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# The HOME forum

## POINTS FROM LETTERS

### Pat for Gordon

Drop Kick (Waimate) writes:—It gives me much pleasure to read listeners' letters in the "Home-forum," and I have taken a lot of notice of the hostile criticism some of the wrestling announcers have been subject to. But I don't agree with "Off the Mat," when he says that if Peter were in Wellington the grousers would think the present announcer was another Gordon Hutter. In my mind Gordon Hutter as a wrestling announcer cannot be excelled in New Zealand, and with Peter alongside him radio listeners are assured of a great night's entertainment if they tune in to Auckland.

### One or Other

W. J. Gough (Petone) writes:—In two recent issues of your excellent journal, letter-writers in the "Home Forum" have challenged critics to make a better job of announcing wrestling than Mr. Pope, of 2YA. I accept their challenges. If these supporters of "boloney" will make the necessary arrangements with the Broadcasting Board and Wrestling Association, I will describe alternate rounds with Mr. Pope, on two conditions: (1) That I am permitted to broadcast from the ring-side, and (2) that amplifiers be installed in the Town Hall, and the patrons, other than members of the association, be asked to vote in favour of one announcer or the other.

I think all fair-minded sports will agree that the above conditions are in the interests of the listening public, and may the better man win.

### Equal Chances

Kimball (Papatoetoe) writes:—It is with much interest that I have been following the various opinions of listeners about cinema organists, and would like to add mine. Like "Christie," of Dunedin, I am also a theatre organist, and am quite capable of expressing my opinion. "Christie" says that Toreh and Dixon have made records that Crawford could not make. Crawford could make them if he could get out of his slurring and swelling style, as he has an organ every bit the same—in fact, he records on the same organ in London.

Crawford's style conveys the idea that he is too lazy to change his effects. In my opinion the two leading organists are Reginald Dixon and Quentin MacLean. In his number, "What Would You Do," MacLean produces quite a new style, playing most of it, as it were, on tin cans. In concluding, I think that Reginald Dixon has reached the peak with his "Roberta" and "Mississippi" selections.

### Jesse's Playing

C Sharp Minor (Auckland) writes:—I have just read "Christie's" (Dunedin) letter about the organ argument in your issue of June 26. If he is an organist, as he professes to be, I am surprised that an organist would make such statements as he does about Jesse Crawford.

Jesse dumped the old style years ago, and started a new style of organ playing—the musical way. For absolute control of the organ and introduction of effects in the correct place, there is no one in the same class as Jesse. The real musical qualities of the cinema organ are heard when he plays.

I have had the privilege of listening to Jesse Crawford in person, playing a whole programme of organ selections,

which embraced practically every type of music. Has "Christie" heard the record of Crawford playing "The Storm," in which the drums and effects are extensively used? Perhaps it is not obtainable in this country.

Jesse Crawford is recognised by all unbiased organists as the "King of the Organ," and if "Christie" would like to learn a number of points in the correct way of playing a cinema organ, I would

## "Show Boat"

### Successful Relay of Film



SUNDAY night's programme from 2YA was relieved of the usual Sabbath solemnity by an enjoyable session provided from the film "Show Boat," which is to be released soon in New Zealand. Some good light singing of bright numbers was provided by Paul Robeson, Irene Dunne, Helen Morgan, Helen Westley, Hattie McDaniel, Allan Jones and Charles Winninger.

The tunes made familiar by the first filming of "Show Boat"—one of the early talkies—were repeated, and a liberal dash of new music was introduced. Jerome Kern was the composer, so the music has the stamp of good authorship, and the whole show went with a rhythmical swing, with some dialogue interspersed. The plan of taking "cuts" from a film and giving broadcast listeners a chance of hearing the music and songs first-hand has much to commend it, and "Show Boat" was probably looked forward to with considerable eagerness. Other stations will probably hear the same excerpts later on.

advise him to listen to station W2XAF any afternoon, when he will hear Jesse Crawford playing, as only the artist can. But perhaps "Christie" prefers to listen to old-fashioned and jumbled noises produced by the majority of organ soloists over the air in New Zealand.

### "Rugby-itis"

"Soccer" (Invercargill) writes: Does this country think nothing else than Rugby? It eats it, works with it, and sleeps with it, and consequently has grown a mania for it. When a wonder-