

## Our Mailbag

### A News Session Complaint.

THERE are a few things I would like to say that may seem a little nasty about the service given, in parts, to the 50,000 contributors of 30/- per year. There are certain results in sporting events that are eagerly awaited at news session time by many people. The news session is excellent, but there is a certain amount of carelessness in the announcing of same. For instance, to-night Mr. Announcer took something like a split minute to tell the world the results of to-day's trots at Auckland, thus giving nobody an opportunity to mark the paper for the benefit of those who were unable to listen. Country papers do not get the results of every meeting, as they go to press so early, but there is always the wireless to fall back on. If the most important of the YA stations is not going to improve its ways re racing results, it is not much to fall back on. 1YA and 3YA are much better at announcing this type of news. I am as annoyed as the proverbial meat-axe that I ever purchased a set when the results are given as poorly as they were to-night. It was almost as bad as the night we were told that Hector Gray was to motor from Whangarei to Wellington to ride at Christchurch, and then omitted to tell us the Whangarei results. A live news editor would look on this class of news as something in the nature of a scoop, as it would be beating the newspapers to it.

Another thing, would it be possible to get 1YA and 3YA put up several watts in power so that they could be heard by country subscribers during daylight hours. Don't say get a better set—I have a good one, and while 2YA leaves little to be desired on daylight work, it seems to me that the power is boxed up in one station to the detriment of the others. If listeners could get 1YA here in daylight they would have reason to hope for 100,000 listeners next year. I am annoyed about to-night's broadcast of news, and I know it, so you can discount my complaint a little, but as 2YA is our main station, we look to it for our news. Otherwise 2YA is, in my opinion, one

of the best and we would not be without it.—I am, etc.,

SPARTON SIX,  
Dannevirke.

### A Maori Appreciation.

AS a Maori student and sometime contributor to the press of the Dominion, I would tender my thanks for, and appreciation of, the courtesy of those gentlemen who showed me over the well-equipped and commodious premises, and for explaining to me the wonders of the equipment of 2YA. I have occasionally listened-in, but it was a peculiar treat to see and to hear at first-hand all that radio means. The hour that I spent there last evening was most interesting and profitable, for it included a lecturette by the distinguished Hare Hongi on Maori subjects which have a particular charm for those who take a deep interest in the study of the Maori race. Such lecturettes ought to assist listeners-in in the correction of the deplorable mispronunciations of our Maori names and place names, for example, Waitara and Taranaki, which we daily hear used as if spelt Wytarra and Tarranacky—mere tarradiddle. The long name Tetamataokiokingawhakatangitangihangakoauauatamatea, must have astonished some of your listeners-in; but that unique name was correctly given. It was a very happy thought to have the Lord's Prayer given over the air in Maori. I am not aware that it has been done before. Tena koutou katoa i te Tau Hou (Greetings unto ye all in the New Year).—Yours, etc.,

RORE JOHN JOSEPHS,  
Maniapoto Tribe, Te Kuiti.

## Relaying Trials

THE German Reichsfunk has obtained permission to instal microphones in the Berlin Law Courts with a view to relaying famous trials which may interest the general public. It is probable that the first transmission of this kind to be carried out will be that of the trial of the thirty Fascists who were arrested during the recent anti-republican demonstrations.

## Sporting Service

### Discontinuance Resented

THE fact that 2YA has discontinued its practice of giving sporting results during the afternoon and a summary at night has aroused a great deal of comment among sporting listeners. Following are letters of listeners registering their displeasure:—

HAVING returned from a three weeks' holiday in the country I am taking this opportunity of expressing our keen disappointment at the sporting service provided by 2YA during the holidays. No racing or sporting results were put on the air until seven p.m., and the sporting summary (a much appreciated service) was conspicuous by its absence. As no notice of the curtailment of these services was inserted in the "Radio Record" I anticipated the same wonderful service that was provided during the previous holiday season, and therefore purchased a portable set to take on our holiday. Our party of sixteen "sports" was very disappointed that the sports results had been held over till seven p.m. From what we have learnt since our return to Wellington, from numerous listeners, it is the Broadcasting Company's intention to adhere to the arrangement now in force, and I can assure you, sir, that if that statement is correct the company will lose a great number of licenses, persons who ask from radio only the sporting results and relays. The columns of the "Radio Record" during the past twelve months have contained some appreciative letters concerning the "sporting service" provided by 2YA, and naturally the action of the Broadcasting Company is causing considerable comment. When 50,000 licenses were obtained we expected improvements in the sessions, but the action of the company over the sporting from 2YA will do more harm than the officials are aware. We fully expected that this year the sporting authority from 2YA would appear before the microphone, and so bring the local station up to the standard of 8LO and 2FC, whose racing announcers are exceedingly popular.

I will look forward to a satisfactory arrangement being made, otherwise I will scrap my set, along with many others, before March next.—"Don't be Hard" (Petone).

HAVING installed a radio set for the boys in my stable some months ago I should like to know if 2YA is going to discontinue giving results of sporting events during the afternoon session. As a trainer of racehorses I have derived great pleasure from the sporting services from 2YA, and if it is abandoned my set will be useless. Several owners of the thoroughbred have installed radio sets for the lads in their stables, and the sporting sessions from 2YA are eagerly looked forward to. The practice of announcing when nominations, etc., close is appreciated, while 2YA's sporting announcer's reviews of fields has the greatest respect of the racing fraternity. I trust that the old order of

things will be restored soon.—"A Trainer" (Heretaunga).

WE have been accustomed to a very efficient sporting service from 2YA during the past twelve months, a service greatly appreciated by all sporting listeners. A bombshell was thrown into listeners' circles prior to the holidays, when the Broadcasting Company announced the abandoning of all sporting results until the 7 p.m. session and that the sporting summary at 10.45 p.m. on Saturdays is in future to be discontinued. The reasons are as follows:—The afternoon sessions are not to be interrupted, while the majority of listeners prefer dance music between 10.45 and 11 p.m. on Saturday rather than listen to a sporting summary containing as it does the results of all events held during the day and night, together with any later news of interest to listeners. I am sure the step taken by the company will have a serious effect on renewal of licenses. Not every listener takes out a license to hear music, and in my case the reason I took one out was to hear sporting information. The sporting commissioner at 2YA should have been proud of the way his sporting sessions were appreciated, as letters in the Press prove. Your suggestion some time ago that a sporting authority should appear before the microphone and discuss racing fields of meetings in and near Wellington was an excellent one, and worthy of favourable consideration from the authorities. When 50,000 licenses were obtained sporting listeners expected that your suggestion would be fulfilled, but what do we have? The whole service is now squashed.—H. M. Matthews (Johnsonville).

## Radio in 1929

### Great Advances

MR. JOHN V. L. HOGAN, radio engineer and inventor, writes of the accomplishments of radio in 1929 in "Popular Science." The growth of radio during 1929 has been not only in the improvement of technical processes and apparatus, but also in the organisation and extension of its services and in the adaption of radio principles to work in various other fields.

Public contact with radio is mainly through broadcast reception. Here the wide adoption of the A.C. type of screen-grid valve has provided receivers of greater selective ability and of exceptional sensitiveness; and it seems probable that newer developments will reduce the number of valves required in order to obtain the most desirable results. There is also a definite trend toward the use of automatic and distant-operated station selecting devices, which further simplify the manipulation of home receiving sets.

Efficient transoceanic telephone service has been shown to be adequate for relaying international programmes and international radio telegraph service has been expanded. On the American continent there is growing a network of point-to-point telegraphic service by radio. Even television has now been shown to be capable of simpler and more dependable practical applications than many had thought feasible.

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