

Auckland Notes

(By Listener.)

AT the time of writing news has come to hand that the return flight is probable within a few hours, so the writer, like hundreds of others, will set the alarm and be alert to hear the interesting preliminary remarks which will precede another epic occasion for New Zealand broadcasting. Despite the many unavoidable delays, the interest in the recrossing is just as keen as was the enthusiasm over the initial venture.

ON Wednesday night a local resident desired to get into urgent communication with Warkworth, but found that the heavy gale of the preceding twenty-four hours had brought down the wires, so that it was impossible to send a telegram. Radio, however, came to his rescue, and through the courtesy of 1YA the urgent message was put on the air, and doubtless reached the person for whom it was intended more quickly than it would have done through the usual channel of communication.

IN connection with the untoward incident at Ellerslie racecourse on Saturday there were several ugly rumours which quickly gained credence and spread throughout the city and suburbs. Even up till midnight these rumours persisted. Had broadcasting

been permitted from the course it is quite unlikely that such rumours would have originated, and if they had, the wonderfully quick method of disseminating news over the air would soon have dispelled them. Saturday's unfortunate occurrence only emphasises the service which a broadcasting station could have rendered to the racing club. The incidents would not have been magnified as they were by rumour, the whole province could have received from the committee of the A.R.C. an official announcement regarding the position, the causes of it, and the decision of the stewards, and the information of the postponement of some of the races would have been province-wide in a few minutes.

LABOURING under great disadvantage, the officials of 1YA yet contrived to give results, and some particulars of the Ellerslie Spring meeting, and they deserve the thanks of the listening public for the service.

THE special choral items rendered by St. Matthew's choir on Sunday evening last, were a feature among items of a good week's broadcasting. Choir work has a general appeal, and the renderings by St. Matthew's choristers were thoroughly enjoyable.

AGAIN 1YA is to the fore in exploring and developing new fields of entertainment. On Wednesday evening there was produced in the studio Mr. John Drinkwater's well-known play "Oliver Cromwell." To listen to and enjoy this presentation was to appreciate the big amount of work that such a production involves. It was evident that those impersonating the various characters had undergone careful training and diligent rehearsal. The play itself, though on the heavy side—might almost say the "Ironside"—must have proved an attraction, even to those who are devoted to entertainment of a frothy type. There was nothing of humour in it, but it gave to the listening public a vivid picture of conditions, and of historic personages in the stirring days of the Civil War. All of the characters were well sustained though some might have been better placed before the microphone. It is to be hoped that Mr. Montague and his Comedy Players, will give us more of high-class drama over the air. Once a month would be none too often for the presentation of a play which would occupy the whole of the evening programme.

Sporting

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20:

Boxing, Pocock v. Broadfoot—3YA.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23:

Boxing—Tommy Fairhall v. Charlie Purdie—2YA.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 29:

Boxing—Territorial championship—2YA.

Territorial Championship

THE following details of the tournament may be of interest:—

The Territorial and Cadet Boxing Tournament is an annual competition in which all of the units in Wellington and the Hutt Valley take part. Each

company, or battery, selects a team of six men to represent it. This year no fewer than 20 teams are taking part. Men who have previously fought under the auspices of the Boxing Association are not permitted to enter the company team, but they also take part in the tournament. Each man who wins scores two points for his company and each loser one point. The competition thus stimulates inter-company rivalry besides developing boxing talent. Three nights of preliminary bouts will be fought in the Community Club on October 24, 25, and 26, and the finale will be fought in the Town Hall on Monday, October 29. The public is admitted to all bouts.

Cups have been presented for the winners and runners up of Territorial entries and Cadet entries, and the Whatman Challenge Bowl is awarded to the company whether Territorial or Cadet that gains the most points in the competition. This cup is at present held by the Wellington College Cadets.

The Manawatu Mounted Rifles are at present holders of the Territorial Championship Cup.

It is hoped that a team from the Royal Navy will also be able to take part in the tournament.

H.M.A.S. Australia

Treat for Children

THE opportunity of hearing splendid band music was given all listeners to 2YA's children's service on Thursday evening last by the attendance of H.M.A.S. Australia's splendid band of strings and brass, under Warrant-Bandmaster Ventry. This band, numbering some sixteen men, played a very extensive repertoire for over half an hour, and greatly delighted all who were listening. It may be mentioned that Warrant-Bandmaster Ventry is the only commissioned bandmaster in Australian waters.

At intervals during the performance, Miss Gwen told listeners what a treat they were being given by the service of this splendid band, and at the conclusion heartily thanked Warrant-Bandmaster Ventry and the members of the band for their kind attendance. She also expressed the hope that on any future occasion when the H.M.A.S. Australia was in New Zealand waters, the privilege might be repeated of hearing the band over the air.

Up-to-the-Minute

AN item of up-to-the-minute news was broadcast by 2YA on Saturday afternoon through the courtesy of Mr. F. W. Sellens. Just before 3.30 (our time) Mr. Sellens was listening to the American station 2XAD closing down. One of their final announcements was that the Zeppelin then proceeding from Europe to America was in the vicinity of the Azores and was expected to reach New York on Sunday afternoon.

News of this flight, together with that of the Southern Cross, was of definite interest to listeners.

Television in Open Air

MR. BAIRD, inventor of television, is now steadily progressing along the more difficult paths, and his last step has been infinitely important. He has succeeded in doing away with the large banks of lamps, so far required to illuminate the object being televised. During a demonstration before Professor J. A. Fleming an image was transmitted in ordinary daylight, and the sun was not even shining at the time.

The Americans have developed television along similar lines, and recently conducted a successful television experiment by which the movements of a tennis player in flannels were made clearly visible to "watchers-in" several floors beneath.

These developments are considered epoch-making, because they are among the first times sunlight has been used instead of artificial illumination. In the case of the tennis player a camera-like televisor on the roof was connected with the screen of the receiving apparatus by wire, but it is claimed it would be just as successful if wireless were used. Dr. Herbert Ives and Dr. Frank Gray conducted the experiment.

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