

SOUTHERN STATIONS.

Rugby Union's Radio Boycott Ends

Satisfaction in Christchurch that Southland - Canterbury Match Was Broadcast — R.S.A. Choir Gives Good Dunedin Concert — Mary Pratt at 3YA.

A GREAT deal of satisfaction was expressed in Christchurch last week over the decision of the Canterbury Rugby Union to broadcast the Southland-Canterbury Ranfurly Shield match. As a result the Rugby body has been re-established in public favour. For a long time letters have appeared in the Christchurch newspapers over the attitude of the union toward broadcasting, especially club matches. The Canterbury Union, however, has a record of estimable service behind it second to none in New Zealand. Its charity day matches are generally arranged so that two of the best teams are competing at Lancaster Park, thereby ensuring a large "gate" for charity.

A HIGHLY enjoyable concert was given from 4YA by the R.S.A. Choir, the programme containing many well-known and popular glees, part-songs, and choruses. Under Mr. J. T. Leech, the men were kept well together, while the balance and tone, combined with good choral effects, showed that it has improved beyond measure.

SOME of the best choral numbers were "The Two Grenadiers," "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind," and "Come Away, Come Away." Miss Cecily Audibert was a charming guest soloist, singing in her usual artistic manner.

A PLEASANT surprise was given from 3YA on Monday evening, when Miss Mary Pratt, the Dunedin contralto singer, sang four songs in her best style. Miss Pratt has a beautiful voice, well produced, and always creates the right atmosphere, whether it be on the concert or over the air. Two numbers which showed off these qualities were "Praise of God" (Beethoven) and "How Changed the Vision" (Handel). "Braw, Braw Lads" and "There Grows a Bonny Briar Bush" were Scots songs that Miss Pratt knows how to sing. It is to be hoped she will give further songs over the air before going Home.

ANOTHER excellent B.B.C. recording, "Scottish National Programme," was presented from 3YA re-



cently. The Scots atmosphere was always present, and the singers of the best.

THE objection to the use of slang is its constant repetition, which indicated a miserable poverty of vocabulary. It could be witty sometimes, especially when used sparingly. Expressive

sive slang will no doubt find its way into the English language, said Professor F. Sinclair, at 3YA, in his talk on "The Romance of Words—Place-names and Surnames." Of swearing, he said there was less room for regret than the English were weak in that department of speech. In the English language it was almost impossible to swear. It was not always so. Prior to the Reformation, swearing was a common occurrence. Thomas Moore



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constantly embellished his writings with "In God's name," and many such-like expletives. It was the advent of Puritanism that put an end to these effects.

THERE are no swear words in the English language, but what are you going to say when you miss a train by two seconds? asked the speaker. He did not answer his own question. Surnames arose partly for nicknames to distinguish friends and enemies. Names were derived from the trades and professions of our forefathers, and some people had to suffer because of those remote gentlemen. There were many other subjects that gave surnames—hills, animals, crafts, localities. Unfortunately Professor Sinclair's lectures only covered the fringe of his subject, and it is hoped he will be heard later on, and give us more on this interesting subject.

DUNEDIN put on an ambitious programme of operatic excerpts on Thursday night, which should have been "sub-edited" before being put over the air. Most of the singers were students and not entirely at home with

a foreign language. Miss Claire Dillon, a good soprano, was easily the best of the women, while Signor Giovanni Stella sang the aria "On With the Motley" with good effect.

THE musical guessing competition organised by 3ZM proved to be well worth while, judging by the large number of entries. The names of the compositions were as follows:—"Electric Girl," "Serenade" ("Students' Prince"), "Estudiantina," "Hearts and Flowers," "Gypsy Love Song," "Canzonetta," "Falling in Love," "I Miss a Little Miss," "Minuet" (Bocherini), and a march, "Lorraine." The prize-winners were:—Mr. J. McGregor, 33 Gresford Street, Christchurch, 1; Miss E. Richard, 110 Manchester Street, Christchurch, 2.

MRS. L. B. SALKELD was heard from 3YA last week, and created a favourable impression with her soprano songs. It was her first performance, and her numbers, "The Sweetest Song of All" and "June Music" showed her to be well worth the engagement. On the same programme were the Hilo Harmony Four, but their instrumental numbers were not particularly enjoyable, being somewhat weak. The performance of the Christchurch City Harmonica Band on Monday compared favourably, and pleasing music was heard.

MR. JOHN STANLEY handed out some interesting matter from 3YA in connection with game in New Zealand, dealing especially with Canterbury. He spent a lot of time on deer and how it came to New Zealand. The chukor, which have been bred at Greenpark by the North Canterbury Acclimatisation Society, showed what could be done. There was a fallacy that the birds could not be bred outside of their native land of India, but Ranger Digby has proved the error of this. Through careful breeding he has a large number of birds, some of which have already been released. Quinnot salmon and trout were also covered. The first lot of trout ova came from Tasmania in 1874, and out of 20,000 only 40 hatched out. By careful transportation the next lot of ova gave better results.

LIVING in Borneo has many advantages and many disadvantages, according to Mr. C. O. Barnett, who gave an interesting talk from 3YA last week. Some native houses are built on piles over the sea, where the natives dump their rubbish and leave it to the outgoing tide to wash it away. One can imagine the stench which emanates from this rubbish. From a sporting point of view their main sport is Soccer, which they play all the year round and in a temperature of 90 degrees.