

Record Season Foreshadowed at Olympia



THE last mail from England has brought a huge amount of literature bearing on the National Radio Exhibition held at Olympia, London, September 22 to 29. So great in importance has this most recent annual exhibition proved that the remarks previously made in the "Record" have proved totally inadequate to do justice to such an important event.

Mr. Owen's Observations.

OUR thanks are due to Mr. J. H. Owen, former president of the Wellington Radio Society, who has spared no trouble in obtaining literature for us on the subjects. Brightly coloured folders, attractive leaflets, bulky catalogues, and numerous magazines have come to hand from Mr. Owen. A letter which should prove of interest to all who remember this able wireless enthusiast, and all those who are at all interested in radio, has reached us from him.

"I send you per this post a catalogue of the Radio Exhibition at Olympia, also two bundles of catalogues. Of the latter one could fill a wheelbarrow in no time.

This article tells the story of the most wonderful Radio Exhibition ever held. Radio is no longer a novelty—it is now an essential.

The show is an immense success. The 2s. 6d. day was as full as the other days, 1s. 6d. Some 20,000 visitors each day made the task of viewing the exhibits a difficult one. Fancy four acres of exhibits, with 300 firms showing the latest gadgets in wireless. One stall was made in the model of a battleship with four funnels. Complete sets, loud-speaker, etc., lined the bulwarks, hatches, and decks, whilst a diminutive admiral in full regalia walked the bridge.

Many quaint mechanical figures drew attention to some special feature. One, a nigger, moved eyes, lips, head, and hands, and was a great attraction. Many stalls employed young girls dressed in sports costumes, and in smart attire, several at one stall. The smartest of these was the young lady whose picture (enclosed) is on the

face of the catalogue, and was distributing them herself.

SCREEN grid valve, sets with detector, followed by a pentode valve, were much in evidence, whilst the moving coil unit was on a score of stands in its latest improved form. The magnets are energised from a 6-volt accumulator or mains, and it is the most sensitive, and the best toned loud-speaker I have yet heard. The combined radio and gramophone, entirely self-contained, from the table form to the 200-guinea hall model, was a popular exhibit. No sets were working and no sounds were heard above the music from the Royal Flying Corps' Band.

Demonstrations were given in shops and offices adjacent to the show by the makers of well-known sets, and loud-speakers, valves, and batteries. These

firms called attention to their displays by large calico signs, printed and hung across the road overhead. By reference to some of the leaflets, which I send you, you will see that a great advance has been made in the manufacture of moving and fixed condensers, transformers, leaks, coils, fixed resistances, valves, and accessories generally.

The trade generally seems prosperous, and the stallholders I spoke to were satisfied with the large orders received.

Brilliant Spectacle.

TO do justice to the exhibition and the details sent by Mr. Owen, a special edition of the "Radio Record" would need to be prepared. Each of the English magazines has prepared special numbers, and even to rapidly read through these is a work of hours—but it is intensely interesting.

The National Exhibition is not a new feature. For the last five years the northern radio season has been introduced with an exhibition by the radio manufacturers. The fact that each exhibition is larger and more successful than its predecessor goes to prove that the public are realising the value of radio, and with the march of scientific application comes the greater

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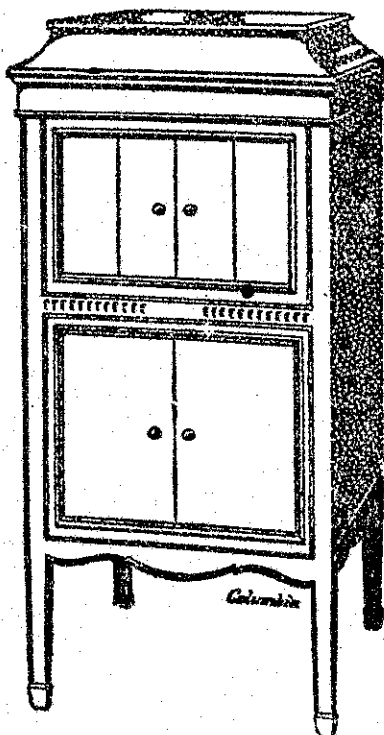
Read about the BIG RADIO PROGRAMME COMPETITION in this issue. (Page 31.)

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