

Improvements.

THE 2YA good-night melody is a distinct improvement on the monotonous—though patriotic—tune of "God Save the King." I feel sure, also, that the vast majority of 2YA listeners will appreciate the return of Will Bishop with his vast repertoire of original humour. I strongly disagree with A.B. (Wanganui East). The YA stations broadcast religious services for only one hour each Sunday evening, and yet he complains that there is too much religious service! In his thoughtlessness he has no doubt overlooked the fact that there are in various hospitals and sanatoriums those who are unable to attend church services, and who eagerly look forward to the broadcast of the Sunday evening service. There is some type of musical entertainment from 2YA every evening (including Sunday, from 8.15 to 10 p.m.), and I think that this is ample. No doubt what the board does, it will never be able to satisfy everybody.

The Music Lovers' Competition came as a welcome diversion, and I hope that the board will inaugurate some other similar type of competition when this one is concluded.

Re this "Go-o-o-o-d night" business. Isn't it about time we stopped acting like a lot of sulky children and left the matter in more capable hands than curs? Personally, I think Mr. Drummond's Good-night is gradually becoming elongated again, and I do not think the board will object when it reaches its full development again. Let us wait and hope.

Thanks to the questionnaire, there will be a little less dissatisfaction re the programmes in future. As for myself, I prefer the whole-evening plays of the Victor S. Lloyd type, and I think that mezzo-sopranos should be abolished, but, no doubt, many will disagree with me, and I am willing that all programmes should have fair turn about. I do think that sketches and the like should get a little more frequently broadcasted than they are at present—they are not getting "fair turn about." —"Turn About—Fair Play" (Wellington).

Quarterly Licenses.

WHEN paying my Radio license I found that the full amount had to be paid; that the quarterly payments would not be accepted. Times are hard, and I am a working man, like many other listeners. For what reason are we not permitted to pay quarterly, as it is very convenient when one has a large family, and these hard times some of us at times will have to close down until the money is available. We should be given a little consideration and allowed quarterly licenses until things brighten up.—H. Nagel (Feilding).

Complaints.

LET all who complain read "S.W.C.'s" remarkably capable and sane epistle in "Record" dated March 24. Maybe then they will learn to understand and appreciate the broadcast entertainment that at present they condemn.

It takes all kinds of people to make a world, and all kinds of people have all kinds of tastes. The much abused Broadcasting Board has been absolutely satisfactory in its difficult proposition of catering for all these differing tastes—a proposition which I am sure not many of us would care to contemplate.

Our Mail Bag

While we welcome the expressed views of listeners on topics pertaining to radio, we ask that these communications be kept to minimum length, as heavy demands are made upon space. Mere reiteration of arguments cannot be accepted for publication, and we cannot take responsibility for views expressed. Address communications to the Editor, and sign all correspondence, though a nom-de-plume may be used for publication.

These dissatisfied members of the listening community would do well to remember that individually they are as drops in the ocean, and as no two of

to renew their licenses I guarantee, within a month, the Government would be issuing quarterly licenses.—Disgusted Listener (Auckland).

Religious Service.

YOUR correspondents W.S. (Inglewood) and A.B. (Wanganui), in their letters show a very selfish spirit re religious services. We have between 240 and 260 hours weekly from the YA stations, and out of that the religious services occupy 5 or 6 hours. Surely W.S. and A.B. are not altogether heathens that they want to deny the right of the churches their small quota of hours. There are hundreds of old people who look forward to these services who are unable to attend their churches. I'm afraid W.S. and A.B. have little or no time for anything that is uplifting. It is a pity they did not tune in on 1YA last Sunday night between 7 and 8 o'clock. They would have been better men (I don't think any woman would write such letters) and less selfish.—Old Age.

Short Wave Club.

I WISH to correct a statement made that a S.W. club was floated in Auckland on the lines of the club in Wellington. There is no short wave club in Wellington, but a branch of the very popular New Zealand Short Wave Club, which also has, by the way, a branch in Auckland, in charge of one of New Zealand's most enthusiastic short wavers. With the good service we receive from the club there is no



Mrs. B. Jellard

A favourite contralto with Auckland listeners. She will next appear from 1YA on April 30.
—S. P. Andrew, photo.

them seem to howl for the same thing, should be treated as such.

More than half their complaints are due to a complete lack of tolerance, and the rest to a complete lack of common-sense.

One man's meat is another man's poison, and I should suggest that those who cannot appreciate this fact should buy a gramophone and leave the ether clear for those blessed with broader minds, and your correspondence columns free from these depressing and inane complaints.—C.B. (Auckland).

Short-Term Licenses.

THE policy of the present Government is to cut down expenses, but when it comes to collecting fees it is like Shylock, and wants its pound of flesh. I am not talking politics, but refer to radio license fees. A lot has been written about quarterly fees. Owing to slackness of work I recently applied for a six-months' license, but was refused entertainment although willing to pay for it. I contend that the listeners have the remedy in their own hands. If 50 to 75 per cent. of license-holders notified the P. and T. Department that they did not intend

need for a separate organisation! In fact, New Zealand is too small to run a number of societies when there is already a Dominion concern which has done such good work here and overseas.
—R. E. Action (Wellington).

A Complaint.

"FAIR GO" complains that we are becoming too classical in that we have not been publishing the views of listeners and giving too much space to notes of classical interest. While it is regrettable that due to space reasons we have had to curtail our Mail-bag section this last week or so, we cannot agree that our paper is "going classical." Features which "Fair Go" complains about have generally been appreciated by others.

Morse Interference.

THE Broadcasting Board should keep firm control upon the many amateurs who are polluting the broadcast band with Morse signals during broadcast hours. It is unbelievable that for a small fee these pests should be permitted to spoil the reception of programmes, and poor old "Static" and "Atmospherics" should carry the blame that should be given to these interfering carriers of unwelcome discord who cause "rapid fading" and "funny noises." Only for "S.O.S." work should the air be taken by any of the small vessels fitted with wireless. There is ample time to practise when 2YA is off the air.—Disgusted 2YA Listener.

[Are you quite certain they are amateur signals? Experienced amateurs keep a fairly careful watch on their straying brethren and it is not often they are to blame for intrusion on the b.c. band. More often ship stations are the offenders.—Ed.]

Church Service Broadcasts.

FOR pure downright selfishness the people who protest against the broadcasting of church services hold the palm. This is, in name anyway, a Christian country, and yet these people protest against 1½ hours weekly being devoted to broadcasting the praise and worship of the Head of our religion. Do they in their desire for jazz and yet more jazz ever think of the unfortunate people lying on beds of pain and sickness to whom the broadcast of church services are a source of comfort and help in their time of need.
(Continued on page 22.)



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