

SHORT-WAVE NOTES

THE WEEK'S RECEPTION

NOTES BY MR. SELLENS.

Mr. F. W. Sellens, Northland, Wellington, writes:—

During the past week, some very interesting items have been heard on the short waves, and new stations logged. My list now totals 82 stations—all on telephony.

Last Friday evening, RFN, 3AU, and 3AG were heard from 10.25 till 11.30 p.m., and still going when I closed down. I heard at good strength some gramophone selections and foreign talk at intervals, "la Argentine" and "Buenos Ayres" were mentioned, so it was probably RCBS.

On Saturday afternoon, 2XAD, of Schenectady, New York, was heard to advantage from 1.30 p.m. to 3.41 p.m. During the first hour, a playlet was heard by the WGY Players, and then some music by the WGY Orchestra. At 2.30 p.m. the station relayed from New York City the 48th anniversary proceedings of the invention of the incandescent electric lamp by Thomas Alva Edison. This programme consisted of musical items, a speech by Mr. E. Wilbur Wright—a director of the General Electric Co., the owners of WGY, who, after introducing Mr. Edison, asked him various questions, which the great inventor answered briefly. Other prominent men in the electrical world also spoke.

The announcer at the commencement of these proceedings, stated that forty-four stations from coast to coast were relaying the programme. During the evening RFN came in well, also the foreign station heard on Friday evening.

On Sunday afternoon KDKA was weak. 2XAF was very good during the last half an hour, when musical items by the "Original Melody Boys" from the Arcadia, Buffalo, New York, were relayed. RFN, 2AQ, 1AI, and 3AU were also heard.

Tuesday evening found 2FC transmitting on 28.5 metres (through 2ME), as well as their regular wave-length.

During the evening they called WGY Schenectady, asking them to report reception through either 2XAD or 2XAF. They sent greetings and stated that it was hoped that later on these short wave broadcasts would be a weekly feature. He also announced that they would be on the air again on short waves on Thursday and Friday of this week, from 7.30 to 11.30 Eastern Suburban time. RFN were also heard during the evening.

PCJJ were transmitting their regular programme on Wednesday morning, but were not up to their usual strength.

A new foreign station was heard very early on about 32 metres, musical items, speech and Morse. On Thursday evening, 2FC were on 28.5 metres, again calling WGY. They also announced that, on Tuesday, November 1, at 3.15 p.m. Sydney time they would broadcast the Melbourne Cup on 30.5 wavelengths, 28.5 and 442 metres. This, he said, would be the first time that a race would be broadcast in the British Empire so that all the world could hear.

2MR, on Friday morning, were transmitting a test programme on 28.5 metres for reception in Britain. He announced that a special programme would be given on Sunday at 7.30 to 10.30 G.M.T., also on the 29th inst. from 2.30 a.m. to 4.30 a.m. Eastern Australian time.

The foreign station heard on Wednesday morning was again heard, musical items and foreign talk, also Morse. This time the call was heard being given in broken English—very hard to understand. The station was ANI, Java, on 31.86 metres.

In the evening, 2FC, on 28.5 metres, was again transmitting a programme for reception in America. He read a cablegram stating that WGY intended rebroadcasting this programme if weather conditions permitted.

An interesting log. J. Rait (Wellington) writes:—My short wave log may be of interest. Australia, 2SS, 4SW, 3FA, 2TH, 7MW, 8LM, 3HP, 5AH, 2BC, 7AO, 2WV, 2WA, 2RB, 4QR, (AGD?), 2ME, 3LO, 6WF, 6AG. Best phone, 2SS.

New Zealand:—1AN, 1AI, 3AU, 3AJ, 3AP, 2AJ, 2AY (3AZ?), 1FE (1AQ?), 2BH, 2BA, 2AQ. Best phone, 2AQ, 1AI, 1AN.

Mixed:—2XAF, 2XAD, 2XAG, 2XC, 4NW, 4VW, KDKA, 2NM, PCJJ (Dutch 32 last Thursday), RFN, Belgium 33 (call SBR by my call book), 2SW, WMO.

