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of results were taking place. At every break in the speech-making, attack would be resumed on the results. Periodically, as opportunity offered and any breathing-space occurred, a description was given of the crowd.

From 10 o'clock onwards the pressure eased to some extent, and final returns, instead of progress reports, became more prolific. At this stage the defeat of the Government became clear, and the demonstrations of a large Labour element in the crowd outside, at each successive Labour victory, became pronounced. As the majority of Labour successes were won in compact constituencies with good facilities for communication, their results tended to be available earlier than those of scattered rural constituencies. The effect of this was that in the early evening Labour at one stage held 14 seats, while Reform had but 7. Gradually, however, as returns from distant constituencies came in, the Government Party began to creep up, draw level with, and finally substantially pass, the Labour total. The race with United for supremacy continued neck and neck throughout the evening, until finally at five past one in the morning a last result—a dead-heat as it appeared then—was announced.

In the Thick of the Fray

FROM some points of view, those in the thick of the fray were too close to describe the result from the listener's point of view. It is hoped, however, that listeners were able to receive the information readily and successfully, and follow the fluctuating fortunes of war with clearness.

Substantially the same organisation as that described in respect of 2YA and "The Dominion" newspaper was repeated in the other centres. In Auckland gratitude must be conveyed to the "New Zealand Herald" newspaper for its co-operation; in Christchurch to the "Lyttelton Times" for its help; and in Dunedin to the "Evening Star" and the "Otago Daily Times." The result of the co-operation between the newspaper Press and the radio service was of distinct advantage to listeners, by placing them in an unrivalled position for prompt knowledge.

One novelty of the evening was the passing of a radio motion—the first in New Zealand history—at approximately 9 o'clock. This took the form in

effect of an appeal to unlicensed listeners to recognise their obligations to licensed listeners, and enrol, so that the extra revenue thus derivable should be available for improvement of the radio service to the benefit of all concerned.

Complete Broadcast by 3YA

IN Christchurch, the part that radio played on election night was demonstrated to a remarkable degree. There were few receiving sets idle in the city on that occasion, even people in proximity to the Square preferring to listen-in rather than stand in the crowd before the results boards. Yet that concourse was enormous. From the "Lyttelton Times" building to the Cathedral was a dense mass of humanity, with all faces turned towards the result boards before the newspaper offices, and with ears listening intently to the loudspeakers.

All results came from 2YA by radio, and the newspaper offices took full advantage of the opportunity. 3YA worked in with the "Lyttelton Times," whose news-gathering service, especially in the matter of local results, was organised to the last word. Local and Dominion results were broadcast within a few seconds of their reception at the office.

And how was it all done?

For the occasion, one of the type-setting rooms became "Station 3YA." All announcements and practically all the operating was done from there. This room was on the Square frontage. Outside the window was the platform on which was the lantern. As results were received a card was sent to the writer of the lantern slides, who was at a table near the announcer, to whom the card was then passed. In this way results were broadcast to listeners before they appeared on the screen, and the cheers of the crowd followed.

LOUDSPEAKERS also conveyed the news to the crowd in the street, and these same loudspeakers magnified the voices of the candidates when returning thanks. A cordial invitation to speak had been sent by the Broadcasting Company to all candidates, and there was a generous response. All the candidates spoke from the plat-

form in front of the results board of the "Lyttelton Times." Two microphones had been installed there, one for the purpose of the loudspeakers, and the other for broadcasting to listeners.

It was not by any means a safe "possession," this platform in front of the results board. An announcer found that out early in the evening, when endeavouring to introduce the "crowd" effect into the evening broadcast. In Christchurch there is a limit to the period that an egg will keep fresh, and it would seem that a culling out takes place on election day, when the owners hastily get rid of those not wanted.

THERE was a mass of radio apparatus transported by 3YA to the "Lyttelton Times" office—batteries, amplifiers, microphones, a "mixer" for the microphones; in fact, a complete exchange. There were three pairs of telephone lines from the studio operating room to the "Lyttelton Times." From the switches these lines ran to four microphones. Along one line from 3YA the complete 2YA transmission was received, and it was possible to put it on the air at any moment. This was done several times during the evening, notably in the case of the Prime Minister's speech, and of the resolution moved and carried concerning the unsportsmanlike action of using unlicensed sets.

It was possible to put any transmission on the air without using the loudspeakers in the street, or to use the street loudspeakers without broadcasting on the air, if that were desired. It was also possible to communicate from the street microphones to the temporary studio, and a telephone connected the temporary studio with 3YA. Altogether, it was an intricate lay-out of wires.

Appreciated in Auckland

THE trans-Tasman flight, the Armistice Day rebroadcast, and other important events in New Zealand radio history drew crowds round every loudspeaker in the Dominion, but never yet has there been that concourse that swarmed wherever there was a radio set on Wednesday evening. The public were quick to recognise that the best way in which to receive earliest news of elections was to have recourse to the excellent radio service provided by the Broadcasting Company. It is rather a pity that they did not also recognise that there was some obligation upon them to assist that service by becoming licensees themselves. Perhaps that aspect will appeal to them now that the excitement of the contest has simmered down. If the New Zealand radio service needed a good advertisement it secured it last week, for as far as conveyance of results was concerned, the 1928 one was essentially a radio election.

EVEN to Aucklanders, Wellington was the premier station on Wednesday night, and during the later hours 1YA tuned in and rebroadcast 2YA, so that provincial listeners here could hear all the latest details from the capital city. Conditions were first-class for the effort, and no set-owner could complain that he was not served with the greatest efficiency. The pandemonium which occurred following the Prime Minister's appearance at "The Dominion" office, provided a most vivid

demonstration of the vividness with which broadcasting can convey impressions, but the noise itself was generally regretted, for everyone was agog to hear the head of the Government and what he had to say after a most exhausting campaign.

THE local newspapers found the radio service a great help in the quickness with which it provided them with results. Each office kept a constant listening service upon 2YA, and, as figures were given out from that station, they were rushed on to the various screening devices for the information of assembled street crowds. Through a "public address" outfit supplied by Radio, Ltd., to the Auckland "Star," 2YA itself was made audible to a crowd of at least 15,000, the announcer's voice carrying distinctly to all of them. This is probably the biggest crowd that has ever listened in New Zealand to the output of one receiver. They greatly appreciated the successful innovation.

Listeners Grateful

Taken to Morere.

PERMIT me to congratulate you and the Radio Broadcasting Company on your election night broadcasting achievement. You practically brought the "Dominion" building to my lounge at the Morere Hot Springs Hotel, and my many guests had nothing but praise to express on the wonderful manner in which the results and the proceedings were broadcast. Wishing you every success, and trust you will be rewarded, if only to bring those on the "mat" who are receiving without being licensed.—E. B. Shortt (Morere).

Even Heard a Whisper.

PLEASE accept mine, and friends', appreciation, of your radio service on election night. To put it mildly, it was magnificent. We picked you up at 7.15 p.m., and we did not miss one single word until you closed down. (We ever heard someone whisper to the announcer about a telegram and Ward!) The numbered list was a great boon, and, taken all through, everything was O.K. Reception was perfect; there being not a blemish all the evening, and to those friends who listened-in it was an eye-opener. I feel I cannot let the occasion pass without thanking you and your staff, especially the announcer, for your efforts.—C. H. Cleaver (Reefton).

I HAVE been tempted on several occasions in the past to write to your valuable paper, to thank the Broadcasting Company for a specially fine performance, but these have been so

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