

Our Mail Bag

The "Record" Crystal Set.

A. V. Pierce (Pencarrow Head Light-house) writes that he has constructed the efficient crystal set as in the "Record" of August 12. "I made a couple of these sets in the manner described in your paper with great ease, using ordinary nails in place of brass screws. The only articles I purchased were the 20-gauge wire and the crystal detector (carborundum cartridge type), and with a pair of 'phones and also the loudspeaker connected together the tone clarity and volume is unsurpassed and surprising to me. I tune in 2YA to be easily and plainly heard some 12 feet from the speaker with 'phones attached, but, better still, without the 'phones, and 3YA on 'phones alone. I think this set a marvel to work a loudspeaker. The height of my aerial is about 30 feet, and using Electron wire 125 feet in length, the earth being 18-gauge plain wire soldered to a kerosene tin buried just under the surface and filled with ashes and soil.

Church of England Services Wanted.

P. Williamson (Whangamata): There seems to be a certain amount of discussion going on at present regarding the broadcasting of church services. I do not profess to be a religious being by any means, but I do think that more Church of England services should be broadcast. After all, the Church of England is the national church, and has an individuality of its own that appeals to all Anglicans. For the last three weeks, with four New Zealand stations operating, there has not been one Church of England service relayed. By all means try and study the different denominations, but surely a service from the church of our own country, the Church of England, should be available from at least one station every Sunday.

F. H. Garner (Tikaituhuna): Relays of the Anglican services from the four broadcasting stations have been few and far between as compared with those of other denominations. I think I am safe in saying that at least half or even more of the total number of listeners-in are members of the Church of England, yet the minority are better treated, especially in the case of one church which enjoys the privilege of practically a weekly broadcast. About once a month either Christchurch or Auckland oblige, but what about 2YA? In the last instance two churches hold the monopoly. Why? As for the weekly programmes and after-church relays they are generally very good. All lectures, even from the editor-announcer, should be before 8 p.m.

[It is wrong to assume that the comparative absence of Anglican services is due to the Broadcasting Company. A more satisfactory roster is in the process of being evolved.—Ed.]

Views on Programmes.

K.E.P. (Murchison): I read the "Record" with great interest, and have lately noticed in letters to the Editor the varied programmes desired by listeners-in. It would be impossible to please everybody, but I think the great majority can be pleased. One cannot expect very much entertainment for 30s. a year. It is well understood that the broadcasting management do the best they can as things

LECTURE ON STAMPS.

The first lecture on stamps will be broadcast from 3YA on November 24, the speaker being Mr. L. E. Vernazoni, a past president of the Christchurch Philatelic Society. Subsequent speakers will be Mr. Collins (president of the Society, representative in New Zealand for the Royal Philatelic Society of London, and the author of several books), Mr. Chapman (president of the Christchurch Society for four years), and Mr. Peers, the secretary of the society.

are. Let me suggest that in place of paying 30s. a year, listeners-in should pay what ever it costs for a good programme. By the way, I know a lot of respectable people (this word being used by "Listener") who can and do enjoy noisy concerts, good songs and humour of the Mr. R. Walpole "Monty on Health" variety on weekdays, Saturdays and Sundays, and find it very uplifting indeed. Some listeners like the church services; they are getting them. No one as yet has made any suggestions to stop them. Now let me suggest to "Miramar" and "Listener" that they switch off when the church service is over. Then they will not have any noisy concerts mixed up with the items they prefer. Then myself and others can tune in and receive the items we prefer. We may even induce the Broadcasting Company to extend the programme a little. I have

paid particular attention to the popularity of the concerts held in Wellington and Christchurch on Sundays, in many cases artists singing comical songs or humorous recitations have been called back three times and the audience still calling for more. I would hate to think that all those people are not respectable because they like concerts on Sundays. It would be great if all we listeners paid some good artists overtime to sing and play for us on Sunday, this being the only day the average person in the country has the time to listen in. However, some like church, some don't. We must have it for those who do. Most love sport; we've got to have it for the majority. More humour would be much appreciated any day. To discard some of the "I love you and my heart is breaking" variety of songs would please more than it would disappoint. And to put on more like the Petone Black and White artists would suit the majority. I for one am willing to pay more for better items.

Calls them "Cry-Babies."