MADAME WINNIE FRASER AT 2YA

Madame Winnie Fraser, who is to sing for 2YA on Friday and Sunday, November 4 and 6, was first introduced to New Zealand audiences in 1910 when, as Miss Winnie Nixon, she toured the Dominion with the Ellwood Trio under the management of Mr. Hugo Gorlitz. Her talents as a vocalist then earned for her the highest praise, and the best musical critics in New Zealand prophesied for her a brilliant future, and the critics have been right.

Trained in Christchurch under Mr. H. M. Lund, in 1919 Madame went to England and Europe for travel and study, and on returning to New Zealand sang for all the musical societies, including the Royal Auckland Male Choir, Royal Wellington Choral Society, Christchurch Musical Society, and Dunedin Choral Orchestra and Male Choir. She returned to Europe in 1923 for study alone, and after six months in London as the pupil of Sir Henry Wood, with whom she studied Oratorio and choral works—such as "Hiawatha," "Golden Legend," and Elgar's works, "King Olaf," "Caracatus," etc., she went to Italy for six months to hear and study Italian Opera and songs under Signor Cortogini.

From Italy she went to Vienna, the most musical city in the world, where Beethoven, Schubert, Brahms, Wolf, Gluck, and Mozart lived. Here there are three Opera Houses open for seven nights a week, and for ten months of the year, not to mention the Comic Opera Houses and the wonderful Concert Rooms where the world's greatest artists appear.

Madame Fraser remained in Vienna for a year, studying German Lieder under Herr Manzoni, and Grand Opera with Von Mullin, both celebrated teachers. She gave a concert in Vienna in November, 1921.

On returning to New Zealand Madame Fraser received many engagements at the New Zealand Exhibition, under M. Slapofski in the "Messiah," "Tannhauser," "Rebel Maid," "Elijah," "Golden Legend," etc., and now can fairly claim to receive more engagements and sing in more works than any other New Zealand soprano.

In August of this year at Auckland Madame appeared in the first New Zealand performance of "Aida" (Verdi's opera) in the role of "Amneris." She has just sung for the Napier Liedertafel, and will shortly sing in "Hiawatha" at Palmerston North. She has also sung at New Plymouth, Wanganui, Timaru, Gore, Dunedin, and other places.



—Clifford photo.

GOOD WEEK'S PROGRAMME FROM 4YA

At the conclusion of the Central Mission Church service on Sunday, the first regular concert by the St. Kilda Band will be played, providing the weather is suitable. The St. Kilda Band is in excellent form, and will render a fine programme. Its Sunday night concerts will be a regular feature from 4YA during the summer months, when fine weather prevails.

On Tuesday afternoon Miss Marguerite Puechegud will again be heard, offering valuable suggestions for furnishing and renovating the home. Mr. H. Greenwood will also conduct his weekly review of books, mostly fiction.

Pastor W. D. More will deliver a very humorous address on Tuesday evening. The title will be "Epitaphs," and listeners who miss this will miss a treat. Here is one of them, from Mark Twain: "Here lies the remains of Alexander McGlu,

He lies in sweet repose;
He wore a pink shirt and number nine shoe,
And had a big wart on his nose."

This provides an illustration of the quaint and incongruous humour that frequently appears in graveyards.

The programme for the evening concert on Tuesday includes some of the best broadcasting talent in Dunedin, and it promises to be most interesting.

The receiver used is the N.Z.R. "All-wave" receiver, three and four valves (three audio), and is OK for this type of work. My complete log numbers 93 stations from last December.

Miss Gwen Cooper, whose pleasing contralto voice is always eagerly looked forward to, will contribute four songs, as will Miss Peggy Neill (mezzo-soprano) in her usual artistic manner. Mr. R. G. Bond (basso), and Mr. Avery Dale (baritone) will also render two brackets of songs each. Instrumental solos will be provided by Mr. A. Levi (flautist), Mr. George Christie (cornetist), and Miss A. D. Allen at the piano.



MISS RAY WRIGHTSON.

Miss Ray Wrightson, of Napier, a promising young contralto, who will be heard from 2YA on Saturday, November 5, is a pupil of Madame Bella Russell, of Napier. She was the winner of the vocal championship competitions, Napier, this year, and has appeared in "The Ancient Mariner" for the Choral Society, and also at the Municipal Band.

