

THE NEW ZEALAND

Radio Record

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A. J. HEIGHWAY,
Managing Editor,
"The N.Z. Radio Record."

P.O. Box 1032,
WELLINGTON.

WELLINGTON, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21.

The result of our crystal competition for the long-distance reception of 2YA throughout September has provided some very interesting records indeed. The winner proves to be a young man in the Wairoa district, who on equipment costing but eight shillings succeeded in receiving Wellington at a distance of approximately 375 miles. As a sheer matter of fact, reception at a greater distance than this was reported, but as all conditions were not complied with, the entry could not be counted. The winner's performance, good as it is, was by no means a runaway victory, for quite a number of reports of good reception came to hand from Auckland and its environs, while from Christchurch there is given the case of a pocket set with which Wellington can be received at any time of asking.

These results make very interesting reading. Some of the set owners report reception of Australian stations on the crystal, and there is no reason for doubting the claims made. We are very glad indeed that our competition has been the means of bringing to light such a number of interesting cases of distant reception. The high power of 2YA may thus be said to immensely widen the crystal range of broadcasting in the Dominion. While emphasising the big distances over which reception has been recorded, it is well to stress one important fact which to our mind stands out from practically all the records sent in. Every one of the competitors reported the possession of a good aerial. This is undoubtedly more than half the secret of success in distant crystal reception. The unknown quantity is of course the calibre of the crystal, but it is plain that with care in the initial work the lads of many country homes can secure the benefit of broadcasting at a minimum of expense.

SHORT-WAVE ITEMS

THE WEEK'S DOINGS

EMPIRE TEST FROM SYDNEY.

Mr. F. W. Sellens (Northland) supplies the following interesting items:—

Last week was an average one for short-wave reception. On Sunday last, October 9, 2XAF was heard from 2.30 till 4.30 p.m., when they signed off, stating that "it is now 14 minutes past 12 o'clock." The programme consisted of studio items and a relay from a theatre. From 4.30 till 5.30 p.m. 2AQ, Taihape; 1AL, Hamilton, and 3AU, Rangiora, were putting gramophone items, etc., on the air. 2AQ was heard again in the evening.

On Monday evening 2AQ and 3AU were giving musical items and calling friends.

Radio-Belgique and PCJJ were heard early on Tuesday morning; the latter came in with good volume and modulation. In the evening RFN was on the air with more talk than music, as usual. 6AG was giving his usual test transmission from 9.30 p.m. He was also on the air on Wednesday evening.

On Thursday evening RFN was again on the air at splendid volume and tone, musical items and talk. PCJJ was not quite up to the usual standard this (Friday) morning.

On Friday evening I had 2ME through 2FC, Sydney, carrying out a test with England on 28.5 metres, from about 6.55 till 7.5 p.m., in preparation for an Empire programme to be transmitted from 4 till 5 a.m., Sydney standard time, on Monday morning, the 17th instant, Greenwich mean time 6.7 p.m. on Sunday.

The second programme will be on Monday afternoon (same day), 4.30-5.30 p.m., Sydney standard time, which is 6.30 to 7.30 a.m. Greenwich mean time, Monday morning.

When 2ME was first heard they were relaying from Liverpool particulars of the shooting, but went back to the studio of 2FC, as induction noises on the relay line were so bad. They gave a gramophone item, "Barcarolle," and then the information outlined above.

The queried station on the list I gave you last week is the first harmonic of RFN, Russia. I have proved this by changing from one to the other at frequent intervals when it is always the same item on the air.

A GOOD LIST.

A. P. Morrison (Brooklyn): Here is my list of stations on the short-wave band. I suppose I was one of the first in New Zealand to listen for stations on the short wave, and my first success was logging station 2XAF (Schenectady, New York). That was in this year's Easter holidays last Good Friday. My second station to log was PCJJ, Rindhoven, Holland. I will now give you my list of short-wave stations, logged to date:—

PCJJ (Rindhoven, Holland)	30.2
2NM (Gerald Marceuse)	33
4AC (Belgium)	32
RFN (Siberia, Russia)	60
GSS (Leipzig, Germany)	60
RCHS (Buenos Ayres)	45
2XAF (Schenectady, N.Y.)	32.77
2XAD (Schenectady, N.Y.)	22.02
WLW (Cincinnati, Ohio)	52
KDKA (East Pittsburgh)	63
2XG (New York), about	30
2AJ (Rangiora)	36
3LO (Melbourne)	30
2AU (Rangiora)	35
5GC (Adelaide)	31
6AG (Perth)	32.9
6AR (Victoria)	30
2AQ (Taihape), about	30
— (Hamilton), about	30
— Unidentified.	

SPORTING BROADCASTS

GREAT RECORD OF SERVICE

A SURPRISING REFUSAL.

