

The HOME forum

POINTS FROM LETTERS

Good Reading

George Jeffrys (Dunedin) writes: I thought D'Arcy Crosswell's "Lyttelton Harbour" was doomed to a few readers. The "Radio Record" and "To-morrow" created a stimulated demand, if only from the library. I would like to suggest that the space devoted to literature be increased in your paper, as I think that the more popular type of review and literary comment will find an increasingly interested reading public.

Critics

Peter the Greek (Matamata), writes: "Critics who write nasty letters about our wrestling announcers give me a pain in the neck. It's very unsportsmanlike to say the least."

"In every walk of life there are things someone can do better than others, even in wrestling. Some wrestlers are better than others, still the critics don't write letters in the Home Forum saying, so and so wrestler is no good, I could wrestle better than he can, and so on."

"I listen to every wrestling bout that's broadcast in New Zealand, and several in Australia, and I take such a keen interest in the match that I overlook a trifling mistake an announcer may make."

Swing

Tiger Rag (Raetihi) writes: May I add a little to the effort of "Swing" in your last issue? It is pleasing to know that the recordings of popular swing pianists are appreciated, at least by some. To the list of artists mentioned by "Swing" I would like to add the name of the late Bix Beiderbeck playing his own composition "Bixology," and also Meade Lux Lewis playing "Honky Tonk Train Blues."

As "Swing" says, "Fats" Waller deserves mention—the popular "Yeah yeah" singer is acknowledged by many as the greatest of all swing pianists—and his own compositions are very fine pieces, particularly "Handful of Keys" and the latter half of "Numb Fumbling."

I trust we will have more of these fine piano pieces.

Civil Strife

O.T.O. (Otorohanga) writes: Now that the Music Lovers' Competition is raging abroad in the land, tearing daughter from mother, lady from lover so to speak; (like a civil war, only in our household not so civil), it seems an appropriate moment for all good men to c.t.t.a.o.t.p.

Consequently could the 2YA daytime announcers make a habit of giving the name of the item after, as well as before it, following the custom of 1YA. Just imagine your feelings if you tuned in in the middle of that item you couldn't identify last Saturday and at its conclusion the announcer's laconic statement was: "That was a Columbia recording." Such scenes are really too, too painful to dwell upon... but you see my point, don't you?

[Yes.—Ed.]

Announcing Champs

R. G. Davies (Wakefield) writes: In reply to W. J. Gough (Petone), by all means make arrangements with the Broadcasting Service as well as the Wrestling Union, and let this miniature hurricane meet Mr. Pope. As to the announcing

of alternate rounds of wrestling, to be judged by the patrons (1) yes, give him a dicky seat on the ring post near to the exit; (2) be sure and have those amplifiers at the Town Hall as well as glycerine, throat drops, smelling salts, or his lady friend to hold his hand.

We listeners will be only too pleased to register our unbiased opinions or votes, whatever may be required by the promoter, and should W. J. Gough be proclaimed the winner over British Empire Pope it will be up to the Wrestling Association to see that Peter signs him up for a title bout against the champion, Gordon Hutter.

Why pick on Mr. A. Pope? How about 3YA's announcer? Most of the time he is repeating, "He may get a fall" or "he might get a fall" and so on. My advice to him is not to look for a fall so early. Leave that to the wrestlers.

Sporting

"Satisfied" (Owaka) writes: Your "Home Forum" page is always read by me, and although I refrain from writing letters to editors, I cannot help (after reading this issue), wondering what sort of a man W. J. Gough, Petone, is.

He says, "I think all fair-minded sports will agree, etc." to his suggestion. I, as a fair-minded sport, would not agree to such tactics. I listen-in to as much sporting as I possibly can, and in this out-of-the-way township I can tell you the sporting announcers are appreciated. When it comes to picking the best, well sir, Gordon Hutter of 1YA and "Whang" McKenzie of 4YA are the goods, but I also appreciate Mr. Pope and the rest of his colleagues because I realise that they are there to entertain us, so why criticise men who give of their best?

Mr. Gough does not live so very far from Wellington that he has to sit at home and pull people to pieces.

Days of Yore

Te Korero (Marton), writes: "I have been trying to work up sufficient bad temper to go crook at you, and now just when I am feeling fit enough I pick up this week's 'Radio Record' and see that Chostakoff is coming back. That lets you out. Still, I must tell you my upsetment (Frank). I have been a listener since before 2YA, and saw the first and most of the succeeding copies of the 'Radio Record.' There is one remark you make in your 10th birthday issue that upsets me

"In your article, 'In Ten Short Years,' you write: 'All manner of local artists were pressed out into service in 1927.' This reads to me as if these local artists were of no account. These old-timers were as popular as all the imported stars who are on the air now from the main stations, to the detriment of our local artists. Why do our own artists have to go overseas to get a hearing?"

"What happened to Clement May? I see a listener asking for elocutionary items when one of the best elocutionists we had in this country was forced to leave for lack of support. Now, Roy Hill is going to Australia. Good luck, Roy."

"The old-timer didn't complain so much, even if his neighbour did howl him off the air. No, sir! he used to open the door and listen to his neighbour's set in those days, if his neighbour had one, and not rush in and write to the papers and condemn the broadcasting authority."

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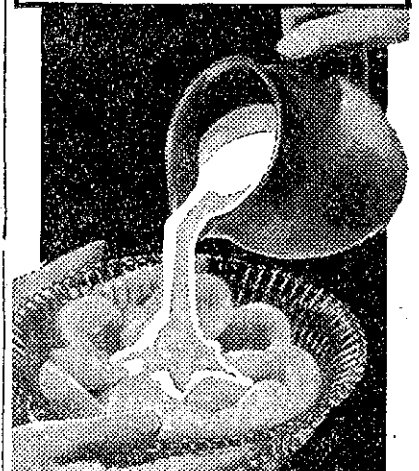
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