

nouncer as with the management, which has permitted 2YA to offend from the inception of the station. With regard to the pronunciation of foreign words in the programmes, it should not be hard for the announcer to get some erudite friend to coach him. I should be very sorry to hurt the announcer's feelings as I quite look upon him as a friend and I am sure he will take these remarks in good faith.—R. Stuart W. Hunt.

#### Following Megohm's Advice.

IT may be of interest to you and to other listeners who are amateur constructors to know that the "Screen Grid Booster for Short Wave Receiver" by "Megohm," which I informed you recently I intended to incorporate with "The Record Short Wave Shielded Receiver," has turned out a perfect success, particularly so when using broadcast coils and I can confidently recommend any amateur constructor wishing to build a set suitable for dual purposes to make one up. To give an idea of the volume obtainable the "Linen Diaphragm Speaker" by "Megohm," is the only one I have as yet been able to get to stand up to the volume obtainable. My log to date on the broadcast band using loud speaker only is 1, 2, 3, 4YA's, 4ZL, 1ZB, 1ZQ, 2BL, 2FC, 2UE, 2KY, 3LO, 3AR, 4QG. Careful tuning is required as the set is very sharp, and constructors will find it advisable to use a wave trap. On actual S.W. work I have further experiments to carry out before I can say exactly what this machine will do, but from the way things are panning out, it appears there is too much volume to control.—H. F. Bashford, Avondale.

#### Old Songs.

WHILE I think the New Zealand Broadcasting Company are doing the best they can for the listeners-in, may I suggest that, say, from one of the stations, say, once a month, that they put on a programme of old songs—"Home Sweet Home," "The Holy City," "Ora Pro Nobis," "The Star of Bethlehem," and other songs are quite good songs, and would be appreciated

by the older, and, I think, by the younger listeners.—J.W. (Otorohanga).

#### Gramophone Records.

I HAVE taken the "Record" from the first number, and I must say that I have always found it a very instructive and useful paper, and well worth the small cost per year. Having been a constant listener for eighteen months, and knowing the quality of programme then being broadcast, I say that the company is doing its level best commensurate with its income. The New Zealand listening public must always remember the company has only a comparatively small amount of capital to work upon, compared with that of the Australian stations. Now here is a word of well-meant advice, and it is not because I am an Auckland. If the company will see fit to broadcast more gramophone items of the public taste, and cut out a little more of the monotonous solos, etc., I believe there would be greater interest taken in the programmes broadcast. I refer here more especially to the Auckland station.—P. H. Spring.

#### 2YA on Banks Peninsula.

I HAVE found that since 2YA has been put on crystal control, the transmissions are a long way worse in this district. It does not matter how you tune 2YA no improvement results from it. The evening sessions are diabolical and the afternoon sessions, which were in my opinion the best for tone and clarity, are easily the worst. This is the opinion of several other listeners as well as my own. The Salvation Army Band concert is the clearest that has been for some time. I thought I was going to enjoy 2YA's concert last night (Friday) as it was unusual. But the transmission was terrible, everything was blurred and mushy. The announcer's voice and the piano were the only items to be heard clearly. I tried 2YA several times between 8 and 9 p.m. and it was always mush. A strange thing the mush never cleared like it does on other nights. 1YA, 3YA and 4YA came in clear as a bell.—A. R. Gardiner (Purau).

#### Two Uncommon Stations.

IN April last I (and other listeners) reported reception of Station 9XF, Chicago. I logged this station again last evening (August 19), the call this time being given as "Voice of Service WENR, Chicago," the power being the same as previously—viz., 50,000 watts; also the wavelength—viz., 288 metres 1040 kilocycles. (A letter received recently from the owners of the station, the Great Lakes Broadcasting Co., verifying my report of reception, stated that the new station 9XF would replace the present stations WENR and WBCN.) Reception last evening was far better than in April. The announcer said they were using a new transmitter—which is evidently an improvement. He stated this was a test programme and that there would be another test transmission on Saturday next at midnight, continuing until 3 a.m., Chicago daylight saving time. I first tuned in the station at 5.35 p.m. and listened almost continuously until they signed off at 7.28½ p.m. For the last hour especially reception was at good speaker strength and very clear, though there was a certain amount of fading. Mostly, speech was clearly heard all over the room. While having tea in the next room, about 28 feet from the speaker, I could hear the music very easily and clearly—this from a station upwards of 8000 miles distant! The transmission concluded with chimes and a clock striking, but whether this was a Chicago clock or

"studio effects" I was not able to determine. Last evening I logged for the first time station KFWB, Hollywood, California operating on 361.2 metres. I notice the most recent issues of "Radio News" give the wavelength of this station as 353 metres.—Guy C. Holmes (Masterton).

[361.2 is the allotted wavelength of KFWB, Los Angeles, California. It is operated by Warner Brothers Pictures.—Ed.]

#### A Crystal Puzzle.

I WISH to thank a reader of your paper for his answer to my inquiry re a station on 1YA's setting and another on 2YA's setting. I would also like to know who has the best list of stations received on a crystal set and 2-valve amplifier. My list is:—N.Z.: 1YA, 2YA, 3YA, 3ZC, 3CM (on 80 metres) and 4YA. Australia: 2FC, 2BL, 2GB, 3LO, 3AR and 4QG. Total, 12 stations, which I think is not too bad. I have also started to put in the "Pierce earth system," and although I have only put in eight pipes so far, I find a good earth as necessary as a good aerial. A few weeks ago I altered my crystal set. First of all I had a variable condenser (.00035) and a 60-turn coil, which used to bring in the Aussies practically every night. Since I have altered it to a tapped coil and variable condenser I have not heard any of the Aussies. Could anybody suggest a reason.—E. Powell (Christchurch).

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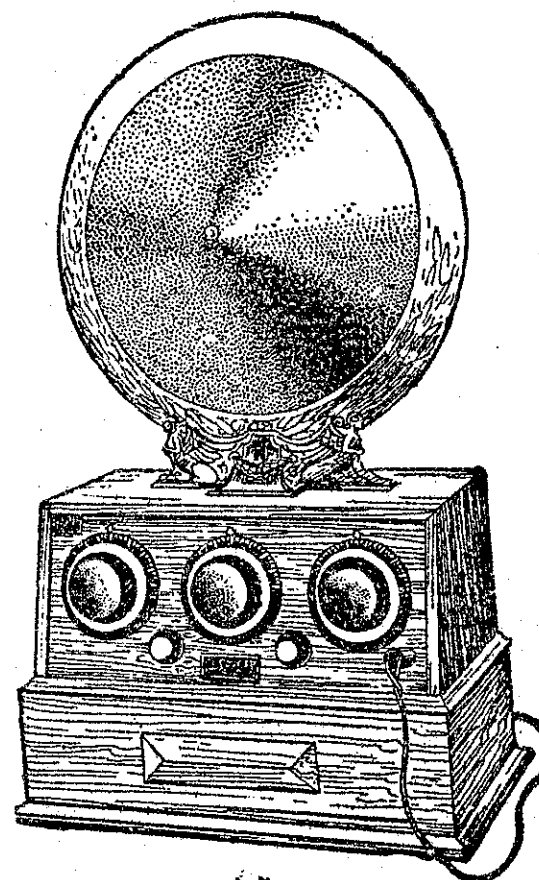
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