

# NEWS FOR THE CHILDREN

## Children's Sessions for Next Week

### HOW A CLOCK WORKS

#### TELLING TIME BY THE WEATHER.

The search for the secret of perpetual motion still goes on, and again we have someone who believes he has found it.

This is a young engineer of Neuchâtel, Switzerland. He has invented a clock which he thinks will go for ten thousand years without being wound up or repaired. It has already been going for some months. The motive power is supplied by a combination of the barometer and the thermometer as temperature rises and falls.

Of course, this is no more perpetual motion than a clock worked by the rise and fall of the tides would be. Still, it is a very ingenious contrivance. The idea of getting power from a barometer is not new. What is new, is a clock so delicate that power so small can drive it.

### THE WONDERFUL TELEPHONE BUSINESS

#### WHAT IT MEANS IN LONDON.

Over 553 million local calls were made last year by London telephone subscribers, while inland trunk calls from London averaged 16,000 a day.

London has now 565,000 telephones, nearly 360,000 miles of telephone wires were added last year, making nearly two and a half million miles! The telephone directories issued weighed 1700 tons and contained nearly 300,000 entries.

The first London automatic exchange was opened last year and 72 more have been designed. Over 700 of the new bright-red telephone kiosks have been set up.

### A BIG BED AND A HARD-BOILED WATCH

Here is a true story of a native boy and his big brass bedstead, and of how he boiled an egg. It is told by Mr. Clifford W. Collinson, who has a long lease of the Island of Sambo, in the Solomon Protectorate group, in the South Seas.

A native boy had a passionate desire for a brass bedstead. "When the bedstead arrived," Mr. Collinson said, "it was too large to go in the house and the boy placed the bedstead on an eligible site and built his house over it."

"To this day," he added, "he sleeps under the bedstead to avoid spoiling it." Lads of ten or twelve did all the house-work at Mr. Collinson's island home. "One morning," he said, "I told my boy to boil me an egg for breakfast, and I lent him my watch to time it. Ten minutes went by and nothing happened."

"I went into the kitchen and found the boy peering into the saucepan with a very worried expression. The silly fellow had put the watch into the pan along with the egg and hard-boiled them both."

#### THE EXPLORER.

Elizabeth Bryntrude Eyre. One morning climbed out of her chryse. (She was sixteen months old. At the time, I am told, And fell with a bump, which raised such a lump, On her fat little cheek, that it stayed for a week, But Elizabeth Bryntrude Eyre Didn't cry!



### The Mighty Atom Crystal

Complete with tweezers and Catwhisker in Sealed Box Write for FORMO Price List.

A. E. STRANGE

401 Worcester Street, CHRISTCHURCH Wholesale and Retail.

### UNCLES AND AUNTS AT 3YA

At the Radio Station 3YA, Jolly good uncles and aunts are they; There is Uncle Sam, whose voice so clear Rings strongly out to far and near. He always reads well chosen tales, And his good humour never fails. Then Uncle Jack comes once a week, All listeners like to hear him speak. There's Uncle Peter and Peterkin, And wise Big Brother too comes in— A favourite he, with one and all, From the older folk to the children small. And then the aunts from whose bright brains Many a hint each uncle gains. There is Pollyanna, and Mother Hubbard, (There's only wireless in her cupboard), And Auntie Pat, Aunt May, Aunt Vi, With Auntie Edna, who all try To make their little listeners say, "A jolly good station is 3YA!" And then each day there come big dozens, Merry bands of clever cousins, None of whom wriggle and say, "I can't", When asked to perform by any aunt; And whether to play, recite, or sing, They are all ready for everything! At times when the hour is nearly done, Aunts, uncles, and cousins join in fun: All gather round with "Hey, Diddle, Diddle," (Here's for a limerick, joke, or riddle). Then comes the closing lullaby, And each small listener heaves a sigh On hearing the announcer say, "Our session is over for to-day."

### KIDDIES' ENTERTAINERS

#### AT AUSTRALIAN STATIONS

The juveniles (and many grown-ups) will be interested in the following list of bed-time session entertainers at the various Australian stations.

The "Hello Man," 2FC; "Uncle Rus," 2FC; "Jerry," 2FC; "Mike," 2FC; "Uncle Bas," 2BL; "Uncle Peter," 2BL; "Cousin Willa," 2BL; "Cousin Eric," 2BL; "Cousin Marjorie," 2BL; "Bringing," 2BL; "The Tiny Tots," 2BL; "Hector, the wireless bird," 2BL; "Uncle George," 2GB; "Uncle Dick," 2GB; "Uncle Victor," 2GB; "Little Willie," 2GB; "Bimbo," 2GB; "Aunt Flo," 2UV; "Wendy," 2KY; "Billy Bunny," 3LO; "Brother Bill," 3LO; "The Captain," 3LO; "Mary Mary," 3LO; "Mary Gumleaf," "Little Miss Kookaburra," 3LO; "Jimmy Jackaroo," 3AR; "Sammy Sundown," 3AR; "Tommy Towny," 3AR; "Uncle Mac," 3AR; "Yarra, the White Cockatoo," 3AR; "Darkie, the Black Kelpie Dog," 3AR; "Brer Rabbit," 3AR; "Blue Bell," 3AR; "The Farmyard Five," 3AR; "Uncle Jim," 4QG; "Uncle Ben," 4QG; "The Sandman," 4QG; "The Radio Family," 5CL; "The Bird Lady," 5CL; "Uncle Gideon," 5DN; "Uncle Daniel," 5DN; "Uncle Duffy," 6WF; "Uncle Henry," 6WF; "Uncle Bertie," 6WF; "Cousin Mac," 7ZL; "The Funny Man," 7ZL; "The Sunday Lady," 7ZL; "Uncle Hector," 7ZL.

