

The New Zealand Radio Record

P.O. BOX, 1032, WELLINGTON.

Published Weekly. Price 3d. Subscription Post Free in advance, 10s. per annum; booked 12s. 6d.

Literary communications should be addressed: "The Editor"; business communications to "The Manager."

Advertisers are asked to note that alterations of advertisements should be in hand Friday of each week for insertion in the succeeding issue, printed Tuesday, bearing Friday's date. No responsibility is accepted for blocks remaining unclaimed three months after each insertion.

N.Z. RADIO PUBLISHING CO., LTD.
P.O. Box 1032, WELLINGTON.

WELLINGTON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 1929.

THE PROVISION OF RELAY STATIONS.

IN another column we give publicity to the letter of a correspondent upon our treatment of the efforts being made by certain "B" class stations to agitate and organise a demand for subsidy from the funds of listeners. At the moment, this may be regarded as not being a vital point, for the contract of the Broadcasting Company is a watertight one, and provides no place for the diversion of funds to the purpose desired. That contract has yet three years to run. In spite of the fact, however, we consider that it is important to listeners to fully inform themselves of the situation and understand just what is the principle at the root of the New Zealand Broadcasting service. That principle is co-ordination and unified control. The Government of New Zealand, on the inception of broadcasting, rightly adopted a cautious attitude and investigated the systems prevalent in other countries before launching on our New Zealand venture. For that cautious and wise attitude, the responsible officials of the Post and Telegraph Department are wholly to be commended. Because of it, they were finally able to produce a scheme which provided for stations at the four main centres, with an eye on the establishment of relay stations in suitable provincial areas, and for the maintenance of this system by a system of license fees from those enjoying the service. This system has worked out most satisfactorily, and through it has placed broadcasting fully in the public mind as a needed utility.

FOR reasons of their own, certain business houses, both in the main centres which are already served by YA stations, and provincial points where no such stations exist, have within recent months installed transmitting stations of their own. Their purpose in so doing is obviously to secure publicity for their own radio goods and associated wares. After some months of operation, a movement has been initiated amongst these business houses to combine with a view to securing a subsidy from the Government in mitigation of the cost of operating their stations. We published their preliminary letter and set out to listeners the principles that are at stake. The main principle is the efficiency of the service itself. Only a limited sum is available for the development of radio broadcasting, and the best results will be secured only by the central administration of those funds. For it to be allowable for independent business houses to

establish transmitting stations for their own purpose, to operate them for a few months, and then endeavour to relieve their burden by unloading that station on to the funds of listeners, either through receipt of a subsidy or possibly later, a sale to the central authority, is to our mind illogical and ridiculous.

THE main point raised by our correspondent has reference to the disability of radio enthusiasts in large provincial areas, isolated from satisfactory reception from the main stations. With that problem we have every sympathy. Its solution, however, will not be found in the indiscriminate provision of "B" class stations or otherwise, but with the logical tackling of the problem of the erection of satisfactory relay stations at strategic points. We believe that the advance hitherto made in radio has been of such a solid character that the time is now ripe for facing this further expansion. In due course, we expect to see a comprehensive and satisfactory scheme adduced and ultimately put into operation.

Radio Licenses Steadily Mount

As on December 21, the figures for the radio licenses stood as follows:—

	Receiving.	Transmitting.	Dealers.	Total.
AUCKLAND	14,223	56	419	14,698
WELLINGTON	17,118	53	595	17,766
CHRISTCHURCH	8,228	35	279	8,542
DUNEDIN	2,928	21	163	3,112
	42,497	165	1,456	44,118

His Majesty the King "Good-bye, 2YA"

Health Bulletin Broadcasts

Farewell Note from Uncle Ernest.

The concern which the people of New Zealand felt regarding the health of the King was demonstrated to the Broadcasting Company by the many inquiries which were made of the four stations. These inquiries also demonstrated the value of the broadcast news service.

In this regard, a few words of explanation are, perhaps, necessary. There has been some criticism because the full cabled reports concerning the King's illness were not broadcast every evening. This was, of course, due to the fact that this cabled news as published in the newspapers is the copyright of the New Zealand Press Association, and the Broadcasting Company has no authority to use it. The only overseas news that is available to the Broadcasting Company is that which is covered by the Rugby Official Wireless service.

Directing 4YA

MR. LEN BARNES, of Wellington, is temporarily filling the position of station manager at 4YA. For some weeks past Mr. Barnes has been relieving at 2YA, first as programme organiser and then as station manager, during the absence of those officers on leave. Mr. Barnes is a well-known music teacher in Wellington and a popular baritone singer at 2YA. He took up his duties at 4YA on Friday, January 4.

THE Rev. Ernest Weeks wrote to the staff of 2YA the following note, from Rotorua, where he was resting prior to his departure on the Niagara for Britain:

Dear Folk,—You cannot tell how disappointed I was not to be able to run in for a final farewell. But so many things crowded me at the end that it was quite impossible. I do want to tell you all how good it has been to be associated with you all. Enthusiasm is contagious, and folk who live their job and go for it as you people do, are always refreshing.

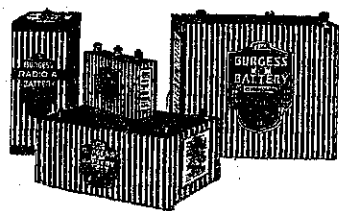
Be assured of my interest in you all and in the company's activities. I shall always be glad to hear of the development of the good work, and your individual welfare. It has been a fine comradeship, and I have thoroughly enjoyed it.

It was good of Mr. Harris to be at the station last night representing you all as he did, and I appreciated very much Mr. Ball's wish.

With cordial greetings to one and all,
Ever your friend,
UNCLE ERNEST.

"660" VALVES AND LOUD-SPEAKERS.

MESSRS. S. SEGAL & CO., LTD.,
P.O. Box 2956, Sydney, sole agents for Australasia for the famous "660" Glowless Valves and Loudspeakers, manufactured by The Six-Sixty Radio Co., London, England, are desirous of appointing a Distributor or Distributors for New Zealand, and will be glad to hear from any firms interested.



**BURGESS
RADIO
BATTERIES**