

A Delayed Intention

Amateur Society Discusses Question of Dinner Music

NO doubt due to the fact that the election was to take place on the following day, only about 30 listeners attended the monthly general meeting of the Wellington Amateur Radio Society, Tuesday last. However, the meeting was truly representative, there being ladies and several of the younger element present. Both ladies and young people are made very welcome at these meetings, and it is desired that more may be seen of them.

Mr. Byron Brown, president, in opening, made reference to a promise made by Mr. Ball at a farewell dinner to Mr. Owen, and expressed his intention of again reminding Mr. Ball, but before he would discuss it, asked for "grouses," as he was sure there were many who had some trouble to air.

Interference.

A COMPLAINT was voiced about electric line leakages in the vicinity of Daniel Street. It was seconded by others present, some adding that amateurs had continually made themselves a nuisance. These complaints, it was explained, should be directed to District Telegraph Engineer, G.P.O., who would no doubt take the steps necessary for their prevention.

Another complaint; a listener had been troubled with a station morsing on 2YA's wavelength. The complaint found numerous seconders. When it was suggested that a letter be forwarded to the secretary of the G.P.O. complaining about the warship, for such it was decided to be, the objection was raised that it was presumption to question the action of His Majesty's ships. A member, however settled that—"We once caught him sending cricket scores!"

Dinner Music.

WHEN everyone had been satisfied, Mr. Brown voiced his complaint: "At that dinner wine flowed, and perhaps when the wine is in the wit is out." A promise had been made to broadcast dinner music—Mr. Ball's promise had not been broken, it had been held over.

In explanation, the company's representative replied that when he made the promise he must have been affected by the approaching departure, certainly not by the wine (laughter). "However," continued Mr. Ball, listeners will remember that something happened shortly afterwards (April) which put quite a different aspect on the matter—10,000 listeners failed to renew their licenses. As for extras, no one could complain, and when the financial position warranted it dinner music would be provided.

The point was raised by Mr. Levy that the provision of dinner music would be a healthy stimulus to the popularity of wireless; it would have a healthy reaction, especially among the farmers, who had little other time to listen in. The position to-day showed that only a relatively small proportion of farmers possessed wireless sets. Farmers had to retire early, and the company in providing dinner music would be doing a good service. The

Australian stations 2FC and 2BL provided a dinner session, and it was very popular.

Mr. Ball, in promising to pass on the recommendation, added that perhaps a law could be passed requiring the cows to be milked by 6 p.m. to enable farmers to enjoy dinner music.

Mr. Taylor, honorary secretary, raised an important question: "If dinner music were introduced, what would become of the children's session, which is becoming so eminently popular with young and old?"

After some discussion, it was decided that a re-cast of the arrangements prior to 8 p.m. would have to be made.

It was finally decided that Mr. Ball be asked to convey the wish of the society that dinner music be introduced as promised.

Tribute to Uncle Ernest.

THE impending departure of a vice-president, in the person of the Rev. Ernest Weeks, was considered, when appreciation of his work and regret at his departure was expressed. This was formed into a resolution, unanimously adopted, expressing appreciation of the magnificent work of the Rev. E. Weeks, in the capacity of Uncle Ernest, for the children of New Zealand. The chairman said that as a radio uncle the Rev. Week's work was unparalleled in New Zealand.

All Electric Sets.

THIS concluded the business and Mr. Preston Billing, the speaker of the evening, was introduced. "All Electric Sets" was the title of the address and Mr. Billing presented an interesting lecture demonstrated by his excellent eight-valve "all from mains" set.

In outlining the history of wireless sets, the speaker contended that there were three distinct types:—Battery operated, electrified (using eliminators) and all-electric sets, using A.C. valves. In extolling the latter it was pointed out that when once put into operation these sets required no attention. They would operate from either 230 or 100 volt mains.

The principle of rectification was made clear, it being pointed out that there were two types of rectifying valves, whole-wave and half-wave rectifiers, this set made use of the latter. An unrectified A.C. could not be used by the valve elements.

A loop aerial was used to demonstrate the set and listeners were provided with a musical treat. "Unfortunately," remarked Mr. Billing, "the dynamic speaker I had planned to use is not working well, so that I must apologise for having to use an inferior speaker." At the end of a few minutes those present were wondering what Mr. Billing would term a superior speaker, for the reproduction was flawless. 2YA, it was declared, was "on its best behaviour," but as someone remarked, "can we, from our sets determine when it is off its best behaviour?"