#### A CAT'S FRIENDSHIP

A horse and cat belonging to the same owner were close friends, always sleeping together and feeding at the same time. Then one day the mare was sold to a neighbour, who lived nearly a mile away. For several days the cat was very unhappy, mewing piteously for its lost companion, and eventually it disappeared. On the following day the horse's new owner brought back the cat, which he had found in the feeding-box of his stable. After that the cat made regular visits to its companion at its new home.

## Exide BATTERIES

MEAN DEPENDABILITY. Installed at 2YA Wellington.

All sizes. From 9/- each.

EXIDE SERVICE STATION 70 Kent Terrace, WELLINGTON.

#### AT 1 YA.

TUESDAY, June 5—Hello! Hello! Uncle George is here, and with him some little cousins playing the piano. And we are to have a couple of short talks from two important visitors to New Zealand—Dr. W. C. Poole and Sir Edward Sharpe.

WEDNESDAY—Uncle Tom with us again, full of jokes, stories and songs. Cousins will also give musical items.

THURSDAY—Peter Pan and Cinderella are sure to have some catches and discussions that will amuse the Radio Family. Listen for the three clever little sisters, Adele, Vena and Edna, who will also entertain you.

FRIDAY—What has Nod for us to-night? Mrs. Griffiths and her Rosebud Entertainers are giving us a short pantomime. Hurrah! Isn't that exciting?

SATURDAY—Cinderella has two new merrymakers in her glass slipper. Uncle Big and Cousin Small! What funny names, but oh, what funny people. Be prepared for a good laugh.

SUNDAY—Children's Song Service, with Uncle Leo in charge, and Cousins from Dominion Road Methodist Sunday School assisting.

#### AT 2YA.

MONDAY, June 4—"God Save the King"! Yes, children, the King's birthday was yesterday, but we are holding it to-day. Auntie Gwen and Uncle Jeff, with a party of Mrs. Thomas' pupils, will give you a royal hour.

TUESDAY—Puff-puff—hurrah! We're off again on the Radio Puff-puff with Big Brother Jack. Conductor Stewart drives the

train. We hope he brings us back again.

THURSDAY—Auntie Dot and a merry party of cousins from Northland. Choruses, songs and stories.

FRIDAY—Uncle Ernest and the mysteries of "Travelland." The Thorndon Normal School will join Uncle Ernest in his wanderings—choruses, part songs, duets, greetings.

SATURDAY—Uncle Toby and Auntie Dot. Wait and see—yes—till six o'clock on Saturday, June 9. The old clock will laugh for joy as the last strike resounds through the air. Greetings, violin and organ solos.

#### AT 3YA.

MONDAY, June 4—Listen-in to-night to Uncle Jack telling you stories about kings—and Cousins Freda and Florrie with their beautiful violin music.

WEDNESDAY—Mother Hubbard and Uncle Peter with fresh stories and songs, and a little playlet by "The Three Old Maids of Lee." Watch out to-night!

THURSDAY—Chuckie and Aunt Pat starting the "Alice in Wonderland" stories and songs, and the merry little folk from the Philpstown School pleasing you all.

FRIDAY—Big Brother and "The Captain" again to-night. So clear the decks for action, and listen for the Health Game. More prize-winners on to-night, so don't miss anything.

SATURDAY—Uncle Sam and Aunt May cheering your hearts and delighting your ears with story and song.

SUNDAY—Our Song Service to-night—Uncle Sam is in charge, and our friends from Tennyson Street Congregational Sunday School will provide the singing.

## The Letters of Felix and Spot

### FELIX TO UNCLE JASPER.

Dear Uncle Jasper,—Felix saw your name and address in "Radio Record" last night, also his letters to Spot and you. Felix thinks it would be pleasant to many if Spot could write to him from his new home. As the letters and answers would have to appear together, Felix would write directly to Spot. Spot could send letters and answers to "Radio Record." Any mistake in Felix's English could be corrected by kind Uncle Jasper.

The children really fretted at Uncle Jasper's and Spot's departure. Felix heard of two little children away in Taranaki sobbing pitifully because of Uncle Jasper's departure. Felix thinks that if this correspondence is to start it should do so at once, when all is fresh in the children's minds, and Felix knows that it would keep Spot and Uncle Jasper in touch with the children, who love them both.—Yours,

FELIX.