Rugby football has concluded for the year 1927, and the sports announcers, as far as this game is concerned, have hung up their microphones. From a broadcasting point of view the season has been a very successful one. All the important matches played in the Dominion have been described in detail, and hundreds of letters and telegrams of appreciation have been received by the company and by the announcers.

From the point of view of the sport, greater interest than ever before has been aroused in New Zealand's national game. Broadcasting is the best publicity that can be given to anything. Never before has so much interest been taken in Rugby. Many people who have hitherto taken not the slightest interest in the sport now know, by name at any rate, a great many players. It is all for the good of the game.

The recent decision of the Auckland Trotting Club not to agree to the broadcasting of its October meeting has served to throw into striking relief the great boon that broadcasting has been to sport lovers. This club is the only sporting organisation which refuses permission to broadcast its fixtures. No reason has been given, simply an emphatic negative, and, after the thorough manner in which sport has been covered this winter, the decision comes as a painful surprise to the public, who have been accepting these broadcasts as a regular practice.

Welcomed by Sports.

Taken all round, the sporting fraternity of New Zealand was quick to consent, though begrudgingly at the outset, to football matches, racing, and other field events being broadcast to people who have to stay at home. But it has not harmed sporting in the least. Rather the reverse. The better a broadcast is, the better it is for the sport. No follower of a sport would stay at home just to listen to a description of a game or a race. He

CHILDREN'S SERVICE, 2YA

COMMENCING OCTOBER 23.

2YA, like Christchurch, is to have an early Sunday service for children. Commencing on Sunday next, October 23, the Rev. Ernest R. Weeks will conduct a special children's service in the studio from 6 o'clock.

MR. CYRIL POULTON.

Mr Cyril Poulton, as he appears in one of his famous Spanish dances.

Webb, photo.

would be disappointed with a poor description, and if he heard a thrilling account he would feel that he had missed an exciting event. He would look rather shamefaced when he had to confess to his mates next day that he had stopped at home and listened in, in order to save a shilling. There is no broadcast that can quite come up to seeing or hearing the real thing, and everyone who listens to a thrilling account cannot fail to think that the real thing must have been much more exciting. So, the more brilliant a description is, the better it is for the sport, because it enthralls people who are not very interested and incites them to attend the sport next time. Undoubtedly, the broadcasting of sporting descriptions has already become established in New Zealand.

What has been the achievement of the Broadcasting Company? In less than four months no fewer than 73 fixtures have been described in detail by the company's sporting announcers, and hundreds of appreciative letters and telegrams have been received by the announcers themselves and by the stations. The four stations broadcast 189½ hours of sport—not results only, but descriptive narratives.

It will therefore be seen what a power and effect broadcasting has in the sporting world in New Zealand, and a decision such as that reached by the Auckland Trotting Club causes surprise.

RADIO RECORD "ADAPTER"

T. R. Hogg, Wanika, Greymouth:—

I noticed in last "Radio Record" where Mr. Pierce, Wellesley Club, had heard Argentina on September 25. I wonder if he is not mistaking it for RFN, Siberia, U.S.S.R. His time and description of the programme seem to tally with the one I received the same evening. The twice the announcer gave his call during the evening (25th) in very broken English, I caught the following: "Haloa, haloa—U.S.S.R." (given very slowly), "Broadcasting," and something which sounded like "Riva" and "Goot-bye." I receive him most evenings I happen to tune in. Last Sunday he was pretty strong. I took a complete log of their programmes on the following dates: September 24 and 25 and October 6. A feature of the programme is the long and tedious lectures, but the vocal items are good.

It might be of interest to mention that the set I use (with only minor alterations) is an adapter assembled after the adapter circuit you published in "Radio Record" (August), and I must say it is quite a success. This plugged into a Counterphase eight gives very good volume on the speaker. I find that using an illuminated dial is very convenient, not only in showing up the dial, but as a telltale on the unit, also a Rheo 20 ohm. My thanks are due to your paper for introducing the idea.

DANCING

LESSONS FROM 3YA

COMMENCING ON THURSDAY.

Commencing on Thursday, October 27, 3YA will broadcast a series of lessons on modern ballroom dancing. Mr. Cyril Poulton, the well-known Christchurch teacher, and an expert of wide experience, has been engaged. This gentleman holds certificates of English and American associations of teachers of dancing, and listeners-in may rest assured that they will be receiving first-class instruction, which will mean a great deal to all lovers of dancing.

"For several years," says Mr. Poulton, who gives an interesting outline of the many advantages which may be obtained by attentive reception of the broadcast lessons, "teachers of dancing in New Zealand have been working in an almost vain endeavour to let the public know right from wrong, as applied to the ballroom dancing of today.

