

U.S.A. BROADCASTING

GOVERNMENT CONTROL SITUATION

A recent revision of wireless laws and regulations in the United States has provided for the first time effective machinery for the control of wireless broadcasting stations. Until a few weeks ago the Government had practically no legal powers over the proprietors of broadcasting stations, and it was very largely by the grace of the owners of the broadcasting stations that the Department of Commerce exercised any control at all over the wave-length, power and working conditions of the stations. Under a new set of regulations, however, the powers of the Government have been greatly strengthened and the control of broadcasting has been placed in the hands of a specially created board, which has just been set the unenviable task of clearing up the chaos of interference which now exists in the United States, especially in the large centres. It has begun its operations by announcing that it intends to close most of the stations operating in the congested centres.

Drastic, but Necessary.

At first sight this decision appears to be rather drastic, but it is far less so than it seems. There are at present 68 different stations providing a service for the city of New York alone, and the board proposes to reduce this number to a maximum of 20. The 57 stations from which the listeners in Chicago receive their programmes will be reduced to about the same number as will be allowed in New York. The commission proposes to reallocate the wave-lengths of the broadcasting stations which are allowed to remain in these and other congested areas to ensure that there is sufficient separation between the wave-lengths of the stations to prevent interference. The location of stations will also be reviewed, and no powerful stations will be allowed in densely populated areas.

To Prevent Blanketing.

This will obviate the "blanketing" of all other stations by the presence of a single powerful station among a large number of listeners. It is intended also strictly to regulate the power of stations, and few licenses for "superpower" stations will be granted. The maximum power of the best classes of the ordinary stations is not likely to exceed the power of the largest of the Australian A class stations.

Selective Receivers.

While this general review of broadcasting conditions in the United States will undoubtedly greatly improve the service which listeners obtain, the period of chaos which has just ceased has not been without its value, because it has forced manufacturers to produce receivers the selectivity of which is not equalled in any other country in the world.

RADIO REFERENDUM

BRITISH LISTENERS' TASTES

Following the recent plebiscite on wireless programmes taken by the Melbourne "Argus," results of a similar plebiscite which has just been held in Great Britain by the "Daily Mail" are interesting. As the arrangement of the voting lists in the two plebiscites was widely different, it is difficult to compare the results in detail, but there are striking indications that the taste of wireless listeners in Great Britain does not vary greatly from that of Australians. Band music, first item in "The Argus" plebiscite, was third in Great Britain. The various kinds of orchestral and instrumental, all of which were highly placed in the final list of "The Argus" plebiscite, were grouped as one class of item in Great Britain, and came second. Interesting differences in the two results include the fact that, while dance music was shown to be very unpopular in Australia, it took fourth place in Great Britain. Various kinds of talks, which ranked fairly low in Australia, came high on the British progress lists. The full result of the British plebiscite is as follows:—

	Points
1 Variety and concert parties	238,489
2 Orchestral music	179,153
3 Military bands	164,613
4 Dance music	134,027
5 Topical and sporting talks and news	114,571
6 Symphony concerts	78,781
7 Vocal and instrumental solos	72,658
8 Opera and oratorio	60,983
9 Outside broadcasts	51,775
10 Short plays and sketches	49,657
11 Scientific and informative talks	30,919
12 Glees, choruses, sea chanties	30,445
13 Chamber music	27,467
14 Revues	27,059
15 Song plays	17,576
16 Readings and recitations	2,717
Total	1,285,083

LIMERICKS

There was an old man of Dundee
Who was horribly bored by a bee.
When they said "Does it buzz?"
He replied "Yes, it does!"
It's a regular brute of a bee."

There was an old man of Calcutta,
Who perpetually ate bread and butter,
Till a great bit of muffin
On which he was stuffing!
Choked that greedy old man of
Calcutta.
Sent in by J. Jordan.

LEARN ESPERANTO

In continuation of our Esperanto course, we publish below the fourth lesson of the series. It is pleasing to note that the course, which is being conducted in conjunction with oral instruction from station 2YA, is proving to be tremendously popular and evoking no small amount of interest right throughout the Dominion.

