

The Home Forum

Sandy Or Gillie

Constant Reader (Devonport): A slap on the wrist for editor of "In the Wake of the Week's Broadcasts." He expresses annoyance at Sandy Powell's record being played before Gillie Potter. In his opinion 3YA kept the best till last, but, although Gillie Potter is a fine comedian, I think he would find Sandy Powell has a much larger following.

Doesn't Like Daisy

H.G.W. (Hamilton): I read with interest the "Record" article "Not so Naive." What the writer says about children is right, but what about adults—those who belong to Chattering Daisy's Daisy-chain? I ask you, what is the matter with people, wives and mothers, who only line up for this sort of thing; and again what about some of the rubbish one hears from other female announcers, purporting to be the contents of letters written to them? Many are merely the outpourings of neurotic minds, which should be cured, not encouraged.

Scherzo's Criticism

Music Lovers (Wellington): In reply to "Scherzo's" drastic criticism of the "Orpheus Sextet," Radio Record" April 1, may I state that in my opinion, as with other musical friends of mine, criticism was both incorrect and unfair?

In the first place six women hardly

comprise a choir; secondly, the singing was well balanced and beautifully in tune, as the unaccompanied item proved. If there was any slight predominance it came from the contraltos.

We are not the only admirers of this excellent sextet. In conclusion, "Scherzo" should remember that helpful criticism is welcome; biting sarcasm is unconstructive.

Royalties And Players

Myles F. E. Wright (Wellington).—May I correct the misapprehension of "C.H.F.," who writes about amateur dramatic societies and royalties.

"C.H.F." devotes the greater part of his article to the defence of the royalties charged for performances of plays controlled by Samuel French. With these there is, as far as I know, no quarrel whatever. The royalty in question has been that charged, or threatened to be charged, for readings of plays by societies to an audience of members only.

"C.H.F." states that for royalties for readings to more than 50 persons there is a set fee of £1/1/-. "Jack Daw's" article dealt with the proposed charges, as set out by a Dunedin firm of solicitors, which gave royalties for readings on a sliding scale which reached the sum of £5/5/- for the larger societies. "C.H.F." has evidently been commissioned to reply on behalf of the royalty owners, and the fact that he has announced the reduction to £1/1/- (or no fee when the audience numbers less

than 50) suggests that already the royalty owners realise that their original demands were wildly excessive. These new charges, which are presumably authentic, represent some relief, but the position is still serious for the larger societies (the very large societies may have some chance of meeting the £1/1/- royalty).

One of the larger societies will read probably 30 to 40 plays in a season—the consequent charge of 30 or 40 guineas for royalties will make these readings impossible.

Incidentally, it is amusing to note that "C.H.F." complains that a good deal of "misleading information has been bruited abroad." Presumably this refers to the sliding scale of royalties for readings, printed in "Jack Daw's" article, which came originally from the letter sent out by Messrs. French's agents in New Zealand. If Messrs. French have seen the error of their ways, and decided to abandon the sliding scale in favour of the flat rate of £1/1/- to audiences of more than 50, there is no doubt that this improves the situation considerably, but why not frankly announce that this is the case?

"Smut"

A. E. H. Harrison (Auckland): I must protest against the letter of "Savali" in "Your Side of the Microphone" on March 18.

I object to the partially implied connection of sophistication with "smut," and I consider the writer of the letter stands self-condemned both by his inference that "an appreciation of smutty wit" is not evidence of corruption and his actual statement that "no one was ever corrupted by a risqué story." I am, I hope, an ordinary man, and as such I ask "Savali" whether he does not consider the youth of New Zealand (and its adults) already subjected to a sufficient mass of temptation under modern conditions.

BANISH MORNING TIREDNESS

by drinking at bedtime
a cup of delicious

'OVALTINE'

THE WORLD'S BEST NIGHT-CAP

'Ovaltine' ensures Sound Sleep and restores
Vitality while you Sleep.

TRY 'OVALTINE' FREE!

Send name and address, together with 2d. in stamps to the New Zealand Agents, Salmond & Spraggon Ltd., Dept. 51, P.O. Box 662, Wellington, when a free sample will be sent to you.

Sold by all Chemists and Stores, in three sizes. The large size is the most economical.

MANUFACTURED BY A. WANDER LTD., LONDON.