

NO BROADCAST

OF WELLINGTON RACES

PERMISSION REFUSED

Listeners in general will, we think, learn with regret that permission for the Broadcasting Company to broadcast the forthcoming meeting of the Wellington Racing Club on January 21, 23 and 25 has been refused.

The Broadcasting Company's position in this matter is that it stands ready to render the service of broadcasting the events, but does not desire to intrude into the business of the racing clubs concerned. The public has in the past been given this service and nothing but praise exists for the manner in which it has been given. In fact, the present refusal is understood to be related to the complaint that the service given is so good that it is possible for the desire to back certain horses in subsequent races to be created. Whether this is so or not is in our opinion beside the point, which is that it rests with the public to express its desires in the matter to the authority concerned.

Every facility is always given the press for recording events and in our opinion it is a little regrettable that a barrier should be erected against the broadcasting of news simultaneously with its occurrence. There is no question in our mind but that the publicity given by broadcasting to sport's events acts as a popularising agent and this is recognised by the willingness of the Lawn Tennis Association to have the play of the French stars broadcast and of the Auckland motor cyclists who have requested the company to broadcast its events.

As stated, it is not our place or that of the Broadcasting Company to intrude into the racing club's business. The patrons of racing have the matter in their own hands. If a sufficient public demand is made we have every confidence that the authorities will recognise the desires of "sports" and accord the necessary permission if not for this, then for later meetings.

1YA FEATURES

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAMMES

The prison scene in "Il Trovatore," one of the finest gems of opera will be broadcast from 1YA on Tuesday. In this scene there is one of the greatest duets ever written, "Home to our Mountains," where the fierce and revengeful old Gipsy in her hour of death thinks of the mountains where she brought up Manrico, and would fain fly back to that peaceful retreat. Madame Irene Ainsley takes the part of Azucena, the Gipsy, Mrs. Parry the part of Leonora, and Mr. Robert Peter that of Manrico.

The first of a series of twelve lectures dealing with old New Zealand will be given at 1YA on Tuesday by Mr. A. B. Chappell, M.A. Mr. Chappell has made a thorough study of the subject, and he is well qualified to present in an entertaining manner the result of his investigations. His first lecture will be entitled "The Days Before Discovery."

Included in the fine musical programme on Tuesday evening will be Madame Irene Ainsley's singing of Handel's "Ombra mai fu" to which Miss Ina Bosworth will contribute a violin obligato. Mrs. Parry will also sing solos by Ronald and Mozart. Both Mr. W. Brough and Mr. Robert Peter have favourite songs for Tuesday evening, and they will also be heard in a duet.

A diversified programme of popular songs will be contributed on Wednesday by Miss Beryl Smith, Miss J. Delore, Mr. J. Delore and Mr. M. Balance. Their items will comprise duets and a quartet, as well as solos. Selections are to be made from "La Bohème" and "The Pirates of Penzance."

Mr. T. Harris, elocutionist, has three varied items to offer on Wednesday evening. "Bannerman rode the Grey," one of Adam Lindsay Gordon's racy poems with plenty of action—"The Old Warrior" and "The Cynic."

THE SNAPPY THREE.

This combination is a very popular one on the radio. The vaudeville stage knows them well, and they provide an excellent vaudeville turn for "the air." Variety is the keynote of their programmes and they will continue to supply fresh and more extensive turns. The Snappy Three's next appearance at 1YA's microphone will be on Thursday.

Outstanding and Memorable Maori Pageant from 2YA

FULL ARRANGEMENTS BEING MADE FOR FEBRUARY 6 AND 7

The Maori Pageant to be broadcast from 2YA (and rebroadcast by other stations) on the evening of February 6 will unquestionably take rank as one of the finest spectacular events ever put on the air in Australasia.

The occasion is the anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi, and the pageant is desired to cover in one broad sweep all phases of Maori life right from their coming to New Zealand nine hundred years ago down to the present. This history will be given in half a dozen phases, each inimitably handled by the poetic and musical genius of the race. The whole entertainment will be well balanced and memorable, and listeners everywhere would be well advised to arrange parties in order to let as many friends as possible have the unique experience of enjoying such an historical and musical treat.

The pageant will be broadcast twice, first on Monday, February 6, at the regular programme hour of 8 o'clock onwards, and on Tuesday, February 7, from 11 o'clock to 1 o'clock in the morning for the special benefit of distant dependencies and overseas listeners.

A large party of Maoris has been organised from the Wanganui district. There has been not a little competition for places in the contingent to perform at 2YA, for Maoris have rightly recognised that it is an honour to be selected for the historic occasion. The necessary speakers, for there is considerable histrionic work to be done, have been secured.

The Maori party will remain in Wellington throughout the week in question, and will add variety to the programmes throughout that period.

The Premier Quartet, which consists of Miss Mina Caldwell, Miss Christina Ormiston and Messrs. Barry Coney and Birrell O'Malley, have a choice musical programme for Thursday evening. Their songs will comprise solos and two quartets, "The Sands of Dee" and "Softly Fall the Shades."

