

experienced with IYA when first on the air. More fading here on 2YA than in IYA or 3YA. Daylight reception good. This listener has five years' experience.

Greymouth, five valves, a great deal of intense fading 8 to 9, slight but frequent fading 9 to 10.

Westport, several reports indicate a good amount of fading. One five-valver indicates considerably less than others.

Rangitikei, reception good, only slight fading occasionally noticeable.

Matanui (Westland), five valves, isolated one mile, considerably less fading than in Westport and Greymouth.

Timaru, several reports, a fair amount of fading, especially in the bad period 9.5 to 9.15. An eight-valver gets a good amount of intense fading, whilst a four-valver isolated half-mile, a five-valver isolated 3 miles, get much less than a four-valver not isolated. A six-valve set shows considerable fading; a very complete report.

A two-valver 60 miles north of Christchurch gets what appears to be an undue amount of fading for the distance from 2YA. This set is isolated a mile.

Fairlie, a good amount of slight fading.

Le Bon's Bay, reception on the whole splendid.

Chorlton, five valves, never had any trouble with fading in 2YA. Isolated one mile.

Ashburton, six valves, isolated 3 miles. "Reception good and conditions ideal owing to absence of static. Distortion practically absent." Slight fading charted.

Waimate, four valves, isolated one mile, slight fades in first half, then slight but prolonged at 9.2 to 9.5, and 9.37 and 9.45.

Hokitika, four valves, a fair amount of fading, especially 9 to 10.

Runanga, five valves, considerable slight fading. Shown on detailed chart.

#### NELSON.

Nelson: Reports from this district very variable as to amount of fading, some with practically none, others with fades every two or three minutes.

ntes. One records distortion at 9.0, 9.2, 9.31, 9.59.

#### MARLBOROUGH.

Fading very slight or nil in this district, averaging only about 60 miles from 2YA.

#### WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

Levin is the nearest centre from which reports have been received in North Island. No fading is experienced there, but "at times there was an inclination to mushiness, notably during the talk on 'Spitzbergen,'" but tone and modulation often could not be improved upon," states one report.

At Shannon also there is distortion and blurring, but no fading.

At Ohau an isolated set gets no fading. Distortion and blur not mentioned.

Pahiatua, 6 valves, isolated 4 miles, only a few very slight fades; 6 valves plenty of volume, distortion by morse, no static, some fading, chiefly after 9.0.

Marton: Never any appreciable fading since the station opened. Occasional distortion attributed to power lines. An isolated set received considerable howling before 2YA opened, but since then the nuisance has practically disappeared. Another owner states: "No fading since 2YA opened."

Tikokino: Considerable fading and swaying.

Hawera: "No fading from 2YA, but it is often mushy," states one report. A large set in an isolated position received no fading or mushiness either evening, and on both test evenings reception was better than usual.

Eltham: A report indicates only slight occasional fading, some probably caused by other sets. The report states that 2YA's modulation has become "worse and worse since the opening of the station."

Kaponga: No fading apparent.

Stratford: One report states that there is no fading of any consequence, but bad distortion and mushiness. "Tinny and mushy music, Australian stations also bad," says another.

New Plymouth: Reports are fairly unanimous in showing considerable fading. A two-valver with 'phones gets good strength and much less fading than the average, the fades occurring chiefly at the general bad periods.

#### REPORT FROM LEVUKA.

Levuka, one of the Fiji group, has produced a good report from an enthusiastic listener with a six-valve neutrodyne, using loudspeaker. Hearing from 2YA the announcement of the test to be held, this listener did not possess one of the charts as published in the "Record," so made a list of the items with fades and other remarks opposite. This has been compared with a report from Timaru, which was one of the very few that had the items marked against the chart. The fades on both charts seem to coincide, at least in a general way, but an endeavour will be made to construct from the report a curve that will compare with others. Levuka is about 1000 miles from 2YA, or about the same distance as from Wellington to Brisbane.

#### ITEMS FROM THE REPORTS.

An Otago listener says: "I think that the best hope of improving matters lies in experimenting with different wave-lengths, if possible. We noticed here a distinct reduction in fading from Auckland, when its wave-length was lowered."

A Hawke's Bay listener says: "I would like to make a suggestion, and that is: Has it ever occurred to the officials of 2YA that when IYA was working on 420 metres it was a failure in most parts of New Zealand, but since its wave-length has been changed IYA has considerably improved?" This reader has been studying wireless and radio broadcast for over six years, and his experience shows that signals between 400 and 430 metres are the weakest and most interfered with of any he receives. High praise is also given to the improvements carried out by the Broadcasting Company, and to the enterprise of the "Record."

A listener at Marlborough Sounds states that fading is not so pronounced there as blurring and distortion. Some nights the news session is so badly distorted as to be hardly worth listening to, and will be followed by a lecture, every word of which comes through perfectly. This listener thinks this points to the trouble not being always atmospheric. A six-valve set is used, and afternoon reception is "just about perfect."

A listener in Bay of Plenty, and another in Otago, both state that when 3YA is relaying 2YA, that if 2YA fades when picked up direct, no fading is experienced if 3YA is tuned in.

