

1ZQ Radio Club

To Resume Operations

THERE are several private stations in Auckland, and it would be impossible to say which is the most popular, but without doubt a large percentage of northern listeners tune regularly to 1ZQ. This popular station—its present rating is little more than 20 watts—has been until recently owned and operated by Mr. L. R. Keith, but has now been taken over by Atwaters Piano Company. The director of the company, Mr. B. S. Waters, is a very keen radio enthusiast and intends enlarging the station and extending its hours of operation.

While under the direction of Mr. Keith, the station at one time was faced with the prospect of failure. Not wishing so popular a station to go off the air, some 400 local listeners formed themselves into the 1ZQ Club, and kept the station alive. Now that Mr. Waters has taken over the management, the club, which for the past few months has been quiescent, is planning to commence operations again. While the plant was being shifted members of the committee co-operated with the new management and materially helped to get things going again.

The first meeting of the executive after the change-over was held in the congenial environment of Mr. Waters's home in Dominion Road last week, where some ten members were presided over by Dr. Pettit, president of the club.

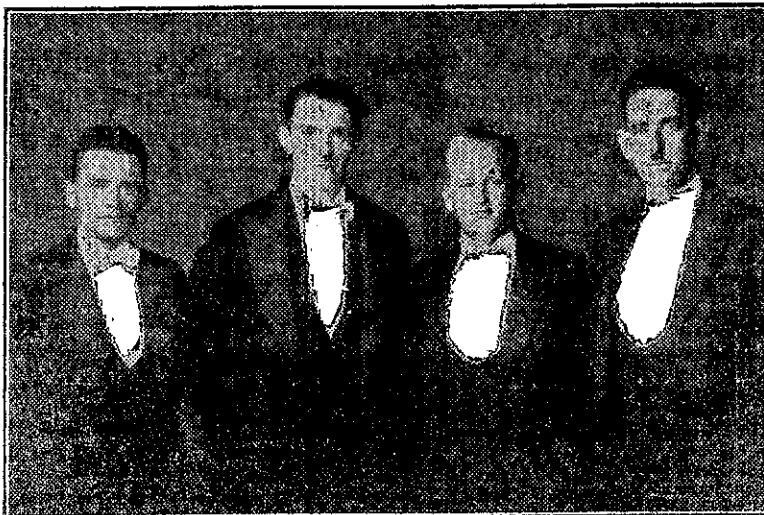
Many points were discussed and plans made for novelty surprise items to be broadcast from the station, all executives expressing desire to make the station the best in New Zealand. Mr. Waters briefly outlined the proposed extensions, and he was assured that in all matters pertaining to the station he would have the loyal co-operation of the club. It was decided to write all members advising them of the new status of the club, and at the same time issue invitations to see the station in operation. It was pointed out that many members had books belonging to the club, and it was desirable that these be returned to the secretary as soon as possible.

Members did not disperse at the end of the meeting, but fired, possibly by the immense field that lay before them or may be by the hospitality displayed by their host, remained to a very late hour discussing (mainly) radio topics.

A Maori Tongue Twister

WHAT is the pronunciation and meaning of: "Taumatawahakatangihangaokauauatanenuiarangikitane-tahu"?

This request was recently received by Mr. C. Drummond, announcer at 2YA, from one of the many listeners who look to an announcer to elucidate such problems for them. Of course, replies to such questions cannot be sent over the air, so the inquirer will not have the pleasure of hearing this fifty-three (Continued at foot of fourth column.)



THE HARMONIC FOUR.

J. G. Battersby, K. P. Eade, E. H. Quill and F. E. Mason, whose singing was a feature of the concert relayed from Hamilton to 1YA recently.

Distinguished Radio Artist Broadcasts Next Week

For some time now, Winnie Fraser has been an outstanding figure in New Zealand musical circles. Since her return from study in the Old World she has fulfilled engagements for musical societies from one end of the Dominion to the other, and has been enthusiastically received by concert hall audiences. Madame Fraser is also a popular radio performer, and listeners will welcome her on the air from 3YA on Wednesday next, April 27. She is equally at home in classical ballads, operatic solos or the lighter type of drawing-room songs.