The items by the Griffiths Duo on Thursday will be a musical sketch "Adventures by the Sea" and a humorous sketch, "House Hunting."

THE MAORI LANGUAGE.

One of the greatest authorities on the pronunciation of Maori words and Maori names is Mr. J. F. Montague, who will give a talk on this subject at 1YA on Friday.

Miss Lynda Murphy, a very talented young elocutionist who recently appeared in "Pygmalion" at Auckland, will give three sketches for radio listeners on Friday evening.

INSTRUMENTAL TRIO.

Throughout the week at 1YA the best of music will be supplied by the Bosworth-Hemus-Towsey trio. Selections from the works of the masters will be played.

Two vocal duets will be sung by Mrs. Cyril Towsey and Miss Lola Solomon on Friday evening. These will be Laure's "Crucifix" and Lohr's "The Day is Done." These singers will also contribute solos and, along with Messrs. E. Snell and Frank Sutherland, will be heard in the quartettes, "Cast Thy Burden" and "When Evening's Twilight."

On the Lyric Three and Miss Alma McGruer falls a considerable portion of Saturday evening's programme, but who are more able to provide a Saturday evening's entertainment? They will sing popular songs, and Mr. McElwain, one of the best humorists in Auckland, will supply much levity. Popular airs will be played by Neil the Bohemian and by Mr. H. Catterall (mandolin).

The services conducted by the Rev. Lionel Fletcher at Beresford Street Congregational Church will be broadcast on Sunday evening, after which will follow a studio concert provided by the St. Andrew's Quartet and the Bosworth-Hemus-Towsey Trio.

TALKS FROM 1YA.

"What is Top-dressing?" a talk of interest to farmers, will be given by Mr. H. H. Edwards at 1YA on Tuesday evening.

Mr. George Campbell will talk on "Motoring" at 1YA on Friday.

NEW DUO FOR 1YA.

A new combination to be known as the Hazell-Sutherland Duo is to make its debut at 1YA on Wednesday, February 1.

Miss Phyllis Hazell is an Australian contralto, who has recently come to Auckland from Sydney, where she was well known on the concert platform. She has also sung regularly from 2FC.

Mr. Frank Sutherland is well known to all listeners to 1YA, where he has been one of the most popular baritones for some time past. He is a member of the Waitara Quartet, but will now relinquish his place in that combination.

ON SHORTWAVE

PCJJ RETURNS

Mr. F. W. Sellens reports.—Short-wave reception is still suffering from summer time conditions, especially from the American stations:

On Saturday morning, January 7, Big Ben was heard, after which a man's voice was heard wishing all his old colleagues a happy New Year. Could not hear enough to understand what his talk was about. KDKA was not heard till after 4 p.m., and then weak 'phone strength at its best.

2XG, Rocky Point, N.Y., was heard testing on about 22.5 metres, and later on, about 32.5 metres. After testing on the latter wavelength, he said "This completes the test on wavelength No. 22." When testing, he said "Write down amateur," "write down expansion," "write down equation," etc. All the words to "write down," if not clearly spoken, would be hard to understand.

4AE Gore and RFN were heard in the evening, static being bad on the latter station.

On Sunday afternoon KDKA was not strong enough for the speaker till just before they closed down at 4.35 p.m. It was mushy. 2XAF was also very weak singing, off at 5.31 p.m.

RFN was the only short-wave station heard during the evening.

3LO was testing on 32 metres on Monday morning from 7 a.m. Music from gramophone records was received at good speaker volume. Fading was worse than usual.

As PCJJ was to transmit their first regular programme on Tuesday morning after their two months' silence, I was up bright and early. 3BY Melbourne, on about 31 metres, and a foreign station on about 18 metres transmitting high-class music were heard before the Dutch station started.

PCJJ started at 4.50 a.m. with the Dutch National Anthem. This was followed by a programme of gramophone items. Reception was spoilt by a morse station. The volume was disappointing after the strength they were heard on the previous Friday up till 7.30 a.m. Signals got so faint, that to me, they were not audible after about 6.30 a.m.

ANE Java was transmitting a programme of musical items, received at good volume, but was also spoilt by morse. 7CW was heard during the evening.

On Wednesday morning, Big Ben, through 5SW, was only just audible.

RFM was very good on Thursday evening. Band, accordion (or a similar instrument) and orchestral music was heard before 10.30 p.m.

On Friday morning ANR was tuned in at 5.20 a.m., when talk was heard till 5.30 a.m. After this, gramophone music was transmitted. Reception was good speaker strength and modulation, except for a short period, good. They called "Hullo amateurs in —" here followed many countries. A long list of names and addresses was read from all parts of the world, South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand predominating, but included England, China, India, etc. Among the names were Mr. Rait, Brooklyn, and myself. All were thanked for valuable particulars, and advised that future reports were welcome.

PCJJ was on the air, but not strong enough to enjoy.

