

STATIC

by
"SPARK"

WERE Mr. Karl Atkinson not such a true lover of music his lecture recitals would scarcely have that wide appeal, compelling as they do, the attention of those who disclaim any appreciation of the classics. I know quite a number of listeners who are now embryo music lovers through Mr. Atkinson's illustrations, and have been told that his brochure "Papa Haydn" (2YA) was another that had fastened itself in their memories. To induce calm repose, could not the stations have as closing-down melodies some of the beautiful trios?

COULD it be emphasised more that radio is an essential to every home, when rioting broke out in Auckland? 1YA rose to the occasion and kept all advised as to the condition of affairs, besides conveying to special constables the knowledge that their services were required to help in maintaining order.

THE amateur radio transmitters' mobile emergency station ZL2CA conducted a series of tests in the Wellington district recently and was remarkably successful in making contact. The tests, both in Morse and telephony, were in transmission only, but it is hoped that two-way communication will be arranged for very shortly.

THE Commonwealth Postmaster-General, Mr. Fenton, has announced that in the near future a new class of broadcasting station is to be established in every capital city of Australia. These will be known as C stations, and it is proposed they be used for high class entertainment only. Suggested broadcasts are grand opera, high-class orchestration and educational lectures. Assistance of the theatres and universities will be sought to raise the standard above the pot pourri at present given by the A stations. Should not the new stations be classed A stations and a rearrangement made?

RADIO is not an unmixed blessing. The farmer more than others must have felt dejected on hearing 2YA broadcast the last wool sale of the season. This in the middle of wool week, too, when town folk are doing their utmost to foster a wool sense—that is town folk excepting those associated with football clubs that have purchased foreign jerseys.

THOSE who heard Dr. Walter Boroman speak on the Problems of Population (4YA) were given something to furiously think about.

Japan, with its comparatively low standard of living able to exist only by industrial competition with Western countries, is a menace to us far exceeding any earlier Eastern migration. India with its literally starving millions is a palpable threat to us. I have seen miles upon miles of country that have been brought into cultivation by Britain's policy of irrigation and modern transport establishment, that has put off the evil day when dire necessity will prove that these measures were merely rigorous expedients. China, with her seething four hundred and forty millions, is a country as yet not over-populated, if we think of it in terms of agriculture. I have seen in Suland China again miles upon miles of territory that have never known the plough. But with her rapidly increasing population a period to this is already in view. British control here could temporarily put back the day when we shall have to fight to keep our entity—the League of Nations not withstanding.

IF you knew of someone who daily stole milk tokens or the newspaper, would you not conscientiously think yourself mean in not disclosing the fact? So what about that pirate you know of? In this country where there is so much "verboten" no one would wish to make it worse by creating a nation of "narks," but if some will not play the game fairly is it not up to you to help to make them. A word to the Radio Inspector

will always result in having the report investigated, and with the elimination of this form of sneaking the broadcasting service will respond accordingly.

ALL heard with regret Lewis Berger's good-bye from 2ZW on Monday night. Even "Mr. Heigh-ho" seemed disconsolate that his delightful little cameos had come to an end. There is a universal demand for more, and it is to be hoped that it will not be long before something similar is instituted.

MENTION by Captain Galloway (2YA) that the mosquito uses the envelope as a raft, when it emerges from the pupae stage until it has sufficient strength to fly, and that a puff of wind might have disastrous results to the young fully developed mosquito, should make Wellington people more firmly resolved to exterminate the pest. The only place in Wellington that I can think of where a mosquito can be hatched must be down the drain.

I HAVE been asked by many who know the "Big Smoke" if the pronunciation of Tyburn and Holborn has altered since 1760. I'll ask one. Does the Cockney to-day speak like Sam Weller? And another—A YA announcer pronounced Cardiff as a Welshman does—is that wrong? Before the war, when Britain's coal trade with countries bordering the Mediterranean was sub-

stantial, Cardiff was spoken of as a Greek colony and I have heard it undoubtedly mispronounced quite often. Terse descriptions of the place, however, whether in a pure or broken English, were always right.

GOOD news again! 2ZW is to be on the air on Saturday mornings and will in future observe Friday as a silent day. It is not everyone who wants radio morning, noon and night, but like the bootlegger's gun, it is wanted badly when it is not there. Saturday mornings have been dismal in Wellington. Congratulations.

THE simply told story of the work done in cosmic radiation research, Dr. D. B. McLeod (3YA) would have delighted the scientific listeners as well as those whose interest is merely inquisitive. One of the first workers in this branch of science was our own Sir Ernest Rutherford and so much has been learned, that the subject has now pros and antis. The school of thought, led by Professor Jeans, contends that the universe is running down and that these radiations originate in the absolute destruction of matter, whereas the contention of those who lean towards the reasoning of Professor Millikan, a great worker in the field, is that the universe is continually re-establishing itself. To further study the incidence of cosmic rays which arrive on the earth from all directions, Professor Compton, of the Chicago University, is to visit New Zealand in the near future, and make observations in the Mount Cook region. The rays are extremely penetrating, much more so than gamma rays, but experiments to determine their absorptivity through known thicknesses of matter, from which their wavelength may be discovered, have been widely conducted, and it is for this purpose that Professor Compton is visiting New Zealand. Exact knowledge of the absorptivity and wavelength of the rays is necessary to determine their origin and thus answer the question as to whether the universe is being destroyed or not. I shall look forward to hearing Dr. McLeod's next talk on "Astronomy."

I GATHER from listening to the Japanese stations that the authorities are making the fullest use of broadcasting to see that their nationals view from the right angle the attitude of Japan towards China. Japanese generally are not given to believing that every country but their own is right as do some of our peculiar people, and the officials ap-



"Cabaret Musicale"

—is the title of a variety entertainment, arranged and produced by Edwin Dennis, to be presented from 2YA on Thursday, April 28.