Readers and listeners are invited to make inquiry regarding Esperanto to "The Esperanto Instructor," N.Z. Broadcasting Co., Wellington, or care of "Radio Record." A stamped addressed envelope must accompany each inquiry, otherwise a reply cannot be guaranteed.

LESSON IV.

(To be broadcast August 25 from 7.30 to 7.54 p.m.)

The Numerals.

The CARDINAL numbers are:—

1—unu	9—nau
2—du	10—dek
3—tri	11—dekunu
4—kvar	12—dekdu
5— kvin	13—dektri
6—ses	20—dudek
7—sep	25—dudek kvin
8—ok	50—kvindek

100, CENT; 188, CENT TRIDEK OK; 1000, MIL; 1927, MIL NAŬCENT DU-DEK SEP; 1,000,000, MILIONO.

Nouns are formed from them by adding o—unu, a unit; milo, a thousand; dekduo, a dozen.

The ORDINAL numbers (adjectives) are formed by adding a (the adjectival ending) to the foregoing numbers: unua, first; dua, second; tria, third; kvardek-kvara, forty-fourth, etc.

The ORDINAL ADVERBS are formed by adding E (the adverb termination) to the cardinal numbers: Unue, firstly; due, secondly; trie, thirdly; oke, eighty, etc.

For MULTIPLES (in English: fold, as in hundredfold), add OBLO, OBLA, or OBLE, respectively, for a noun, adjective, or adverb. Duobla, double; duoble, doubly; duobla faden, a double (two-fold) wire; triobla, treble; trioble, trebly.

For FRACTIONS add ONO, ONA, or ONE; duono, a half; duona, half (adjective); duone, by halves.

For DISTRIBUTIVES use the prefix PO (at the rate of): po kvar pecoj por ĉiu, at fourpence (for) each.

For COLLECTIVES add OP; duope, by twos; unuope, one at a time, singly; dekope, in tens; by tens. La amikoj venis triope, the friends came in threes.

WORDS: Faras, makes; minuto, minute; horo, hour; konsistas el, consists of; sekundo, second; jaro, year; mi, I; dankas, thank; akceptos, will accept; ricevis, received; pago, payment; frako, franc.

Kvin kaj ses faras dekunu. Sesdek minutoj faras unu horon, kaj unu minuto konsistas el sesdek sekundoj. Jannaro estas la unua monato de la jaro, kaj Aprilo estas la kvara. Unue mi redonas la libron, due mi dankas, kaj trie mi akceptos novan. Kvinoble sep estas tridek kvin. Ok estas kvar kvinonoj de dek. Tri estas duono de ses. Por la unua tago mi ricevis kvin franojn, sed por la dua mi ricevis duoblan pagon (dek frankojn).

U.S.A. AND AUSTRALIA

A COMPARISON

A large batch of programmes recently received in Melbourne from two large broadcasting stations in America provides amusing reading for those accustomed to Australian programmes. They should at the same time prove a surprise to the few Australian listeners who find it necessary so consistently to criticise the programmes from Australian stations. The first thing that strikes the Australian listener when glancing through the American programmes is the fact that the hours of transmission are by no means so generous as those of the Australian stations. Slightly more time is given in the daytime to broadcasting, but as most of this is in the morning it is of comparatively little value. On the other hand, the programmes at night are often terminated two hours before a corresponding Australian programme, which concludes at midnight. An analysis of programmes for several weeks from one station showed that the latest in that time was finished at 10 o'clock. It began at half-past 8 o'clock. On many occasions the programmes were ended by 9 o'clock, while many were begun until half-past 8 o'clock. It is clear, also, that the number of performers employed in producing a programme is much smaller than at the chief Australian stations, many of which broadcast a more varied programme in one night than some of the American provide in a week. Practically all the American stations are conducted on revenue received from the broadcasting of advertisements. While some disguise the advertisements admirably without robbing them of their value the commercial nature of other services is objectionably obvious, and the general quality of programmes is very low.

THE PSALM OF RADIO

Radio is my hobby: I shall want no other,
It maketh me to stay home at night.
It leadeth me into much trouble.
It draweth on my purse.
I go into the paths of debt for its sake.
Yea, though I understand it perfectly,
It will not oscillate.
Its concerts and speeches, they comfort me,
Yet it will not work in the presence of my friends.
I anoint the coils with shallac:
But the tube spilleth over,
Surely the bug will follow me all the days of my life,
And I will dwell in the house of a radio fan forever.
— New York "Radio News."

