

## Improved Reproduction

£250,000 American Company to Exploit Wellington Device

TEN years ago, when only sixteen years of age, Mr. A. E. Rod, of Day's Bay, Wellington, became interested in the general problem of sound reproduction. To him the sound projected from the gramophone was flat and uninteresting, and he set to work to produce an entirely new type of machine with better reproduction.

He was not new to the field of invention. Previously he had invented an ingenious toy which was sold for £25. Other inventions, though cleverer, were not suitable as commercial propositions.

THE first result of his research into sound production was a new type of gramophone which was not, however, entirely satisfactory. Undaunted, he kept on, but for years laboured without result.

When radio became popular the young inventor turned his attention to it, and finally produced something remarkable which seems likely to have very far-reaching results.

THE principle employed is quite evolutionary, and when applied to wireless gave remarkable results. On tuning in the local station or Sydney, the impression received was that the actual voice or instrument was present in the room. The difference between the tone and that received through the types of receivers at present in use was

something like the difference between the roundness of a stereoscopic photograph and a flat picture. The difference was at once striking and arresting.

MR. ROD demonstrated his patent to musicians, music-lovers, and those generally interested in sound reproduction. Those who heard these demonstrations were agreed that it was infinitely superior to anything they had heard before.

The patent can be widely applied, but the gramophone, telephone, and wireless furnish some of the most important fields for its application.

A local company was formed to finance the sale of the patent abroad, and Mr. Rod and his business manager, Mr. Davis, left New Zealand in May last for Europe and America.

LAST week those interested in the patent received a cablegram from Mr. Davis, stating that Mr. John Maxwell, chairman of the British International Pictures, Ltd., had taken up the matter, and was floating a company with a capital of £250,000 to acquire the European rights. Mr. Maxwell has secured an option over the rights until October 28.

From this it would appear that success is assured, and that Mr. Rod has definitely produced a device which will revolutionise the reproduction of radio sounds.

## Dr. P. Fennelly at 3YA 1YA "Mystery Night"

### "The Psychology of Success"

DR. P. Fennelly, LL.D., who is visiting Christchurch during the course of his world tour, when he is devoting his time to educational work, is to speak from 3YA on Wednesday evening, September 12. Dr. Fennelly is a past president of the British Association of Practical Psychology, and he will speak at 3YA on "The Psychology of Success."

The 1YA Musical and Dramatic Committee is now busily checking the entries for the great mystery night competition conducted at 1YA on August 29. Some hundreds of answers were received, necessitating careful checking to see who is the winner of the £50 Edison cabinet phonograph, presented by Phonographs, Limited.

Another competition will be announced shortly. It is to be held on September 26. On this occasion listeners will be invited to name the item that is being given, and a handsome prize, another gramophone, will go to the one who has supplied most correct titles.

## Waiting for the Tasman Flight

### Stand-by Service Given by 3YA

### Christchurch Crystal Users Hear Australian Stations

THE proposed trans-Tasman flight again demonstrated what a great service broadcasting renders to the public. From the first intimation that a flight by the Southern Cross to New Zealand was in view, the broadcasting stations were very busy places, and after the first announcement of the postponement, the staff at 3YA had a hectic time in answering the shoals of inquiries that were received.

All preparations had been made at Sockburn for handling and catering for the tremendous crowd expected to witness the landing on the Sunday, but all these arrangements were completely upset when the postponement was announced.

Townpeople and visitors were left very much "in the air." The aeroplane was expected every day, but as its arrival depended on the weather conditions there could be no definite early intimation. It was then that the Broadcasting Company was looked to. Not only did 3YA supply a special news session for the information of the people of Christchurch, but it answered a host of questions by telephone and from personal callers. There were many visitors to the city from all parts and they did not know whether to stay on in the city till next day or go home. Some had long train journeys and some travelled by motor-car. Many people wished to know if they should wire to friends in distant parts to come. Glorious uncertainty pervaded everything; and all eyes looked to 3YA to tell them what was what. It was all further testimony to the part broadcasting is playing in the life of the people.

