

THE NEW ZEALAND Radio Record

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

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LITERARY MATTER.

All literary matter and contributions must be addressed to the Editor. If the return of M.S. is desired, enclose 1d. stamp.

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Advertisements requiring setting should be in hand not later than Friday of each week to ensure publication in succeeding issue. Stereos and blocks, providing space has been arranged beforehand, can be accepted up to midnight Monday. Contract advertisements not changed will be repeated.

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WELLINGTON, JANUARY 20, 1928.

CONSOLIDATION IN 1928.

While 1927 will be marked in New Zealand radio history as the memorable one which, practically at a bound, saw radio take its place as a definite, looked-for public utility, 1928 will, we believe, be equally notable for the consolidation of the ground won in public favour which we expect to see. As a source of public entertainment, the musical programmes now provided are excellent, but the work that remains to be done in building out the radio service is a gradual expansion of hours and the addition of supplementary services in news, market reports, and relays of public events as they take place. The work done in connection with the Tasman flight is an outstanding instance of what we have in mind in this connection. Service on similar lines, in relation to public events, as opportunity offers, will certainly be welcomed by listeners. 1928, as it chances, is election year, and as such, has an important bearing on the course of national life. It may be possible, in that connection, to render an educational service that would be of value.

From knowledge of the plans that we know to be in preparation, we feel safe in promising listeners a steady consolidation throughout 1928, and an increasingly interesting and informative series of programmes, which will be illuminated by a number of star features from time to time. The first of these is indicated in the Maori pageant, to be given on February 6 and 7. This will be found to be but the first of a series which will be distinguished as informative entertainment. The fare to be thus provided is certain to be attractive, and under its lure will lead to a progressive strengthening of public interest in radio and its service. In the enlargement of service that we anticipate, we confidently look for greater attention to rural interests, to whom radio is a necessity, and not a luxury.

The first broadcast station in Egypt was expected to commence transmission during last November.

In some cases a receiver of the tuned radio frequency type will cause trouble by oscillating so badly that it is impossible to get decent reception of the broadcast programmes. In types of sets having the radio frequency transformer mounted parallel to the variable condenser, the oscillations may be stopped by means of a simple expedient. Just move the three coils slightly closer to their respective condensers, and you will be surprised how quickly the unwelcome oscillations will be stopped.

The prospect of the production at some future time of gramophone records which will give visual reproductions of the persons as well as their audible performances was held out by Mr. J. L. Baird (the radio-vision inventor) in the course of a demonstration at London, when he exhibited a machine which is almost perfected.

Station 2FC Sydney announces a slight alteration in its transmitting hours. On Monday and Wednesday nights the station now closes at 11 p.m., while on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, the evening sessions are extended until 11.45 p.m. No alteration has been made in the Sunday night programmes.

2YA'S FLIGHT NIGHT SERVICE

NEWSPAPER PRAISES BROADCASTING.

The Christchurch newspapers relied greatly on the broadcasting, and the "Star" published the following laudatory comments: "Forty thousand radio receiving sets were probably in use to a late hour last night and well into the morning, enabling anything from 100,000 to 200,000 people to hear from Wellington the latest reports and rumours concerning the missing aviators. The service given by the Broadcasting Company in keeping its station on the air was greatly appreciated by the public, and thousands of people sat up in Christchurch until 2.30 a.m., when Wellington closed down.

The Wellington announcers stood by at Trentham and also at the Wellington studio as long as the Post and Telegraph Department had anything to offer, or any hope of locating the airmen. The announcements from Trentham, which were alternated with music from the studio, were always hopeful, and were appreciated by every listener."

The "Star's" radio correspondent, "Ariel," adds: "And there is where it is appropriate to mention the thought that came to the writer that without our broadcasting service, thousands of people throughout New Zealand would not only have missed the thrill of their lives, but would have spent a night of some anxiety and discomfort, perhaps, waiting outside newspaper and post offices after 6 p.m. for news of the New Zealand airmen."

SPORTING

THE NEXT BROADCASTS

January 28 and 30: Takapuna R.C. meeting—1YA.

January 27 and 28: Forbury Park trotting meeting—4YA.

TALK ON MAORI WORDS

Most New Zealanders, at one time or another, have regretted their non-understanding of Maori place names and words, many of which are used as place names or home names. A unique opportunity of learning and hearing a masterly explanation of the meaning of many such words will be presented listeners on the evening of the 27th, when Mr. J. F. Montague will deliver from 1YA a special talk on Maori words. Mr. Montague is a recognised authority on this subject, and is, moreover, one of the best-known elocutionists and adjudicators in the Dominion. His address, therefore, while interesting in itself, will also have the additional charm of being an elocutionary treat.

TOO MUCH JAZZ

SYDNEY STATIONS CRITICISED.

Mr. Julian Ashton, the noted Australian artist, holds strong opinions as to what should and should not be broadcast by the Sydney radio stations. In a letter to station 2BL he states that during the hour from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. one day recently eight fox-trots were broadcast, also two very indifferent organ solos and the sickly sentimental song "Because I Love You." He declares that with the immense range of vocal and instrumental records by musicians and singers of renown it is monstrous that listeners should be subjected to such rubbish.

