

THE NEW ZEALAND Radio Record

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P.O. Box 1032.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 1928.

CHURCH BROADCASTING.

For over fifty years John Wesley travelled the highways and byways of Britain to preach the Gospel. In that time he addressed innumerable meetings and preached countless sermons, driving home the message he had to deliver. To-day by means of wireless broadcasting, one speaker in a fifteen-minute address before the microphone can reach more people than did John Wesley in the whole course of his lifetime. That is an arresting figure used by the Rev. H. R. L. Shepherd, the prominent vicar of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, in an article on church broadcasts in the "Radio Times." In this article he recalls the trepidation with which the first broadcast service from this church was undertaken, and cites the protests that were received from other churches at a broadcast during church hours. The day for those protests has passed away—although now no services are broadcast from this church at hours other than eight in the evening so as not to interfere with others—and those who formerly protested are now themselves eagerly using the same means of reaching the multitude and spreading the Gospel.

"The broadcast service is an established fact," states the article, "and, together with the Sunday night Epilogue, is perhaps the most generally popular feature of the week's programme."

"Does broadcasting cheapen religion? I wonder what people mean when they talk about cheapening religion. I take it for granted that the provision of wireless services for invalids, the bed-ridden, and the aged, to say nothing of the busy mother of a large family, needs no advocacy. The evidence is altogether in its favour. But what about the ordinary able-bodied man and woman? Is there, when all is said and done, any essential difference in the message of Christian ethics when it is heard by one man in a pew or by another sitting at his own fireside?"

"No doubt some are inclined to stay at home to listen rather than to attend church; but there are many, as I know, who have determined as a result of broadcast services that they ought to link themselves up with their church or chapel."

"I wish it was possible to quote from the letters which have been received. I can only say that if an impartial judgment were made, it would be found that religion itself has been enormously widened in its appeal by the religious services that have been broadcast from various churches and from the studio itself. I do not find any evidence that those who join in these services reverently and sing the hymns in their homes are losing any sense of what the Cross means, or of the obligations of the Christian profession."

"In broadcasting, Christianity has, perhaps, the greatest instrument for conversion that has been given to it since Jesus Christ proclaimed it, and it would seem to me not only amazingly foolish but strangely faithless not to acclaim as a gift of God this new instrument that the religious sincerity of those who control broadcasting has allowed the churches to use, and has persistently encouraged them in using."

"The task before the church to-day—a task that it must perform or lose its very raison d'être—is to get the message of Christ across to those who are still outside His influence. The people who go to church already, who have gone there regularly nearly every Sunday of their lives, are people for whom we may be thankful but about whom we must surely cease to worry. The important people, the ones whom we must consistently have on our consciences, are those who, for one reason or another, do not hear what Christ stands for in life; what are His values and standards, and how they may be practised in the rush and bustle of these new and modern days. These are the people who so often misunderstand Christianity, who only connect it with church-going and the careful observance of what are called religious duties, and who have failed to see that it is something vastly bigger and different, not indeed easier but far more difficult, that it makes far sterner demands on men, and that it is a way of life, and not in the first instance a philosophy or a body of theology, or a system of credal statements."

In facing the situation in New Zealand, the broadcasting administration has sought the co-operation of the churches themselves in determining the detailed procedure of church broadcasts. Committees are in process of formation in all centres and an allocation of time satisfactory, we understand, to the interests concerned, has been determined on in Christchurch and Auckland. This has meant some concessions on the part of certain interests. The outcome can only be regarded as satisfactory by all who wish for the best use of the opportunity presented, and in that position the committees have already justified their formation as entrusting the detailed administration of this service to those most intimately concerned.

SPORTING

NEXT WEEK'S ATTRACTIONS

RACING—RUGBY—BOXING.

Monday, April 23:

Marlborough Racing Club's Meeting—2YA.

Saturday, April 28:

Wellington Trotting Club Meeting—Hutt Park—2YA.

Rugby Football—Athletic Park—2YA.

Rugby Football—Eden Park—1YA (subject to competitions having commenced).

Boxing—Gillespie v. Leckie 4YA.

1YA CHURCH COMMITTEE

PROPORTIONS ALLOTTED.