The Children's Corner

By "ARIEL"

Dear Everybody,—What a lot of queer beasts I have had around me this week! Such a fine collection of "Howlers" that I just had to show you a few of them. The creator of the prize "bird" is Winnie Fraser, and she is to be congratulated on her bright idea and artistic ability, to say nothing of her gift of poetry!

Don't you all think her product a remarkably fine specimen? I am very, very proud to have him for the first inmate of our Zoo, and am looking forward for something equally good in "Smilers" from some one else next time.

To those of you who find drawing difficult I want to say—try and win the prize for the "Letter Competition"; and remember that neatness and good writing count for something, as well as nicely expressed ideas. So now set to work, all of you, and do your best to come out on top! Thank you all for your interesting letters. I love hearing from you.

My love to everyone,—Ariel.

OUR WIRELESS ZOO—No. 1, THE HOWLER

This is the prize-winning "Howler"—the first animal in our Zoo. He was drawn by Winnie Fraser, 2 Kipling Ave., Napier, I.B.



THE HOWLER.

This is the prize-winner's verse:—
There's a bird called a Howler
Who flies round by night.
He roosts on your aerial
And howls with his might.
He's hatched from a three coil
Un-neutralised set;
Or else from that other,
The old super-het.
So catch him, and keep him
From making a din,
When tuning your wireless
For listening-in.

—Winnie Fraser.

The following are highly commended for their drawings and verses:—

THE HOWLER.

The Howler, he's a snarling beast,
He's very often heard.
When smiling he is heard the least,
His looks are quite absurd.
If you're feeling sort of blue,
He is bound to meet you, too,
But if you just keep smiling
You'll never hear him whining.
—Margaret Crawley, aged 11.

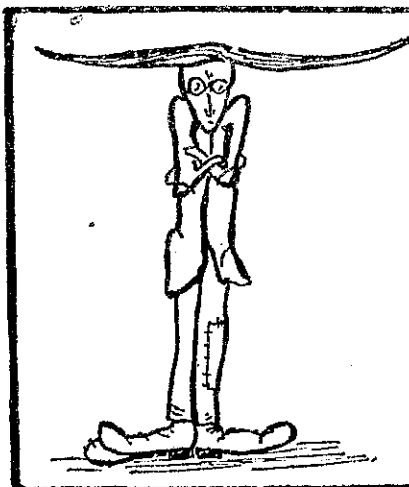
THE HOWLER.

Carntuna is this Howler's name,
She neither walks nor flies.
Electric currents are her food,
And coils she wears for ties.
In every set she runs around
And squeaky are her wheels.
She's cursed by other listeners-in,
For her unearthly squeals.
—Herbert Rice.

That the Howler will vanish from
Ariel's Zoo.
If he does, don't catch him, for
I would be far best,
To be quite rid of the horrid old
pest.
In the meantime just keep him in
check all you can.
And thus be a blessing to all Radio
men.
—Stanley H. Smith.

You have often heard the old Tom
cats
Whose eyes shine clear and bright,
As they scale along the garden wall.
When all is still at night.
And there they sit and mew and
spit,
And kick up such a din,
But that is nothing when compared
With someone tuning in!
—Frances Hicks.

The worst of the things I wish I
could snare,
Is this horrid demon that howls in
the air.
He comes out at night when we're
listening-in,
And starts to kick up his horrible
din.
They say that the best way to rout
him out,
Is to fasten his aerial down to the
spout.
So I mean to try this some night on
the sly.
With one that is causing some
trouble near by.



Some of the highly commended "Howlers," drawn by competitors.

"THE HOWLER."

I am the howl—
I howl each night
To set your nerves on edge.
I whoop and whistle,
Scream and moan,
And finish up with an ear-splitting
groan.
Seek me if you can,
I defy you, every man.
You'll never find my lair,
I'll howl, and howl, and howl,
To warn you that I'm on the air.
—Roy Mumford, aged 7.

