

AHEAD OF ANYTHING IN AMERICA**CANADIAN PRAISES 2YA PROGRAMMES**

By the latest mail a letter came from Mr. P. G. Cox, of British Columbia. Its publication is well warranted:—

"Reporting upon reception from your station, 2YA Wellington, I would say that the peculiarity of this station, unlike other stations in Australasia, seems to be that it reaches here better during our summer than in our winter. Reception from 2YA last winter was, on the whole, poor, but it was poor also from all stations, both local and distant—that is, for winter reception. Whilst 'holding' 2YA nightly, although at times for only a few minutes, ever since it opened, for many months there has been but little 'pleasure' in doing so. For the past week, however, there has been a marked improvement until to-night, for some unknown reason, that station reached here with remarkable strength—in fact, between 1 a.m. (local time) and 1.30, the band concert was thoroughly enjoyed, and during two trombone solos with band accompaniment, and one or two vocal solos, could be heard comfortably three rooms away.

"I am enclosing the programme as I received it, and it will be noted that from the time I tuned in until closing not a single number was lost. It

should be noted that this was all loud-speaker reception, and no effort was made to catch faint announcements, etc., otherwise I could, no doubt, have caught the name of every number. After 9 p.m. (your time) reception conditions improved very much, and it will be noticed nothing was lost from there on.

"I cannot say how much I enjoyed this programme, and how very enthusiastic I am over it. I can only say I have been a listener to our local programmes for over three years, and I make the positive statement that your programmes are far and away ahead of anything we have on this continent. That is, to one who likes music and also likes programmes conducted in a dignified manner.

"It would be unfair and practically impossible to name any favourites in such a splendid programme throughout. In closing, I would like to say a word in appreciation of the announcer. Apart from this programme being announced in English (a change from what I am accustomed to), every word was clearly enunciated and reached here distinctly. It was a splendid programme splendidly announced."

Glossary of Wireless Terms

From week to week we give here a section of the glossary of wireless terms from the "Listener's Guide."

FILTER CIRCUIT.—Filter circuits are used to eliminate unwanted sounds or signals which interfere with reception. Is an essential in A and B eliminators, for instance, to smooth out impulsive currents into continuous characteristics necessary to operate receivers.

FLAT-TUNING.—The opposite of sharp tuning. Lack of selectivity. See "Sharp Tuning."

FLEX.—The usual contraction employed for flexible wire composed of many fine strands, such as is used for the suspension of household electric lights.

FOIL.—Either copper foil or tin foil is customarily used for the plates of fixed condensers.

FRAME AERIAL.—Another name for a loop aerial. See "Aerial, Loop or Frame."

FREQUENCY.—In alternating currents the number of complete cycles or reversals of current through a circuit per second. Thus, we speak of a 60-cycle current as one which has sixty complete reversals per second. See "Alternating Currents" and "Radio Frequencies."

FUSE.—A small piece of wire or strip of definite material and gauge, and so regulated that it will melt if a current beyond a safe value for the circuit in question is passed through it. The melting of the wire breaks the circuit and stops the flow of current.

GRID.—The control electrode of a three-electrode valve, usually consisting of a zig-zag piece of fine wire or mesh or helical coil of wire surrounding the filament. Potential changes of the grid cause magnified current variations in the anode circuit. Due to the fact that current in the form of clouds of electrons (small particles of electricity) flows from the hot filament through the vacuum inside the valve, to the plate, and there electrons

have to pass through the interstices of the grid, if the voltage applied to the grid is negative, the electronic current will be impeded in its flow. On the other hand, a positive potential will assist the flow. An alternating voltage such as available from audio or radio frequencies, will cause alternating negative and positive voltages, which will make the electronic current assume similar characteristics in a current form. By suitable adjusting the valve radio frequency may be converted to audio frequency. This action is known as detection or rectification. The grid functions similarly in this case as a control element.

GRID CIRCUIT.—The circuit which externally connects the filament and grid of a valve, and is completed internally by the electron stream between them.

GRID CONDENSER.—A small condenser placed in the grid circuit to assist the grid in rendering the variations produced in the anode current unidirectional. Sometimes a blocking condenser in the grid circuit of a valve is termed a grid condenser for convenience. See "Condenser Grid."

GRID LEAK.—A high resistance path connected between the grid of a valve and the positive or negative of the low-tension battery. Placed in shunt across the grid condenser it provides a path or leak whereby the electrons which collect on the grid may return to the filament. Without this leak the accumulation of electrons on the grid would interfere with reception.

GROUND.—An American term for earth connection.

HARD VALVE.—A valve of which the containing glass bulb has been exhausted to the highest possible degree. Nearly all English valves, and an extensive range of American, are hard. Some American "detector" valves are "soft," and can be used only for detecting purposes.

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