

- 8.30: Contralto solo—Miss Nellie Lowe, "Thanksgiving" (Cowan).
 8.34: Tenor recitative and aria—Mr. T. G. Rogers, (a) "Deeper and Deeper Still"; (b) "Wait Her, Angels" (Handel).
 8.39: Violin solo—Fritz Kreisler, "Caprice Viennois" (Kreisler) (H.M.V. Record DB1091).
 8.43: Contralto and tenor duet—The Dulcet Duo, "Glory to Thee, My God, This Night" (Gounod).
 8.48: Duet in Italian—Florence Austral and Browning Mummery, "Home to Our Mountains" (Verdi) (H.M.V. Record D1302).
 9.2: Contralto solo—Miss Nellie Lowe, "In the Chimney Corner" (Cowan).
 9.6: Violin solo—Fritz Kreisler, "Humoresque," Op. 101, No. 7 (Dvorak) (H.M.V. Record DB1091).
 9.10: Tenor solo—Mr. T. G. Rogers, "Father of Light" (Adams).
 9.14: Tenor solo with violin accompaniment—John McCormick, "Softly Thru' the Night is Calling" (Schubert) (H.M.V. Record DA458).
 Gramophone recital until 9.30 p.m.
 9.30: God Save the King.

4YA, DUNEDIN (463 METRES)—SUNDAY, JANUARY 27.

- 5.30 p.m.: Children's song service conducted by Big Brother Bill.
 8.30: Relay of evening service from St. Paul's Cathedral (Preacher, Rev. Canon Nevill; organist, Mr. E. Heywood, F.R.C.O.).
 8.0: Relay from St. Kilda (weather permitting) of concert by the St. Kilda Band.
 9.15: God Save the King.

Wireless to Aid Meteorology—A Curious "Fault."

IMPORTANT developments in meteorology are foreshadowed in the message of Professor William H. Hobbs, leader of the University of Michigan Expedition to Greenland, broadcast to Commander Richard E. Byrd and his associates from the Westinghouse Radio Station, KDKA, Pittsburg. In his message to Commander Byrd, Professor Hobbs states that a German scientist, Herr Wegener, has made arrangements to erect two meteorological and aerological stations during 1929 and 1930, which will be in operation for a whole year, one in the remote interior of Greenland and the other close to the coast. The American Professor expressed the hope that Commander Byrd would be able to maintain a station on the inland ice of King Edward Land, in addition to his main base station on the edge of the ice barrier.

It was thought that this will afford splendid opportunities for Mr. Frank Davies, one of the expedition's scientists, to do pioneer work on radiation measurements for different types of ice, as well as for water and land. Professor Hobbs concluded his message with the suggestion that very important returns can be obtained if meteorological work can be carried out both in Greenland and the Antarctic.

A NEW company is being formed in England, under the name "Wireless Pictures, Ltd." The firm will have a capital of £425,000, and business will consist of constructing and selling radio picture receivers.

A NEW type of light sensitive cell has been evolved by an American inventor. This, it is claimed, may dispel many of the difficulties facing the faithful transmission of moving images—television.

A TROUBLE which often puzzles the non-technical listener very much is when the set, after working perfectly, suddenly "goes off," speech becoming very indistinct and "far away," whilst music practically vanishes. After a short time, perhaps no more than a few minutes, the set will go back to normal, for no apparent reason. The trouble then may not occur again that evening or perhaps for several evenings, when, without any warning, the same thing happens.

If this happens to your set, try switching in to another station on a different wavelength. If the trouble is the one we are discussing, you will find that the alternative station comes in perfectly, and probably by the time you switch back to the original station that also will be coming in in the normal way.

If you have, in the meantime, in searching for the trouble in the set itself, made a few alterations or adjustments, it is as well to put things back as they were and see whether the set then behaves as I have indicated above.

Interference.

So, it is practically certain that the trouble is not due to the set at all, but to interference by a set somewhere in the immediate neighbourhood.

The type of oscillator who causes howls and wails, comparatively easy to discover, but there is a kind of oscillation which is not evident by any means of that kind, and, when the oscillator switch is on, his set may be oscillating steadily and causing interference all round without the fact being known even to himself.

If, therefore, you find your set afflicted with these sudden and mysterious fits of "going off," you may be pretty certain that the cause of the trouble is to be looked for a little further afield.

Great Singers of the Past

Memories Survive through Radio and Gramophone.

THE broadcasting by means of their gramophone records of a Caruso-Patti concert opens up large possibilities, says a recent issue of the "Radio Times." The idea is not quite new, for anniversary concerts of Caruso have been broadcast from the Continent.