In the evening, says Mr. Ashton, listeners suffer from fox-trots broadcast from the Ambassadors and the Wentworth; therefore he hopes that this class of music will be strictly eliminated from the morning service. Mr. Ashton, however, thinks the weather forecasts is a most important feature of the broadcasting programme, a subject of interest to every mother of children going to school, every business man, every labourer, and all men on the land. He considers it important that a summary of the news should continue to the broadcast each morning, and he points out that listeners can gain fuller details from the papers.

Thomas A. Edison to Speak to New Zealand Listeners

SPECIAL GRAMOPHONE RECORD COMING TO 2YA

Mr. Thomas A. Edison, the world's greatest inventor and the real father of modern wireless through his incandescent lamp, will be 81 years old on Saturday, February 11, and he will have a special message to deliver to New Zealand people by radio on that date.

It came about in this way: Mr. A. R. Harris, General Manager of the Broadcasting Company, was for several years in Mr. Edison's laboratory, and the great American took a special interest in the young New Zealander, who has since kept in touch with his old chief. Recently when he wrote to Mr. Edison he suggested that a personal message to the New Zealand public by means of a gramophone record would be appreciated. In a typical Edison way the reply has been cabled back "Message shipped."

This message will be the great feature of an "Edison Feature Evening," which is now being organised. In an especial sense the means by which Mr. Edison will personally address New Zealanders represent the adaptation of science to modern life. First Mr. Edison's voice dictates his message to the gramophone record. This is then rushed across the world to us by fast trains and fast oil-burning steamers, and here in New Zealand the record will be put "on the air" by the greatest wonder of all and carry the master magician's voice direct to our listening multitudes.

Some additional interesting features will be incorporated in the evening, which will be quite an outstanding one.

ON FIVE METRES

INTERESTING EXPERIMENTS.

Interesting experiments are being begun by American engineers to investigate the value of waves about five metres long for wireless communication. So far it has not been found possible to communicate for more than a few miles with such short waves. One of the principal reasons for this is that if the waves are produced close to the ground, as they would be in ordinary circumstances, they are rapidly absorbed by buildings, trees, and hills. The second reason for the failure of waves of five metres and less to cover great distances is believed to be the fact that such short waves are not reflected by the Heaviside layer—a strata above the earth which bends all ordinary wireless waves gradually round the earth, and makes it possible for them to cover great distances. Instead, it is believed that the five-metre waves pass right through this layer and escape into free space.

ON TOP OF TALL MASTS.

In order to test this theory and to find out what commercial use may be made of five-metre waves, a number of special five-metre transmitters are being built. Instead of being installed in a building in the ordinary way, these sets, which have been made very compact, are being installed in waterproof cases on the top of tall masts in such a way that they can be controlled from the ground. The effect of this arrangement is that the wave is produced some distance from the ground, and it is not subject to the absorption which has caused five-metre transmissions to fail when the equipment was near the ground.

TENNIS BROADCAST

FEATURED BY 2YA

Intense interest is being shown in the visit of the French tennis stars, and 2YA's broadcast of the play on the two days the visitors will be at Miramar will be eagerly welcomed and will undoubtedly constitute a great advertisement for the game.

A preliminary talk from 2YA on the forthcoming event broadcast last week by one of the officials of the Lawn Tennis Association indicated the importance attached to the occasion. This talk stated that it was seven years since any international team had played in New Zealand, and in that match there were no New Zealanders, the losing team being Norman Brooks and G. L. Paterson, both of Australia. The present visit of the celebrated Frenchmen was unique, in that it was the first occasion on which a purely New Zealand team would be opposed to an international team on their own territory. The Frenchmen had learned their game and played it on hard courts, the result being that they played a very fast and spectacular game.

SUCH IS FAME

A dealer writes: We run a radio department in conjunction with gramophones and records, radio being on the top floor, with gramophones and records below.

To-day a customer came in and asked for the "Radio Record." The girl in charge of gramophones was embarrassed momentarily and then played him "London and Daventry Calling." This was the only "radio record" she knew. She knows better now!

THE NAME RALEIGH RADIO

SIGNIFIES A COMBINATION OF ALL THAT IS GOOD IN RADIO. BUILT INTO A CABINET OF SUPERB DESIGN BY THE FOREMOST RADIO ENGINEERS OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

May we have the pleasure of arranging a Free Demonstration in your own home?

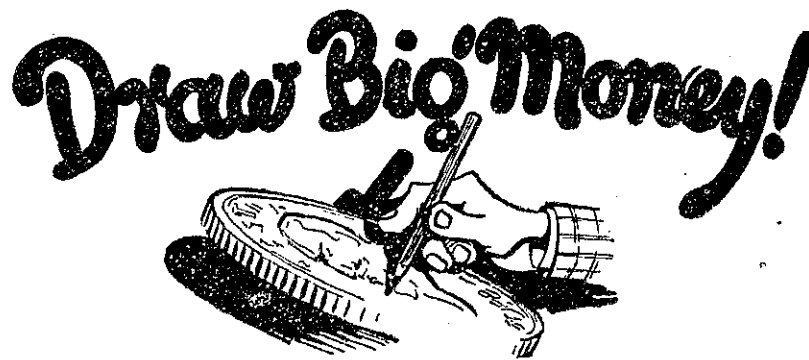
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The system is original and quite simple. That is the reason why we have never yet had one dissatisfied nor disappointed pupil.

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Joss School of Art

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