"Well Satisfied" (Wellington):—I should like to say a few words in praise of the efforts of staff and entertainers of 2YA to please Mr and Mrs Radio-Pan and family. I have, like hundreds of other members of the general public, near and far, enjoyed very much these nightly programmes. I think the majority of listeners-in will agree that for all round entertainment, not forgetting the educational aspect as well, 2YA is well worth the small expenditure of 7½d. per week, cost of privilege to listen-in. Where else will one obtain so much amusement and instruction in return for such a trivial outlay? It is absolutely astonishing how some people will moan and groan when certain items don't quite meet with their approval. Surely one does not expect every entertainer to be a world's star. Are these cry-babies stars themselves, perhaps only in the ability to grumble. In my humble opinion, 2YA gets a good share of some very fine artists. I contend that 2YA, being only a few months old, as it were, the general tone of its performances compare very favourably with other stations old enough to be its grandfather. For a small city such as Wellington to be able to produce such a variety of real good talent after night speaks volumes for the culture and ability of its entertainers. Credit is also due to the two announcers at 2YA, far superior to quite a good few I have heard from other stations, inside and outside of the Dominion. To other listeners-in I respectfully submit that Wellington may be justly proud of its powerful broadcasting station. For the huge sum of 1½d. per day, we get from five to six hours daily, enough entertainment that not so very long ago would have cost us pounds. Now, thanks to wireless, we can enjoy these musical treats in the comfort and privacy of our own homes. If there are any broadcasting defects, well, then, it must only be a matter of a short while when these things, whatever they are, will be rectified, and young and vigorous 2YA will be able to toe the line on a level with broadcasting stations overseas. May I make two suggestions? The first is that the Barnard piano player be used a little more instead of gramophone records. Piano music, whether by hand or mechanically played, sounds very pleasing on the head-phones or loudspeaker; also I really think that the organ in the studio should be made more use of, especially in the latter part of the evening. It certainly possesses a very soothing effect before going to bed, apart from its artistic value. The second suggestion is in reference to long distance crystal sets. There must be very many people residing within a radius of, say, one hundred miles of 2YA who cannot afford the necessary equipment to bring in long distance on a crystal set. Therefore, not being able to afford even a one-valve amplifier, they abandon the whole thing. In other countries they have pure and simple crystal set circuits that bring in 5000 watt stations with ease, from a distance of 100 miles or thereabouts, at an outlay of only a few shillings more than the initial cost of a good crystal set. What I respectfully suggest is that there be published in the "Radio Record" a suitable crystal circuit, easily understandable, that will meet the particular requirements just referred to. It would not only bring pleasure to people away in small country places, backblocks, etc., but would add a substantial number of delighted fans to the radio list.

[Our crystal long distance competition, of which the awards were made last week, showed regular crystal reception of 2YA up to a distance of 875 miles. Auckland and Christchurch both got Wellington on crystals regularly. Many country folk might advantageously be in on crystal, particularly the young folk.—Ed.]

Good Two-valve Work.

Polar Twin (Palmerston):—Being a humble beginner with a "tolerated rather than approved" two-valve set, I hesitate to challenge the statement of "M.I.R.E." in this week's "Record" that "less than three valves is definitely

useful only for headphone reception." Maybe I am, as he says, "in an extremely sensitive spot," but I do get "programmes" (not "merely signals") not only from 1YA, 2YA, and 3YA, but also from at least four Australian stations very frequently on my loudspeaker. Moreover, I get 2YA consistently from 3 p.m. onwards on the loudspeaker, and the reception of the North v. South and Possibles v. Probables Rugby matches was perfect and much appreciated. Of course my speaker is a small one, and the volume is likewise small, but this has the advantage that the objectionable noises heard on larger speakers are likewise small. However, it is quite loud enough for any of the four rooms in which I have earth wires!

Of the Australian stations I usually tune in to 2FC and 2BL, which frequently come through quite as loudly as 2YA. I have also had 3LO and 4QG, and (I hope "M.I.R.E." won't doubt my word!) about a fortnight ago I had 2UE, Sydney, for quite a time perfectly on the loudspeaker. Incidentally, 3YA comes in as loudly as 2YA, with 1YA close up, but 4YA is a washout (and nearly as bad on the 'phones).

So much for the loudspeaker reception.