GOOD VERSES.

The following verses are Highly Com-
mended:—
The Howler's a freak we do not like,
He comes far too often and gives us
a fright.
He's wonder if some day I'll be
quite true.

It makes me feel wild when our
music he spoils,
With his twiddling of knobs and
waggings of coils.
—Laurie Griffiths, aged 10.

The "Howler" is a dreadful bird—
Every night he can be heard.
Squealing, howling everywhere,
Chasing stations up and down.
Plugging all the sets to town,
Till at last in desperation
Listeners try another station.
—L. Workman.

THE MISSING E's

Here is a sentence of eleven words in
which all the "e's" have been left out.
Can you replace them and make a sen-
sible sentence?
WRIEVRPRFCTMNYCLVRCLRGY
MNTLLMWHN?

THE MAIL BAG

L. Workman.—Thank you very much. I am using your verse—it is so good. Yes, it is good fun making a Zoo. Your inspired "creation" certainly showed originality, but couldn't you draw one more live animal or bird? Try a "Smiler" will you? Am so glad you appreciate the advance programmes.

Kathleen Carson.—Your drawing is excellent, but the verse didn't come up to standard. I think your animal would make a good "Krytik," don't you? Write me a verse about a "Krytik," and we'll enter him for August 24.

Joan Kelly.—Try again, Joan. Your effort is quite good for such a little girl.

Frances Hicks.—Draw just one animal next time. Your verse is an amusing one.

Stanley H. Smith.—The idea is a good one, but you made him so "enormous"! I like your verse, though. Yes, I wonder, too!

James G. Johnson.—What a plucky little fellow you are! How old are you?

Marjorie Hills.—I hope you are not very disappointed. Try for the "Smiler" by August 17. Am glad you are so interested in our "Corner," and find the verses so entertaining.

Edward Roberts.—Do your drawing in ink next time, and please don't make him quite so large!

Lloyd Jones.—The animal is a good one, but he looks too harmless to cause much annoyance. Try again, and be careful about your rhymes.

Eric Mumford.—Perhaps you will be lucky another time. Aren't you proud of your little brother?

Walter Leslie.—Your verse is not nearly up to the standard of your drawing. Write a shorter one next time and you may be more successful.

Marion Woodhead.—Draw in ink, Marion, and watch your "poetry." The metre isn't very good, and the rhyme could be a lot better. Try again for the "Smiler" or the "Krytik."

Colleen Williams.—What a weird specimen! Try to get a "more alive" animal, and be a little more careful about your rhyming, and I think you'll be more successful. The idea is quite a good one.

Laurie Griffiths.—You were just too late. I like your drawing—it is so nice and neat, and your writing is beautiful. Try and post a wee bit earlier.

COMPETITIONS

1. Our Wireless Zoo—Drawing and verse:

"Smiler," closing date, August 17 (prize 5s.).
"Krytik," closing date, August 24 (prize 5s.).

2. Letter: "What I Like Best About Broadcasting." Closing date, August 24 (prize 5s.).

3. Painting: "Pokkit and Pykk." Closing date August 24.
"Kink and the Squizard." Closing date, August 31.
(Prize for each, a book).

RULES FOR COMPETITIONS.

1. Draw on smooth surface paper and use Indian ink, when possible.
2. Write on one side of the paper only.
3. Attach name, address, and age to each entry.
4. Use watercolours for painting.
5. Address all entries to "Ariel," P.O. Box 1032, Wellington, and post early.

TREE-MENDOUS RIDDLES

The answer to each of these riddles is a well-known tree. Can you guess their names? The first one is Date. Now tackle the rest.

1. This noble Eastern tree is important in history.
2. You have this one in each hand.
3. In every month you will find this tree.
4. The sea beats upon this one.
5. Although there is only one there must be two.

ANSWERS

TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLES.

1. Cherry.
2. Apple.
3. Peach.
4. Banana.
5. Melon.
6. Plum.
7. Date.
8. Pear.
9. Currant.
Answers to Muddled Names:—1. Robin Hood. 2. Lloyd George. 3. Robin. 4. Peter Pan. 5. Nelson. The King.
Answer to "What Am I?"—Jacksprn.