The first meeting of the 1YA Church Service Committee was held in Auckland on Friday last and was attended by the Rev. H. M. Smyth, representing the Church of England; the Rev. W. D. Morrison-Sutherland, representing the Presbyterian Church; the Rev. Edward Drake, representing the Methodist Church; the Rev. Lionel B. Fletcher, representing the Congregational Church; Mr. D. Donaldson, representing the Church of Christ; the Rev. Ernest Nicholls, representing the Baptist Church; Mr. S. J. Hayden, station director at 1YA; Mr. Culford Bell, announcer at 1YA; Mr. W. J. Bellingham, musical director; Mr. C. S. Booth, of the administrative department of the Radio Broadcasting Company of New Zealand, Ltd.

The station director, Mr. S. J. Hayden was elected to the chair as members of the committee were anxious to retain their voting power on the floor of the meeting.

Certain alterations to the constitution and rules were duly carried.

Considerable discussion then ensued on the question of representation, two of the strongest denominations desiring proportional representation instead of one representative for each church.

After a good deal of discussion it was finally agreed to give the committee as at present constituted six months' trial.

Little difficulty was experienced in arranging the proportion of each denomination for broadcasting during the year, and this was finally decided upon as follows:—

Anglican, first Sunday in each month.
Presbyterian, second Sunday in each month, except November. During this month the Presbyterians will not broadcast.

Methodist, third Sunday in each month except September, January, and May.

Baptist and Congregational, alternate on each fourth Sunday.

Church of Christ, second Sunday in November and the third Sunday in September, January, and May.

The proportion is as follows:—

Anglican	12
Presbyterian	11
Methodist	9
Baptist	6
Congregational	6
Church of Christ	4

Totalling forty-eight Sundays, leaving the four-fifths Sundays in the year vacant for such churches as the committee may allocate.

The committee in allocating the proportion of broadcasting Sundays stressed the desirability of co-ordinating the Sunday broadcasts of the four stations, and it has been left to the company to endeavour to arrange some scheme by which overlapping would be avoided.

NEW JAPANESE STATIONS

Six new high-powered stations are to be on the air in May or June, according to a letter from Japan. Details are as follow:—

Location.	Call letter.	Wave-length.	Output power.
Tokyo	JOAK	345 m.	10 k.w.
Osaka	JOBK	400 "	10 "
Kioto	JOJK	353 "	10 "
Kumamoto	JOKE	360 "	10 "
Sakai	JOKE	390 "	10 "
Sapporo	JOIK	361 "	10 "

To prevent interference with radio reception in the neighbourhood, the United States Federal Radio Commission have issued a request that battery chargers be operated after midnight and in the morning hours. Interference with programme reception caused by these chargers is one of the chief sources of complaints received by the commission. While that body has no authority to prohibit operation of battery chargers during the hours of programme broadcasting, it has followed the policy of taking up the matter directly with the individual who is responsible, and in nearly every case has obtained co-operation.

BRITISH RADIO GOODS

A bit better quality:
A bit cheaper;
In short "a job!"
You get them from:

HARTLE & GRAY,
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MARCONI'S LATEST

"IMPORTANT NEW DISCOVERIES"

WILL THEY AFFECT BROADCASTING?

MILLIONS of broadcast listeners throughout the world may be immediately affected by any new revolutionary discovery in radio. Therefore particular interest attaches to the following Associated Press message published in the United States daily newspapers:—

Naples, Italy, March 19.

Marconi has arrived in Naples from London, and will shortly go to Rome, where he will consult Premier Mussolini concerning important new discoveries in the realm of wireless.

Just what bearing Marconi's "important new discoveries" will have upon broadcasting remains to be seen. A month has elapsed since the above news was circulated and no further announcement has been made.

A NEW FEATURE AT 1YA

PLAYS AND COMEDY SCENES.

Arrangements have now been completed with Mr. J. F. Montague, the well-known producer and elocutionist, to present regularly a number of modern comedies, and also comedy scenes from the comedies of another generation. The first of these plays, a one-act comedy, "Bobbie," will be presented



Mr. J. F. Montague.