On the 'phones I get all the principal N.Z. stations (bar 4YA) perfectly, practically all the time. I also got a station at Auckland on Monday (I think) 2ZB (?), very clearly. Of the Australian stations I get about eight or ten fairly consistently, the reception being very good. A small station I hear very frequently is 2KV, Sydney, which comes in at 13 on the dial. I can honestly say

ALL ABOARD THE RADIO EXPRESS

On Tuesday, November 1, Uncle Jasper's night—the kiddies are to be taken for a special railway excursion on the Radio Express. The express will depart from the studio station (2YA) sharp at 6 o'clock, and will take all the youngsters who can possibly "listen in" for a really glorious run right over the Rimutakas and up to Napier! Gee! Won't it be fine? You'll hear the big engine—whistle, pull-puff, and all—the guard's whistle, and even the loud complaints of the old lady who just manages to get aboard. And while you're riding along and learning all about the scenery, Uncle Jasper will tell you stories, and send out his birthday greetings, and the Y.M.C.A. Boy Scouts—who are going to man the train—will keep you amused. Be sure and listen for their kettle drum!

the headphone reception of 15 odd Aussie and N.Z. stations is perfect. I use dull emitter valve with three volts (two dry cells) for the A battery. The outfit cost me less than £13, and I can assure "M.I.R.E." I'm getting my money's worth. As regards three-valve sets, I heard perfect reception recently from four or five Aussie stations on a large-size speaker and the set is still going strong.

Regarding the controversy on the programme from 2YA, seeing that you have to cater for all and sundry, I think the programme pretty good, my only "grouch" being that your announcer gives us stale news from the morning papers between 7 and 8 p.m. I might add that I have noticed very little fading of late—the reception on the whole being fairly good.

In conclusion (for "M.I.R.E.'s" benefit), I don't annoy my neighbours and my set doesn't squeal every time I tune in a fresh station.

Programmes Appreciated.

Radio (Picton):—I must once again write you a few lines of appreciation for the very excellent items being broadcast from the New Zealand stations, the general working of them, and the excellent manner in which the "Record" is being conducted. I have noticed a considerable improvement in the tone of the three main stations, and the volume from 1YA and 3YA has increased immensely, no alterations being made to the aerial. The two cornet solos from 2YA and the band concert from 3YA last night came through absolutely wonderful, the immense volume and perfect clarity from the latter were astounding.

The final cornet solo from 2YA, "The Holy City," was a revelation. Why can't we have more of that class of item, and also more of the old songs? I am sure more than half the listeners prefer the old songs to the new ones. Even the National Anthem is an interesting item on its own if played right through; many of us here join in, but it is not long enough to enjoy properly. Could we not have it played right through, sir, from at least one station each night? I'm sure it could take the place of an item at any time. And as for the old songs, I don't think we get half enough of them. Take, for instance, the Irish night at 1YA recently. Nothing could have been more beautiful. Again allow me to thank the B.C. for the very great pleasure their really fine programmes afford me.

St Gerard's Broadcast.

C.R.L. (Kamo):—My husband and I feel we really must congratulate the Broadcasting Company on the broadcasting of St Gerard's Church last night. Reception was excellent, fading very slight. We sincerely hope the Catholic Church will be on the air more frequently now in New Zealand, as Australian church services are so late for New Zealand.

Our set is a four-valve, and we find New Zealand broadcasting most satisfactory. We have listened-in to football matches and races with great success. While on the subject I might mention that we thoroughly enjoy the Sunday night concerts, and hope they will be continued.

LEARNING TO DANCE BY RADIO

DANCE FEATURE FROM 3YA

Much interest and anticipation has been aroused by the announcement that 3YA has engaged Mr. Cyril Poulton, the well-known and successful Christchurch teacher and exhibition dancer, to broadcast lessons in modern ballroom dancing. Mr. Poulton's method of broadcasting lessons, as explained to us, is simple, yet surprisingly effective. It entails a considerable amount of preliminary work, but the result as heard "on the air" is, from the listeners' point of view, remarkable for its clarity and completeness.

Mr. Poulton will not only earn the thanks of those listeners desiring to learn to dance correctly, but also the thanks and confidence of parents, whose idea of what constitutes good dancing has, until now, been somewhat hazy, in consequence of which they have been rather disinclined to allow their children to learn the so-called jazz.

