

## "KNIGHTS OF THE ROAD ON THE AIR"

"C.T.'s" TO BROADCAST FROM 2YA.

Out of their element in an ordinary physical sense, perhaps, but otherwise right in it, for who more heartily revel in the delights of music, song, and story than do those good fellows whom we know as commercial travellers, and their equally genial allies, the warehousemen? That there are some fine singers among them is evidenced by the splendid record of achievement which stands to the credit of the Wellington Commercial Travellers and Warehousemen's Male Voice Choir, which ranks as one of the best and brightest musical combinations in the capital city. It is a party of songsters comprising some of the foremost vocalists of this talented organisation, who are to provide the vocal portion of the programme to be broadcast from 2YA on the evening of Friday, December 2. For this occasion they have arranged a sparkling variety of part-songs, humorous and otherwise. Just note this string of gems in which the choir will be heard: "Who Sails With Drake," "In This Hour of Softened Splendour," "Alexander" (you are bound to laugh at this), "Viking Song," "In Absence," "Old Man Moses" (another smile raiser), "In Vocal Combat," "Pussy's in the Well" (always amusing), and the glorious "Hallelujah Chorus." What a feast of good music! And then, of course, there will be the solos and duets—a budget of very fine items, presented by some very fine singers.

It may be mentioned that the Wellington Commercial Travellers' Male Voice Choir of fifty voices is one of the leading musical organisations of New Zealand. Formed about ten years ago, under the conductorship of Mr. H. Temple White, this choir has now a very big following amongst the Wellington public, who eagerly await their regular concerts. A feature of the activities of the choir is its work for charities—some thousands of pounds having been raised for charitable purposes.

### EMPIRE BROADCASTING

THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION'S VIEW.

Recently the British Broadcasting Corporation issued the following statement:—

In pursuance of its policy of developing a practical basis for effective Empire broadcasting as rapidly as possible, the B.B.C. has now reached a stage at which it is possible to give an interim report. As has been explained already on several occasions, the problem of effective Empire broadcasting is as much one of reception as of transmission, and is more involved in the linking of broadcasting systems than in the provision of sporadic technical entertainment for comparatively few amateurs. The experiments now under review are being conducted by the B.B.C. in co-operation with the Marconi Company.

#### TRANSMISSION.

An experimental short-wave transmitter is being erected at the Marconi works at Chelmsford. This will make use of the two 480ft. masts which are situated there. This transmitter will carry out experiments, working chiefly on a wave-length of 24 metres. Arrangements have been made for the collection, collation and analysis of reports of these experiments in various parts of the world. This experimental station, whose call sign is 6SW, will transmit using power up to about 25 k.w. Should its performance be unexpectedly successful in the early stages, programmes may be transmitted; but it is not anticipated that this experimental station will undertake a regular service.

#### RECEPTION.

Satisfactory progress is being made with experiments in reception by the use of what has come to be known as the "spaced aerial" method. The chief difficulty experienced hitherto in the reception of ultra short-wave transmission is due to the phenomenon known as "fading." It is believed that the reception of transmissions on

## St. Andrew's Day Concerts—Special Programmes

Musically redolent of the atmosphere of the "Land of brown heath and shaggy wood" will be the mid-week broadcast programmes in honour of St. Andrew's day. Scottish songs and Scottish music will fill the air and everyone who listens in will enjoy a wealth of melody.

### ST. ANDREW'S EVE AT 2YA

The Orpheus Quartet will mark the eve of St. Andrew's Day with a programme delightfully appropriate to the occasion. Many of the numbers selected for presentation will be characteristic of Bonnie Scotland.

The quartet will sing "Hail to the Chief," a stirring martial melody, "Will Ye No Come Back Again?" and "The Bluebells of Scotland." The former is a pseudo-Jacobite song composed by Lady Nairne about 1820. It is now used by Scottish pipers as a lament.