"Students have enrolled at the studios, and in due course received their lessons—style, balance, mechanics of the feet, time, rhythm, and general deportment, all have been very fully explained to them, and upon the completion of their tuition they have been good dancers, and have left the studios to go out to help spread the gospel of correct ballroom dancing.

"But this in itself is not sufficient," says Mr. Poulton. "A large number of people still do not know what constitutes good style and correct dancing. Now, with the advent of radio broadcasting, and the enterprise of the Radio Broadcasting Company of New Zealand, faults, which for the past few years have retarded the growth of dancing, and which have prejudiced large numbers of people against this so-called



"jazz," can be explained fairly, and the people can be enlightened as to the nature of the correct dancing and style.

"It is to be hoped that, as a result of this broadcasting of lessons and advice, the style of present dancers will improve, and that those just commencing their dancing will receive inspiration and help when it is most required. False impressions will, once and for all, be removed, and there will be nothing to stop our dancers competing with the world's best.

"The musical values of the different dances, and the relationship of music to dancing will also be fully explained. Dancers, here and in Australia, at the present time show an almost total disregard for the music: they are either ahead or behind the time throughout the dances. Of course, this does not apply to all dancers, but I maintain that the greater number of them meander round a ballroom completely oblivious of the band. One only has to visit a ballroom to test the truth of this statement. Another reason for complaint lies with the bands themselves. They imagine that there is only one dance in the world—the quick-time fox trot. Why cannot they introduce more variety into the programmes, and so give more pleasure to the dancers?

"I will explain all this during my series of lessons, as it has a most distinct bearing upon the ability of our dancers. In conclusion, allow me to earnestly entreat dancers, would-be dancers, and the public generally not only to 'listen-in' to the lessons, but to act upon the advice which will accompany each lesson, particularly that portion of it which deals with style and deportment, as only by attending to this portion of the lessons will dancers really improve themselves, and thus obtain the maximum amount of pleasure and health from their dancing, which, after all, is why we dance."

QUICK WORK

On Sunday last 2YA sent out a broadcast message to Malcolm Black, stating that his mother was very ill at Westport. This message was picked up by Mr. Frank Dawe, of Papatoetoe, and was delivered to Mr. Black within 20 minutes of 2YA's announcement.

ESPERANTO

In continuance of our instructional Esperanto course, Lesson XIII is presented to readers this week. The lesson, together with the explanation of Lesson XII, which was unavoidably delayed, will be explained from 2YA at the time and on the date mentioned below by the station Esperanto instructor, who has been providing students weekly, since the inception of the course, with a helpful and interesting explanation of each lesson following its publication.

Students who desire to extend their vocabulary and to explore the international language more deeply than they are enabled by means of the course, may do so by the aid of an Esperanto text book, a reliable and complete edition being obtainable from the instructor for 1s 6d., post free.

Communications relative to Esperanto and the course may be forwarded to "The Esperanto Instructor," N.Z. Broadcasting Co., Wellington, or care of this journal. Each inquiry must be accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope, otherwise the instructor cannot guarantee a reply.

LESSON XIII.

(To be broadcast from 2YA on October 27, from 7.30 to 7.54 p.m.)

Sinjoroj kaj Sinjorinoj, Bonan vesperon!

In two previous lessons brief mention has been made of the accusative N. (Vide Lessons XI and XII.) It is now necessary to give full particulars in respect of the accusative, which is used as follows:—(1) To show the direct object of a verb:—(a) After transitive verbs: *Johano vidas la knabon*, John sees the boy. (b) After participles: *George estis ac'etinta c'evalon*, George had bought a horse. (c) When a verb is omitted (where an exclamation is used or a "wish," or "desire" is understood): *Helpo!* Help! *Bonan vesperon* Sinjoro, Good evening, Sir.

(2) To show motion towards something:—(a) Direction: *Li kuris en la gardenon*, He ran into the garden. (b) Adverbs: *Li iris hejmen*, sed mi restis hejme. He went home, but I remained at home. (3) To show that a preposition has been omitted:—(a) Duration of time: *Li venos lundo*, He will come on Monday. (b) Price, weight, measure: *La libro kostis dek ŝilingoj*. The book cost ten shillings.

(4) General.—(a) Nouns and pronouns in apposition: *Vi ser'as la princon*, Hamleton, You seek the prince, Hamlet. (b) Proper nouns:—Add an apostrophe, or, if the word permits, an "O" before the N: *Smith iris Londonon*, kaj renkontis Arturon Brown, Smith went to London, and met Arthur Brown.

Bonan nokton al c'iu!

APPRECIATION

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE.

The anniversary services at the Cambridge Terrace Methodist Church Sunday School were recently broadcast by 3YA. An acknowledgment as follows has been received: All the week the mails have brought letters of appreciation from all over New Zealand from old scholars, friends and strangers, who stated that the reception was excellent. At Eketahuna they heard the fire engine go past the church.

Tower

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