

# THE NEW ZEALAND Radio Record

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A. J. HEIGHWAY,  
Managing Editor,  
"The N.Z. Radio Record,"  
P.O. Box 1032,  
Dominion Buildings, Mercer Street, Wellington.

WELLINGTON, FRIDAY, MAY 11, 1928.

## A BIG ADVANCE.

None who has heard the 2YA Orchestra will deny that in it there has been created an instrument which will confer a benefit not only upon broadcasting in the Dominion, but upon the general musical standard of the community. The excellence of the combination places it immediately in the front rank as definitely the leading orchestra in the Dominion. The capacity of the artists is such that the whole range of orchestral work lies within their compass. There is no danger that their performances will drift away from the popular taste, for special measures are being taken to sound the public's wishes in respect of items to be played. The development of this orchestra simultaneously with the inception of musical committees at the different centres to establish relations between broadcasting and the organisations specially engaged in fostering musical and dramatic, give ground for hoping that a definite advance will steadily be made in the public appreciation of good music. Splendid work has been done, and is still being done, by all the musical organisations, and with the stimulus which will be given to the love of music by the finished performances of 2YA Orchestra, they should reap a richer reward in enlarged audiences, and greater public response to the fare provided. Visiting artists have often had occasion to complain of the Dominion's lack of artistic response. That reproach will be removed only by steady educational work, by broadcasting and other means, and the natural expansion of population.

## THE UNSEEN AUDIENCE

## A VOICE IN THE DARKNESS

(Contributed.)

OF all the most fascinating speculations in regard to Radio work is the question which every artist puts to himself, "I wonder how it has gone over?" A really natural question, as it is certain no one who makes public appearances can be quite truthful if they claim to be indifferent to the attitude of their audience. It is easy enough to gauge the feelings of an audience from the platform, when the atmosphere can be sensed, but when you can neither see nor hear those thousands who may be listening to an item, it is really a matter of intense interest to know how any number that you may have given has "gone over." For this reason it is always nice to know from 'phone calls, letters, etc., how any particular item strikes the individual fancy. One great difference in the question of putting the work over is that you have no

"mob" to which to work, and in certain classes of work this is of course a disadvantage. It therefore becomes more or less necessary to choose work in which the appeal can be made more to the individual rather than to the "mob." This applies to the general course of presenting radio work, but a new experience was added the other night when the light failed for some considerable time. During this period I have the pleasure of giving an item out of the regular course of the official programme just to keep the air open until such time as the break was rectified. The sensation was one of almost helplessness, it was most difficult to concentrate on the unseen audience. I suppose that this would be a matter of adjustment, but it "gave me to think." Why should it be easier to work in the light than in total darkness? I knew the piece equally well with my eyes closed as with them open, but still the fact was there; it was harder to put over. There was perhaps the sensation of almost certainties to contend with, and that might possibly have been the cause, but whatever it may have been, my feelings were one of thankfulness when light was once more restored and I could again visualise my unseen audience.

WHAT'S THE ANSWER—  
PUZZLE FOR LISTENERS

HAIFA-GUINEA PRIZE.

A correspondent in Havelock North, Hawke's Bay, this week propounds a query which might well be put up to listeners for answer, with the bait of half-a-guinea prize attached. He writes:—

Stations 2YA and 1YA fade very badly here at night; the afternoon sessions are perfect. Can you explain the following? On Sunday, April 22, I tuned-in band programme from 2YA, and fading and mushiness was so bad. I gave it up and tuned-in 3YA, who were re-broadcasting 2YA. From that station the programme came in perfectly, with no sign of fading. I repeated the process continually, with the same result. What's the answer?

We could offer an answer, but it will be more interesting, we think, if we offer a prize of 10s. 6d. for the best answer or explanation to the question put, which, for exactness, we will state thus:—

What factors influence the following phenomena: "Perfect reception from 3YA of a re-broadcast by 2YA, when direct reception of 2YA is affected by fading... and mushiness."

