

the same as under ordinary conditions, but greater volume could be had before distortion was reached, than under ordinary conditions.

Dial readings on aerial condenser were the same on high wavelengths, and three degrees less on low wavelengths. The secondary condenser was not affected.

Daylight reception at noon of 2YA was at loudspeaker strength, but the noise was also loud. The absence of noise was an advantage of the short aerial; dial readings were three degrees less in daylight.

I have tried the Beveridge plan with high resistances from 2 megohms down, but find full grounds results best.

My observations in the constant use of long and short aerial with one ground, over a number of years, has shown me that it is an advantage to have two aerials, short and long. They can be used in the country where there is room, and freedom from interference, and power line noises. Another thing is that country people retire early, and at this time of the year the long aerial will, in most cases, give the necessary loudspeaker volume.

Concerning Long Aerials.

THE following excerpt is from a well-known authority in a letter to me concerning long aerials.

"The pick-up value of an aerial depends partly on the fact that it is an open condenser, with associated inductance. Maximum effect is produced by tuning to resonance. Losses are avoided by keeping the capacity as open as possible (height), insulation, low R.F. resistance, and keeping conductors out of the field. But there is another consideration generally overlooked.

"The mere length of an aerial may have an appreciable effect owing to increased collecting surface, and a more important effect owing to the occurrence of stationary waves with nodes and anti-nodes on the aerial itself. This will be a maximum when the length

is such that a voltage node occurs at the ground, and a current node at the open end of the aerial. Obviously this effect will be most pronounced when the aerial, measured simply as a long conductor, is approximately quarter wave-length, three-quarter wave-length, one and a-quarter wave-length, etc.

"Other things being equal, then, we should get an improvement up to quarter wave-length, a falling off up to half wave-length, further improvement up to three-quarter wave-length, and so on. Owing to the double tuning effect, however, the resonant peaks will probably be flatter.

"I certainly do not condemn long aerials, except on the ground of expense and difficulties in the way of maintaining efficiency."—"Proton," "Lyttelton Times.")

With the Browning Drake.

I have used the long aerial with one ground on various sets. A portable B.D. used by an agent of a well-known firm, was tried on 2BL. It was not strong on 'phones with the short aerial, but gave good loudspeaker strength with long aerial, as well as tuning sharply.

I have not experimented with long aerials on short-waves, but have been given to understand that they are used in commercial stations. In the near future the writer will replace his first valve with a screened grid, and the third valve with a 5 electrode in his reflex circuit, and will carry out further experiments with long aerials.

I consider the "Radio Record" a very fine little paper, with much of interest in it.

Auckland Notes

AUCKLANDERS cannot complain of the service which has been given them over the air during the holidays. All tastes were thoroughly and efficiently catered for. The main interest, of course, centred in the

seven days' racing carnival, which, despite the restrictions so strangely imposed by the Racing and Trotting Conferences, was handled expeditiously by the officials at 1YA. In the rain of the earlier days they must have been working under tremendous disadvantages, yet they "got there" every time, and though the announcer was unable to give much in the way of detail, he "produced the goods" as far as results were concerned, so that the whole province knew immediately after the horses passed the post what had won the Cup and the Derby.

The whole of the racing broadcast again demonstrated how ridiculous and how futile too is the ban which has been placed upon this phase of broadcasting. The radio public is now far too large and too influential to be ignored. They want descriptions, full and free, of sporting events, and in almost all cases they are getting them. The half measures that circumstances enforce in connection with gallops and trots surely cannot last much longer.

MR. J. BALL, of the headquarters staff of the Radio Broadcasting Company, is at present in Auckland, and his efforts in several directions should be all to the benefit of local listeners. It is probable that, as the result of his visit, still more interest will be galvanised into Auckland programmes and transmissions. On several occasions Mr. Ball took his place at the 1YA microphone, his cheery and pleasing voice being at once recognised by those who are accustomed to tune in Wellington. Mr. Ball is confident of a big accession to the ranks of listeners after March 31 next, and is seeing that nothing is left undone to assist the movement for a big increase in licenses, which naturally will benefit every individual who owns a set.

