

Even at the conclusion of his letter he has a fling at one of our congenial announcers. I cannot see what exception can be taken to an announcer bidding "G-o-o-d-night" to his many listeners. If the fact were known the writer in question may have his little peculiarities and many of his friends take no notice of them. Why, then, does he draw such pointed attention to such a triviality through the columns of your valuable and instructive paper?—I am, etc., Observer (Invercargill).

#### Lighter Dinner Music.

I SHOULD like to join with those asking for lighter and more tuneful dinner music. I can enjoy heavy music at certain times, but dinner-time is not one of them.—"Listener" (Cambridge).

#### Comprehensive Views.

WE would like to know a little more about the personalities of the announcers from the different stations. Mr. Drummond's photo has been published twice since I have taken the "Radio Record." This week's "Record" mentions Mr. Curry from 3YA. We do not even know the names of the men from 1YA and 4YA. Now these men are more than mere voices from the ether. We look on them as friends and would like to know them in the flesh. Here is an impression of them, how near is it to truth? 1YA, a man similar in build to Mr. Drummond, sharp and quick in his movements. 3YA, a man in the mid-forties, tall and thick set, deliberate in his actions. 4YA, a young man still in his twenties, not very tall, slim and boyish in build.

Now as regards to position, we are situated some 50 miles north-west of Invercargill. As regards reception, 2YA is the only station from which we can get satisfactory results, and even this station has been fading badly of late, say, for the last six weeks. 4YA is out of the question after sundown. Mr. Heavyside comes down very heavily. 3YA fades very badly and unless atmospheric conditions are good one has to open the machine to full capacity to get 1YA, and usually a large bunch of crackles and bangs. The B class stations I do not care about, except 2ZW, which gives some really good recordings. These are absolutely ruined, however, by two Aussie stations, one on either side. 7LA, Launceston, is one of the offenders. On one occasion recently when listening to a recording of 2ZW, one station was explaining the excellencies of ladder-proof stockings, and another of some kind of biscuit. This particular part of the band is a succession of whistles. If I have the time I'll try to sort out the stations and send you a list, as asked for. By the way, I have a seven-valve Steinite receiver, all electric.

Regarding the establishment of relay stations. The same thing applies to the Invercargill stations as to 4YA. After sundown they go porridgy. I think it would be advisable for the company to do some experimental work before deciding on the position of the relay station. This would apply to other places as well. Then, again, is 4YA's transmitting station in the best position, situated near the railway station in the lowest part of the city with high hills surrounding it on all sides, except to the ocean?

There seems to be a good deal of criticism of 2YA using 2FC as a criterion. If my memory is not at fault the population of Sydney alone is at

least two-thirds of that of the whole of New Zealand. That will naturally give their directors a far bigger scope for talent. 2YA is not by any means perfect, but we have to learn to walk before we can run. One thing—as soon as means permit—I would like to see at Wellington, would be two A class stations, even if some of the relay stations had to be held over in the meantime. This would allow both a serious and a light programme being run simultaneously, and might stop a lot of carp-



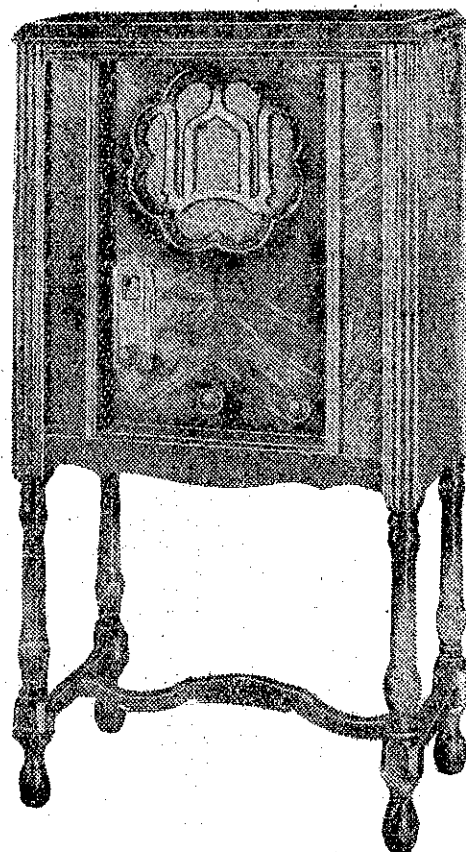
LOTTIE COLVILLE,  
a youthful vocalist, who broadcasts  
from 3YA regularly.  
—S. P. Andrew, photo.

ing. We all know that it is impossible to suit all tastes on any one programme. I would also like to see the dead half-hour between 4.30 and 5 p.m. at 4YA filled with music, preferably lively, from the old quadrilles, etc. I am selfish in this, I own, as I start work early in the morning and usually get home at 4.30 p.m., and in a week or two 2YA will be inaudible till after 5 p.m., and there is nothing like bright and cheery music to back one up after a heavy day. For the love of Mike, none of this doleful jazz—where someone is bleating like a sheep going to the slaughter—it makes one feel like going straight on and doing the slaughtering. In these days we need something of the old Scots' prayer, "Lord gie us a guid conceit o' oorsels."

I must say that what I have heard of the new international programme is miles ahead of the last. Unfortunately I did not get in until the second half. The pure nonsense of the Merry Quakers made me laugh till my sides were sore, and the finishing touch when one brother called on the orchestra to pick up their tempo—was it possible for men to play at the speed? How is it in whispers that the girl has such a harsh voice?

Now, regarding the proposals submitted by the company. They seem to have created a bit of a stir in the Empire City. Perhaps some people have an axe to grind, and others are so used to depending on poor old granny, i.e., the State, that they cannot see

(Concluded on page 28.)



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