Mr. Poulton's first lecture on the evening of Thursday, October 27, will trace briefly the trend of modern dancing from its commencement until the present day. He will also deal very fully with the most common faults to be found in our present-day ballrooms, explaining how these faults tend to, and do, make for poor dancers, and consequently poor dancing.

In an interview Mr. Poulton was most emphatic as to the essential points which must be observed and practised by those wishing to be called good dancers that is judging by the English standard of what is considered good ballroom dancing, and the English dancers are recognised the world over as supreme.

"I shall, during my broadcasting, have occasion to refer to these essentials frequently," said Mr. Poulton, "as they are of paramount importance and cannot be given too much time and practice. It is only by the English ballroom dancers' strict observance of them that they have attained their high degree of proficiency."

"In brief," continued Mr. Poulton, "my first lecture will embrace the correct placing of the feet in the slow foxtrot, quick-time foxtrot, and blues, and the correct way of holding a partner, balance, and deportment in those dances."

"Listeners should follow the complete series of eight lessons as each succeeding lesson will be controlled from the previous one, as this is the only method by which a complete knowledge can be obtained of all the dances in their entirety," concluded Mr. Poulton.

A summary of each lesson will first be published in the "Radio Record." Mr. Poulton will only be too pleased to answer any questions which listeners may desire to ask, such letters to be addressed either to station 3YA, Christchurch, or to the Cyril Poulton Studios of Stage and Ballroom Dancing, 411 Wilson's Road, Linwood, Christchurch. The envelopes of these letters must be marked "Questions on Dancing."

THE 99 VALVE

Many of the best imported broadcast receiving sets are now constructed for using 199 type valves. The 199 is a 3-volt valve and requires .06 amperes, which is less than one-fourth the current consumption of the 5-volt type, which requires .25 amperes. It is fully as rugged in construction and as well able to withstand overload as the larger valve. Its failure is usually due to over-voltage supply, being normally operated from three dry cells in series. Their combined 4½ volts should be reduced to 3 volts by a rheostat, but this is often neglected. Consequently it is subjected to 50 per cent. overload, whereas a 5-volt valve or a 6-volt storage battery has only 20 per cent. overload.

A receiver using 3-volt valves should always be equipped with a high resistance voltmeter which is in circuit at all times so as to show the voltage at which the valves are operating. The valve should never be driven above 3.2 volts when the "B" battery is connected. If the set does not then give proper volume, either it or the valves are defective.

ELLERSLIE RACES BROADCAST.

"We heard everything spoken, and also the band music, just as if we were on the course. And what was so interesting to me also was that I have a son who, on Saturday, rode his first race on the track, and scored second place in the last race—Henderson Handicap. Through your broadcast I was able to listen to my son's whole performance, from the commencement of the race to the last, when his horse, "Nucleus," scored a second place."—Extract from a letter.

rent consumption of the 5-volt type, which requires .25 amperes. It is fully as rugged in construction and as well able to withstand overload as the larger valve. Its failure is usually due to over-voltage supply, being normally operated from three dry cells in series. Their combined 4½ volts should be reduced to 3 volts by a rheostat, but this is often neglected. Consequently it is subjected to 50 per cent. overload, whereas a 5-volt valve or a 6-volt storage battery has only 20 per cent. overload.

A receiver using 3-volt valves should always be equipped with a high resistance voltmeter which is in circuit at all times so as to show the voltage at which the valves are operating. The valve should never be driven above 3.2 volts when the "B" battery is connected. If the set does not then give proper volume, either it or the valves are defective.

ESPERANTO

In continuance of our course of lessons in the international language, Lesson XIV is now presented to readers. The instructor invites inquiries regarding Esperanto, and students should not hesitate to avail themselves of the invitation. Accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope, communications should be forwarded to "The Esperanto Instructor," N.Z. Broadcasting Co., Wellington, or care of this journal. Students and others desirous of obtaining an Esperanto text-book can procure a reliable and complete edition from the instructor for 1s. 6d. post free.

It will no doubt be a matter of interest for students to learn that the famous Dutch station, PCJJ, is broadcasting in Esperanto. This is certainly a step in the right direction towards solving the greatest problem connected with international broadcasting—that of language.

LESSON XIV.

(To be broadcast from 2YA on November 3, from 7.30 to 7.54 p.m.)
Sinjorinoj kaj Sinjoroj, Bonan Vesperon!

