

The New Zealand Radio Record

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

IN another column, we publish in full a comprehensive and informative article on television from the pen of Edgar H. Felix. Mr. Felix is the technical consultant to the Radio Broadcasting Co. of New Zealand, Ltd., and is a recognised authority on radio. Of late, so much has been appearing in the cablegrams of developments and experimental transmissions in connection with television that we have thought it worth while to devote the extensive space we do give to this full treatment of the subject from the pen of Mr. Felix. It is clear that already a high standard of efficiency has been attained in connection with transmission of still photographs. In fact, the standard is so good that it is now on a commercial basis, and dress fashions conceived in Paris are radioed to America. In addition, photographs for newspaper reproduction are regularly transmitted across the Atlantic and reproduced daily by sections of the Press in both countries.

THE transmission of "stills" is, however, different from the transmission of moving subjects. In that field much progress is still to be made, but it is quite plain that success will ultimately be attained, just as each year of late has seen improvements effected in the standard of radio broadcasting. The subject is so attractive that a great deal of publicity has been given to it in all countries, and the public have been led to expect more in performance than is at present possible. As a consequence of this undue emphasis of attainment, there has been a degree of disappointment. It is plain that the demand for television is strong, but any attempt to meet that demand by premature exploitation will do more harm than good. Before television apparatus will be bought by the public, there must be something to receive. Transmitting stations must be established and operating on a highly successful basis. This is not yet possible. The whole subject is in the experimental stage, and as will be seen from the perusal of the technical article which we give, much ground has yet to be covered before success will be fully attained.

WITH the impending departure of the aviators, headed by Captain Kingsford Smith, in the "Southern Cross," on their return flight to Australia, full appreciation can be extended to the important change wrought in the mental outlook of New Zealand so far as aviation is concerned by their visit. The people of New Zealand, by virtue of avid devotion to newspapers, magazines, and books, keep abreast as far as they can of world developments and world attainments, but it is plain that the isolation to which we are geographically subject has prevented us from appreciating, as a people, the full scope of the progress that has been made in other parts of the world in aviation. In this respect, therefore, Captain Kingsford Smith in essence came to virgin soil, and forced upon the consciousness of the people appreciation that aviation in the commercial sense is here, and that it has a bearing upon our national life. In that development radio has played its part, and in the further development of aviation upon a commercial basis radio will prove to be an essential handmaiden to progress. Without detracting in the slightest from the personal capacity and bravery of the aviators concerned, the real tribute of their achievement must be credited, we think, to the scientific attainment embodied in the instruments of which they are making so capable a use. Without technical efficiency in the mechanical means of propulsion, without infinite exactitude in the scientific instruments upon which navigational accuracy depends, and without the intimacy of touch provided by radio communication, their outstanding feat would have been impossible. In their return flight to Australia the very best wishes of New Zealanders will follow them.

Sporting

Next Weeks Events

October 6.—Sports meeting, and finish of Timaru-Christchurch road race.—3YA.

October 6 and 8.—Auckland R.C. Meeting.—1YA.

Does Broadcasting Affect Totalisator Receipts?

A CORRESPONDENT WRITES:—

Yes, undoubtedly it does. If such is not the case, how can one account for the drop in totalisator receipts at the recent Avondale meeting, as compared with the same meeting last year?

In 1927, the totalisator receipts were £105,428; in 1928, the totalisator receipts were, £55,391 10s.; deficiency this year, £50,036 10s.

As everyone knows, there was no microphone at Avondale last Saturday and Monday, consequently there was nothing to stimulate interest in the meeting save the newspapers, with their "hours-old information." Now, Johnny on the spot, in the person of, say, Mr. Allardyce, can create more interest and more desire to see a race meeting than all the Press news in the world, and if this fact is not patent from the above figures to the racing authorities, then their reasoning power is of the kindergarten order.

Boxing Relay.

BOXING enthusiasts will be glad to know that on the evening of October 8, at 9 o'clock, 2YA will relay a description of the Leckie-Radford boxing contest from the Town Hall. This will be a very exciting encounter, and should provide a particularly thrilling feature when broadcast.

The usual programme for the evening has been arranged, and in the event of the fight being of short duration, a return will be made to the studio.

Amateur Radio Society.

THE next meeting of the Wellington Amateur Radio Society will be held in the Cambridge Terrace Congregational Church Hall at 7.45 p.m. on the evening of Tuesday, October 9. Members and listeners are asked to note the change made from the former meeting place; also that the time is earlier.

The feature of the evening will be a lecture by Mr. C. C. K. Fear, of F. J. W. Fear, Ltd., on the subject of "Browning-Drake Sets: Their Construction and Operation." Mr. Fear has specialised in the Browning-Drake circuit, and with his extensive experience, can be relied upon to give listeners a very interesting discourse indeed upon the possibilities of this popular circuit. Many practical hints as to the most effective method of operation of the circuit will also be given.

1YA Children's Committee

The third meeting of the 1YA Children's Advisory Committee was held at the Auckland studio of the Radio Broadcasting Company of New Zealand, Ltd., on Tuesday, September 25, 1928. Present: Rev. L. B. Fletcher (in chair), "Uncle Leo," of 1YA; Miss Flatt, National Council of Women; Mrs. Brunce MacKenzie, Girl Guides; Miss Jean Begg, Y.W.C.A.; Mr. E. V. Hudson, Headmasters' Association; Mr. J. Meade, Boy Scouts' Association; Mr. L. S. Abbott, "Peter Pan" at 1YA; Miss R. Palmer, children's organiser at 1YA; Mr. S. J. Hayden, station director at 1YA. Apologies for absence were received from the Rev. George Coats and the Rev. Busfield.

The chairman welcomed Mr. J. Meade, acting representative of the Boy Scouts' Association, and also Mr. E. V. Hudson, representative of the Headmasters' Association, Mr. Meade assuring the committee that his association was very interested in the work of the committee. The Radio Broadcasting Company forwarded copy of a letter received from an official listener bearing on matters in connection with the conducting of the children's session, which occasioned a good deal of discussion, but it was finally decided that the majority of points mentioned had already been dealt with by the committee and it was felt that nothing further could be done. Miss Jean Begg outlined a number of suggestions on items in the session, and commented that from reports she had received, the "Trips to various interesting parts of New Zealand" proved as interesting as any other feature of the session with the children. It was decided to introduce once weekly a very short gramophone-lecture-recital at the end of the children's session with the idea of stimulating musical appreciation in the younger mind.

Considerable discussion centred on the question of the children's programmes at Christmas, and it was decided to conduct the children's session on Christmas Day at 9 o'clock in the morning instead of at 6 o'clock in the evening, and a number of interesting novelties for the kiddies were decided upon to take place at this session. The chairman reported that the unsolicited donations which had been coming to hand from various persons now totalled £8 17s. 11d., and in accordance with the committee's previous resolution it was decided to allocate the amount to the purchase of crystal sets for some deserving children. A case of this nature was brought before the committee and it was decided to donate a set to the child in question, together with amount covering the first license fee. The committee decided to meet again on Decem' r 4.

AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY OF WELLINGTON.

A MEETING of the Society will be held on Tuesday, October 9, 1928, at 7.45 p.m., in the Congregational Church Hall, Cambridge Terrace, Wellington.

Interesting lecture by Mr. C. C. K. Fear (of F. J. W. Fear, Ltd.), on the subject of "Browning-Drake Sets, their Construction and Operation."

Every Listener made Welcome.

W. H. TAYLOR,

Hon. Secretary.