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The Passing of the Old Year

ANOTHER year has slipped away, another milestone in the swift passage of time has been passed. We stand on a threshold; what lies beyond can be revealed only by degress. The future is looked forward to with added certainty—certainty that in 1929 broadcasting will be even more than now part of our very existence. The experiences of the past year can have only one significance—they have become history and as history are infallible guides to the future.



HE moving finger writes; and, having writ, moves on: nor all your piety nor wit shall lure it back to cancel half a line, nor all your tears wash out a word of it." The year 1928, with all its brilliant successes and its dismal failings, has gone. It has left behind it perhaps regrets, perhaps joys; but the new year will provide scope for the atonement of failings and the furtherance of successes.

Such was the impression received from one of the special Church Services broadcast Sunday, 30th. There was an unusual tone about these special services, something that stirred man's very being into new resolutions and urged him on to greater determination. To the hearts of many these messages, receivable only through the medium of radio, will remain cherished.

And so the special New Year broadcasts commenced.

Views of New Year's Eve.

NEW YEAR'S EVE had been awaited by thousands of listeners. Special programmes had been arranged, and everything held in readiness for the great event. And listeners were not disappointed.

From the four centres a different type of programme had been arranged, and each went off with a swing.

From 3YA the noisy, breezy atmosphere from the gay scenes in the Cathedral Square formed quite a feature of the evening's broadcasting. New Year's Eve is always a time of great revelry for those who are fortunate enough to be able to congregate in sufficiently large numbers to carry out mass celebrations. For those

remotely situated, 3YA and 1AA conveyed some of the joyous atmosphere.

At 1YA things were really noisy and the crowd was evidently a very happy one. The scene was well carried to those who were more unfortunately situated. The description, to which was added the humorous touches, particularly where the crowd were lifting up the rear portions of the motor-cars, was remarkably vivid.

One could, by radio, see the scenes being swiftly enacted in these two remotely-situated cities.

A Different Note.

On tuning in to 420 metres, one encountered a different scene. Gone were the rollicking crowds with their wild capers. Here a different note—a prayer for help to face the forthcoming year, a hymn to inspire fresh hope, a message to convey greater security.

Before passing to the Midnight Watch Service from St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, a fine studio concert had been presented. The orchestra, rendering old and appropriate music, was, as usual, well to the fore. With the support of capable artists, a very enjoyable concert preceded the solemn service.

An Attempted Relay.

SHORTLY after 9 p.m. an attempt was made to relay RFN, Moscow, Russia. This station, operating on short wave, was at the time broadcasting music, and for the first few moments some of the Russian music was audible to even the owners of the modest crystal set. But the elements were against such a rebroadcast, and further music was drowned out. This at-

tempt on the part of Mr. McCarthy (Mack, of Mack's Radio) recalls the many fine re-broadcasts that have been put over the air. Mack has certainly earned the appreciation of all who have not the facilities to listen in to these shortwavers themselves, and even some of these have been only too pleased to turn to 2YA for the re-broadcast rather than to their own receivers. 2YA is certainly very fortunate to have the willing co-operation of so capable a radio engineer.

AND so the new year dawned, and the chimes of the city clocks interrupted the programmes from the stations, and continued their long chime amid the still silence until 1928 had gone!

Australia Greet 1929.

FOR the happenings in Australia we turn to "Switch," whose enthusiasm kept him abroad until the Australian midnight had been passed.

THE writer turned out of bed shortly before 2 a.m. to hear the celebrations broadcast by the Australian stations. 2FC had a studio concert then coming to a close, and on the stroke of midnight (Australian time) the performers and staff joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne" and other choruses. Then 2FC switched over to the Sydney University carillon, which rang out for quarter of an hour.

2BL Sydney, commenced the New Year with a Watch Night Service, and it came through fairly well. Studio artists were performing at 4QG, Brisbane, and a dance orchestra and vocal numbers could be heard from 3LO, Melbourne, which, however, was very weak.

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