A listener states that he sometimes gets heterodyning from a five-valve set situated ten miles away. Another listener five miles from any other set states that "he rarely gets any howling, and then only faintly." Another reader with a five-valve set is six miles from the nearest other set, but thinks he can occasionally just detect a howl.

WLWL, the 5000-watt station operated by the Panlist Fathers, has acquired a plot of about one acre on the Belleville Turnpike, Jersey City, U.S.A., as a location for a 5000-watt transmitting station. The Federal Radio Commission has already granted WLWL permission to test with 2000 watts. In the event that no interference results, the station will receive the right to use full power. The new transmitter will be governed by remote control from the studios at Columbus Avenue and Fifty-ninth Street.

## Our Mail Bag

#### Sunday Services.

Pelorus Jack writes: "One of the bright spots in broadcasting up till last Sunday has been the Sunday afternoon concerts from Auckland, and I, and I know many others, are looking forward to the time when Wellington will be on the air on Sunday afternoons with secular music."

"Several letters have appeared in your columns recently protesting against the broadcasting of anything but sacred matter on Sundays; I would like to put the case for the other side, which is largely represented by the farming community, to whom the Broadcasting Company must look in the future for most of their new business."

"Radio to the farmer is very little use through the week except for the news and market reports; his wife, of course, can enjoy the afternoon concerts, which are excellent, but the average working farmer is not in the house in the afternoon, except on Sunday and an odd wet day, and further can't sit up all hours of the night listening in and be up at daylight next morning to milk the cows. Speaking generally, the farmers' only chance of hearing an afternoon concert is on Sunday afternoons, and if these are to be given over, as on Sunday last at IYA, to the broadcasting of Sunday School meetings, it is time to register a protest."

"As probably not ten per cent. of the farmers of New Zealand are members of any church, the Broadcasting Company can be fairly certain that any extension of the time already allotted to broadcasts of a religious nature will not be appreciated."

"No reasonable minded listener would object to the broadcasting of evening services as at present for the benefit of those who enjoy this class of item, but it is equally unreasonable for correspondents such as 'Miramar' and 'Crystal Set' to ask that Sundays should be wholly devoted to broadcasts of a sacred nature."

"While there are no doubt a few listeners who want more items of a sacred nature on Sundays, I feel certain that they constitute a small percentage of the whole."

#### Football Broadcast Appreciated.

W. B. (Cashmere): "I cannot let your very successful broadcast of the big football match in Wellington last Saturday go by without a word of praise and thanks to you; praise for the very successful efforts of your sporting operator, and thanks for the great pleasure and profit I derived from listening-in. I am sure many hundreds of others think as I do."

#### The Dunedin Station.

Southernite: I wish to express myself in favour of the suggestion advanced by "Backblocks" (Westport) about a 10,000-watt station in Dunedin; but, after reading Mr. Harris's rather unfavourable report regarding 4YA, I doubt if the Broadcasting Company will spend a large sum on improvements to this station. However, the suggestion advanced by "Backblocks" is worth considering. I have listened-in to fourteen Australian and New Zealand stations, and I do not hesitate to say that

the 4YA announcer is undoubtedly the best, and he certainly deserves a first-class high-power station from which to send forth his fine radio voice, "Station 4YA, Dunedin."

#### Backing for Dunedin.

G. Robertson (Rahotu): Sir, in your last issue I see what I think is quite a good idea put forward by a West Coast correspondent. That is, that listeners should get behind the company to the extent of £1 each by way of a loan to make of the Dunedin station one as powerful as 2YA, or even better. I am not overstocked with £ s. d., but would willingly put a few pounds in the pool, and even if interest was small, consider I had made a good investment by getting a second choice in programmes, as 2YA is about the only consistently good New Zealand station we have. Just another suggestion. I notice an Editor's note in answer to another correspondent explains that humorous items are not very easily procured—of the right kind, anyhow. That seems a pity, as there is no doubt about their popularity with almost every class of listener. What about a few good gramophone records of a humorous selection? Might I say that many good musical monologues are spoilt by a too loud piano accompaniment, and that the same applies to most of the comic songs where the singer plays his own accompaniment. The above is not a growl. Indeed, I think you are doing "brawly." "Carry on."

#### Dunedin's Wave-length.

W. A. Roberts (Seaton): I gather the New Zealand Broadcasting Company are at present putting the Dunedin station, 4YA, on higher power, and generally bringing the station up to date, for which the company are to be commended; but will this benefit the listeners in Wellington? I have a good seven-valve receiving set, but still cannot tune in Dunedin on its present wave-length whilst Wellington is in operation, and I have yet to learn of anybody who can, with or without a wave-trap. Could not something be done now to alter the Dunedin wave-length to, say, 300 metres, which would give six points of difference between Dunedin and Christchurch, or on 320 metres, which would give ample clearance between Christchurch and Auckland, and where, I have no doubt, the majority of sets would be able to tune Dunedin in. Now that the Summer-time Bill will soon be in operation, and all New Zealand programmes will be completed before the Australian programme proper starts, no objection can arise on the score of overlapping Australia. Should there be slight interference, with a good set this might be overcome, but as things are at present—well, the Dunedin station may as well be counted out, so far as Wellington is concerned. Some solace may have been received had Dunedin been in operation on a Wednesday; that is the day Wellington is silent, but both stations being silent the same day, that opportunity of receiving Dunedin is lost. All the New Zealand stations are in operation for the benefit of all New Zealand listeners, therefore give all New Zealand listeners the benefit of all the New Zealand stations.

