

BROADCASTING OF RUGBY MATCHES

Criticism of Union in Canterbury

CHRISTCHURCH is critical of its Rugby Union in regard to its attitude toward broadcasting of local club matches. The non-broadcasting of them has been felt, not only by the general public, but more so by the patients in hospitals and institutions who could have received a little pleasure.

At the union's half-yearly meeting on July 17 the Christchurch Football Club, the oldest Rugby club in New Zealand, decided to hold its annual meeting at least twenty-one days before that of the Canterbury Rugby Union, so that members could discuss the question of broadcasting club matches, and, if thought necessary, give a direction to delegates or frame a motion for the annual meeting of the union.

It is high time the clubs had a bigger hand in this vital question of broadcasting, and it looks as if something of a definite shape will manifest itself by next Rugby season.

Certainly the Rugby Union did remarkably well in providing a land-line at a cost of £80 to the Sanatorium on Cashmere Hills for the patients to listen to a broadcast of club matches.

Whether 3YA should donate a certain sum is a matter that cannot be discussed here. It is for the union to decide. One North Island Rugby Union received £50 from a broadcasting station, but it is not known whether it was given to charity or not.

Judging by newspaper reports, in some fields of sport broadcasting has been detrimental to the gate takings.

However, the matter of broadcasting will come up for consideration at an early date next year, and it is more than likely that some satisfactory arrangement will be concluded.

Christchurch Goes Gay

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church will put its social leg forward and the whirl will be a giddy one while it lasts. On Monday evening the Banks Peninsula Cruising Club will launch the evening gaieties with a dance in the Canterbury Automobile Association's rooms; on Tuesday the Christchurch Hunt Club will hold its usual Grand National function—an event for diamonds and ermine. A new fixture will make its debut on Wednesday evening—the Citizens' Ball, arranged by a large committee to assist the Mayor's Fund. Friday night the Caledonian Hall will become a Tyrolean beer garden for the Plunket Society's annual event. The society's dance last year, the Cabaret Comique in the Winter Garden Cabaret, was the most hilariously successful dance on the year's social calendar. On the same evening the Cathedral Grammar School Old Boys will hold a dance. As a conclusion to the week's festivities the officers of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve will hold a dance at their head quarters on Saturday evening.

DUNEDIN'S JUNIOR ORCHESTRA

A Most Important Musical Development

AT the beginning of this year a movement was started to form a junior orchestra in Dunedin, and the support received has exceeded the most sanguine hopes of the conductor and prime mover, Mr. C. Roy Spackman. Mr. Spackman has been, since his arrival in Dunedin some five years ago to take up the post of organist and choirmaster of Knox Church, music master at the Otago Girls' High School, where he conducts a large string orchestra. In addition to this he has a string orchestra at St. Hilda's Collegiate School for girls, where he is also singing master.

Realising that many girls were leaving school and wished to continue their orchestral work under his baton, Mr. Spackman conceived the idea of a junior orchestra to include ex-pupils of secondary schools, and also boys and girls who were still at school.

After a preliminary meeting of a committee of business men who are interested in the cause of music, and armed with a promise of a practice room free of charge, Mr. Spackman went ahead with the idea. A meeting of those interested was called, and over eighty people attended, including nearly seventy young people who were desirous of joining the orchestra.

These were all put through a test, and it was amazing to find the talent available.

At first the brass section was inadequate, but since practices started in March, this has been built up until it has become a very vital part of the orchestra. The wood wind section is particularly strong, while the violin section is a pleasure to listen to.

It is generally recognised that Mr. Spackman is doing a most valuable work in training these young instrumentalists to become experienced orchestral players. He has unlimited patience and an experience with junior orchestras that is perhaps unique, and his work will tell on the orchestral playing of Dunedin for many years to come.

The first part of the first concert of the orchestra was broadcast from 4YA on July 18, when the vocalist was Miss Jean McLay (mezzo-soprano) and Mr. E. Ottrey (bass).

The Broadcasting Board has made complete arrangements to keep listeners informed of the results of the racing at Riccarton and Addington during Grand National Week, and descriptions of the various events each day will be relayed from the course by 3YA.

For the three big races of the week the Grand National Steeplechase, to be run at approximately 2.25 p.m. on Tuesday, August 8; the Winter Cup at 3.55 p.m. on the same day; and the Grand National Hurdles at 2.25 p.m. on Thursday, August 10; all the YA stations will be linked by land-line. Listeners in all parts of the Dominion, therefore, will have an opportunity of hearing a broadcast description of these races as they are being run.

Results of the various races each day will be broadcast by the four YA stations each afternoon and again during the evening news sessions.

Australian Programmes

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8.0: Countryman's Session.

8.32: All Sporting Results: Acceptances and Barrier Position for V.A.T.C. Races at Caulfield.

9.5: News and "Herald" News Service.

9.15: "Wireless Up-to-date," by H. K. Love.

9.30: The Scientists' Contribution to Industrial Machinery: 3. Machinery and its influences on the Structure of Industry. Eric J. Ingram.

9.50: Dance Programme by A.B.C. (Melbourne) Dance Orchestra. Assisted by "Sundowners" Male Quartet, Marjorie Davidson (soprano), Alan Adcock, entertainer at the piano; and at 11.0, "Contrast Bridge—Biddable Suits" by Norman McCance.

11.45: News.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11.

7.45: Activities of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission: 2. The Beginning of Irrigation in Victoria. Mr. L. R. East, M.C.E., the Commission's Engineer.

8.0: Countryman's Session.

8.32: Sporting Results. Eric Welch will speak on to-morrow's races at Caulfield.

9.5: News and "Herald" News Service.

9.15: Gardening Notes: Given by Secretary of the Garden Week Committee (under the auspices of the Garden Week Committee).

9.30: Reading for Profit and Pleasure. The Reading of Fiction—The Short Story. Mr. W. F. Wainman.

9.50: A Programme of Schubert Music by International Ensemble. Kingsley Parkes (violin), May Broderick (piano), and Harold McKelvie (baritone), with a dramatic episode, "Revenge," by Honore Balzac.

11.0: Programme arranged by Victorian Music Teachers' Association.

11.45: News.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12.

7.45: Musical Reproductions.

8.0: Countryman's Session.

8.32: Sporting Results.

9.5: News and "Herald" News Service.

9.15: German Topics: Baron von Moller. Professor A. Lodewyckx.

9.30: Old Time Dance Night. Macduff Williams' Orchestra: Waltz.

12.30: News and Modern Dance Music.

OWING to the shortage of priests in many French country districts, requests have been made that masses might be broadcast and relayed through loudspeakers in priestless churches. But the Vatican journal "L'Osservatore Romano" lays down the Catholic doctrine that "to accomplish their duty the faithful must be present in a church where the mass is celebrated."

AN ingenious new method for discovering budding talent among prospective radio reporters has been evolved by Herr Richard Kolb, of the Berlin Witzleben station. News films are projected in the main hall of Berlin Broadcasting House and the candidates for microphone appointments are required to give as vivid a word picture as possible of what they see.