

From One Broadcasting Company to Another.

"Southern Cross" conveys Greetings.

BY THE "Southern Cross" the Radio Broadcasting Company of New Zealand Limited, received a letter from the Broadcasting Company of New South Wales, conveying greetings to commemorate the trans-Tasman flight. The "Southern Cross" carries the following letter from Mr. A. R. Harris on its return journey:—

"We take the opportunity of the return flight of the 'Southern Cross' to Sydney, and of the courtesy of Squadron-Leader Kingsford Smith and Flight-Lieutenant Ulm, to acknowledge with the greatest pleasure the greetings conveyed to us in your letter of September 8, which was conveyed across the Tasman in the first airplane to reach New Zealand's shores from an overseas land.

"The occasion has been an historic one for our two countries, and to us who are engaged in broadcasting it has had a special appeal on account of the part that radio has played in the enterprise. We are also interested in this other means of annihilating distance and time. Your stations and ours, which speak nightly to the people across the Tasman, have been the means of drawing our two countries closer and closer together, and this rapprochement has been cemented by the rapid flight of a heavier than air machine from your land to ours. The ethereal and the material connection between the two countries cannot but be for good.

"The 'Southern Cross' will leave Christchurch this afternoon for Blenheim, where she will leave New Zealand soil on her flight back to Australia. Her departure is timed for Sunday morning, and we trust that the airmen will be safe at Richmond aerodrome by the evening, when we will take the liberty of re-broadcasting your description of the landing.

"Heartly greeting by the first airplane to leave New Zealand for Australia."

THE chief engineer of the New South Wales Company, Mr. Ray Ailsop, also sent his greetings to the chief engineer of the New Zealand Company, Mr. J. M. Bingham, to which Mr. Bingham has replied in like manner.

Enthusiastic Farewell from Christchurch.

AT CHRISTCHURCH on Friday many thousands of people saw the "Southern Cross" leave the Wigram Aerodrome and then, hurrying home, they were able to listen to its journey up the coast and its arrival at Blenheim one and a-half hours later.

Many thousands of people in Christchurch city itself did not go to the aerodrome, but chose rather to hear it all by wireless, and they had no reason to be disappointed. The sports announcer was at the microphone describing all that took place at Sockburn. After the plane left the ground it was not long before it was over the city. It headed straight for the towers of 3YA, and when directly above the station, it banked gracefully, its blue body and silver wings shining in the bright afternoon sun, and sped into the north-east. A cheering crowd on the roof of 3YA—and on every high building in Christchurch—sped the aviators on their way.

A MICROPHONE was installed on the roof of 3YA and from this vantage point the "Southern Cross" was watched and cheered until it became a mere speck and was finally lost in the blue sky to the north. This was at three minutes to three.

From Sockburn, six miles from the city, crowds were streaming along the roads; on bicycles, on foot, by cars, trains, trams, buses, and every other conveyance. When they reached home they took up their receivers and listened-in to the "Southern Cross" as she sped up the coast.

3YA was rebroadcasting 2YA, and listeners heard an excellent account from the editor-announcer as he described the scene at the Blenheim aerodrome.

THOUGH 3YA has handled splendidly all functions in connection with the visit of the trans-Tasman flyers, one of the most successful was the broadcast of the proceedings at the citizens' ball, when presentations were made to the airmen. Included in that presentation was the amount which listeners throughout New Zealand had donated through the Broadcasting Company, and there was also a gift from an old Maori woman, a centenarian, on behalf of the radio listeners of the North Island.

REFERRING to this relay, the radio writer of the Christchurch "Sun" said:—Last evening was certainly a red-letter one for radio listeners in New Zealand, for quite the best broadcast ever heard here was put across by 3YA. The occasion was the broadcast of the Citizens' Ball to the Tasman flyers. Not only the speeches came through exceptionally well, but the whole spirit of the ballroom seemed to come through the loud-speaker. The jokes, laughter, and even the conversation between the groups of dancers came through with perfect clarity. Some of the dancers were evidently not aware of the fact that there was a microphone in the room, or were not aware of the sensitiveness of these little machines, for the conversation of some of the dancers at times was very amusing. Certainly last evening's performance was easily the best yet put over by 3YA, and the operators are to be congratulated on the perfectness of the broadcast.

Departure Awaits Favourable Weather.

Splendid Trip to Blenheim.

ON FRIDAY last the "Southern Cross" flew from Christchurch to Blenheim to wait favourable weather for the return flight to Australia. The early indications were that conditions might permit of this being commenced on Sunday morning, and preliminary organisation was undertaken to that end. Weather reports coming to hand Saturday evening, however, prevented departure, and it may be that some time will elapse before the flight does take place. Everything possible will be done by the R.B.C. for listeners when the flight is on.

GOOD work was done on the occasion of the flight to Blenheim. Not only did 3YA describe the departure, but 2YA, by means of a special line to Blenheim, broadcast the arrival. The success of this work is in itself a tribute to the high efficiency of the special submarine telephone cable across Cook Strait. From a technical point of view, while Friday's transmission was good, effort will be made to even improve upon it for the actual departure.

On the flight of the "Southern Cross" up the coast her radio apparatus was under test, and 2YA picked up the generator hum and broadcasted that for listeners.

Historic Maori Mat as Radio Present.

AMONG the presents given to Group Commander Kingsford Smith at the Citizens' Ball in Christchurch were a Maori mat and costume, the gift of a Maori woman 101 years old.

Interesting circumstances surround the gift of this mat. The donor wishes to be anonymous, and it can only be stated that her father was one of the leading chiefs in the Maori war in the North Island, and that she is now resident in the Hawke's Bay district.

THE mat came to Christchurch through the appeal which was recently broadcast from 3YA. It seems that the old lady has a receiving set from which she gets endless enjoyment, but her technical knowledge is very limited, as is only to be expected. However, a good Samaritan has made a practice of regularly calling at the old lady's place and keeping her set in good working order. The aged listener's gratitude has been deep, and she recently decided that the best way to express it was to make a present to her radio friend.

The radio enthusiast had performed his acts of kindness without any thought of reward, and was loath to accept any present. He therefore suggested that the old lady should give the mat and costume to Kingsford Smith on behalf of radio listeners throughout the North Island as a token of their appreciation of the Tasman flight and of the part that broadcasting had played. This the old lady agreed to do, but stipulated that her gift should be anonymous. Her pakeha friend also wishes to remain anonymous.

All speeches in connection with the presentation were broadcast from 3YA.

Cheap Freight for Wool

Woolgrowers, your own railways, which have helped you with cheap rates for manures and livestock, and other concessions, will give you the best freight service for your wool. Specimen rates per bale: 25 miles, 2/5; 50 miles, 4/10; 75 miles, 6/2; 100 miles, 7/-; 150 miles, 8/4.

Ask the nearest stationmaster for combined cartage and railage charges from sheds to stores.

QUICK AND SAFE TRANSPORT.