5SW were heard commencing their regular morning transmission. I missed Big Ben, but could hear a man and woman talking. Too weak to understand.

It was interesting to note that PCJJ and 5SW were about the same volume at 7.35 a.m.; both weak, but just strong enough to understand nature of transmission—speech or music.

RFN, the most consistent short-wave station of all, was up to its usual form during the evening.

Other Good Performances.

A. P. Morrison (Brooklyn): Having had a fairly long holiday at Christmas, I have had more time to search for DX short-wave stations. On Thursday, January 5, I received 2XAM on 23.8 metres, broadcasting programme from WJZ, New York City, New York, between 8.45 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. Some of the items heard were two piano-forte items by Ollie Yetton, also items by Edward Rice, violinist. The strength of this station was quite good working three valves on 'phones, because I believe it does not broadcast on extra high power. Saturday, January 7, I received station 2XAL on approximately 31 metres, relaying programme from WRNY, New York. The programme consisted of items by the Georgia Minstrel Boys in songs and patter, also selections from the Remington Band from the Remington Studio, New York, the conductor being Edwin Daniels. Also last night, January 7, I heard Carlos Braggio, Buenos Ayres, station RC88, on 45 metres, putting over gramophone items. Before closing he and his son gave a long talk in Spanish. I logged him at 11.15 p.m., and he closed down at 12.5 a.m.

This morning, January 8, I heard what I believe to be PCJJ, Holland, carrying out a preliminary test. I read where this station was to reopen again, but not till Tuesday morning, and thought they might carry out a test before that, so rose at 6 a.m. and picked this station up at 6.15 a.m. The volume was equal to 2XAF at its best, and I could distinctly hear people talking in the studio. One or two musical items were heard, but no announcement. What makes me more sure it was PCJJ was that six or seven carrier-wave adjustments were made. I did not hear him after 7 a.m. I also heard 5CW, Chelmsford, England, on the morning of Monday, January 8, 1.30 a.m., but reception was difficult

PUBLIC INTEREST

DEMANDS BY TELEPHONE

MORE CONSIDERATION WANTED.

The intense interest displayed in the trans-Tasman flight, and the reliance placed upon the Broadcasting Company by the public for information in connection therewith, is indicated by the extent to which the telephones of 2YA were bombarded by the public during the evening of Tuesday, the 10th, and the morning of January 11. Although the station was endeavouring to give the public the fullest possible service by broadcasting on relay from Trent-ham all news as it came to hand, so that listeners could be kept closely in touch with the situation, hundreds of non-listeners bombarded the station by telephone, and in many cases, although courteously given such information as was available, undertook argument in the hope of extracting more than could at first be stated.

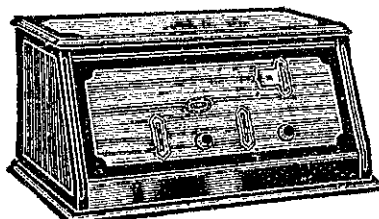
This is an evil which afflicts all sources of information at times when events of moment are under way, and in the case of many newspaper offices forces the announcement on such occasions that telephone inquiries will not be answered. In the case of the Broadcasting Company, its first duty is to its listeners, who pay for the service it is able to render, and in the case of non-listeners who ring the Broadcasting Company, the first requirement might reasonably be a courteous application and a ready acceptance of the information that is given. Throughout the whole period of public anxiety in connection with the aviators, it is literally true that an employee was stationed at the telephone to answer inquiries. Inevitably under the stress of the demand occasioned by public curiosity, there were long periods when certain individuals on frequent ringing found the telephone engaged, and it is on record that some such persons, on eventually getting through to the company, were inconsiderate enough to repay the company's courtesy by alleging that the telephone receiver had deliberately been left off.

Listeners who were in touch with 2YA and 3YA (which rebroadcast 2YA on that occasion) will appreciate the special efforts made by the company to inform their clients and the public in general of the fortunes of the aviators, and will, we think, have little sympathy with behaviour of the type we mention. It can be taken for granted that it is the aim of the Broadcasting Company to give listeners, and the public in general, the fullest possible service through the medium that it has at command, and it is at any rate unreasonable for the execution of the service to be hindered by an unduly heavy demand on the part of the non-listening public for additional information per telephone.

on account of morse. On Friday, January 6, 2XAF's programme came in at great strength. He gave his wavelength at 31.2 instead of the usual 32.77 metres.

I might state that station KFON, 242 metres, runs late every Monday night until 10 p.m., sometimes till 10.30 p.m. I have also heard him other nights also running late.

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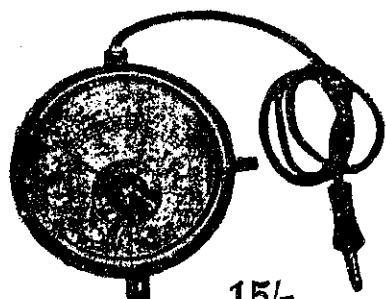
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