The ladies of the party will sing as a duet Burns's poem, "O Wert Thou in the Cauld Blast!" and the gentlemen will render George Haydon's beautiful number, "As I Saw Fair Clara Walk Alone." This duet breathes all the beauty of the Old Land at the early snow season. Mrs. Harris and Mr. Barnes will sing "Angus MacDonald" and "Be Kind to Old Grannie" respectively. The last-named is a number rich in pathos, and will, doubtless, take many listeners back to childhood's days, when "auld grannie"



MR. DOUGLAS STARK,

Scottish comedian, who will perform on St. Andrew's Eve.

meant so much to them. Mr. Coe is singing a number from the old comedy opera, "Doris," by Collier, "So Fare Thee Well," and Miss Mackie is singing "Coming Home Along," by May

ultra short-waves is made possible entirely through reflection. Unfortunately, considerable changes are taking place continually in the reflecting medium. The result is that the strength of signals received at any given point is constantly varying. In the case of extended transmissions, the variations take place so rapidly and with such confusion that they are apt to exercise a disastrous effect upon reception. All experienced and competent engineers now realise that the success of Empire broadcasting depends mainly upon the possibility of transmissions being re-radiated efficiently by local broadcasting stations. It is therefore essential to devise a method of reception which will minimise the fading effect. Experiments indicate that the signals from two or more aerials spaced at considerable distances apart may be combined and treated in such a way as to produce a more constant and undistorted signal.

#### COMING NEXT YEAR.

Taking into account the results of its last series of experiments, the B.B.C. sees no reasons to revise its prediction that Empire broadcasting may be undertaken with the guarantee of the elementary conditions pre-requisite to service, some time during 1928. Contact is being maintained and developed with the broadcasting organisations of the Dominions and colonies. The chief engineer, now attending the World Wireless Conference at Washington, is evolving a further series of experiments in co-operation with the chief engineer of the Radio Corporation of America. An account of this new series of experiments will be available shortly.

Brace, the composer of so many appealing songs.

Associated with the Orpheus Quartet will be Mr. Douglas Stark, Scottish comedian, and Piper A. D. Small. Mr. Stark is acknowledged to be one of the cleverest exponents of Scottish humour in this Dominion. His light comedy work has delighted innumerable city and provincial audiences, while with many thousands of radio listeners he is a great favourite.

It may be taken for granted that Piper A. D. Small will have a very large and appreciative audience.

### SCOTTISH NIGHT AT 3YA

There will be plenty of bagpipes skirling in the studio of 3YA on Wednesday evening, and Scotch music and songs sufficient to satisfy anyone whose people ever lived north of the Tweed, will be broadcast. St. Andrew's Day is being fittingly observed. Even the Children's Hour will be distinctly Scottish in character.

Six stalwart pipers from the Christchurch Scottish Society's Pipe Band will gather round the microphone in the studio and broadcast some of their wild and stirring, as well as some of their plaintive, songs. Besides concerted pieces, there will be pipe solos and duets.

Choral items will be sung by the International Scottish Choir.

Among the vocalists will be Mr. J. North, Mrs. and Miss Stallard, Miss Anita Graham, and Mr. Peter Donaldson.

As no Scotch entertainment would be complete without humour, this portion of the programme has been entrusted to Mr. James Laurensen and Miss Jean and Master David Dickson, the last-named two being very clever children, who will delight everyone.

The Christchurch Broadcasting Trio will also be heard in some Scotch selections.

### CAPTAIN R. H. NIMMO.

Captain R. H. Nimmo, Scottish Chief, who will deliver a lecturette at 2YA on St. Andrew's eve, as a prelude to the grand Scotch concert, is well-known throughout the Dominion for his work in connection with the furtherance of Scottish national interests. He is 35 years of age, was born in Glasgow, and came to New

Zealand at the age of 14. Some five years ago Captain Nimmo was elected Chief of the Wellington Caledonian Society, which position he has retained until the present time. He it was who was largely responsible for the recent amalgamation of the Wellington Scottish and Caledonian Societies, and this union has resulted in the Caledonian Society growing in strength and affluence to such an extent that it is now the owner of a fine hall, which is a credit to the local Scots.

Captain Nimmo has done much in encouraging the emigration of Scots to this Dominion, and has spared no efforts to find employment for those who have decided to migrate. About a year ago he had the unique distinction of being elected first Dominion Chief of the Federated Scottish and Caledonian Societies of New Zealand.

Captain Nimmo takes an active interest in the public life of Wellington, and has just entered upon his second year of office as chairman of the Wellington Winter Show Association. As well as being connected with other public bodies, he is an en-



—S. P. Andrew.

