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An "Amend Honourable"

Auckland's Reply to Christchurch Community Singing Enthusiasts

Special to the Radio Record

BELOW we publish Auckland's reply to the storm of criticism aroused in Christchurch by our publication of a story that Auckland had broken Christchurch's community singing record. Auckland has made the "amend honourable."—Christchurch, what have you to say to that?

SO Christchurch is upset over the innocent paragraph I recently penned concerning Albert Russell's "£100 Sing," which netted a total of £111 10/7 for the Mayor's Fund! I hasten to let Christchurch know that Mr. Editor has to be blamed for the heading he placed over the top of that paragraph — "Christchurch Record Smashed!"

Albert Russell was the originator of community singing in New Zealand. He started it in Wellington over 12 years ago, and later introduced it in Christchurch, Dunedin and Auckland in that order. So he was responsible

in a large measure for Christchurch collecting £750 at their sings. That must be admitted. Our Albert, who has come to the Queen City to reside, has collected more than the £500 previously mentioned for the Mayor's Fund. The real figures are: In Auckland City (Town Hall day and night sings), £572/10/4 gross; Prosperity Week sing (not previously included in the £500), £75; and to this must be added £75 realised by Albert's sings at Whangarei and Hamilton. Add to this £32/10/- for the sale of books and curiously enough the total is £755 odd, £5 more than the figures quoted for Christchurch which were gross!

After all community singing is primarily conducted to give people happiness. It has received a new lease of life since broadcasting has been instituted, and listeners have contributed largely to the success of everybody's efforts. With the fact of happiness always before our minds, does it really matter how much money is collected by Christchurch or Auckland, or any other cities, because it might unfortunately finalise with the secondary consideration becoming the primary factor and having an effect of a detrimental nature to community singing.

No libel on Christchurch was ever intended and Auckland trusts that "Honour Due," of Richmond, Christchurch, will no longer be annoyed or indignant. Let's not make it a controversial subject. The Cathedral City will be the first to be congratulated by the Queen City if it raises a greater total for the relief of distress by means of community singing.

IT is reported that the R.K.O. Corporation have planned the largest studio in the world at Hollywood in anticipation of television becoming a household entertainment in the not far distant future.

A LESS COMPETITIVE INDUSTRY.

Few people are aware of the fact that there is an annual market in countries of the Southern Hemisphere for over £30,000,000 worth of softwoods, paper and pulp, yet there is not a pulp mill south of the line, because at present there is not a sufficiently large stand of accessible softwood forest to warrant the establishment of a pulp mill. New Zealand's greatest competitors in marketing primary products will become her best customers when N.Z. Perpetual Forests, Ltd., establishes the pulping industry in the near future.—Advt.



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