

poses is not fully productive or meeting its cost, and the trend in this direction has been accelerated in recent years. That the Government feels this to be so is plain from speeches in the House, from the curb placed on local body borrowing last year, and from the emphasis which the Ministers put on the need to check further borrowing.

#### ARE WE TOO MOLLY CODDLED.

It is further open to question whether our easy money period has developed in our people the right morale. We are accustomed to receive from others, and pay ourselves somewhat extravagant compliments, but do we deserve them? Our people are of good quality, comparatively enlightened, clean in body and mind, and good tempered and upright. There is very little bitterness or corruption in either private or public life, but are we industrious and self-reliant, are we confident with the serenity that comes from achievement and understanding? To ask these questions is, unfortunately, to answer them. We have overdeveloped the paternal powers of the State, and allowed it to coddle us until we have become pathetically dependent on the community and entirely without self-reliance as individuals.

It is disquieting how every interest, every industry, and many individuals rush to the State for assistance in matters that have always been held to be the job of the individual himself. If we want to send athletes abroad, or build a new house, or get a problem investigated we run to the Government. It is also disquieting to find how every industry runs to the State for protection, and to find, also, how members of Parliament are prepared to grant that protection as a matter of course. Doubtless this is partly kindness of heart, and partly self-importance on their part, but what shall be the end of a country in which all industries run to the Government for protection, avowing that independently they cannot stand?

At the moment the gold industry, the timber industry, the wheat growing industry, and a host of small manufacturing industries are clamouring for protection. How can they all get it? Can we carry on if our industrial life is to become parasitic upon State bounties to a considerable extent?

#### WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH LABOUR?

We find also that the parties to our economic life are unable or unwilling to settle even their own internal affairs. No country has done more for the working man than has New Zealand, and yet we find labour pampered, sulky and discontented, and demanding maintenance en masse from the community. Neither employers nor men are willing to assume responsibility for what is peculiarly their own affair, the internal conduct of industry. This is shunted on to an artificial body, the Court of Arbitration, because the parties lack the ability or will to settle their own disputes, as they do in other more responsible communities. In this way both employers and employees are shielded from the embarrassing but healthy competition of new men and new methods, and the dead hand of bureaucratic uniformity is placed upon the flexible system of industry with paralysing effect.

We have been poor-spirited enough to buy freedom from industrial difficulties at the heavy price of industrial inefficiency. We have an uneconomic wage level divorced from standards of production, protected by the fiat of the Court, made possible by excessive protection to inefficient industries, and falling with a heavy impact upon the unprotected people outside, mainly primary producers and the commercial and professional classes.

#### UNFAIR TO FARMERS.

The effect of this on the farming classes is such as to arouse their just resentment, and to cause vigorous complaint from the primary producers at the present time. They are exposed to the full blast of world competition, and the atmosphere in which they have to work is perhaps over-bracing. They cannot pass on to their foreign purchasers additional cost due to the protection of industry and labour at home upon an uneconomic level. Supply and demand get them in what they buy, but do not aid them in what they sell. If they want capital they pay the economic rate for it, and that rate is now high. They sell in an unprotected market, but buy many commodities and services in a market heavily inflated by artificial protective expedients of every kind. They are, in effect, subject to a special tax for the benefit of labour and capital generally in our manufacturing industries. Crushed be-

tween the upper millstone of a declining world price and a high rate of capital on the one side, and the other millstone of artificially high wages and commodity prices in the Home market on the other side, their plight is made the more unenviable because of the fact that higher rates for capital and lower primary produce prices are forcing down the value of land, but not affecting the weight of mortgage. Inefficiency in other aspects of our life is bolstered up and sheltered at their expense.

#### BREATHING SPACE FOR FARMER NEEDED.

What is urgently wanted in this country at the present time is more breathing space for the primary producers. While they are not, as a class, in extremis, there is no doubt that their present position is far from enviable, and in particular it is difficult for them to get the capital necessary to improve their land and methods of production, and thus increase output, which seems to be the only way to increase the national income, since we cannot control the world price, and should not attempt to do so. There is little chance of increased production from New Zealand lowering world price levels to any extent, because our contribution to world supply is relatively small, and the market for primary produce is indefinitely expandable. Our correct policy is to produce all we can at the world price level.

As land values become stabilised, and that point is approaching, the position will become easier, though many individuals will suffer, and

it is greatly to be hoped that much of the capital that hitherto has been attracted to more or less dubious local body ventures may be induced to flow towards the land.

