

Aurora Australis was in evidence again.

One of the other American stations I held till it signed off at 7.56 p.m., but although volume was good reception was not clear enough to enable me to get the call. The last letter sounded like "S" or "F" and the wave-length was about 221 metres. I would be pleased if any other listener who picked up this station could let me know which it was.—Guy C. Holmes (Masterton).

Schubert Centenary.

I AM writing to tell you how very much I enjoyed the Schubert centenary concerts. Schubert's music comes out particularly well with the wireless, and I do hope we get plenty of it in the future. The lecturettes were very much appreciated. Could you not arrange to have a series of lectures on music by the same able lecturers?—"Country Listener."

Power Line Leakages.

PERMIT me to express my appreciation of the Diggers' concert given on Saturday last. It was excellent, and I for one could do with an early repetition. I wonder if you could give me any help in the following trouble:—Several of my friends and I are operating five-valve commercial sets, the circuit of which I enclose. We are frequently troubled with a very loud-power roar (A.C.). Our aerials are at

right angles and about 200 yards from the power lines. Could you tell us—

(1) If there is any method of cutting the noise out?

(2) Can we ask the Power Board to do anything? Any transformers there are will be at least a quarter-mile away.—Merlin Storey (Otana).

[(1) The noise can be reduced by means of a filter by erecting a counterpoise, instead of an earth, and by fully shielding the set. A good dealer will help you. (2) A complaint addressed to the District Telegraph Engineer would probably be effective.—Ed.]

Who Did Not Use Radio?

A CORRESPONDENT in Gisborne, in writing appreciatively of the broadcast of results on election night and the use made of the "Radio Record" score sheet, mentions that election night was enjoyed by ten people round his set, and he estimated that in Gisborne alone 6000 people listened to the results by means of radio. "Try and find out," he says, "if there were any newspapers who did not rely on radio for the news. The "Poverty Bay Herald" had 2YA on all the time, and by means of loudspeakers enabled 3000 people to hear the results. Personal friends had the following number of people listening in:—A, 6; B, 3; C, 4; D, 5; self, 10, totalling 28, and giving an average of 6 per set.

A Stranger on 490 Metres.

I WONDER if some reader could inform me what the following station is. Tuning-in last Sunday afternoon (28th), at 2.30 p.m. (summer time). On a wave-length of about 490 metres I heard music of some kind, but it was too faint to distinguish.—Kowhai Bush.—[The station nearest this wave-length heard in New Zealand is RGW, Portland, Oregon, a station of 1 k.w. power, operating on 492 metres.—Ed.]

Pulling the Long Bow

An Election Echo

IN its desire to "boost" the Palmerston North station 2ZF, the Manawatu "Evening Standard" draws the long bow to some purpose. That it is quite all right, if this paper in its local pride would confine itself to facts, without seeking to falsify the position concerning others. It commits itself to the following statement: "It is interesting to note that, when the Radio Broadcasting Company's station had broadcast 25 completed results, the local station had sent out 43 and was nearly an hour ahead of the other."

This is simply bunkum. With the closest possible knowledge of the course of events on that evening, we can say definitely that it was humanly impossible for any station anywhere to be ahead of 2YA on that evening. As was outlined in last week's issue, the station was in direct communication with the very centre of information, the Registrar-General's office in the Chief Post Office. Even the system of "employing three boys to go to and from the post office in Palmerston North and 2ZF" as eulogistically outlined by the "Standard," would not, we think, equal the rapidity of direct telephonic communication between the Wellington Post Office and 2YA, even

though the Palmerston North boys might have been equipped with wings in advance of their time! Our Palmerston contemporary concludes by saying: "2ZF was the last station on the air, and closed down at 1.10 a.m. with only one result yet to come in." As readers will remember, 2YA closed down at 1.5 a.m. with no results yet to come in.

WE do not mind our Palmerston contemporary boosting 2ZF for all that it is worth. We quite appreciate the excellent service that 2ZF is giving to its district, and have at different times given publicity to it through our columns, but we would suggest that some regard for facts be entertained by enthusiastic admirers.

