

A Page for Letters from Listeners

Australia-N.Z. Link-up for Armistice Day

To the Editor.

Sir,—Armistice Day approaches once again and now it is looked upon by the nation from a new viewpoint. To many thousands of youthful listeners the familiar strains of the fine old wartime songs are almost unknown, and the brighter side of life in the trenches is something quite foreign to them.

Mr. Hands is at present in Australia, and I would suggest that he make arrangements with the Australian Broadcasting Commission for a combined Australia-New Zealand national Armistice programme. The New Zealand Broadcasting Board would have a selection of eight Australian stations for rebroadcasting (2FC, 2WC, 3LO, 2CO, 4QG, 4RK, 5CL, and 5CK). Such a programme could be arranged by Pat Hanna with his Diggers, and would no doubt revive very pleasant memories for many Anzacs.

This suggestion could also be considered when the Australian national stations are broadcasting operas and the like. Let us at least have a rest from the mournful records one usually hears on Armistice Day.—I am, etc.,

JOHN C.

Nelson.

Why Not a Broadcast of a Debate Between Women?

To the Editor.

Sir,—More than once in the annual broadcast debate between Otago and Christchurch 'varsities, women speakers have gained commendation for the brilliance and soundness of their arguments. Would not this fixture, which is conducted by some of our country's finest orators, be a first-class opportunity for listeners to hear a debate on the widely-discussed subject, "Is it Desirable to have Women M.P.s?" a team of women students taking the affirmative and a team of men the negative. I myself would miss a Sam Weller swartry to hear it.—I am, etc.,

J. GRAY.

St. Albans, Christchurch.

"I Miss the Daylight Sport— There Must be Others"

To the Editor.

Sir,—"Tuai" is apparently looking for support concerning his grouch about the wrestling matches that were not broadcast. Here it is.

On two occasions within these last four weeks, wrestling matches were published in your splendid paper and were cancelled. Why?

I could tune in to sport any time of the night. I miss all the daylight sport, and there must be thousands like me who cannot leave their work to tune in just when they like. I don't enjoy a summary of a day's sport as much as I do the real thing.

Therefore, more sport at night, wrestling and so on.—I am, etc.,
ENTHUSIAST.

Marton.

Early to Bed—and Miss Many Good Items!

To the Editor.

Sir,—Quite frequently, as happens with to-night's programme from 2YA, the best portion of the evening's entertainment does not commence until after 9 p.m.

Having to rise very early in the morning, we must also retire at an early hour, thus missing the "cream" of the evening's broadcast. There are surely thousands of listeners other than ourselves who would very much appreciate an occasional change. Without any inconvenience to the programme organisers I think the special programmes (e.g., the R.B.C. recorded programmes) could be presented at intervals commencing at 8 p.m. instead of 9 p.m., as at present they almost invariably are.

Hoping this suggestion meets the eye and approval of the powers that be.—I am, etc.,

EARLY RISER.

Wanganui.

Earlier Broadcasts for People on Sick Lists

To the Editor.

Sir,—No doubt there are hundreds like myself who, being on the sick list, are unable to listen in late at night—quite apart from the thousands in the hospitals. If you examine the "Radio Record" back numbers and check up the programmes you will notice that when a star item is going to be broadcast it is always after 9 p.m.

Now, Sir, could you make use of your influence and see if the Broadcasting Board could not put these star items on say 8.30 p.m., when we could all enjoy them. As for relays it cannot be altered, but with items, say, like Will Yates and so on, could not they be put on earlier? If you can draw attention to this I am sure you will have the thanks of a large number of listeners, besides sick people.—I am, etc.,

DIGGER.

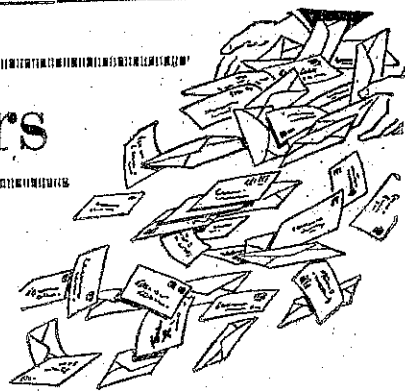
Pukeroro.

Competition Widened One Listener's Knowledge

To the Editor.

Sir,—I have found that the research work which I did in compiling the programmes in the various sections of your model programme competition has considerably widened my musical knowledge and helped me to appreciate works of which I had previously only a "nodding acquaintance." I feel sure that other competitors, whether they were prize-winners or not, will have benefited in a similar manner.

Of this I am confident—that if all those who, from time to time, rush into print to complain about programmes that are



broadcast from our YA stations had tried their hand at some of these competitions, they would have received their quietus.

The programme organiser's life is not all jam. His job is to devise new entertainment day in and day out, and day by day he sees his work of hours vanish, literally, into thin air in as many minutes. The wonder is that he can find time to be cheerful when he is responsible for turning out nearly 4000 transmitter hours of entertainment every year and has to satisfy the varying moods and tastes of thousands of listeners. There are approximately 100,000 licensed receiving sets, but although they pay the same piper, they should understand that they can't all call the same tune. Intelligent, informed, impartial, and responsible criticism is of immense assistance and is no doubt welcomed, but far too many of such comments one sees in the papers are stamped with personal prejudice or just plain ignorance. Criticism of programmes is far too frequently determined by the inability to conceive that other people's tastes and opinions do not necessarily coincide with that of the critic. Had some of these critics the least knowledge of the amount of thought and research that go into the compiling of a single programme, they would hesitate before rushing into print and displaying their lack of understanding. If your programme competition did nothing else than help listeners to appreciate this point, it will have been of benefit to broadcasting.

The proof of the pudding is in the eating and—occasional mild bouts of indigestion notwithstanding—the programmes provided by the YA stations are equal to any overseas programme, when the resources of the respective authorities are taken into consideration.

Wishing the "Radio Record" the success it well deserves.—I am, etc.,

J.D.

Hataitai, Wellington.

Correspondence

Letters to the Editor must be written in ink, on one side of the paper only, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication. As space in the correspondence section of the "Radio Record" is strictly limited, correspondents are asked to restrict their letters to 250 words or less. Writers who disregard these rules will excuse us from noticing their letters.

Moderation (Christchurch): We referred in an editorial some weeks ago to the fact that the Broadcasting Board has tested almost every worth-while performer in New Zealand with a view to radio contracts. In a small country the number of suitable artists is necessarily limited and, with increased broadcasting hours, the use of records must be extensive.

Rusticana (Palmerston North): The Post and Telegraph Department is responsible for the recent edicts concerning B stations. The Hon. Adam Hamilton is not a member of the Broadcasting Board,