Considered schemes of long term credit, on the mortgage bond system, should establish themselves without much difficulty for investors in New Zealand, and it is urgently necessary, in the interests of our national safety, that they should, and that without delay. Unless our farming is sound the country is not sound; and if we are to improve our land, which to a great extent is virtually unimproved at the present time, we cannot make much progress in increasing the volume of primary production and lowering costs. If only a fraction of the capital that is either wasted or uneconomically spent by private individuals or public authorities in the Dominion were diverted to the land we could soon place the rural life of the country on a sound footing. What is wanted is not artificially cheapened money to boost values and foster speculation, but loans on sound farms to working farmers at the proper ruling rates for capital. This is quite within the bounds of accomplishment.

#### A LITTLE LIST OF NEEDS.

The following, it would seem, are among the most urgent requirements of our country at the present time:—

- Less private extravagance and more saving.
- Less eagerness on the part of public authorities to rush to the pawn shop.
- Fewer uneconomic public works by the Government or the local authorities, and the utter abandonment of obviously unpayable works.
- The abolition of special privileges to employers and workers by eliminating State fixation of industrial conditions, placing on the parties the responsibility for the conduct of industry.
- Greater economy in administration of the State and local body services.
- The elimination of overlapping agencies, whether educational, industrial or otherwise. No more duplication of harbours, transport agencies or educational establishments should be permitted. The whole problem of competing transport systems, i.e., road, rail and ship, should be carefully investigated and reported on by the experts of the State with a view to eliminating double service where advisable.
- A public opinion enlightened on the issues, and prompt to insist upon a revision of our national expenditure and policy in the light of the more difficult times we have now entered upon.

It is futile to blame Parliament or the Government. They may fail to give us a lead, but that is because they follow instead of leading public opinion, as democratic governments must necessarily do. The trouble with our rulers is not that they are unrepresentative, but that they represent too closely the ideas and wishes of the average elector, and he has been lulled by a generation of easy times into a point of view that is fraught with serious dan-

## STATION 2YA

### IMPROVING THE LAND LINE

#### NEW EQUIPMENT ORDERED

With a view to improving the land line connecting the studio with the transmitting station of 2YA, and to provide the necessary monitoring and control facilities at the station, new apparatus has been ordered from America.

There is at present on order from America further plant for the improvement of the Wellington station. It relates to the land wire between the studio and the transmitting station on Mount Victoria. The tests showed the company that this line is not perfect for the transmission of music. Therefore, without delay, the company placed an order in America for the necessary equipment. American plant was chosen because delivery can be secured in approximately seven weeks, as against 24 weeks from London. The American price, it may be said, is several hundred pounds dearer than the British. The long delay in the delivery of the British apparatus is due to the fact that certain of the units would have to be designed and tested, whereas the Americans have specialised in equipment of this nature. So U.S.A. had to get the order.

The purpose of the equipment is to provide further amplification at the radio transmitter end of the circuit, on account of the attenuation of the connecting link between the studio and the transmitting station. There are a number of factors involved. The transmission level over the connecting circuit must not be too low, or the ratio of noise to signal will be excessive. On the other hand, it must not be too high, in order to prevent interference with adjacent lines. Further, all non-loaded cable circuits, unless very short, introduce considerable distortion, due to unequal attenuation of high and low frequencies. In order to correct this distortion equalisers are installed at the transmitter end of the circuit, and these equalisers reduce the transmission level, rendering it necessary to amplify the signals before passing to the transmitter.

The main components of the additional equipment are the amplifier referred to, with volume indicating equipment to permit of the attendant measuring and regulating the level of the received signals, the equaliser, and monitoring equipment.

SEND  
IN  
7/6  
NOW!

The normal subscription rate of the "Radio Record" is 10/- per annum paid in advance, or 12/6 per annum booked.

As a special introductory offer we give all present listeners the opportunity of securing the first year's issue for a Subscription of 7/6

To permit of country readers at a distance accepting on this basis this offer will remain open to August 13, from which date our normal subscription will be 10/- cash, 12/6 booked.

Link up Now and secure your full programmes a week ahead.

#### THE RADIO RECORD

P.O. Box 1032, Wellington.

OR

22 Customhouse Quay,  
"Dairy Exporter" Office.

ger in face of present issues and problems.

Let us wake up, rub the sleep of artificial prosperity out of our eyes, start to think, and start to work. If we shake off feebleness and develop self-reliance we can tackle the problems facing us with a vigour that should give no ground for alarm as to the future.