—Schmidt Studio, Auckland.

ed on Friday, May 4, and on the following week, Bernard Shaw's brilliant one-act comedy, "How he lied to her Husband," will be given. These will be followed later by scenes from "The School for Scandal" (Sheridan), and by the Trial Scene from the "Pickwick Papers," and later again by other plays, including a three-act comedy and a powerful dramatic play, "Campbell of Kilmohr" (J. A. Ferguson), together with a delicious one-act modern comedy, "Just Fanny." Mr. Montague's long experience as a player and producer is a sufficient guarantee of the excellence of these productions.

YANKEE BROADCASTING

sage from Washington, dated March 12, says:—

"With an amendment proposing a drastic change in the existing broadcasting system—equal distribution of stations among the States on basis of population—the House passed a Senate Bill to-day to extend for one year the life of the Federal Radio Commission."

"The measure now must go back to the Senate for consideration of the House revision. Under its present grant the Commission would cease to exist on Thursday."

"The House approved the amendment by a vote of 296 to 133. This vote found the membership split along country and city lines, the former supporting the proposal to distribute stations according to population."

"Two other changes in the Bill were adopted. They provide reduction of the term of broadcasting licenses from six to three months, and other stations from one year to six months, and elimination of a provision whereby the Commission could be continued by appointment of its members."

CHILDREN'S HOUR AT 3YA

INTEREST OF THE PUBLIC

COMMITTEE TO HELP WITH WORK.

A well-attended conference of representatives of organisations interested in children's welfare was held in the studio at 3YA on Thursday afternoon, April 12. There was a general "round table" discussion on this splendid branch of the Broadcasting Company's service, the company being the recipient of many complimentary references. It was unanimously agreed that a committee would be set up to render all the help it could.

The chairman was Mr. E. J. Bell, the doyen of the uncles of 3YA. Mr. A. R. Harris (general manager of the Broadcasting Company) and Mrs. A. R. Hall (principal of the children's department) were also present, as well as the following: Miss Batey, representing St. Saviour's Orphanage; Miss Chaplin, representing the National Council of Women, Canterbury; Miss Cardale, representing the Society for the Protection of Women and Children; Miss Boyle, representing the Girl Guides; Miss Hervey, representing the Mothers' Union; Miss A. M. Bentham, representing the Y.W.C.A.; Miss L. Cowan, teacher of elocution; Miss A. Warren, Aunt May of 3YA; Miss M. Hall, Aunt Pat and organiser of the children's department at 3YA; Brother Hendrick, representing Marist Brothers and the convents; Mr. Clark, representing the Headmasters' Association; Mr. Rule, representing the Presbyterian Orphanages; Mr. G. D. Dickson, representing the Junior Internationals; Mr. A. J. McIlwainey, representing the Y.M.C.A.; Mr. L. Slade, station director at 3YA; Mr. C. Carr, announcer at 3YA and Uncle Sam at 3YA.

Another conference will be held on May 1, when the members of the committee will be appointed.

WHEN STATIONS CLASH

A SYDNEYITE'S DILEMMA.

New Zealanders have reason to be thankful that there are not two powerful broadcast stations transmitting simultaneously in the same city. It would not be an easy matter on many sets now in use to tune out one station and hear the other. A correspondent writes to a Sydney paper:—Dear Sir, I recently purchased a wireless set; with much pride it was installed, and I settled myself in a comfortable chair, earphones in place, and commenced to twirl the different knobs.

Stations came fast and furious. What I heard was something like this:

"Station 2FC, Sydney. Mr. Gopops will now speak on... 'the night I bid thee farewell'... at the Flemington saleyards... I can honestly say without prejudice... cod fish sold for 8s. per basket... aaaaand while these pale moon gleamed above... Baracac got a headlock on Mikel, with a mighty heave of his shoulders... Mr. De Valve will sing, 'The Lass with a Delicate Air'... one of our most promising fillies... In connection with 3LQ's competition... the Newtown Band will play, 'Just We Two'... followed by a description of the motor racing... from the Manly Band Rotunda 2BL, Sydney, broadcasting, we are... changing over to... 'The Bonnie Bunch of Loch Lomond'... while the price of lead remains at nineteen pounds ten... and I will say in conclusion... God Save the King... good-night, good-night... Yours, etc., H. Mason."

Speedwriting

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EXAMPLES:

3 lbs., any distance, either Island, 6d.
7 lbs., 50 miles, 6d.; any distance, either Island, 1/-.

Communicate with the nearest Station-master, District Manager, or Passenger Agent for full particulars.