### Rebroadcasting Sydney.

AS an instance of 3YA's "up to the second" service, one evening the actual announcement by 2FC officially stating that the flight would not take place that night, was rebroadcast by 3YA. The amount of re-broadcasting which 3YA did shattered all precedents. In fact, the trans-Tasman flight seemed to completely disorganise the even tenor of the way hitherto followed

by 3YA. Of course, listeners did not mind in the least. The re-broadcasts met with widespread appreciation from crystal set users, who considered they had much to thank Kingsford Smith for.

TUESDAY evening was a case in point. Although the usual silent day, 3YA had, in accordance with the announcements of the previous day, to go on the air to advise listeners throughout the country whether or not the Southern Cross was setting out for New Zealand. For several days now the staff of 3YA has been ready for a continuous 24 hours' service, and was quite prepared even at the last minute to commence a long run should Kingsford Smith have decided on an eleventh hour departure.

### Extended Service to Crystal Users.

THE station was on the air at 9 o'clock in the morning, and went on again in the evening at 6 o'clock for some 15 minutes, the announcements regarding the flight being interspersed with gramophone items. Similarly at 7 o'clock and again at 8 o'clock. Though quite ready to carry on longer than the usual quarter of an hour or twenty minutes, 3YA had not intended to do so, but about that time many requests were received from listeners to continue and it was therefore decided to go on for a while longer. This decision was also influenced by the fact that when the station's operators were listening in to the Australian stations in order to pick up the latest information concerning Kingsford Smith, it had been found that the conditions were very good for the reception of the overseas stations. With each rebroadcast came repeated requests for more, and the result was that the station operator went round the dials of his receiving set and crystal set users were able to make comparisons between the programmes of New Zealand and Australian stations. It was a very interesting experience for crystal set users.

## 3YA Re-Broadcasts

### Who Sent It?

### An Effort Appreciated

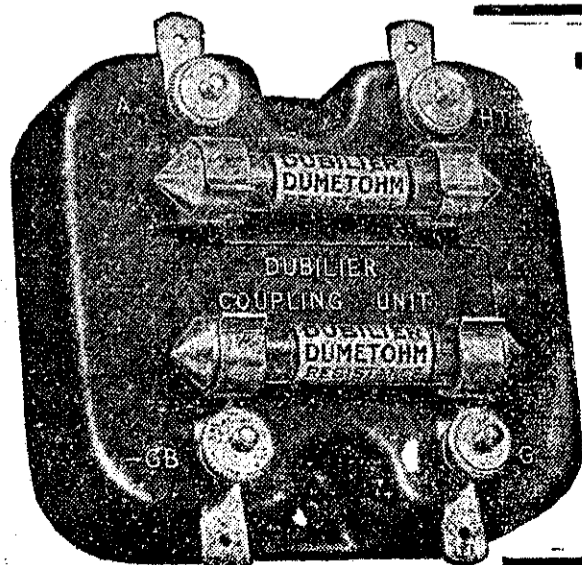
MR. E. H. CULVER, honorary secretary of the Hawke's Bay Radio Society, writes to the Broadcasting Company as follows:—

"At last night's meeting of my society a resolution was passed appreciating the effort of 3YA in relaying the 5SW broadcast of the signing of the Kellogg Peace Pact, special tribute being paid to the work of the Station Director. Reception here on that occasion was not good, but this did not detract from the value of your efforts to keep up to date. On behalf of this society, I offer you our thanks."

WE have received an envelope from Riwaka, bearing date August 17, containing a postal note for 10s., but with no communication to say who is the sender. We would be glad to be advised, so that the proper subscription can be credited.

Also, will Mr. N. F. Bryce, Invercargill please supply his address?

A CRYSTAL should not be handled with the fingers, as the thin film of grease consequent on this is likely to cause a complete failure of the set.



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