CORRELATIVE WORDS. — These words, 45 in number, are usually published in tabular form, but owing to limited space this is not possible. Students may, however, tabulate the words by (a) writing the first nine words (described as "endings") vertically with the meanings under each; and (b) by writing to the right of these the words shown as "beginnings."

Endings: -A (adjectival): relating to quality or kind; -AL (adverbial): motive or reason; -AM (adverbial): time; -E (adverbial): place; -IL (adverbial): manner; -ES (pronominal): possession; -O (substantival or pronominal): a thing; -OM (adverbial): quantity; and -U (pronominal): persons or things specified.

Beginnings: I- (indefinite): conveys the idea of "some" or "any"; T- (demonstrative); that (thing); C- (distributive or collective): every, each; K- (interrogative, relative): which, what; NIEN- (negative): no, none (no with "in" added for euphony).

Formation of Correlatives: A series (quality, kind of): ia, some (any) kind of; eia, every kind of; kia, what kind of; what a . . . ! nenia, no kind of; tia, such a . . . that kind of.

AL series (motive, reason for): ial, for some (any) reason; eial, for every reason; kial, for what reason, why; nenial, for no reason; tial, for that reason, therefore, so.

AM series (time): iam, at some (any) time, ever; ciam, at every time, always; kiam, at what time, when; neniam, at no time, never; tiam, at that time, then.

E series (place): ie, in some (any) place, somewhere; eie, in every place, everywhere; kie, in what place, where; nenie, in no place, nowhere; tie, in that place, there.

EL series (manner): let, in some (any) manner, somehow; eiel, in every manner; kiel, in what manner, how, as; neniel, in no manner, nohow; tiel, in that manner, thus, so, as.

ES series (possession): ies, somebody's, anybody's; cies, everyone's, each one's; kies, which one's, whose; nenies, nobody's, no one's; ties, that one's.

O series (thing, not specified): io, something, anything; eio, everything, all; kio, what thing, what; nenio, nothing; tio, that thing, that.

OM series (quantity): iom, some quantity, somewhat; eiom, every quantity, the whole, all; kio, how much, how many; neniom, no quantity, none; tior, that quantity, so (as) much, so (as) many.

U series (persons or specified things): iu, someone, anyone; eiu, everyone, each one, each; ki, which one, who; neniu, no one, nobody; tiu, that one (person or thing).

Words commencing with T may be changed from "that" to "this" by prefixing or adding the word "c'i" to the thing; tio c'i, or c'tio, this thing. Words ending in a vowel may take the accusative ending (mi havas nenion), and those ending in A or U may take the plural; tiuj, those. The nine words commencing with K may be followed by AJN (English "ever"), as Kial ajn, why ever; kiam ajn, when ever.

Bonan nokton al c'iu!

In conducting its world-wide broadcasting experiments, PCJJ, at Eindhoven, uses many languages, and listeners have been surprised at the facility with which announcers change from one language to another. English, French, and German are used with equal fluency to the native Dutch and Flemish.

The Wellington Esperanto Club has received word that Professor P. A. Schendeler, official representative of the Esperanto movement in Eindhoven, will now broadcast in the international language.

Preliminary announcements concerning these transmissions will be made from the station, and New Zealand listeners are asked to forward any helpful information to Mr. Bertram Potts, secretary of the Wellington Esperanto Club, Oddfellows' Building, 19 Tory Street, Wellington.



King in Radio

Browning Drake Sets,
made up to order.

From £8/5/-.

NEW ZEALAND CIRCUIT SETS
KING 5-VALVE NEUTRODYNE From 25

CRYSTAL SETS, 10/6 One-valve Amplifier, including Batteries, Loud
Speaker and Crystal Set £4/10/6

RADIO HOUSE. 'PHONE 41-446.

F. J. W. Fear & Co. 63 Willis Street, Wellington

Listen-In to Australia!

When your Crystal Set ceases to satisfy you, and you wish to "reach out," instal a "POLAR TWIN." With this little 2-valve set you can tune in on 2FC, 2BL (Sydney), 3LO (Melbourne), or 4QG (Brisbane). Economical to run.

Set and Valves

only

£6-10-0

CALL AND INSPECT. TERMS ARRANGED.

F. J. Pinny Ltd.

58 Willis Street
WELLINGTON.