

THE NEW ZEALAND Radio Record

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P.O. Box 1032.
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WELLINGTON, FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 1928.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE Suggestion has been made by some short-wave enthusiasts that it would be good publicity for New Zealand for the Broadcasting Company to establish a short-wave station for the benefit of overseas listeners. It is argued that such a move would have the effect of winning for the country a form of publicity that would be highly desirable and beneficial. That some value would attach to such a station and such a line of effort may be conceded, even though it be doubted that the benefit to be gained is as great as is represented by the enthusiasts concerned. But when it comes to the question as to whether the moneys subscribed in the Dominion for the maintenance of programmes for New Zealand listeners on the broadcast band should be diverted for such a purpose, there can, of course, be only one answer. It is no part of the function of the Company at this stage even to contemplate such a venture under its present contract. Such benefit as is obtainable from New Zealand publicity in the nearby Pacific is secured on the broadcast band by the high power of 2YA, which, there is abundant evidence to show, is effectively heard throughout New South Wales, Victoria and parts of Queensland, as well as in the Pacific Islands.

Short-wave developments are certainly full of possibilities, and New Zealand is anxious to receive all the benefit possible from the growing efficiency of this form of world-communication. It may seem a parsimonious policy to suggest receiving all and giving nothing, but, apart from our goodwill in the matter, what have we to give the world or to what message of our doings would the world deign to listen?

The efficiency of short-wave transmission and reception is steadily improving, and it is to be hoped that there will be occasions in the near future when the successful re-broadcast of overseas short-wave transmissions may be repeated such as that attendant on the conclusion of the Trans-Pacific flight. An account which we give in this issue of the successful reception of the proceedings of the Republican Convention which nominated Mr. Hoover for the presidency, suggests that there will be occasional opportunities when ordinary listeners in this country may be given the thrill of hearing re-broadcasts of proceedings overseas. If the first of such future successful re-broadcasts should chance to be the description of the Heeney-Tunney fight all our sporting listeners will be delighted.

SPORTING

BOXING BROADCASTS

ANOTHER FIGHT FROM 4YA

PROBABLY on Saturday, June 30, there will be another boxing match broadcast from 4YA. At the time of going to press, the match has not been definitely arranged, but it is very probably that Archie Hughes, whom Jack Kilmartin has brought from Australia, will meet Johnnie Leckie on that date. Enthusiasts should watch the papers for an announcement as to the date of the contest, which 4YA will broadcast.

Barbour and Radford are also coming over from Australia under contract to the Otago Boxing Association, so that should be six or more contests broadcast from 4YA on alternate Saturdays.

CANTERBURY CHAMPIONSHIPS

The amateur championships of Canterbury will be decided on Tuesday, July 3, and 3YA will be on the air to describe the events.

HEAVY PENALTY

IMPOSED FOR NO LICENSE

A FINE of £3 and costs was imposed on a wireless listener in Wellington last week by Mr. E. Page, S.M., for being in possession of a wireless set without having renewed his license. The listener, Garlie Bitossi, sought the sympathy of the Bench by explaining that he was not an expert operator, and could not "even get Christchurch."

This plea, however, failed to move the Magistrate, whose dictum, "If you have your set you must pay your license fee," heralded the imposition of a £3 fine, plus the usual costs.

Two other offenders were also before the Court, one being fined 10s., and the other £1.

It is understood that there has been quite a little rush of belated listeners in Wellington lately, and this is attributed to the attractiveness of the 2YA orchestra, plus the unseen pressure of the "trouble-finding" ear, and its sleuth-like tendencies.

RADIO LICENSES

OLD TOTAL REACHED IN CHRISTCHURCH

The total of licenses for the Christchurch district has now reached practically last year's total.

On April 30, 1927, were outstanding, but on June 15 last, there were only 300 in arrears. This arrears had, also, been practically equalled by the new licenses which had been issued.

TARANAKI RECEPTION

In connection with the distortion and fading of 2YA, Wellington, as received in New Plymouth, mentioned in last week's "Radio Record," Mr. G. W. Morgan, official representative of the North Taranaki Radio Society, desires to qualify his first report. He does not wish to describe the reception of 2YA two miles out from New Plymouth, as "good," but it was better than in the town itself. At Waitara, 13 miles out of New Plymouth, reception of 2YA was good, but not as good as at the Mountain House, on Mount Egmont.

LISTEN!

AND SOMETHING ABOUT LISTENERS.

"MY abode is a boarding-house, and my listeners are many and varied. They vary in number from two to ten; some are permanent, and others casual; some are prejudiced against radio; some ask me why all the fizzling and crackling is not to be heard in my set, proving they have heard only poor demonstrations, or have been unlucky with the static bug. Some are musical, some are not; some are dumb-founded, and some are confounded—!!! I will talk about sausages while 2YA orchestra plays a Beethoven sonata—but probably you know more about your listeners than I do.

"I am one of the thousands of listeners—well satisfied—who never bother to write either to give praise or throw dirt (I'm generally too busy), and by satisfied, I mean satisfied with the progress your company is making in improving the programmes, for I find myself listening more and more to New Zealand stations, instead of longing for 9.30 p.m., to get overseas."

—Extract from a letter.

Exide BATTERIES

MEAN DEPENDABILITY.
Installed at 2YA Wellington.

All sizes. From 9/- each.

EXIDE SERVICE STATION
79 Kent Terrace, WELLINGTON.