Winnie Fraser is a daughter of the Rev. John Nixon, of New Plymouth. Her husband was the late Mr. J. Fraser, of Oamaru, owner of Wairua Downs Estate and manager for Wright, Stephenson and Company, Oamaru. His death occurred about a year ago, as the result of a motor accident.

After studying some years in New Zealand, Madame Fraser went to the Old Country and was taken as a singing student by Sir Henry Wood, by whom she was coached in many of the oratorios in which she has since sung with remarkable success. Later she went to Vienna to study, and there gave some recitals about which the musical critics spoke in most complimentary terms. She also travelled extensively on the Continent and spent some time staying with friends in Hungary.

In addition to being a highly cultured singer, she is also a very interesting and clever lecturer.

In London, Winnie Fraser was fortunate in attracting the attention of such a musician as Sir Henry Wood, who wished her to remain in London for his season at the Queen's Hall. Production was studied under Von Seer Muehler, in London, and also for a year in Vienna, under Professor Manzoni.

"Der Tag" (Vienna) wrote this of her recital: "Music is probably more available to the masses in Vienna than in any other European city, with the result that a Viennese audience is instinctively critical, and has little use for the second-rate performance. But it is quick to realise real merit, and for this reason a very warm reception was accorded to Madame Winnie E. Fraser. The fact that Madame Fraser sang entirely in English did not in any degree detract from the enthusiasm of the audience, which was insistent in its demands for encores, and was only persuaded to leave the hall at the close of the performance by a summary extinguishing of lights. Madame Fraser has a beautiful voice, and made the fullest use of it in a large repertoire including items from the modern German, English and Russian schools. Her voice is a strong soprano, and her low notes are exceptionally fine. The last two numbers were Maori songs. In common with all native music, that of the Maoris has a charm of its own."

Similarity of Names

Leads to Confusion

SIMILARITY in the names of people inevitably leads to confusion at some time or other. Such has occurred in the case of Gitta Alpar. An Auckland report stated that a lady of that name, who was of recent years sent to Europe by the people of Auckland in order to further her musical studies, is the same Gitta Alpar who is now an operatic star of the first magnitude. Two recordings by this Gitta Alpar were recently broadcast by 2YA.

It seems clear, however, that the Gitta Alpar, so well known in New Zealand, has not yet risen to the eminence of her Hungarian namesake and countrywoman. This Gitta Alpar is a member of the Hungarian State Opera House, Budapest, and has been a member of it for 15 years. She had a wonderful reception in London and New York some five or six years ago, and at present she has a twelve months' engagement with the Berlin State Opera House. She is married to Baron von Odon Spelnyi, a Hungarian nobleman.

Pooling Patents

Gramophone and Radio

SIX leading electrical companies have reached an agreement to pool their patents covering the manufacture of radio gramophones. The companies are the Gramophone Co. (H.M.V.), Columbia Gramophone Co., Marconi, Western Electric, British Thomson-Houston, and Standard Telephones and Cables.

The agreement marks an important step in the advancement of radio gramophone manufacture technique. It will also clear up a difficult situation, for prior to the agreement, it is stated, developments in the manufacture of radio gramophones were hampered by the danger of patent infringement. It is stipulated in the agreement that any manufacturer licensed to use the patents of the new pool must not import radio gramophones, and must make the instruments wholly in the United Kingdom. Some latitude may be permitted regarding the use of components, but licensees must conform broadly to the definition of the Radio Manufacturers' Association of "British manufacture."

Since the companies mentioned own the bulk of the patents generally used in radio gramophone construction, this stipulation gives a large measure of protection to British makers of radio gramophones and components.

lettered name running off Mr. Drummond's liquid tongue. The name referred to is of a Maori locality, twenty-six miles inland from Dannevirke.

As usual with Maori place names there is invariably a story (historical or mythological) surrounding it. In this case, a liberal translation of the name is: "The Ridge where Tane, Great Husband of Heaven, caused plaintive music from his flute to ascend to his beloved."