Reserved Train Seats and Sleeping Berths

THE Railway Department recently announced that arrangements had been made to enable passengers to reserve seats on principal mail and express trains between stopping places, irrespective of distance.

In order to provide still further for the convenience of intending travellers who may desire to reserve seats or sleeping berths, but who are unable to make personal application, the Department has arranged that bona fide re-

quests by letter, telephone or messenger, will ensure accommodations being held. Those who avail themselves of this privilege should confirm the reservation in the usual way later.

During holiday or rush periods, it is particularly desirable for the smooth working of the system that reservations be confirmed in reasonable time before the departure of trains. It is only by passengers in general doing this that congestion will be avoided.

A LONDON man, whose reception was upset by using a water main to which the earth lead of an ill-worked receiver was attached, decided to use an independent earthing, but possessed no earth tube or suitable metal to bury in the soil. Wishing to complete his experiments during a week-end, when no shops were open, he connected his set to a German soldier's helmet, a trophy of the late war, which he buried in his coal cellar. He claims that his reception is better than he can recall having enjoyed previously, and says that if the war did nothing else it made his listening pleasurable.

THE residents of Buenos Aires, the big city of the River Plate, are determined to know all that goes on during the sittings of their municipal council, and for the purpose of following the discussions of that body are installing a special transmitting plant of considerable radius.

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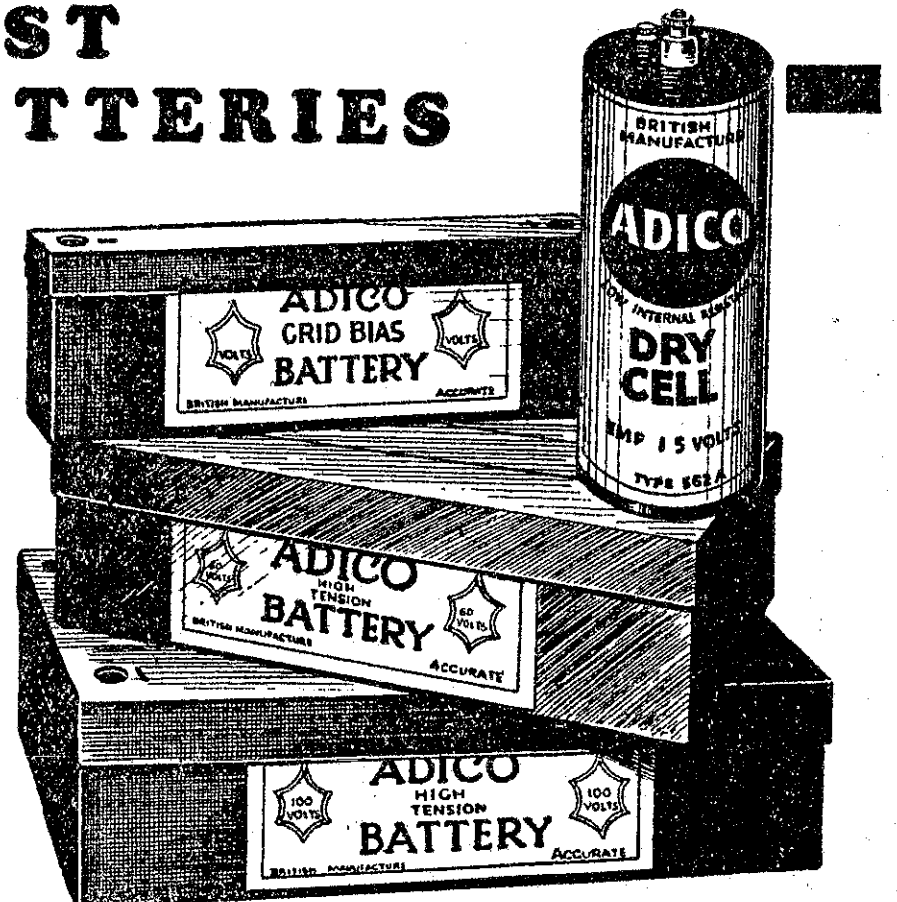
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