### CAPTAIN R. H. NIMMO.

thusiastic worker in the New Zealand territorial forces, and is reputed to be one of the youngest officers in the Dominion, holding the auxiliary officers' decoration for twenty years' long and meritorious service.

Something new, and for the first time in Walgett (Victoria) in the way of a church service, was undertaken in the local Presbyterian Church on a recent Sunday evening, when the whole of a service in Melbourne was listened to per medium of a wireless set by a large and interested congregation. The experiment (says the Walgett "Spectator") was an unqualified success, and the preacher could be heard in every corner of the building. The congregation joined in the prayers and hymns, and the local minister directed the listeners-in from the pulpit. The idea could be carried out in New Zealand, also, any Sunday evening.

### LECTURETTES AT 2YA

In addition to the usual afternoon lecturettes on fashions, cooking, first aid, and the care of the hair, there will be some specially interesting lecturettes at the evening sessions.

On Monday, at 7.40, Mr. Stewart will continue his talk on the national railways, and at 9 o'clock Mr. Wheeler, whose first series on Parliamentary topics was so greatly enjoyed will speak on "Politics: The Humour of It."

On Tuesday at 7.40 Mr. E. A. Bradshaw will give a short history of transportation.

Owing to the special relay from the Otaki Maori College on Tuesday evening, Mr. Archibald Sando, manager of "The Dominion," who was to have broadcast a lecturette on "The Romance of the Press," has courteously consented to postpone his interesting talk until a later date. Listeners, however, will have the pleasure of hearing a lecturette by Mr. P. Tahiriwi.

"Time: The History of the Grandfather's Clock" will be the topic of Mr. N. R. Jacobsen's concluding lecturette at 7.40 on Friday evening, the regular talk on Imperial affairs being given by the editor-announcer at 8 p.m.

In the event of his being in Wellington on Saturday evening, December 3, His Majesty's Trade Commissioner, Mr. L. B. Beale, will at 9 o'clock broadcast a lecturette relative to the trade of the Empire.

## BIG MOVE BY 3LO, MELBOURNE

### THREE MORE STATIONS.

One of the most significant items of wireless news since 3LO, Melbourne, got its license is the announcement that the Broadcasting Company of Australia is applying for licenses in South Australia, West Australia, and Tasmania.

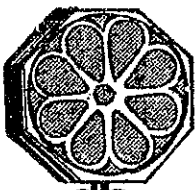
It is intended to operate these stations, if the licenses are granted, on the same lines and just as efficiently as 3LO, Melbourne. It is undoubtedly to the advantage of these States to have stations installed and operated by skilled and successful operators with such experience behind them as have those of 3LO, Melbourne.

#### Better for Everyone.

The application for these broadcast licenses are a logical development of the recommendation of the Australian Wireless Commission that 3LO and 2FC should assist the weaker States with portions of their revenue. It is obvious that to take, say, £10,000 out of the coffers of a successful company like 3LO, Melbourne, and hand it without conditions or guarantees to a weak and inexperienced station in another State would be neither wise nor expedient. To assist in organising a station equal to the task of making wireless popular is praiseworthy, but the grant of money is only one factor in success. 3LO, Melbourne, has come to the conclusion that it is infinitely better both for itself and the States in question for it to assume the responsibility of administering its own funds, if it is to be charged with the duty of aiding the weaker brother. Two birds will then be killed with the one stone. The other States will get the help they want, but 3LO, Melbourne, will not lose by granting it.

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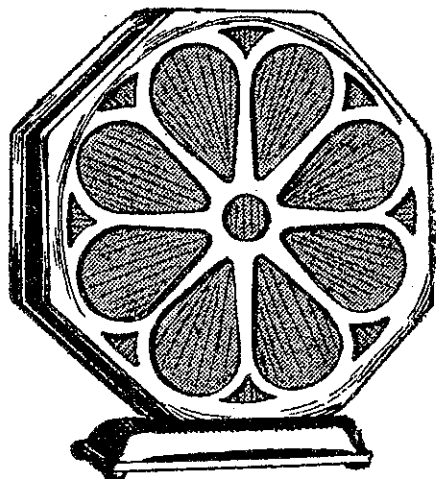
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