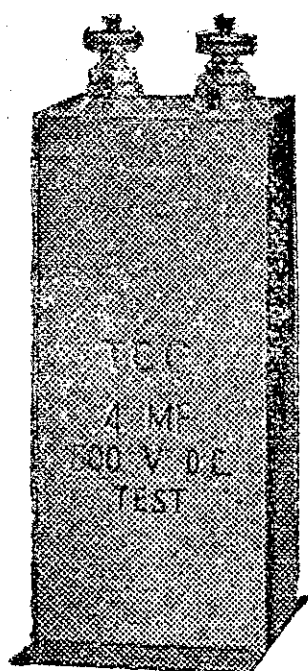


T.C.C. CONDENSERS



25 YEARS

Of leadership in Condenser manufacture is the record of the T.C.C. You can be certain when you use T.C.C. that you will be trouble-free. Why jeopardise the success of your efforts by using inferior products?

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Ask your dealer for T.C.C.

WHERE interference is troublesome it is very often a decided advantage to shorten the aerial by twenty feet or so, especially if it is anyway near 100 ft. THE best place for an earthing switch is immediately underneath the lead-in, so that the lead taken from the former can go straight down to earth.

The Future of Radio

THE future of radio is assured. This is the considered opinion of Mr. E. R. Boucher, a director of the well-known Auckland wholesale house of Spedding Ltd., who has just returned from an extensive trip abroad, during which he investigated the radio industry from all angles. His views are as follow:—

CONTRARY to the feelings of many New Zealanders that radio is waning in popularity, the general impression abroad is that it is really only commencing on its most popular period. At the Radio Convention in Chicago the general tone was most optimistic. There were 300 manufacturers exhibiting, and over 20,000 radio dealers from all parts of the States attended the convention. The tone was most optimistic, and all the addresses which were given by the leading men of the industry and of the various associations were most emphatic that the industry had reached a stable basis, and the progress from now on would be more substantial and satisfactory.

One manufacturer exhibited a seven-valve Console set, which operated direct from the A.C. mains, and had incorporated a dynamic speaker. Figuring on production of a quarter of a million sets for the year, a popular price was made which is only slightly in excess of the old type D.C. set. The result was that during the week of the exhibition the manufacturers of this set booked orders for 400,000 sets. I had an invitation to visit the factory, and although it was practically at the end of the radio season, they were producing and shipping from the factory each day 2000 complete sets. Being of the Console type, these are very bulky, and the factory has a special railway siding running alongside the factory, and from this siding each day a full train load of radio sets left for distribution in various parts of the States.

The new dynamic speaker, the patent of which is held by the Magnavox Company, practically supersedes the horn and cone types. The reason for its popularity is that it is not subject to climatic conditions, and does not show up the imperfections of poor transmission and cheap types of sets. As there is no actual contact between the diaphragm and the magnets, it is impossible to make a dynamic speaker rattle. Another feature is that electrical energy can be secured direct from the lighting mains, so that an enormous volume can be secured by those who desire it.

There has been quite a lot of controversy over the patent situation, but the Magnavox Company has established their rights, and American manufacturers are now manufacturing under license from the Magnavox Company. This new speaker is undoubtedly going to supersede all other types in this country, as it has done in U.S.A., and is now doing in England.

The A.C. set during the past year has proven itself to be thoroughly satisfactory, and the Americans have accepted it generally as every responsible manufacturer now lists the A.C. set as their leading line, although many of them are continuing to produce small quantities of the D.C. set. The advent of this set does not mark the elimination of the D.C. set, because there are many

Mr J. R. Smith

MR. J. R. SMITH, District Telegraph Engineer, Wellington, is being promoted to the position of officer in charge of the Post and Telegraph Research Laboratory.

Mr. Smith entered the service in 1894 as a telegraph messenger in the Ashburton office. After nine years' service on the West Coast, Mr. Smith was in 1908 transferred to Wanganui. There he remained until 1911, when he was transferred from the general to the engineering division of the service and given an appointment in the laboratory. Shortly after joining the engineering division, Mr. Smith assisted with the installation of the first permanent wireless station in Wellington—VLW—and a little later was engaged with the chief electrician in testing out the high power station at Awanui, in the Far North.



In 1916 Mr. Smith was despatched to Samoa, where, under the military authorities, he took charge of the wireless station at Apia, the installation of which was then on the point of completion. Two years later saw him in Rarotonga, engaged in the erection of a 1½ k.w. station there. He returned from Rarotonga at the end of 1918, and took up the responsible position of telegraph engineer in charge of Wellington City.

As the results of Mr. Gibbs's investigations abroad, the operations of the laboratory are to be largely extended, mainly in the direction of research work, so that New Zealand may be enabled to keep pace with modern developments, particularly in regard to wireless telephony and radio.

places throughout the States where A.C. current is not available, and, of course, there are those who still prefer the battery set.

A very satisfactory feature is that there are no revolutionary improvements which are liable to upset the industry by making the present apparatus obsolete.

Any improvements which have been effected have been in the audio stages of the set, that is to say, more attention is being paid to the quality of reproduction and the quality of the speaker.

Radio dealers throughout New Zealand should look forward to the radio trade with more confidence with the knowledge that nothing revolutionary has taken place in this season's developments in U.S.A.