THERE was a cheeriness about the Old-New Year programme from 1YA that put everybody in good spirits for the approach of the first minute of 1929. A breezy description of street scenes in Auckland was in progress, and listeners by the thousand were awaiting the ferry clock chimes which would foretell the dawn of the New Year.

Unfortunately a microphone fault developed in the final minute of 1928 and the chimes were missed, but the studio quickly stepped into the breach, and the countryside knew from its clock and the voice of the announcer that 1928, a year of great radio achievements, was dead.

ONE requires to travel far away from civilisation to realise the full benefits which radio brings to those who are far removed from city life. Numbers of holiday-makers were gathered at the Bay of Islands for the Christmas season, but radio receivers were few and scattered. Still, they were not too scattered to provide with the latest news for all who were so anxious to hear it.

Yachtsmen rowed ashore to inquire at a boarding-house, up to date because it had an aerial, what had won the Cup. One small party came right across the bay, through wind and rain, also on the same quest. The fortunate owner of the set was able to gratify their curiosity and to convince them that radio to-day is no luxury and no plaything.

WITH the appearance of a new quartet party, the presentation of a debate by university students, more

operatic gems, and a varied programme by the orchestra, next week's offerings from 1YA are a good augury of what will be forthcoming during 1929. Every week brings something new into our programme, and each new effort marks a further step forward.

Hawke's Bay Notes

THE outstanding feature of the Hawke's Bay Radio world this week has been the official handing over to the Hawke's Bay Hospital Board of the radio equipment which the Hawke's Bay Radio Society has installed in the Hastings Memorial Hospital. The handing over was done at a very pleasing little function in the nurses' home. His Lordship, the Bishop of Aotearoa, who is president of the society, presenting the outfit to the Hospital Board, through the Mayor of Hastings, G. A. Maddison, Esq.

Usually on such occasions one has to make all sorts of excuses for static or distorted reception, but this time everything went off wonderfully well. Hardly a blast of static was heard, and the items came through in good style. Specially appreciated by those present were the congratulatory remarks put over from 2YA, and for these the Radio Society says "Thank you" to the announcer. Not one word of this was lost, and the speaker's fine voice created a very favourable impression.

WITH the hospital set now off its hands, the Radio Society will once more be confronted with the problem of a local broadcasting station, and the question to be answered is whether the Radio Society should take the thing up or leave it to a private firm which is contemplating such a move. In view of the experience of the past when the proposal was mooted, there are many members who will not support the Society in any move unless the money and the necessary staff to run the station are clearly in sight, and their idea is to leave it to the firm. On the other hand, others are keen for the Society to go on with the proposal and have promised good support, so a big argument is likely before a decision is reached.

There is no doubt that something in the way of a local station is wanted in Hastings, for this part of the district is badly served—just as badly in fact as is New Plymouth—the screening effect of the Havelock Hills being no doubt the cause. The move made in New Plymouth has set local heads thinking, and it is suggested that the Radio Broadcasting Company might be approached to assist a station in Hastings on similar lines to New Plymouth. This is worth thinking about, too. In this connection it is worth noting that a certain Hastings firm actually offered to the Radio Society, free of cost for three years, a room suitable for a studio and also a cheque for £20 to furnish the place, and it is possible that this offer is still open. At any rate, all are agreed that something should be done, whether it be by private enterprise or by the Radio Society, and the sooner a definite decision is reached the more satisfied local listeners will be.

CONGRATULATIONS to the Broadcasting Company for its Christmas broadcasts. Its timetable was greatly

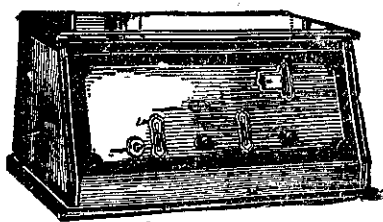
£24/10/-

Buys the Greatest
6-Valve
Set Known

Complete with Valves,
Batteries and Loud-
Speaker.

TERMS IF DESIRED.

70/- Deposit and 10/- a Week



CROSLEY RADIO
"You're there with a Crosley"

MESSRS. ABEL, SMEATON,
Wholesale and Retail Merchants,
27-29 Customs Street East, AUCKLAND.

Sirs,—Please send me particulars of the 6-Valve Crosley Set, and other Special Values you are offering in Radio Sets and Accessories.

Name
Address "R"