## EMPIRE BROADCAST THE LISTENER'S VIEW

### MUSIC FROM LONDON

#### A DEFINITE POSSIBILITY

Without fixing any term or time, there is yet a definite possibility that in the future the back-blocks of New Zealand will hear the world's masters broadcast from London. British authorities are installing a short wave station for Empire purposes. A short-wave receiver is being installed at 2YA. The possibilities of rebroadcast are there.

There has been a strong demand of late that the British Broadcasting Corporation should establish a high-powered short-wave station for Empire broadcasting. The Broadcasting Corporation has given way to this demand, and it announced recently that an area of land and suitable buildings were being obtained at Daventry, near the long-wave British broadcasting station, for the erection of a short-wave station for communication with other Dominions. A promise has been given that the short-wave station will be operating before the end of this year.

#### On Short Waves.

In announcing the decision to provide the short-wave station the engineers of the Broadcasting Corporation pointed out that a perfect service from it to the Dominions could not be guaranteed. Reception at distant points would be subject to fading and distortion, and the period daily in which it would be possible to receive signals from the station would be limited in accordance with the positions of daylight and darkness. No wave-length for the station has been announced, but it will probably be between 30 metres and 40 metres. The fact that the station will be built near the Daventry station shows that the relaying of the programmes from the London station 2LO is being contemplated, as much of the programme from Daventry consists of the relaying of programmes from 2LO.

#### Beam Possibilities.

An alternative to the erection of a special short-wave station for Empire broadcasting which is receiving attention in Great Britain is the possibility of using the beam wireless service for this purpose. It is pointed out that, apart from the large saving in cost which would be involved, the service likely to be provided by the beam system when it is fitted with the promised telephony equipment would probably be superior to that from a short-wave station not employing beam concentration. Manufacturers of wireless apparatus in Great Britain are showing much interest in the proposal, and as a means for creating markets for Bri-

### SOME CANDID COMMENT

#### JAZZ AND OTHER MUSIC.

Correspondents write freely to the various New Zealand stations expressing their approval and otherwise of different items in the programmes. We quote just a few excerpts:—

"Just a note to tell you that your band concert was not worth listening to—and neither were the vocalists who varied it. The same opinion may be expressed about your piano and banjo items in the afternoon. This sort of trashy music does not give one much encouragement to put in a good radio plant."

"It is the opinion of the average listener-in that Monday night's band concert from 8YA studio is the brightest spot of the week's offering. Everything seems to issue from the studio with sparkle and colour. I'm sure we all feel under a deep debt of gratitude to the contributing bands."

"I am sure there are scores who, like myself, just hunger for music such as that broadcast last night from the Majestic Theatre."

"I will give you my opinion on your amateur jazz and fox-trot music. It is so hideously ugly and so badly played that I wonder you can endure to announce it. There must be something wrong with people who can make such a dreadful noise, even to themselves, but to bring it before the public is a painful nuisance which ought to be suppressed. I do hope that you will take my hint, which is well meant. I know you have to suit all classes of listeners, but I am sure the majority of listeners agree with me."

"Personally, we do not like jazz music and will be pleased when its era has passed. But no doubt it is popular with many, who have a right to their fair share of it."

"You often relay instrumental music from the picture theatres. It is much appreciated in this household. Could we not have more of this?"

[At times other correspondents have complained about the music from moving picture theatres.]

"I am one of the hundreds of listeners who delight in the Friday night organ recitals and often I have a dozen or more musical friends here to share with me the recitals."

[Here again other listeners object to organ recitals!]

"Thanks for Sunday morning service broadcast. It was much appreciated by two who were unable to attend a service."

"Now for a growl about Sunday broadcasting. Is it not about time we had something besides church services and music? It is a day we have more leisure and should enjoy some good music in the afternoon as well as in the evening. As far as I am concerned, the church services could profitably be cut out. At any rate, it is a bit over the odds that after the service you should go on to broadcast a service of song from the church. It is too much even from the Holy City."

Finally: "I do not find fault with your programmes, as I realise how difficult it must be to please everyone with a different programme every night."

ish wireless equipment in the Dominions it is likely that an Empire broadcasting service would receive a measure of financial support from manufacturers.

**The Two Biggest Things in Radio!**

**2YA WELLINGTON and ATWATER KENT**

**ATWATER KENT RADIO —**

FIRST in tonal quality, range, selectivity and attractiveness.

ATWATER KENT RADIO is BIGGEST in sales having passed the one million mark and well on towards the second million. IT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF. Let us demonstrate or send you particulars.

Illustrating Model "30" Six-valve Receiver and Model "L" Speaker.

**C. & A. ODLIN & CO. LTD. Wellington**  
N.Z. DISTRIBUTORS.