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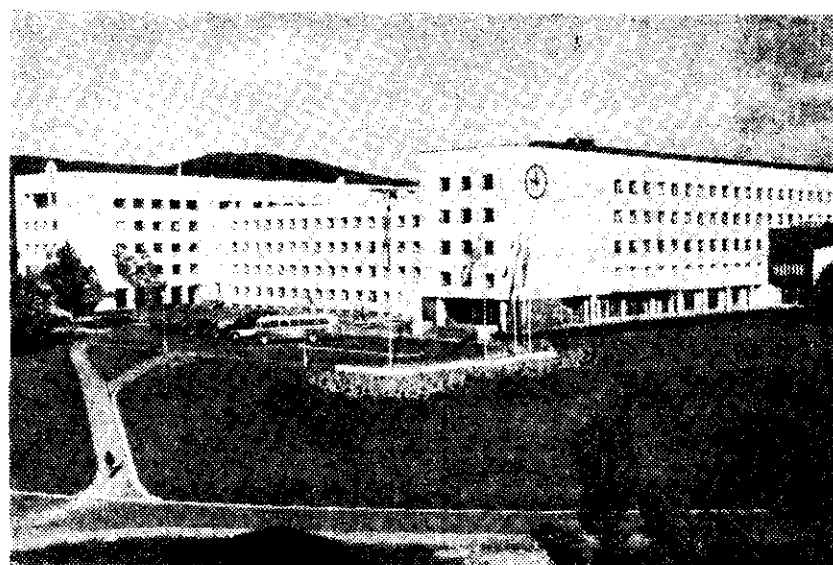
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NORWAY'S Broadcasting House—the Kringkastingshuset at Oslo—is the administrative centre of a broadcasting service similar in many ways to New Zealand's

RADIO IN NORWAY

A LETTER received by the New Zealand DX Club recently, ending "With best greetings from Norway, 'the Land of the Midnight Sun,' Yours faithfully, Arne Halvorsen, Shortwave Editor," was handed to *The Listener* the other day. It reveals some interesting points about the use of radio in a country topographically like our own. Mr. Halvorsen, who looks after the short-wave section of the Norwegian magazine, *Radio Teknikk*, says that in Norwegian broadcasting there are 350 persons "whereof 200 are in the programme department and administration, and 150 are technicians. Geographical conditions make broadcasting difficult in Norway because of high mountains and deep valleys, long fjords and unsheltered widths—features which prevent operating with only a few stations."

Like New Zealand Norway has 26 stations, in addition to the shortwave transmitters, and broadcasting is controlled from the Kringkastingshuset, or

Broadcasting House, at Oslo, serving out of a population of 3,217,000, about 710,000 listeners, by which Mr. Halvorsen means, presumably, licence-holders. The writer says that in a recent talk with Gunnar Nygaard, head of the Shortwave Division, he was told that the division had had many reports of good quality reception of Radio Norway in New Zealand, Australia and India.

All Norwegian broadcasting is operated by the State company, Norsk Rikskringkasting, and the new shortwave transmitter was opened on January 3, 1948, by King Haakon VII. The division has one 100-kilowatt and two eight-kilowatt transmitters. (Radio New Zealand was opened eight months later with a power of seven and a-half kilowatts.) Transmissions from Radio Norway are intended mainly for Norwegians abroad, but there are several announcements in English both at the beginning and the end of transmissions. In every session there is a concert of Norwegian music of various types, introduced in English as well as Norwegian, and on Saturdays letters from listeners are answered and request recordings are played.

The transmissions, according to Mr. Halvorsen, are opened and closed with "a very strong and distinctive stamp melody. It is built over the oldest halling—a Norwegian folk tune from the Halling Valley."

THE ROMANCE OF PRINTING

"OH sir, we are gone," read the cryptic note which William Colenso found by his printing press one day. It had been left there by the three Maoris he had been trying to train as printers, and with their defection he had to recruit men from one of the American whalers in port. Colenso was not New Zealand's first printer—that honour goes to the Rev. William Yate—but he was certainly one of the most colourful early figures. Since his day the business of printing and publishing in New Zealand has gone a long way, and the story of its development and modern manifestations is told in a series of five talks called *The Romance of Printing*, which will be broadcast from 2YA starting on Friday, January 6.

In the first talk A. E. Aubin describes "Early Printing in New Zealand," and he takes us from Yate's time to the

arrival of the first lino-type machines. As early as 1842, he says, there were nine newspapers in New Zealand, and amongst those early editor-printers there were some capable writers, men who weren't worried about the laws of libel and who when they did hit out always hit hard. In the second talk, "The Newspaper—a Modern Miracle," H. J. Sumptor describes how a newspaper is produced, and in the third, "The Story of Paper," Dr. A. H. McIntock shows how the manufacture of paper plays its part in the quality and number of books or periodicals we read. In the fourth talk N. G. Power describes how a printed book is made, and in the fifth J. A. McLean discusses "Modern Typography." The talks were written, under the supervision of Dr. McIntock, by men who are experts in their particular field.

N.Z. LISTENER, DECEMBER 9, 1949.