

Our Mailbag

Run By The Government.

AT the time of writing I am laid up with a foot injury, and to-day I have amused myself by consulting back files of your paper, and re-reading your "Mail Bag" columns. As anticipated I found that the majority of anti-Board criticisms originate at Auckland and Dunedin—places where there are many "B" stations. I am going to suggest that most of the criticism is so unfair as to lead one to believe that with ulterior motives it is desired at all costs to belittle the national service. A fair example of such matter is W.M.B.'s letter in your last issue. As a firm believer in the present control, and one who thinks they have worked wonders, I would ask W.M.B. to explain how he arrives at the fact that Government is running the service? He makes that plain statement, so I await with interest his explanation—otherwise I and no doubt a number of your readers will classify W.M.B. as another axe-grinder.—J.H.P. (Wellington).

A Challenge.

"ANTI-BOARD," in your issue of December 2, asserts that 90 per cent. of the programme items from YA stations are highbrow.

Now, Sir, you could arrange to check this up and my proposal is that if "Anti-Board" is correct I donate £5 to the Mayor's Fund, whereas should "Anti-Board" be wrong he gives the £5. Come on "Anti-Board" it's all for a good cause.

On demand, Mr. Editor, I will deposit a cheque for £5 as evidence of good faith.—"Anti-Humbbug."

Quadrant Taken to Task.

IN this week's "Record" there is a note by "Quadrant" with reference to my letter of the previous week. I am well aware of the fact that there are hundreds of

Nearly 86,000 Licenses

Steady Increase Maintained

THE steady increase in license figures shown by returns of the past few months is well maintained in the latest statistics, showing the position as at October 31. An increase of 1,299 over the previous month is registered, the grand total now standing at 85,961. Dealers' and amateur transmitters' licenses show monthly increases of 24 and 20 respectively.

	Receiving	Dealers'	Trans- mitting	Special	Free	Broad- casting
Auckland	24,380	358	132	2	107	6
Canterbury	13,836	228	144	1	51	3
Otago	10,789	162	88	1	37	9
Wellington	34,783	500	257	6	69	12
Totals	83,788	1,248	621	10	264	30

Grand total: 85,961.

millions of people in India and China, and would be pleased to learn in what respect conditions for broadcasting there are similar to those in New Zealand. In any case, those millions are not potential buyers of receiving sets. Great numbers exist on one meal per day and do not possess a place they can call their own home.

I understand that in some districts in India receivers are set in concrete pillar boxes for the benefit of the whole community.

I have no doubt that the English set makers have full information about possible markets, otherwise they could not have increased the export trade by 350 per cent. in one year, as stated in your issue of November 4. I would like to suggest that if you have any remarks to make in replying to your correspondents you should follow the rule adopted by other editors by doing so over your own signature or initials.—J. E. Horsfield (Nydia Bay).

["Quadrant" is an independent contributor, whose views do not necessarily coincide with our own.—Ed.]

W.E.A. Talks

(Continued from page 7.)

command. The W.E.A. has a network of existing country groups through which a knowledge of the talks can be spread among likely listeners. We have valuable publicity available also in the "Radio Record," which goes to many listeners outside the present ranks of the W.E.A. From the beginning of the present scheme last April, there has been a full page available each week, of which somewhat erratic use has been made. The committee suggests that more use might well be made of this, and that the most effective method would be for each centre to use the whole page once in four weeks.

More Continuous Series.

As a further encouragement to systematic listening, it is suggested that at least some of the series planned for 1933 should be of greater length

than those given this year—say 12, or even 24, talks. It may be mentioned that the only two listening groups so far formed by the W.E.A. in Auckland were formed in connection with a series of 12 talks on "Questions of the Day" in 1931. The groups resulted purely from repeated announcements over the air, plus notes in the "Radio Record."

Cyclostyled notes of the lectures (actually box scheme material) were supplied to members, a box of books was sent to each group, and a fruitful correspondence developed. Those 12 talks were all by the same speaker (fortnightly), but similar continuity could be obtained if series of 12 (or even 24), were taken by three or four speakers, each dealing with a particular aspect of the general topic.

The famous "Changing World" series put over twelve months ago by the B.B.C. provides examples of this sort of series—"Industry and Trade," a course of 24 talks in four sections of 6 taken by three well-known economists; "Literature and Art," a course of the same length, one speaker taking the first 12, and two others the remaining 12; "Science," with the first 6 by one man, the next 6 by another, the third 6 a symposium, and the last 6 by another man again.

From an educational point of view this B.B.C. series was an outstanding success, and may well serve as a model.

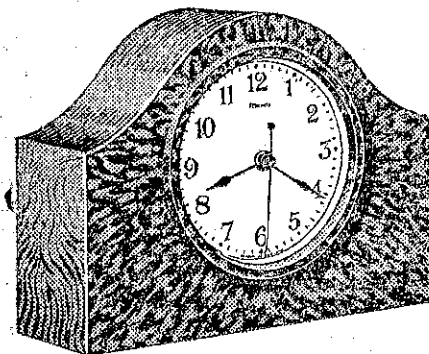
In conclusion, our thanks are due to the New Zealand Broadcasting Board, the YA station directors and staff, and the editors of the "Radio Record," for their co-operation with this educational step forward, and we hope that our excellent relations will continue in the formative years which lie ahead.

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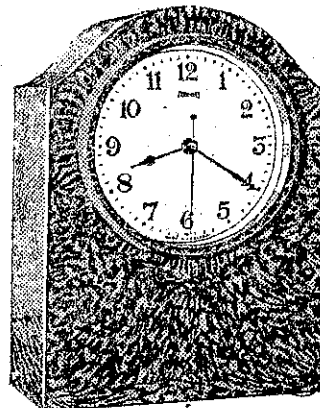
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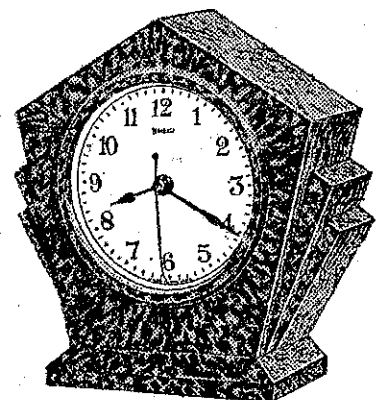
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