

NEWS FOR ALL LISTENERS

Innovations And Changes At The National Stations

The programmes published in this issue demand the close attention of all listeners. Several alterations to the timing schedule have been made.

Summarised, the points to note are:

The new timing of re-broadcasts of news from Daventry.

The extension of the broadcasting times of auxiliary stations to cover the period 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. so that they can be used as alternatives to re-broadcasts from Daventry.

The new timing for the broadcast of official news supplied by the Prime Minister's Department and British Official Wireless News, and the substitution between 7 p.m. and 7.10-15 p.m. of local news services compiled and broadcast individually by each of the four main stations. Following this will come the regular weekly book and garden talks, etc., from 7.15 until 7.30 p.m.

The new timing for the beginning of the evening programme—7.30 p.m. instead of 8 p.m.

The substitution for the Daventry news summary previously broadcast at 9 p.m. of the new twenty-minute "Newsreel" compiled by the NBS from all news received throughout the day: Daventry bulletins, British Official Wireless, news from the Prime Minister's Department, Press Association cables, extracts from talks, and official statements.

The new closing time, 11.30 p.m., instead of midnight.

The new method of treating programme arrangement during the day.

IN the beginning the broadcasting authorities put out programmes only as evening concerts, from 8 p.m. until 10 p.m. Then dealers complained that they were unable to demonstrate their sets to the growing market during the daylight hours. For their convenience a mid-day session was put on.

So they carried on. Housewives complained that no attention was paid to their needs. Sessions were introduced in the mornings and afternoons. Breakfast sessions followed. Farmers voiced complaints. The gaps between each session were bridged. The system became a conglomerate of sessions separately established and separately identified.

Under the old system, where the day-time programmes, and what may be called "in-between" sessions were regarded from habit as gap-fillers, "recordings" was an often repeated item in the programmes.

Different sorts of music came to be mixed. Listeners would hear a song one minute and a monologue the next.

Continuous Appeal

That has now been eliminated. During each day there will be set times for special sessions. The same balance between various types of music will be maintained, but each session of music, whether it covers fifteen minutes, or thirty, or an hour, will be continuous in its appeal. From its title, from the announcer's introduction, and from the music itself the listener will be able to tell immediately whether or no it is to his taste. If he likes it, he can be sure of getting the same sort of programme material over a definite space of time. If he does not like it, he or she can know to switch off or tune elsewhere.

The advantages of the new method of re-broadcasting news, or originating internal broadcasts of news and commentary, are discussed separately for the sake of clarity.

Alternative to Daventry

Until now, for listeners who have heard the news or want a rest from it,

there has been a hiatus between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. The NBS auxiliaries have been off the air. It was the news or nothing. In recent weeks 1ZM, 2YC and 3YL have been on the air during this period with the broadcasts of lessons in the Morse Code. The time for this special 25 minute programme from these three stations has now been altered to 10 p.m., and 1ZM, 1YX, 2YC, 3YL and 4YO will all be on continuously with music between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. At 7 p.m. another half-hour without music will begin at the YA stations, but here, as before, the auxiliaries will provide alternative programmes, and it will be 7.30 p.m. instead of 8 p.m. when the main stations begin their evening programmes.

The NBS Newsreel

Station notices and weather reports will be broadcast at 8.57 p.m., and at nine o'clock the main stations will hook-up for the "newsreel." This will be prepared by the NBS as a summary of the day's events. It will be a digest of all the news at present received and re-broadcast at different times. It will enable listeners to go to bed knowing that they are as up-to-date as they can be.

For the news broadcast at 7 p.m. each station will digest its own local news and broadcast it individually. National Service talks may come into this period.

News Broadcasts

Changed Timings For Daventry Relays

WITH the change in New Zealand from Standard Time to Summer Time, and the change in Britain from Summer Time to Greenwich Mean Time, the BBC have revised their timings for news broadcasts to overseas and New Zealand stations have adapted their programmes accordingly as from September 29.

With small exceptions, the BBC is reverting to its winter-time schedule for the Empire Service, but in New Zealand the opportunity has been taken to link these changes into the newly revised daily programme system.

News broadcasts will be heard from NBS stations at the following times:

A.M.

6. 0 News and news commentary (direct re-broadcast)
7. 0 Broadcast of recording taken at 6 a.m.

8.45 News re-broadcast (direct)

P.M.

1.15 Broadcast of recording of news received from Daventry at 1 p.m.
6.15 News (direct re-broadcast)
9. 0 N.Z. Newsreel (compiled from all sources—a review of the day's news)

11. 0 News, and topical talk (direct re-broadcast)

Change in Listening Habits

It will be seen that some change will be necessary in listening habits. Listen-

ers will hear Daventry news at 6 and 7 a.m. as before. They will, however, be getting better service. Previously these re-broadcasts had given news received at 5.30 a.m. or 3.30 a.m. The 6 a.m. re-broadcast will now come direct from London, and it will be given just while Britain is assessing the day's work. It will be repeated at 7 a.m.

Between 7 a.m. and 1.15 p.m. there are substantial changes. Instead of broadcasts at 8.30 and 9.15 a.m., and 12.30 p.m., with the 12.30 Headline News and Commentary recorded for re-broadcast at 1.15 p.m., there will be only one direct re-broadcast at 8.45 a.m. The BBC have changed what has been our 12.30 mid-day Headline News, and we shall instead be receiving a news bulletin at 1 p.m. This will be recorded and re-broadcast off the hour at 1.15 p.m., so that workers will have time to return home and hear it if their luncheon hour is 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

The timing for the evening broadcast is altered from 5.45 p.m. to 6.15 p.m. The 9 p.m. re-broadcast is replaced by the twenty-minute NBS Newsreel. This will summarise the day's news from all sources. It will put everyone who wants, to bed with an assurance that he or she is up to date with all items, knows just what the bag of 'planes has been for the day, exactly who said what and when.

For those with later habits, there is still a re-broadcast at 11 p.m. It is to be followed by a topical talk at 11.15 p.m.

Empire News Schedule

These are the timings for the BBC's Empire News schedule, from which the NBS has selected the items for re-broadcast here:

A.M.

00.30 News and topical talk (not broadcast here)
3.30 News and topical talk (not broadcast here)

6. 0 News and news commentary (re-broadcast, and repeated at 7.0)

8.45 News (re-broadcast)

10.45 News (not re-broadcast)

11. 0 Topical talk (not re-broadcast)

P.M.

1. 0 News (not re-broadcast until 1.15)
1.45 "Britain Speaks" (not re-broadcast)

2. 0 News and commentary (not re-broadcast)

3.30 Newsreel (not re-broadcast)

4.30 News summary (not re-broadcast)

6.15 News (re-broadcast)

6.30 Topical talk

8.30 News and commentary (not re-broadcast here, but used with other bulletins to compile the N.Z. Newsreel for broadcast at 9 p.m.)

9.45 Newsreel (not re-broadcast)

11. 0 News (re-broadcast)

11.15 Topical talk (re-broadcast)

Any news of outstanding importance received from London will be broadcast from main N.Z. stations at whatever time of the day it is received, and so that listeners may know when to expect it, it will be broadcast again at the hour following its receipt.

