

# The New Zealand Radio Record

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WELLINGTON, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1928.

## THE CROSSING OF THE TASMAN.

RADIO listeners have had epic fare the past week. In last week's issue we were just able to insert the announcement that the flight was under way and gave the news to midnight. The further course of the flight and its events are now history. Through radio, listeners were given all the news that was available and listeners know now that the absence of a greater number of messages was due to the conditions met on the voyage and the carrying away of part of the aerial by a lightning flash, and the attendant difficulties of restoring communication. For a spell of three hours no news or note was heard from the 'plane, and this long silence from 11 p.m. till 2.34 occasioned some trepidation. But, fortunately, alarm was ill-founded, and hearts bounded up again when, just before 3 a.m., word was flashed that all was well. Incidentally, at this point the generator hum of the 'plane was put on the air as proof, and the accuracy of this announcement has been questioned by a newspaper. This critic is, however, himself wrong, as a full technical explanation given elsewhere shows.

THERE is no need to recapitulate the service rendered by the four stations. It was complete and satisfactory, and enabled listeners on that night to be in a select company possessed of knowledge denied the vast bulk of the balance of the community. Following on a number of delays, public interest had somewhat waned, and, as conditions were not reported to be of the best, the take-off on that Monday evening was unexpected. The result was that evening newspapers were without the news, and it was not till a little before 7 o'clock that 2YA, in the course of the children's session, was able to announce that they would be passing over to 2BL to broadcast a description of the departure. As it happened, conditions in Wellington for trans-Tasman reception that evening were bad, static being viciously prevalent—Kingsford Smith's encounter with a number of lightning storms supplying interesting evidence, by the way, of the origin of static and its prevalence in this area. In spite of the difficulties, however, full service was given from all stations, and with the actual arrival radio took its rightful place. After the unexpected entry of the Southern Cross into Wellington Harbour listeners were able to follow the flight down the coast till at Amberley she was met by the four Bristol 'planes and escorted to Sockburn, where through the eyes of the announcer, listeners saw her make a perfect landing at 9.23. And so the historic flight was over. In extending congratulations to the aviators, listeners will be glad to have "listened-in" on their successful venture; and many will give a compassionate thought to that other long night in January last when first they watched and waited for the crossing of the Tasman.

AS listeners through radio and its service in connection with the flight have a special interest in the commemoration of the event, we commend to their attention a proposal emanating from Christchurch that some move should be made by listeners to mark the occasion. A statement bearing on this is published elsewhere, and those interested are invited to communicate with the general manager of the Broadcasting Company.

## A Radio Presentation.

### Suggestion Made for United Action.

THE following announcement was made from all stations on Saturday evening:—

"A proposal is on foot in Christchurch, where the aeroplane Southern Cross landed after flying the Tasman Sea, to raise a fund for the purpose of making a presentation to the aviators. The occasion is an historical one, and everyone will agree that the men who will in years to come be looked upon as the pioneers of a regular air service between New Zealand and Australia, are worthy of some recognition in the form of a presentation, subscribed for by the people of New Zealand. It is because the Broadcasting Company feels that radio enthusiasts throughout the Dominion have an especial interest in the flight that the proposal is now being brought before your attention, and the suggestion is made that radio listeners throughout New Zealand should have the opportunity of subscribing to a presentation to the four airmen. As all listeners throughout New Zealand know, radio broadcasting played a great part in connection with the flight. By its means the people of New Zealand were made to feel that they were actively sharing in an adventure which has linked Australia and New Zealand closer together than ever, and this feeling has been added to by the fact that one of the airmen is a New Zealander. Any listener who wishes to take part in the presentation is invited to communicate with the general manager of the Broadcasting Company, Christchurch."

## Sporting Fixtures.

### Coming Attractions.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22:

Auckland v. Taranaki, 1YA.  
New South Wales v. Maoris, 2YA.  
Wellington v. Canterbury, 3YA.  
Otago v. Southland, 4YA.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29:

Otago v. South Canterbury, 4YA.

## Boxing Relay Postponed.

OWING to the injury to his hand proving more serious than at first anticipated and preventing him from meeting Radford in his engagement at the Wellington Town Hall on the evening of September 17, the boxing relay for that night was of course postponed, and at short notice a concert programme substituted by 2YA. When the fight does take place, it will be broadcast, and will undoubtedly prove a popular event.

## Feast of Re-broadcasts.

2YA, thanks to the equipment still available, and the fair conditions now ruling for overseas reception, gave listeners on Saturday afternoon a further taste of "DX." Just before the commencement of the football match Nelson v. Wellington the General Electric Company's station at Schenectady, WGY, was picked up and rebroadcast for some 15 minutes. At the interval, PCJJ, Holland (the Philips Company's station), was picked up as on the previous Saturday at the same time and broadcast for the benefit of listeners.

Again in the evening 2YA gave listeners a taste of variety by picking up 1YA and broadcasting dance music being played in the Masonic Hall, Auckland.

## 1YA Mystery Night.

Full details of the second competition to be conducted at 1YA have not yet been finalised so there will be no "Mystery Night" next week.

The proposed competition for Wednesday, September 26, has been postponed till a future date.

## 3YA Church Committee.

A meeting of 3YA Church Service Committee was held at the studio, 200 Gloucester Street, on Tuesday afternoon. There were present: Ven. Archdeacon F. N. Taylor (Church of England), Rev. T. W. Armour (Presbyterian), and Pastor J. Crawford (Church of Christ). An apology for absence was received from Rev. D. Gardner Miller. Ven. Archdeacon Taylor was voted to the chair.

Applications from Second Church of Christ, Scientist, for the broadcast of a lecture on Christian Science, on the afternoon of Sunday, October 14, and from the Conference of Seventh Day Adventists for the broadcast of a service on Sunday, December 16, were then considered.

After considerable discussion it was decided to recommend to the Broadcasting Company that, until the completion of the first year of the committee's operation, the broadcast of services be restricted to the denominations originally invited by the company to appoint delegates to the committee.

## The Radio Depot

165 Manchester St., Christchurch.

E. G. SHIPLEY.

RADIO SPECIALIST.

Phone 4770.