

corporation should be absolutely prevented from engaging in trade. The men selected for the board of control should be of the highest standing, and should be appointed for a fairly lengthy term to enable them to carry their plans through to fruition. Such a corporation as was proposed would follow generally the lines of the British Broadcasting Corporation, which worked well in Great Britain. No financial difficulty need be anticipated, as an ample and increasing revenue was assured.

As regards the representative of the radio trade, he should attend meetings and keep in touch with the requirements of the trade generally.

Opinion of Listeners.

THE Minister: "Regarding the listeners: How do they feel? You gentlemen are in touch with them all the time."

Mr. Nimmo said that perhaps he was in a better position to answer that than anyone in the room. He had seen correspondence received by the "B" station in Wellington, and he was prepared to assert that the listeners were overwhelmingly in favour of a change.

The Minister: "You do not think public opinion would be satisfied if we extended the license?"

Mr. Nimmo: "I am convinced that the public are most emphatically opposed to an extension, and I would not like to be a member of a Government which proposed to give it."

Mr. McQuarrie: "As a retailer in constant contact with the public I can say that they are most anxious for a change."

[We are informed that other members of the deputation disclaimed any authority or capacity to speak on be-

Dealers Want a Radio Board

(Continued from page 6.)

half of listeners, but this was not embodied in the Press reports issued.]

The Minister's Reply.

THE Minister, in replying, said: "I am very pleased to meet you here, and to hear the views of a deputation which I am assured represents 95 per cent. of the capital invested in the trade. The question of future control

somewhat misleading. The value of this opinion could be tested by a plebiscite among listeners.

Views of the Trade.

WE have received from the Electric Lamp House Ltd. copy of a letter forwarded by it to the Hon. J. B. Donald upon the subject of the future of broadcasting:—

The Hon. J. B. Donald,
Postmaster-General,
Wellington.

Dear Sir,—We notice by Press reports that you have recently received a deputation from radio dealers affiliated to the New Zealand Electrical Federation.

While not wishing to either support or object to the opinions brought forward by this body, we certainly do not agree that the resolution has the "unanimous backing of the radio trade in New Zealand," as stated by one speaker, or that the deputation "represents 95 per cent. of the capital invested in the radio trade," which was reported as stated in your reply.

It would certainly be very interesting to know how many of the 900-odd (March figures) licensed radio dealers are connected with the federation, as it is beyond our imagination that there could be an unanimous or even a majority of 95 per cent. agreement on this contentious subject.

In conclusion we would state that we are in touch with dealers and the public throughout New Zealand, and we have no hesitation in stating that it would be very hard to find 10 per cent. of any one section who are in agreement as to how broadcasting should be controlled.

Trusting that you will soon arrive at the impossible—a solution to please everybody,—We remain, your faithfully,

Electric Lamp House Ltd.

Dealers and Radio Control.

THE circumstances surrounding this week's deputation of certain radio dealers to the Postmaster-General is not without its touch of unconscious humour. Mr. Harris, in casting doubts on the representative character of the deputation, tells us that eight members of the Wellington radio section of the Employers' Federation met, and by four votes to three carried a resolution approving Government acquisition and control of a business successfully run by private enterprise.

On the strength of the vote of these four men the rather extravagant claim was made that the whole of the radio trade was behind them, the resolution having been endorsed by the remainder of the radio traders throughout New Zealand.

There will be many other members of the Employers' Federation, in all sections, whose views on the subject of State ownership, control and monopoly would be worth hearing. The vast majority are flatly against any interference with legitimate private enterprise, and could present an overwhelming case against any such experiments, especially at the present critical economic juncture.

When one of the deputation made the astounding assertion that the listeners were overwhelmingly in favour

of the change, it was clearly a case of the wish being father to the thought. Nothing short of a ballot would reveal the exact wishes of the listeners.

The fact that the deputation urged the Postmaster-General to nationalise the "A" stations and leave the "B" stations to private enterprise proves that while they believe that Government control is all very well for the other fellow, their own business must not be interfered with on any account.—I am, etc.,—"Listener."

Chamber of Commerce Passes Resolution.

AT a meeting of the Christchurch Chamber of Commerce, held on June 3, general disapproval of the Government's intention to assume control of broadcasting was manifest, and the following resolution was carried:—

"It having been reported that it is the intention of the Government to take over the control of the broadcasting organisation in New Zealand, this chamber begs to request that no further Government departments be created for any extension of activities of Government departments in this or any field, which can be more suitably carried on by private enterprise."

Broadcast Jottings

THERE are now six "B" class stations in Dunedin working on daily schedules, and two more are mooted.

The subject for the debate between the W.E.A. and the Canterbury College Dialectic Society, to be broadcast by 3YA on August 2, will be: "That the Bachelor is happier than the Married Man." A lady is to be the judge of the debate.

A novelty turn by Professor Howzit-dum will be introduced into 3YA's programme on August 8. He will present a turn in radio legerdemain.

The subject for the debate between the visiting American debaters and the Auckland University team, to be broadcast from 1YA on Wednesday, July 15, will be: "That Imperialism is a Menace."

Mr. Frank Milner, O.M.G., Rector of Waitaki Boys' High School, will be the speaker on the International Programme from 4YA on Monday, August 8. His subject will be: "Education for International Understanding."

Special Notice to COUNTRY LISTENERS

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J. M. CALDWELL,

whose bass solos are always appreciated by listeners to 2YA programmes. Mr. Caldwell will be on the air on July 14.

is very important, and it has given Mr. McNamara and myself a great deal of thought. Certain proposals have been formulated, and will be placed before Cabinet shortly. As it is a Cabinet matter, however, I would prefer not to discuss these