Discussion of this problem will, we think, be of interest. Competition closes May 25, and winning paper will be published in issue of June 1. The right is reserved to make extracts from papers of others than the winner. Our decision final. Address entries: Editor, "Radio Record," P.O. Box 1032, Wellington.]

## BOXING BROADCAST

CAPACITY HOUSE IN  
DUNEDIN

## APPRECIATION OF LISTENERS.

There were 5000 people present and the door-takings were £700 at the boxing match, Leckie v. Gillespie, in Dunedin on Saturday, April 28.

And a description of the match was being broadcast!

All the recent boxing matches in Dunedin have been put "on the air," and it is quite evident that broadcasting does not affect the door takings. The Dunedin Boxing Association has been very keen on broadcasting, being convinced that the sport would benefit.

Incidentally it may be mentioned that the Broadcasting Company has received letters from all over New Zealand, from as far as Warkworth, in North Auckland, expressing appreciation of the broadcasts. Boxing enthusiasts throughout the Dominion have appreciated the action of the Dunedin Boxing Association in permitting the broadcast of contests.

A Milton correspondent remarks in his letter: "In consequence of the two previous broadcasts of matches, a number of enthusiasts went to Dunedin from here to see the match."

## SPORTING

## NEXT WEEK'S RUGBY

Rugby Football—Eden Park, 1YA; Athletic Park, 2YA; Lancaster Park, 3YA; Carisbrook, 4YA.

## AUCKLAND G.N. MEETING

## PERMISSION TO BROADCAST

Permission has been granted by the Auckland Racing Club to the Broadcasting Company to relay a description of the events at the Grand National Meeting on June 2, 4 and 6.

3YA CHURCH SERVICE  
COMMITTEESUNDAY MORNING  
SERVICES

At a meeting of the 3YA Church Service Committee, there were present: The Revs. D. Gardner Miller (chairman), H. Earle, T. W. Armour, and Harold Sharp. Mr. L. Slade (station director of 3YA), and Mr. C. S. Booth, of the headquarters administrative staff.

Religious services in connection with the diamond jubilee celebrations were discussed, and the committee recommended that the following services should be broadcast on Sunday, May 27:—Morning, Congregational; afternoon, Anglican Cathedral; evening, St. Paul's Presbyterian.

The chairman gave notice of motion that the Broadcasting Company should be recommended to consider the broadcasting of morning services, once a month, by the Anglican and Presbyterian churches.

## Prosecutions Instituted by Department

## LISTENERS PENALISED FOR UNLICENSED RECEIVERS

The period of grace allowed having elapsed, listeners should note that the Post and Telegraph Department is already instituting prosecutions for those still in possession of and using unlicensed receiving apparatus. In Wellington in the past week two prosecutions were brought and resulted in each case in the Bench inflicting fines of £3, plus court costs of 10/- and solicitor's fees of 10/6 each. The delay in registration thus proved somewhat costly.

The regulations are strict, and require that any set not desired to be used shall be dismantled and put in such condition that it cannot readily be assembled for reception.



—Andrew, photo.  
MR. A. H. F. WRIGHT.

Mr. A. H. F. Wright is solo clarinet and saxophone player of the new 2YA Orchestra. Mr. Wright, who was born in Surrey, England, has had considerable experience in theatre orchestral work. In Wellington his ability is familiar to patrons of most of the leading theatres—the King's, Queen's, Paramount, Arterial, and Opera House, and, until quite recently, the Regent. As a member of the band of the New Zealand Brigade, Mr. Wright gained very useful military band experience in England. During the past two months, Mr. Wright has afforded listeners-in to 2YA ample evidence as to his artistry as a solo player, his clarinette and saxophone contributions having been widely appreciated. His work is notable for a remarkable beauty of tone, artistic interpretation, and truly sympathetic treatment. Mr. Wright, it is confidently expected, will prove a brilliant unit in an outstanding organisation.