Listeners who are fond of dancing may make arrangements for two hours of joy on Thursday night. Invite your dancing friends and tune in to 4YA. The Kapai Dance Band, the oldest in Dunedin, will provide the music for fox-trots, one-steps, waltzes, both old and new, and some old-time sets, Alberts, and quadrilles. The announcements for these numbers will be made the usual M.C. style. So that those who are not dancing may enjoy the programme, the dance numbers will be interspersed with solo items, both vocal and instrumental, of a high quality.

Arrangements have been made with the Dunedin branch of the League of Nations Union for a series of weekly lectures on the League of Nations. This important subject is commanding much attention at present, and these talks will be of great interest and value. The first address will be heard on Thursday evening at 8.45, when the Rev. H. R. Bellhouse will give a survey of the league's work to date. Mr. Bellhouse possesses a fine broad-

casting voice, and is the chairman of the Dunedin branch. He recalls that he was the first to broadcast a lecture some years ago from the old Wellington station 2YK, and on that occasion his subject was the League of Nations.

Friday night's programme will be of high order. The studio portion will comprise vocal items by Mr. H. W. Harvey (baritone) Mr. J. B. McPherson (basso), Miss H. M. Ashton, and Miss Dora Drake (mezzo-soprano). Miss A. Newman will play some delightful piano solos, and eloquent numbers will be given by Mr. A. Corrie. The second portion of the programme will be relayed from the Savoy, when Mrs. Beecham and his orchestra will provide the latest dance music.

On Saturday evening listeners will have the opportunity of hearing more of Dunedin's best performers. Miss Winnie McPeak (contralto) will render some selected songs. Miss Mat-

RADIO WORLD'S FAIR

GREAT NEW YORK EVENT.

Several millions dollars' worth of contracts for radio receivers were placed during the trade hours of the Radio World's Fair at New York in September, and more than 7500 dealers in radio apparatus have been in attendance, it was announced at radio show headquarters in Madison Square Garden. The equipment purchased will be sent to all parts of the world.

A representative of the show said American dealers had declared that the public demand this year was for de luxe receivers in elaborate cabinets, while in foreign countries the demand was for the simpler sets.

Fire Commissioner John J. Dorman visited the "Theatre of Wonders" at the show. He was especially interested in the balanced photo-electric cell, which utilises the sun's rays to turn on and off the lighting circuits of city streets, and in devices which automatically sound an alarm when a fire develops.

DIVINE RADIO QUEEN'S THOUGHT.

Another visitor to the show was Konrad Leitner, Swiss psychologist, who succeeded in "reading the mind" of the radio queen, Miss Edith Amelia Smith. He readily discovered the hiding place of a small object, it was said, after Miss Smith had secreted it among the 300,000 separate articles on display in the booths of the exposition. Mr. Leitner said he learned English by listening to its being spoken over the radio here and in Europe.

A COUNTERPOISE

An insulated counterpoise will work very well in place of the ground on a receiving set. In locations where the earth is sandy or dry and a good ground connection cannot be obtained, a counterpoise is superior to a regular ground connection. A counterpoise is constructed exactly like an aerial; and is suspended directly beneath the aerial and near to the earth. It is connected to the ground binding post on the receiving set in the regular manner. Both the counterpoise and the lead to it should be well insulated from the ground. As in the aerial and lead-in, it is best to use enamel copper wire, about No. 12, in the counterpoise. A receiving set using an insulated counterpoise instead of a regular ground connection is not so likely to pick up interference from electric light lines, vacuum cleaners, door bells, and telephones.

Edgar, possessor of a fairy-like, yet well modulated, voice, will also be heard. Mr. W. Mills (tenor) and Mr. R. Mitchell (baritone) will each contribute four numbers. Among the instrumental soloists are Misses Alice Wilson and Marjorie Watts, at the piano, playing classical numbers, Mr. Malcolm Robilliard, one of the foremost cellists in New Zealand, and the Rev. G. E. Moreton, with his clarinet.

On Saturday an address will be given by Mr. A. E. Wilson, manager of the Government Tourist Department at Dunedin. He will offer advice to tourists who are contemplating a summer holiday, and will show that Otago has some distinct advantages for the traveller.



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