Heard Hoover's Nomination

Republican Convention on Short Wave

WELLINGTON LISTENERS ENJOY PERFECT RECEPTION

AFTER the thrill given the shortwave listeners by the trans-Pacific flight and their ability to enjoy a front seat, as it were, in that venture through their contact with the morse messages of the Southern Cross, it is interesting to record an even greater feat on the part of a Wellington listener. This is the performance of Mr. Olaf E. Stout, of hearing and enjoying the whole of the proceedings of the Republican Convention in Kansas City when Herbert Hoover was chosen as the party's nominee for President. Proceedings were broadcast by station 2XAF on relay through a land line from Kansas City. Reception was secured on a shortwave adapter to a popular four-valve circuit. An indoor aerial only was used and reception was perfect throughout, with no oscillation.

It may be taken as certain that the Tunney-Heeney fight next month will be broadcast and beyond doubt numerous efforts at reception will be made.

MR. Stout describes his experience on Friday last as follows:—

"As one whose first acquaintance with wireless dates back to the days of the 'coherer' I have followed with interest the progress of 'broadcasting' in New Zealand and other countries, especially in connection with the great strides that have lately been made by the use of waves between 20 and 40 metres. I have read 'The Record' since the first number and appreciate it fully with the exception of the shortwave corner. This, in my opinion, is—to use a Yankee expression—"the bunk." It appears to be merely a personal record of the trials and tribulations and heroic devotion to dial twiddling of one or two individuals who may or may not be the champion shortwave listeners in New Zealand. The attitude of these individuals reminds me of that of certain religious fakirs who mutilate their bodies in the name of religion and then attempt to elicit the sympathy of the community by exposing their abominations. It leaves me quite cold to read in your paper some such paragraph as the following:—"Wednesday, 5.30 a.m. Tuned in PCJJ very faint—somebody talking in Dutch—later what appeared to be a gramophone record—5SW. Testing with 2XAF. Distorted and subject to heavy fading.—Signed off 7.30 a.m." However—

"MR. Editor, have you ever attended a convention of the great Republican party of the United States of America! Kansas City is a long way from Wellington but yesterday afternoon I had a seat in the microphone on the platform of the great convention hall there on the occasion of the choosing of the republican nominee for President of the Great Republic. It is true I was dumb and had only one of our usual senses—the sense of hearing—granted to me; but oh, boy, what a day! I was confined to the house by an attack of flu and after dragging the electric heater close to my chair I thought that it would be a good opportunity to couple up my short-wave adapter and try for 2XAF. I tuned them in with good volume at 2.30 p.m. and immediately found myself transported by the magic carpet of radio to the platform of the convention hall in Kansas City. I heard, with great clarity, the speeches made seconding the nomination of the various candidates and could hear the cheering and the 'rah, rah, rahs' of the rooters. A reference to the great work done by Herbert Hoover in feeding the starving millions of Europe brought forth torrents of applause. The speakers were putting plenty of ginger into their work, and one or two almost shouted themselves hoarse. Two of the best speeches were made by delegates from West Virginia and Oklahoma respectively.

"AFTER the speeches the voting commenced, and the States voted in alphabetical order, the last delegation to vote, however, being from Porto Rico. The chairman would call out the name of the state, e.g., Alabama, 11 votes, and then announce the number of votes recorded for each candidate. It was soon seen that Hoover was going to be elected, as quite a number of states plumped for him. There was little delay while the official figures were being checked, and then the announcer informed us that Hoover had received 870 votes and had been elected on the first ballot. This, he said, was unusual, as only one other Republican nominee—McKinley—has been elected on the first ballot. After the result of this ballot a further motion was put to the convention and Hoover was declared elected unanimously.

"THE convention then adjourned until noon of the next day and we were then given a relay from Chicago on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Radio Manufacturers' Association. The speeches and music there were of sufficient volume to be put on the 'speaker,' the singing of 'Down in the Forest,' and the sextette from 'Lucia Di Lammermoor' being especially good. WYG closed down at 6.50 p.m., our time, and 2XAF a few seconds later after wishing everyone good morning.

"ONE feature that I especially noticed was the absence of any overpowering Yankee twang in the voices of the various speakers. Only two of them, one a woman delegate, and the other the announcer from 2XAF, betrayed their country of origin plainly.

"Reception was so good and clear that I fully expected the Broadcasting Company to seize a golden opportunity and put 2XAF on the air after the close of the afternoon session.

"Listeners should now be on the lookout for the Convention of the Democratic party."

Hellesen Radio Batteries

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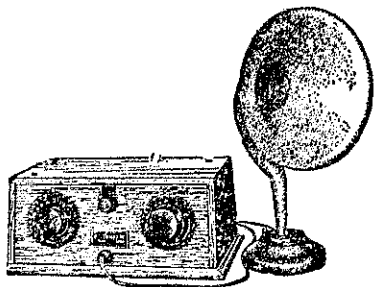
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INVERCARGILL.

High or Low
by the flick
of a switch!



Gets England and Australia
with 3-Valve "Courier"

"On the low wave we get regularly 5SW Chelmsford, England," writes Mr. F. A. Clarke, of Waharoa, Waikato, of his three-valve "Courier" Set.

"On the high wave, Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane on the loud speaker . . . I have heard four and five-valve sets and am quite contented with my Courier three."

No Trouble some Plug in Coils!

If you want to change over from broadcast wave length to low wave reception you simply press a switch—that's the marvel of "The Courier," the only set of its kind in New Zealand—possibly in the world. (Prov. Patent No. 59508 N.Z.)

The "Courier" 3-Valve employs no plug-in coils. It is the simplest of sets to manipulate and is in every way a thoroughly reliable and efficient set. The "Courier" 3-Valve, like all "Courier" sets, is fully guaranteed. Price £19 5s. complete. If your local dealer cannot supply you, write to us and we will see that you are immediately supplied.

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"Courier"
"Sinas tidings from afar"

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