CHILDREN'S WORK AT  
3YAADVISORY COMMITTEE SET  
UP

An enthusiastic gathering of representatives of organisations interested in child welfare was held at the Radio Broadcasting Company's studio on Tuesday afternoon. A committee to be known as the 3YA Children's Sessions Advisory Committee was formed, and Mr. D. B. Parton was elected to the chair for the ensuing twelve months. Miss M. Hall, local organiser of the children's sessions at 3YA, was appointed secretary.

Those present were: Mrs. Norton Francis and Mrs. R. Wallwork, representing the Parents' National Educational Union; Miss Cardale, representing the Society for the Protection of Women and Children; Mrs. W. Machin, representing the National Council of Women; Major Ashworth, representing the Boy Scouts; Mr. Clarke, representing the Head Masters' Association; Brother Hendricke, representing the Marist Brothers; the Rev. Frederick Rule, representing the Presbyterian Orphanages; Mr. H. Bannehr, representing the Anglican Orphanages; Mr. G. D. Dickson, representing the Scottish Society; Uncle Sam, Uncle Jack, Chuckle, Big Brother, Aunt May, Mother Hubbard of 3YA; Mr. L. Slade, station director of 3YA; Mrs. A. R. Hall, Principal of the Children's Department of the Radio Broadcasting Company's administrative staff. Apologies were received from Miss A. M. Bentham of the Y.W.C.A., Mrs. W. G. Roberts of the Mothers' Union, Mrs. D. James of the Welsh Society, and Miss Lucy Cowan, elocution teacher.

## WOOLSTON BAND

## TO PLAY FOR 3YA

Station 3YA has been successful in making an engagement with the Woolston Band, the leading band in Christchurch and one of the finest in New Zealand, to play regularly at the studio.

3YA will now have four bands taking regular turns—the Band of the First Canterbury Regiment, Municipal Band, Derry's Military Band, and Woolston.

The Christchurch station cannot, therefore, do much more in regard to brass band music.

## THE ALL BLACKS

## RESULTS OF MATCHES

## BROADCAST AT FIRST OPPORTUNITY.

M. B. Charteris, Greymouth: I had meant to write this letter before, but, as late as I am, time still permits to ask this question. I have not seen in your columns any arrangement whereby the All Blacks' fixtures, or most of them, will be broadcast by South African stations. I have been told in this town by several that some of the matches are to be broadcast, so I thought the only possible way would be to ask through your medium. Could you tell me whether the S.A. stations are broadcasting any of the All Blacks' engagements. Hoping to see where you say "yes."—[When the tour was first mentioned the Broadcasting Company fully investigated the position, both as regards broadcasting on the ordinary band and on short wave. Two factors are against either course being undertaken. First, the time the matches are played is about midnight, New Zealand, and, secondly, for some unknown reason South African transmissions are not well received in New Zealand. One theory is that the sound waves follow the shortest route, which is across the south magnetic pole, due to the curve of the earth, and reception here even of short-wave transmissions is quite exceptional. News of the matches will be called and the results broadcast from all stations at the first opportunity after receipt.—Ed.]

LUCKY CHILDREN OF  
TO-DAY

A Christchurch listener writes to 2YA as follows:—"I am one who listens very often to your children's session, and I get much pleasure from same. My age is only 58, but don't tell anybody. You put on some really good, interesting items for old and young. Your stunt from Thorndon station in giving a send-off to Uncle Jasper was most enjoyable. I am sure many of your young radio friends must have felt very much downhearted and I know there must have been a lot of eyes that were dim with tears. You know some people cannot imagine the pleasure your children's sessions give, but I am always glad to hear them. My word, had such a thing been possible 50 years ago, what pleasure we would have had. I remember somewhere in the 'seventies, I used to think how wonderful it was with two cardboard boxes and a piece of string perhaps 20 or 30 yards long, to hear a whisper. Now here I get Sydney in great volume without even the string. Best of wishes to 2YA and its 'tiddies' sessions."

## Hellesen Radio Batteries

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