### FELIX'S LETTER TO SPOT IN PAEROA.

Dear Spot,—I want to thank you for your farewell message sent from Thorndon Station. I felt sorry for you, Spot, to think that a professional doggie like you called "Radio Fairy" by Uncle Jasper should have to leave Wellington in a van! When Aunt Dot

let you out to say a very last goodbye, no wonder you nearly tripped her up in your haste to reach "Guard Steward" to tell him your grievance; but he was heartless, and just after seven he rushed you back to the van. I believe you were wearing flowers, too, and looking very sweet for the journey. Did you speak to the other occupants of the van? Were there any cats with you?

"I have just seen your photo in "Radio Record." You are exactly the kind of doggie I pictured you. Several hundreds of miles will separate us now, so perhaps we will be friends. Please write and let me know all about your journey. Aunt Dot said that the "Radio Fairies" had placed a present under Uncle Jasper's pillow on the train. Please tell me what it was. I know Uncle Jasper tells you everything. Take great care of Uncle Jasper, Spot, write soon, and don't forget to tell me what you do now on Tuesday night.

FELIX.

### SPOT'S ANSWER TO FELIX.

Dear Felix,—Thank you so much for your kind letter. It was lovely to hear from you, although we are supposed to be bitter enemies. I have never seen you, yet I know we could be quite good pals. Your letter reminded me so much of 2YA and all

the little people of Radioland to whom I used to speak. I know the days of the week, Felix, and when Tuesday comes round I feel so lonely, because it was our night and we miss it so much, and listening-in somehow makes the longing worse, and I feel like barking in sheer longing.

The local dogs heard of me through their receivers and gave me a great welcome, and at a dog reunion held just recently I was elected president in honour of being the first dog to have barked through a radiophone. They put a silver plate on my collar inscribed "Spot" President of Dogs' Society, of Radio Fame."

I must tell you, Felix, I went with Uncle Jasper to visit some people where there was a big Persian cat. Not so big and fluffy as you, but quite a nice cat. When her mistress said it was time for supper she jumped upon the sideboard and sat on her hind legs—just like I did at 2YA. Then the lady threw small pieces of meat from quite some distance back, and would you believe it, that cat never missed catching one piece in her mouth. I don't believe I could have done it much better. We are going to try and get a photograph of her doing this, so I will send you one. Will you send me your photo, Felix?—Good-bye,

SPOT.

### 2YA'S CHILDREN'S SESSIONS

#### MEETING OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### ARRANGEMENTS FOR KING'S BIRTHDAY.

A MEETING of the 2YA Children's Session Advisory Committee was held at the studio on Tuesday evening. The Rev. Ernest Weeks presided, and there were present:—Mr. W. E. Howe (Sunday School Union), Rev. Ernest Weeks, Miss E. M. Sealy (Girl Guides), Miss Thornton (Training College), Mr. Byron Brown, Mr. R. Walpole, Mr. Greenberg (Y.M.C.A.), Mrs. Pope (Y.W.C.A.), Mrs. H. Smith (National Council of Women), Mr. Mahin (Boy Scouts), and official representatives of the Radio Broadcasting Company, Limited. An apology for unavoidable absence was received from Brother Phelan.

Miss Vautier, organiser for the children's sessions, gave an outline of the programme arranged for Empire Day, in which the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides were to play a prominent part,

and in the course of which it was hoped to broadcast a message of patriotic significance to the young people of the Dominion.

It was reported that arrangements were also being made for an appropriate programme on the occasion of the King's Birthday, the observance of which will take place on June 4.

It was decided to solicit the co-operation of the Sunday School Union in the providing of choirs for the studio Sunday evening services. The chairman explained that this was at present being done by the station, but he felt that it would be a very nice thing were the Sunday School Union to undertake this part of the work as an extension of its community service. A choir of not more than twenty was required each Sunday evening, for a service lasting from 6 to about 6.45 o'clock, and the committee's idea was that a representative of the Sunday School Union, being closely in touch with the various Sunday Schools, might undertake to arrange with the respective superintendents for a systematised rota of attendance.

Mr. W. E. Howe, the union's representative on the committee, said that while his own hands were so full as to make it impossible for him to undertake this additional work, he regarded the idea as a good one, and would have

pleasure in submitting the committee's resolution to the union.

A general discussion took place on the character and influence of the programmes generally, and several members spoke in terms of warm appreciation of the entertaining character and high standard of 2YA's children's sessions.

Several useful suggestions for future programmes were made and recorded, and on the motion of the chairman, it was unanimously resolved to place on record the committee's thanks and appreciation of the splendid services rendered by Mr. Byron Brown in his role of "Uncle Sandy" at 2YA.

#### EXPRESSING SIGNAL STRENGTH.

AS a means of expressing the strength of received signals according to the judgment of the listener, the following have been adopted:—

- R1 Signals unreadable.
- R2 Readable with difficulty.
- R3 Weak, but readable.
- R4 Readable.
- R5 Easily readable.
- R6 Fairly strong.
- R7 Strong.
- R8 Very strong.
- R9 Loudspeaker strength.
- R8 is often described as "phones on the table" strength.