—

Maori "a" is pronounced as in English "part."

Maori "e" is pronounced as in English "pear."

Maori "i" is pronounced as in English "neat."

Maori "o" is pronounced as in English "north."

Maori "u" is pronounced as in English "boot."

Previously, like the two mentioned correspondents, I had always been taught, among other errors, that the Maori "e" was pronounced as in English "hay," and I had never been able to understand why I could not pro-

nounce words as the Maoris say them until I was enlightened by one of their race. Incidentally, it is quite true that Maoris get a lot of fun out of listening to pakehas endeavouring to pronounce Maori words, in the same way as pakehas are amused by uneducated Maoris speaking broken English, but to a much greater degree.

As far as Mr. Drummond's pronunciation of Maori names is concerned, he certainly does better than the majority of pakehas, but unfortunately his efforts are limited by lack of coaching.—I am, etc.,

A HUMBLE PAKEHA.

Palmerston North.

Is the B.B.C. Giving Empire the Best?

To the Editor

Sir,—I bought a shortwave set three months ago for the purpose of listening to the Empire broadcasts. There are no complaints about the set, but there are several about the broadcasts—in fact, unless they are remedied, I shall have to brush up my French and learn German, and listen to Paris and Berlin before I get value from the set. When I bought it I did not expect to receive enjoyable music, but one can do so from Paris and Berlin very frequently—from Daventry, never. It cannot be suggested that the French and Germans have any inherent superiority in transmission—all that is wanted is better machinery at Daventry. So far as speech goes, I have heard long political speeches from Berlin, in which every word was distinct, but even when conditions are good it is an effort to listen to Daventry, and one has to guess at occasional words.

Then, the timing of the programmes is appalling. When England went back to standard time on September 1, all programmes were delayed an hour for

the convenience of the transmitters—it did not occur to any one that there was no change at the receiving end. Now that the All Blacks are Home, the obvious thing is to summarise the matches about 7 or 8 a.m.; but no—the summary comes through at 6.10 in the evening, when most of us are at our evening meal, and when we can read the whole thing in comfort in the evening papers. And on Sunday, when the whole of New Zealand was talking All Blacks, and there was no evening paper, the summary did not come through at all. Surely the B.B.C. knows that the customer is always right.

The faults do not all lie at the other end. I spoke to a radio inspector about interference the other day, and he told me he was not interested in shortwave interference, as it did not come within the province of the Broadcasting Board. I do not know whether this is the policy of the Government, but it is not encouraging to those who would like to use shortwave sets for legitimate purposes.

There is a further inconvenience which you can remedy. If I want to see the full programme I have to buy the "Australian Wireless Weekly." You print only the evening transmission—most of us like to listen before breakfast. Can you not print the morning transmission as well?—I am, etc.,

IGNORAMUS.

Wellington.

[The Empire programme transmission printed by the "Radio Record" is that specially devised for Australian and New Zealand listeners. Transmission 4, which covers the New Zealand breakfast period, is of a similar nature, a mixture of music, news and commentaries, but publication of this transmission would serve fewer than those programmes at present published. Regarding interference, it has been repeatedly pointed out in the "Radio Record" that the prime duty of the Inspector's Branch is to try to ensure satisfactory reception of New Zealand stations. In doing so, they are going a long way toward eliminating interference with overseas reception.—Ed.]

Inviting Contributions For Our Christmas Number

Plans are now being made for the Christmas Number of the "Radio Record" and details are given below of the various competitions open to readers.

(1) Three prizes of a guinea, a half-guinea and five shillings are offered for the best 250-word paragraph dealing with "Realism and Artistry on the Air during 1935."

(2) Three prizes of a guinea, a half-guinea and five shillings are offered for a paragraph on "Errors Over the Air."

(3) A guinea, a half-guinea and five shillings are offered for the best 250-word paragraph setting down your idea of a perfect setting, piece of acting or dialogue seen or heard in films during 1935.

(4) A guinea, a half-guinea and five shillings are offered for the best 250-word paragraph setting down the flaws in any 1935 film.

(5) Three prizes of a guinea, a half-guinea and five shillings for the most striking phrase, thought or expression from any book of the year.

(6) Three prizes of a guinea, a half-guinea and five shillings for the best "slips" made in books of 1935.

(7) A guinea, a half-guinea and five shillings for the readers who send in the best paragraphs on generous or happy incidents that occurred during the year.

(8) Three prizes of a guinea, a half-guinea and five shillings for a paragraph telling of the rudest or most ungracious incidents of 1935.

The entries for these contests will close in Wellington, Friday, November 1, 1935. Address all entries (stamped envelopes if you want them back) to:—

The Editor,
"Radio Record" Christmas Number,
G.P.O. Box 1680,
WELLINGTON.