[Wave lengths are allotted by the

Postal authorities, who, it is understood, work in harmony with Australia. As the Australian Royal Commission's recent report recommends some reallocation of wave-lengths, possibly some betterment may be effected. It is certainly desirable that all stations should be available to all listeners, and we will advocate any possible change to that end.—Ed.]

#### Thanks to Correspondents.

F.J.R. (Taumarunui):—I would like to thank you for inserting my letter in the "Record," also the two correspondents who so kindly supplied the information. The set I am using is a King five-valve, and, as far as I am aware, the circuit is in conformity with the New Zealand Postal regulations. I experience little fading with 2YA. Some nights it is worse than others, but on the whole the station and its transmission is nothing to worry about. 3YA is quite good, only fading is a bit more pronounced, whilst 1YA fading is bad. 4YA I do not pick up at all well; in fact, I can get Hobart with equal strength, also 2BL, Sydney. With reference to my previous letter re close proximity of stations, I have no interference from stations close together, and can cut out IYA from 3YA, or 2BL, Sydney, from 3YA, and these two stations are almost on top of one another on my dials. You will, perhaps think I am a bit of a pest troubling you, but your paper is of real service to amateurs who take up wireless as a hobby, and do not get the opportunity of going into it as deeply as one would like to. I hope later on to try a short-wave adapter on my set.

#### 30 Stations on Three Valves.

A. W. Jones (St. Kilda, Dunedin): I have read many lists in the "Record" that have been sent in by different listeners. I have only been going for about nine months, and I am using a three-valve R.S.L. receiver. My aerial is 45 feet high, and of the four-wire type. The following is a list of stations I have heard:—New Zealand: 1YA, 12B, 2YK (old station), 2YA, 3YA, 4YA, 4AT, 4AK, 4ZB. Australia: 2BL, 2FC, 2GB, 2KY, 2UE, 2UW, 3LO, 3AR, 3BY, 4QG, 5CL, 5KA, 5DN, 3DB, 7ZL. American: KFOR, KGO, KFWB, KOA, KFI. Japanese: JOAK. That makes 30 on broadcast wave alone. This list does not include the morse code stations I have heard. I should like to know if anyone can beat this with a three-valve set, but, of course, Dunedin is slightly further away than the northern towns.

A device designed to control the tuning of single dial radio receivers from a distance was demonstrated recently in New York by the Algonquin Electric Company. The tuning control enables the set owner to install the receiver wherever most convenient, in a cupboard, in the attic or in a room remote from the loudspeaker. The unit is built in two forms, mechanical and electrical. The size of each model is such that it can be held in the palm of the hand or placed on the arm of a chair. The tuning dial of the set is turned by a small reversible motor placed on top or at either end of the cabinet, connected by a chain gear to the receiver dial shaft and controlled by a switch and rheostat in the unit bed plate. The rheostat regulates the volume.



**CLEARTRON** means all-round definition—in fact, the use of these valves means an assurance of increasing your distance, together with a wonderful sharpened tone quality.

**CLEARTRON VALVES** are standard American types of vacuum tubes, built to high specifications, each guaranteed to deliver perfect service. Price from 9/- each.

**CLEARTRON RADIO 4 VALVES**

Stocked in all types with latest bases.

201 A 101  
201 R.F. 112 Power  
200 Special Detector.

If you cannot procure **CLEARTRON VALVES** from your dealer, write to the Factory Representatives:

**ELLIS & COMPANY Ltd.**

P.O. BOX 506 . . AUCKLAND.

## FERRANTI

created a world wonder with their first power

## TRANSFORMER

EXPERTS ACCLAIM THAT THE

# FERRANTI WIRELESS TRANSFORMERS

RETAIL PRICE

AF3

27/6  
each.

ARE PROVING

a  
**REVOLUTION  
IN RADIO**

RETAIL PRICE

AF4

18/6  
each.

Make certain your set gives the best that can be received by fitting FERRANTI TRANSFORMERS.

Compare the difference after using

**The Perfect Transformer for Perfect Reception.**

DOMINION DISTRIBUTORS:

**ARTHUR D. RILEY  
AND COMPANY LIMITED**

**Lambton Quay, Wellington**

DISTRICT AGENTS:

AUCKLAND:

Arthur D. Riley and Co., Ltd.

OTAGO AND SOUTHLAND:  
N.Z. Electrical Equipment Co., Ltd.,  
Dunedin.

CANTERBURY & WESTLAND:  
A. E. Strange, Worcester Street,  
Christchurch.