

A Page for Letters from Listeners



Was Announcer Biased in Walker-Oswald Match?

To the Editor.

Sir,—To-night we tuned in to the Walker-Oswald bout at Wellington, and according to the announcer, Walker was the only man in the ring. In my mind I think Gordon Gutter the ideal announcer, as he is always neutral, and we get a vivid description of the bout. Last Tuesday night the announcer at Christchurch was a Walker fan evidently, and the bout there consisted purely of Walker. In New Zealand thousands of wrestling fans listen in to the broadcasts, but a one-sided broadcast is far from interesting. Hoping to hear a fairer description of bouts in future from Christchurch and Wellington.—I am, etc.,

"LISTENER."

Lyndhurst.

Atlanta's Views On Dance Music Nine Years Late

To the Editor.

Sir,—Many thanks to "Avolub" for the support he has afforded me on the subject of the appreciation of dance music. In my previous letter I stated that I considered Ray Noble's orchestra a very fine one, but as I had exceeded specified length the statement was omitted.

"Atlanta" has taken me to task for stating that American bands are the finest exponents of dance music. Any student of the subject, however, will agree with me that "Atlanta's" opinion is misguided. The average listener cannot judge whether a dance record is British or American, and he cares less. Personally, I have never heard any expressions of hostility toward American bands, but any such that are made can be put down to ignorance. "Atlanta's" views on American bands are nine years out of date. Saxophones are very sparingly used as melody instruments on recordings nowadays, while perhaps the "brass" is over-prominent. Evidently "Atlanta" has not heard Duke Ellington's Band, judging by his "uncivilised din."—I am, etc.,

WELLINGTONIAN.

Christchurch.

A Very Dead Body Inside A Wireless Set!

To the Editor.

Sir,—In your last week's issue "Winch" mentions how radio inspectors, Messrs. Fly and Bumble Bee, perished whilst making an examination of the chassis of the radio set he was called in to service. "Winch," however, only found members of the insect world, but I can give an instance of a four-footed animal giving similar trouble, and possibly other correspondents will carry on until all the occupants of the ark are brought in.

A customer recently rang me up and asked me to go along and inspect his radio set. On my arrival he said that whilst

the set was operating all right he had to tune in quickly and then retire to a safe distance as the unpleasant odour coming from it was overpowering.

The matter was put right, by the removal of the remains of a large mouse, which was entangled in the wiring, and the customer was advised to go in for a smaller and cheaper mouse trap.—I am, etc.,

FINCH.

Raetihi.

Listeners' Letters Mostly "Up In The Air"

To the Editor.

Sir,—what a lot of egotistical grouchers write letters to the "Radio Record!" It seems that everyone of them is so selfish that he just wants the sort of programme that he likes—a "Hang you! I'm all right" sort of attitude. And for the most part their letters are well up in the air with little real constructive

could take on the job. Not one in a thousand is my guess. I am sure our announcers compare well with those in other countries, especially the genial (live of 2YA, who is outstanding in every way, and whose delightful voice is a treat in itself when it comes over the air.

Now, as regards grouching, there are one or two real things to grouch about. I note we have just passed the 100,000 license mark, and we still pay 30/- per year for our licenses. I think that the passing of this said 100,000 mark should be celebrated by a reduction in the fee. As far as I can gather we pay one of the highest fees in the world, and the time has now come when a reduction should be considered, as wage cuts, interest reductions, and so on have been the order of the day. Another "grouch"—outside interferences. What can we do about this? It is time some drastic move was made. We in New Zealand have to put up with a lot in the way of interference with radio reception that would not be tolerated in many parts of the world.

Now, for a selfish grouch. I fail to see why in Dunedin we need three B stations on the air at once, with 4YA going too. It means that practically a third of the dial is useless, and when all is said and done, there is room for improvement in programmes and transmission from these B stations.

However, to get down to bedrock, there are real things to grouch about. So instead of finding fault with programmes, artists, and announcers, why not try and improve matters regarding fees, interference, and so on.—I am, etc.,

C. RADIO II.

Dunedin.

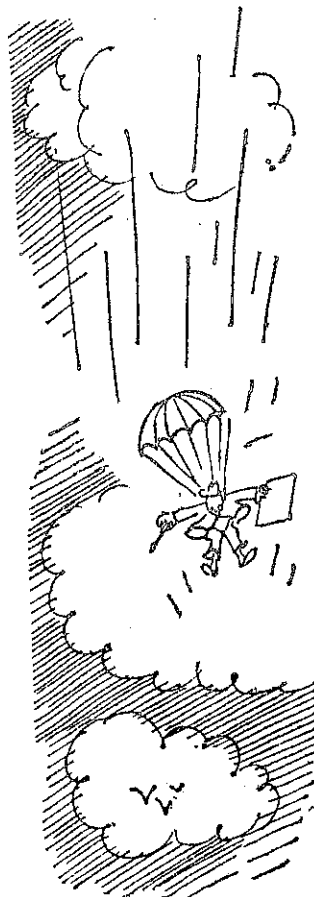
Alternate Jazz and Old Time Dance Numbers

To the Editor.

Sir,—As one who dislikes jazz music and jazz dancing, I offer the following suggestion for what is at present called the dance session on our evening programmes—one dance item to be old time, followed by a jazz item. At present it is a fox trot three or four times in succession, and then a waltz. Such an arrangement does not constitute a really enjoyable dance session, more especially out in the country where one's only dance floor is the kitchen, barn or woolshed.

I cannot agree with "Avolub" when he says people must be educated "up" to the subtleties of dance music, and haters of jazz would find themselves liking it. I could never be brought down to jazz, let alone 80 per cent. of a session of it three nights a week, as at present. I wish to be fair to both the liker of jazz and the lover of a properly balanced old time programme, and in this way only will the broadcasting of dance programmes please 90 per cent. of the listeners.

The Broadcasting Board by the marked improvement in every session, bar the



criticism in them. These grouchers do not seem to realise that there are 365 days in the year, and each YA station puts on at least three programmes per day, which means between four and five thousand programmes per year, and the stupendous and almost hopeless task of trying to please everybody. It is amusing to read how these grouchers try to criticise and find fault with our Board announcers. I wonder how many of them