A cello solo was in progress, and those present were of the opinion that little could be finer. 2YA's orchestra,

The Radio Pastor 1YA Musical and Dramatic Committee

WHEN the Rev. S. Parkes Cadman arrived at New York from England on the Majestic recently, he did so because he had been "called" to the largest church ever conceived by man. The congregation of this celebrated English-born divine will number many millions, every Sunday, scattered all over the United States between Florida and Alaska. Dr. Cadman's official title is now "National Radio Pastor," and he receives a stipend of £5000 a year. His ministry is non-sectarian—Protestants, Catholics, and Jews are all represented on the executive and financial committees organising this great movement of moral and intellectual appeal to the multitude. Such appeal will ultimately be made so that the wide-scattered audience will not only hear but (by means of television) will also see the minister. Arrangements for the broadcast and far-sight services are in the hands of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, representing upwards of 30,000,000 worshippers. Dr. Cadman's addresses, delivered on Sunday afternoons, are broadcasted by forty stations. He continues his past custom of answering questions sent to him through the post by his hearers. His service, which lasts ninety minutes, comprises music by a symphony orchestra recruited from the best musicians in the metropolis, with a choir of first-class singers. Actually present at each service are about 300 persons of prominence, invited by ticket to the studio auditorium of the National Broadcasting Company. Dr. Cadman is president of the Federation of Protestant Churches in America, which includes 28 denominations. He has been called the "American Solomon." Realising from the first the religious educational possibilities of wireless, he has every Sunday for the last five years been broadcasting services to 5,000,000 listeners. His replies to questions from listeners-in are reproduced in over 100 newspapers. During his recent visit to London, Dr. Cadman delivered a series of striking lunch-hour addresses at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, also broadcasting from 2LO. "There is to-day," Dr. Cadman told a newspaper representative, "far more real religion in the world and more silent heroism and self-sacrifice among the millions of the workers than people imagine."

Commander Byrd

COMMANDER BYRD, the famous Arctic airman, will be visiting Christchurch this week. He will be accorded a civic reception, and will lay a wreath on the statue of the immortal Captain Scott. The ceremony will be broadcast by 3YA.

it was remarked, was truly one of the best in Australasia.

Mr. Preston Billing answered several questions put to him and on completion was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

Mr. Brown, in expressing his appreciation, said he was going to start right away to save up his pennies to have an all-electric set, so impressed was he by the demonstration.

A meeting of the 1YA Musical and Dramatic Committee was held on November 9. Mr. Karl Atkinson was in the chair. Others present were:—Mr. C. B. Plummer (Auckland Choral Society), Mr. L. Lambert (Bohemian Orchestra), Mr. C. R. Straubel (Students' Association), Dr. Kenneth Phillips (Society of Musicians), Mr. J. F. Montague (Auckland Comedy Players), Mr. G. T. Lee (Aeolian Orchestra), Mrs. Carr Tibbetts (League of Penwomen), Miss E. de Laney (Ainsley Operatic Society), Mr. S. J. Hayden (Station Director, 1YA).

Correspondence was received from the Radio Broadcasting Company intimating that they were pleased to adopt the committee's recommendations regarding the radio play competition and title competition, details of which have already been published.

A report was received from the company's Musical Director dealing with the question of the proposed 1YA Choir and the matter was referred to a sub-committee to be convened by the chairman for further consideration.

A report was received from the League of Penwomen in which the league intimated that it was willing to supply a monthly agenda of forthcoming lectures to the station for broadcast of such lectures as might be suitable. The matter is to be referred to the league's committee for confirmation and further discussion on the question of giving studio performances.

The question of Christmas programmes was also discussed and it was decided that a carol concert should be given preferably on Christmas Eve.

The committee decided to meet again on December 7.

Broadcasting and Education

BROADCASTING in co-operation with the Educational Department has done much commendable work in England. Of this important aspect the educational director of the Broadcasting Corporation said:—"Lecturers and school lessons are so successful that we are continually extending the programme. We include a nightly programme of brief talks to groups that assemble at convenient centres and listen-in. Universities and workers of the Educational Association wholeheartedly co-operate. One-eighth of British schools have sets to listen-in during school hours. Four years of experiments show that school talks should be slow and punctuated with frequent questions and pauses. Children follow with the assistance of illustrated handbooks which we supply at a nominal cost. The Board of Education encourages the wireless, particularly for outlying schools."

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