Tolstoy's centenary, which occurs shortly, might well be marked by the broadcasting of a spoken record (in English) made by him in 1907, when he was seventy-nine.

Ellen Terry is, alas, gone, but a record of her famous rendering of Portia's speech, "The Quality of Mercy," made in 1911, is still available. So are two French recitations of Sarah Bernhardt.

In addition to Caruso and Patti, vocalists still to be heard, though gone from us, include Sir Charles Santley and Edward Lloyd. Foreign singers such as Pol Plancon and Ewan Williams have left many records, as did Tamagno, possessor of the mightiest tenor voice of the last century, for whom the title role of Verdi's "Otello" was specially written.

Possibly less known, but makers of exceedingly fine records, were Gervase Elwes, Charles Mott, and William Samuelli, whose dainty record of the "Queen Mab" song from "Romeo and Juliet" is an excellent piece of "whispering baritone" work.

Terry and Bernhardt are not alone as representatives of the Victorian stage, for we have Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree in Shakespeare, including a fine droll rendering of Falstaff's Speech of Honour, and as Svengali in "Trilby"; Lewis Waller in two famous examples of his elocutionary skill; and poor Arthur Boucher in "Macbeth." Another famous elocutionist who has left records of his voice is Canon Fleming, who, at the age of seventy-six, recorded the "Charge of the Light Brigade."

MEMORIES of the lighter musical stage can be recalled by Dan Leno, who recorded most of his best known numbers four years before his death in 1904: Eugene Stratton in, for example, "Lily of Laguna," one of the late Leslie Stuart's songs; Maurice Farkoa either in English ("I Like You in Velvet," quite a fine record on a modern instrument) or French; Albert Chevalier in most of his Cockney ditties; Fred Emney, Burt Shepard,

George Formby, Tom Foy, and Alfred Lester, both in earlier work and his latest successes prior to his death.

Those whose memories are of instrumental music can have them revived by the almost legendary Joachim in a typical Brahms dance; by the equally famous Sarasate in some of his own compositions; by Mary Law and Maud Powell, Sousa's great soloist; or by the flautist, Eli Hudson. Both Edvard Grieg, as pianist, and Saint-Saens, either as solo pianist or accompanist in violin pieces, can still be heard interpreting their own works. Of conductors, the "mesmeric" Nikisch, and Leoncavallo and Sir Frederick Bridge rendering their own compositions are likewise available.

The list of dead orators recorded includes Lord Roberts in records made in 1913, Lord Oxford and Asquith, Lord Long, and Sir William Treloar; three Presidents of the United States, Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, and Warren Harding; and two famous explorers in Commander (later Admiral) Peary and Sir Ernest Shackleton.

Apart from Edison, who is said to have recited "Mary Had a Little Lamb" as his first record, the earliest famous man to have his voice recorded was the poet Browning, who died in 1889. Gladstone's voice was also recorded in the old cylinder record days, being chiefly listened to, if a contemporary historian may be believed, by foreigners.

The earliest disc records of a famous voice are the Dan Leno ones already mentioned, but the earliest Caruso discs were made in 1902, one of them, a ten-inch of "On With the Motley," with piano accompaniment only, securing him, by cable, his first New York engagement.

It was chiefly the early Caruso records which, in 1906, overcame Patti's sworn resolve to have nothing to do with "talking machines," though by that time Sarasate, Grieg, Santley, Lloyd, Bernhardt and Tamagno had all visited the recording room. Exercising her feminine privilege, she asked to have her voice reproduced, but insisted on the necessary apparatus being brought to her Welsh home, Craig-y-Nos Castle, for the purpose. She was entranced by the result, hearing her own voice as others heard it for the first time.

Chanticleer and the Races

LATELY 2FC delighted followers of horse racing by transmitting the sport direct from Melbourne, Newcastle, and Canterbury, all on the same afternoon, with never a hitch or a pause.

The sensitive microphone picked up and transmitted with startling clarity the enthusiastic crowing of an old rooster in close proximity to the Canterbury course, and this novel touch greatly amused listeners, who are quick to respond to anything in the nature of "atmosphere." They, too, had cause to "crow."

The successful manner in which the race descriptions were relayed from

three different courses so many hundreds of miles apart was a triumph of organisation, and one on which the New South Wales Broadcasting Company is to be warmly congratulated.

IT is reported that the spaced aerial system of reception with which it was hoped to overcome fading effects, has proved disappointing, and this is the reason why we have not recently heard regular relays of American stations.

IT is understood that negotiations now in progress between the Radio Corporation of America and the Victor Talking Machine Company will probably result in a merger within the next few months.

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