

Comparisons!

COMPARISONS, it is held, are odious, but 2ZW during its children's session on September 9 endeavoured to make one at the expense of 2YA. One of the principals in the pantomime being staged, in speaking of a wireless set, said: "We used to listen to 2YA, but now there is a new station, 2ZW." This was followed by the set being turned on and 2ZW was heard coming on the air. Quite good stuff had the reference to 2YA been omitted. It was a childish act, and of course suited the occasion.—DX1W (Wellington).

Government Control.

THE Government appear to be led by a few traders and the so-called and very insignificant body, the Listeners' League. Could a vote be taken in the following manner?

A coupon be issued with the "Radio Record," and a small charge of, say, 6d., be made by your company to cover the expense of examining the coupons returned by listeners. The voter to have the opportunity of voting for:

(a) Continuance as at present but the proposed chain of relay stations to be erected.

(b) Control as on the lines of the B.B.C., as advocated by the Government.

To avoid any person sending in two votes, it should be required that the name and address, also the license number, be recorded on the coupon. They could then be sorted into numerical order, and any double voting easily traced. I am sure those who are at all seriously interested would not mind paying 6d. or even more to express their opinions. We do not enjoy good reception of the YA stations here in Palmerston North, but then one has to look beyond that and realise that it is not the fault of the R.B.C., who are undoubtedly giving a good service. I hope something can be done to ensure the continuity of the present system and done quickly.—"Taipo" (Palmerston North).

Varsity Debate.

WHEN I turned on the radio to-night my disgust knew no limits to find that there was a debate from 2YA. Now it is all very well to say if you do not like it turn somewhere else, as the static and general conditions to-night are so bad as to prevent one from doing so. Wellington listeners, too, would be in the same box, as it is the 2ZW silent night. It may be all right for the debaters to be afforded a chance to parade their views to an unseen audience who are not able to hit back and tell them how foolish they are, but for the poor old radio enthusiast it is no fun to be deprived of his little evening's entertainment. I must say I would sooner listen to one whole evening of clever advertising than such "by the way does not matter" stuff. If this is all that is learnt at college, well, let us shut them up and save the expense of maintaining them. I cannot imagine what the Broadcasting Company is thinking of to allow themselves to be pressed into putting this kind of thing on the air, especially at the present time when a certain section is seeking excuses to urge that the Government take over.—Broadcasting Company Wellwisher (Wanganui).

A Private Company.

I FEEL certain that we should be better served under a private com-

pany and think with Mr. Bloxham that were we under Government or board control, which to me is one and the same thing, that we should get too many talks. I am quite certain we get quite enough of them now. Your suggested plan of bringing in the listeners as shareholders is the best measure of control. One exception that I take is that the present company wanted the controlling interest in the way of appointing the chairman. I believe it would be best for the board to appoint its own chairman or for the shareholders to do so. Your suggestion was too one-sided.—George S. Philpotts (Carterton).

Acknowledgement of Reports.

IT has for some time been the practice of 2L2AX, Palmerston North, to reply to reports and queries from listen-

ers on Sunday afternoon after the N.Z.A.R.T. official broadcast. Last Sunday (18th) he informed us that he had received a letter (which he read) from the P. and T. Department warning him that periodical calls to listeners constituted broadcasting, which was not allowed on the amateur bands.

This deprives listeners of a valued service. He pays his license fee in order to enjoy the matter put over the air, and I fail to see why those who are keen enough to take the trouble to report should be denied the acknowledgement of their reports because the P. and T. Department makes a show of authority. As it is the duty of the P. and T. to protect the interests of listeners, they should encourage, and not hinder, any feature calculated to be of interest to listeners.



I think it would be an improvement if the R.B.C. included more music of the popular instrumental type, steel guitar, banjo, mandolin, etc., in its programmes. This sort of music is much appreciated, and I notice with pleasure that we are getting a little more of it.

Now for a surprise packet! I have actually caught 2YA's announcer making a mistake. On Wednesday (9/9/31), at 7 p.m., he announced, "Please stand by for the 8 p.m. chimes and the commencement of our international programme." Hi! Hi! Mr. Drummond. —"Third Grid" (Grey-mouth).

1YA International Programme.

IT is just about time some of these records found the scrap-heap. The last record played by this station on Tuesday, 8th, was a disgrace. One record was so badly worn that it repeated itself seven times in one playing. —Straight Flight (Mokai).

Future of Broadcasting.

MAY I add a few comments on the future policy of broadcasting in New Zealand from the point of view of the way-back listener? To fritter away a very large sum of money on a lot of tin-pot low-powered stations will benefit no one but crystal set owners in the immediate vicinity of the relay stations. All listeners in and around the four centres, also all the rest of New Zealand (except close to the relay stations), and all owners of valve sets near the relay stations will get practically no benefit from the scheme.

It would be of far greater use to increase the power of the four YA



This is how Albert Russell and Owen Pritchard, Wellington community songleaders, are conceived by a local schoolboy. These songs are becoming increasingly popular with both listeners and Wellington residents.