

"Controversial Matter"

Broadcaster Restricted

SERMONS delivered recently by certain ministers in Invercargill threaten to cause the cancellation of the license of the private broadcasting station 4ZP, owned by Mr. R. T. Parsons. Information has been supplied to the Post and Telegraph Department that controversial matter, which is prohibited by regulation, has been broadcast from the station.

Mr. Parsons on Monday received a letter from the department demanding an explanation and reminding him that the broadcast complained of renders him liable to the cancellation of his license.

The breach alleged (says the "Southland Times") concerns the sermon delivered by the Rev. C. J. Tocker at St. Paul's Church a fortnight ago, the preached devoting his sermon to the question of the Bible-in-Schools Bill.

Mr. Parsons stated that he was much surprised to receive the letter from the department. He had not been aware that the sermon delivered by Mr. Tocker, which dealt with a religious topic, was in contravention of the regulations, but he had not permitted a sermon on the liquor question to be broadcast. While he was very glad to co-operate with the Southland Radio Club in the broadcasting of church services, he relied on the ministers not to abuse the privileges of broadcasting by dealing with controversial matters which were likely to jeopardise his license.

He stressed the fact that the department took a very serious view of breaches of the regulations, and one Auckland station had recently been closed down for such an offence. Although unable to give any indication of his policy for the future until the present trouble was settled, Mr. Parsons said that if station 4ZP were permitted to remain on the air, he would not take any action toward refusing to broadcast services, but he would require to have an assurance that the addresses would not contain controversial matter.

3YA Programmes

ADVANCE programmes for 3YA show some interesting bookings. Pupils of Mrs. J. W. Palk will provide a recital on September 2, and Miss Marian Woodhouse's Glee Club has been engaged for September 16. Bloy's Banjo Band, always very popular on the air, is shortly to give a Sunday evening recital. The Ashburton Salvation Army Band, which is a combination of high standard, is to give a programme from 3YA. Lovers of the piano can look forward to Sunday, August 30, when Miss Lucy Fullwood will play a movement of Rachmaninoff's "Second Concerto." This will occupy about twenty minutes, and, as played by Miss Fullwood, with orchestral accompaniment, will be exceptionally fine.

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Co-operating with "B" Stations

Progressive Action by Radio Broadcasting Company

A RATHER interesting message from Timaru appeared in the daily Press last week. This was to the effect that disappointment was being felt in Timaru at the decision of the Post and Telegraph Department not to permit the installation of a radio station in Timaru. The reason advanced by the department is that no further licenses are being issued at present on account of the future of the radio system being under consideration.

It is represented by those southerners who are keenly interested that this reason is not particularly valid in view of the relatively recent licensing of a "B" station in a northern city, presumably Wellington. Since that license was issued the position has changed somewhat, and speculation is current as to whether this decision by

the department means that under the future scheme for broadcasting "B" stations would be banned altogether!

THE departmental decision is particularly regretted by Timaru enthusiasts, because local interference in that town has been very bad for some time past. This led the local Radio Society to go closely into the question of investigating the possibility of installing a plant and operating a local transmission station. Approach was made to the Radio Broadcasting Company, which company promptly interested itself in the matter, and after investigation offered to lend the Timaru people an emergency transmitting set which it had on hand, and to arrange for the relaying of programmes from 3YA at regular periods. It was hop-

ed that this supplementary station at Timaru could be installed and commence operations on July 30, when 3YA will for the first time inaugurate a series of international programmes.

These hopes, however, were dashed when, on application being made to the department for the necessary license, permission was refused on the grounds given above. Briefly, the plan for Timaru was an adaptation of the scheme which has worked so satisfactorily in New Plymouth, where Station 2YB is operated by the Taranaki Radio Society with considerable success. The plant there was provided by the Radio Broadcasting Company, which also renders assistance in the matter of upkeep and operation.

THAT a certain amount of progressive co-operation with subsidiary stations in other centres is already in progress on the part of the Radio Broadcasting Company is shown by the fact that certain centres are already receiving regular programmes by land-line from main stations for re-broadcasting. This operates in the case of 1YA and Hamilton. A weekly programme is transmitted from 1YA by land-line to 1ZH, operated by G. S. Anchor, 165 Victoria Street, Hamilton. From 2YA, similarly, programmes are relayed weekly to Palmerston North and Masterton. In the case of Masterton, Station 2ZD, operated by W. D. Ansell, 25 Queen Street, re-broadcasts the programme for the delectation of Wairarapa and Lower Hawke's Bay listeners. In Palmerston North, Station 2ZF, operated by the Manawatu Radio Club from their premises in King Street, renders a like service to Manawatu residents. In the case of Invercargill, Station 4YA transmits by land-line the selected programme regularly to Station 4ZL, operated by G. C. Batchelor, 130 Dee Street, Invercargill. It was hoped that Station 3YA would be able to render a similar service to Timaru, but the departmental decision for the time being puts that out of court.

It is also understood that application for similar services have been made in respect of both Greymouth (which would link with 3YA) and Napier (which would link with 2YA). The Greymouth proposition could not be put into operation because of no suitable land-line being available from Christchurch to Greymouth, and the Napier proposition was turned down on the ground that the lines were "inconducive."

The foregoing facts emphasise the degree of co-operation already being shown by the Radio Broadcasting Company with suitable and selected stations in provincial centres for the delectation of country listeners. In the case of Invercargill a special relay was run from 2YA through to Invercargill on Wednesday last, on the occasion of the Ranfurly Shield match between Southland and Wellington.

"In the Dark"

AN anonymous correspondent, commenting on the rendering of a certain item given by a band during a recent broadcast performance, which item was followed by "I'm Afraid to Go Home in the Dark," said he had his doubts as to whether it would be safe for the band to go home in the daylight, if the composer had heard his piece played and happened to be about.



Mendelssohn's Famous Oratorio

"Elijah"

will be presented by

Royal Christchurch Musical Society

under the conductorship of

Mr. W. G. Dixon, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M.

from 3 YA

August 5