

CANTERBURY NOTES.

Proportions Of Church Relays

Larger Denominations Occasionally Unrepresented on Sundays—Sports Relays and Attendances — License Round-up — Death of Prominent Musician — Percy Grainger Awaited.

THE "Church News" for October, in commenting on the broadcasting of church services, remarked that the two strongest communions, the Anglican and the Presbyterian, have occasionally been completely off the air throughout the whole Dominion on some Sundays, and expressed the hope that arrangements will be so co-ordinated that there will be always available for listeners an Anglican and, presumably, a Presbyterian service somewhere within reasonable range of a five or seven-valve receiver every Sunday. According to the "Church News" the Broadcasting Board has asked the local advisory committees to discuss the matter with a view to a rearrangement by mutual agreement. The advisory committees at present are not selected on the basis of the numerical standing of the religious bodies represented, and the

smaller religious bodies are able, if they will, to out-vote the representatives of the larger bodies. The Christchurch advisory committee, however, has arrived at an amicable arrangement whereby a larger number of Anglican Sunday services may be broadcast. No schedule has been published so far and the matter is in the hands of the Broadcasting Board, but no alterations are to be made in the Auckland and Wellington schedules.

AT the annual meeting of the Lancaster Park Board of Control, held in Christchurch last week, it was stated that there was no doubt that the broadcasting of matches has affected attendances. The retiring chairman, Mr. H. H. Wauchop stressed the fact that it is time the board laid down a definite policy in this connection, and unless this is enunciated there is liable to be confusion and nothing can be done to put the question on a proper footing.

USERS of unlicensed radios were subject to a round-up during the month, and many cases were heard before the magistrate in Christchurch last week. One of the cases was a man who went so far as to say that a radio license was unnecessary, and used to "twit" his friends for obtaining theirs. Needless to say his fine was fairly substantial. Another was a woman who had successfully evaded the inspector and got away with 20 months without payment of the fee, in the meantime returning the set to the vendor without any explanation. The imposed fines and costs in the latter case amounted to £42/6.

BY the death of Mr. Sidney Williamson, D.R.G.M. (Leipzig), Christchurch has lost one of its most prominent musicians. Mr. Williamson devoted the whole of his life to his profession and spent six years in Leipzig, where, after qualifying for the diploma of the world-famous Conservatorium, he engaged in private teaching and also gave a number of recitals in that city. Returning to Christchurch, he helped to educate the public in the works of the great composers, and as the pioneer of vocal recitals his sense of interpretation brought to many a new understanding of the works he presented. Some years later, Mr. Williamson again went abroad studying most of his time in London, and the different musical societies in Christchurch owe their high standard of production to the world-wide training of their capable conductor. Mr. Williamson was prominent in New Zealand as a judge at competitions, and for 11 years was instructor in music at the Teachers' Training College, and on his overseas visits took a leading part in class teaching in England.

LAST year Mr. Williamson was tendered a complimentary recital by the musicians of Christchurch, to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of his in-

auguration of vocal recitals, and his services, which were worthy of permanent record to many music societies. Mr. Williamson was for 17 years secretary of the Canterbury branch of the Music Teachers' Association of New Zealand, and his keen interest in raising the status of his profession was largely responsible for the passage of legislation providing for the registration of music teachers.

ALTHOUGH the N.Z. Broadcasting Board's charity concert in Christchurch on October 31 will feature the greatest celebrity who has performed at a charity concert, the prices charged for admission will be within the reach of all. Percy Grainger will be assisted by the Christchurch Harmonic Society of 130 voices, and a specially selected orchestra, and the concert itself will be a most outstanding one. The fact that it will be an all-Grainger programme denotes this.

AFTER Mr. Percy Grainger's all Greig piano recital on Friday, October 25, from 3YA, a programme from the B.B.C. will follow. This is a new one entitled "West End Cabaret," and will be the second new B.B.C. production during October, for many appreciative comments have been made on the excellent B.B.C. programme presented on the 8th, entitled "Old Words to New Music."

INCLUDED in the list of new releases to be presented from 3YA shortly is Richard Tauber in "Chanson de l'Adieu" and "When I was a Child," Marta Eggert (soprano) in "Impatience," "Tell Me Again and Again," Schubert's "Ave Maria" and "Serenade," and Harry Roy and his Mayfair Orchestra playing "A Mayfair Suite."

PROFESSOR JAMES SHELLEY and his company of players need no introduction, for the excellence of their presentations from 3YA, and on Thursday, October 24, listeners are advised to tune in to this station. For on that evening this talented company will present "The Fantastic Battle" with full effects, and, as every player is an artist, the play will be given full justice and a good interpretation.



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