

# Opinions of Eminent Personalities

Special Number of English Weekly.

**THE** Christmas season was marked in England by the appearance of many special issues of the radio magazines. Some of these are, in addition to being brim full of the most useful of information made up in a most artistic and pleasing manner.

"Popular Wireless" has produced a very fine magazine and the special issue, enclosed in a most handsome three-colour cover, is a fitting production of a paper so well known. Evidently great pains have been taken to produce a number that will long be remembered.

In a prominent page are the addresses of Christmas cheer of many of the leaders of English thought; these include the Governors of the British Broadcasting Corporation, Senator Marconi, Sir Oliver Lodge, and Dr. Flemming. In his greetings Senator Marconi says "Much progress has been made in all branches of wireless during the past year, and many important developments for the year upon which we are now entering are foreshadowed."

## Notable Articles.

**A**NOTHER unusual feature is an article by that great English scientist, Sir Oliver Lodge, bearing on the topic of co-operation. His introductory thought has been quoted in another section of this paper. Sir Oliver considers that the ultimate destiny of mankind is goodwill among the nations. This can be attained not by bitter controversies—but only through mutual co-operation. Radio is opening up a great means of attaining this aim.

"Let us radio workers be thankful for the means that have now been put into our hands—far in advance of anything previously possible in the whole long history of the earth—and let each do his best and contribute his or her quota to the divinely inspired and guided international effort in which statesmen of all countries are now co-operating."

Sir John Reith, director-general of the British Broadcasting Corporation, has written a special letter and after making apologies for not having written an article as was the request of the editor, discusses broadcasting in an unusual manner. Certainly this is a letter, and something quite out of the usual for a wireless journal. It constitutes a break from the usual run of things and coming from a pen so elusive as that of the directing general of the B.B.C., provides more than interesting reading.

Captain Eckersley, the chief engineer of the B.B.C., has presented an article, "Invention and Service," in which he considers the possibilities of wireless invention, tracing as a model the line of inventions that were the forerunners of the modern petrol engine and then expresses his views on radio-vision. These are of no mean importance, so that they are reproduced elsewhere under the heading, "The Future of Television."

## Solving the Shopping Problem.

**B**UT "Popular Wireless" has not stopped at the production of master articles from master pens and has ap-

plied itself to aiding the harassed reader to solve his shopping problem. Having considered the many radio presents possible, a series of photographs are reproduced, depicting very many of the attractive trade lines on the English market—sets, valves (screen-grids and pentodes at that), chokes, coils, speakers, condensers, in fact, every radio accessory anyone wishing to bestow a radio present could wish to consider as a suitable present.

Novel ways of entertaining friends with a radio receiver form the basis of another article in this very interesting publication.

## Opinions of Outstanding Interest.

**A**NOTHER unusual feature (yes, the paper abounds in unusual features) is a collection of the opinions from famous men and women upon the subject of broadcasting. Included are those of the Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, Mr. Lloyd George, and the Home Secretary.

Of broadcasting, Mr. Lloyd George, M.P., says: "I welcome the growth of broadcasting, because it is bringing happiness into millions of homes, and because it has great potentialities as an educative medium. I have watched its growth during the last few years—both in public popularity and in the realm of scientific achievement, and when I think of the mighty strides that it is destined to make, I feel thankful for this scientific development, which is bringing happiness and knowledge daily within closer reach of an ever-growing number of people."

Strong criticism is always attractive to a very large number of readers, and "Popular Wireless" has included within its cover such an article from the pen of the Hon. J. M. Kenworthy, R.N., M.P., "If I Were Postmaster-General," the Hon. Kenworthy takes for his subject and introduces the question of wireless by, "Particularly would I do something drastic about wireless generally. I fear the present Postmaster-General, his political assistant and his department generally, have not yet fumbled to the immense importance of wireless telegraphy and telephony generally, and broadcasting in particular."

A license is strongly urged, graduated on the basis of powers of reception and on the basis of interference with others, for it must be remembered that the character of the English sets differs greatly from that of the New Zealand receivers. Until recently the English listener has had to suffer the infliction of a very restrictive royalty, and with the multiplicity of available stations, the receivers have been made to utilise a minimum of valves and a maximum of reaction. Under the circumstances the interference nuisance is at a maximum, so, the suggested solution. The financial arrangements are strongly condemned, 2s. 6d. out of every 10s. license is too great a tax, and the profits from this should be apportioned among the broadcasters themselves, and not be passed on to swell the coffers of the Treasury.

Broadcasting, as urged by the editor, should be more free: "Free broadcasting in an age of Free Speech and a Free Press will be non-extinct if

# Children's Sessions

## AT 1YA.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5.**—Uncle George back to Radioland once again, and he will tell us about his holiday in Rotorua and about the Maori boys diving for pennies. Oh, yes, Uncle George will have plenty to tell us tonight.

**WEDNESDAY.**—Welcome back, Uncle Tom. He, also, will be brimming over with holiday experiences. Is it true, Uncle Tom, that you lost all the skin off your nose at the beach?

**THURSDAY.**—Thursday brings Peter Pan. It also brings Sunny Jim who will talk to us about Charles Dickens, and give some extracts from the works of Dickens, as it is the anniversary of his birth.

**FRIDAY.**—Here are Nod and Aunt Jean. They will give us the usual cheery hour, with cousins assisting.

**SATURDAY.**—Hello, Cinderella! What have you this evening? Cousins singing and reciting, birthday greetings, and stories, so it looks like a happy hour for the little folk.

**SUNDAY.**—Children's Song Service conducted by Uncle Leo, assisted by cousins from Dominion Road Methodist Sunday School.

## AT 2YA.

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4.**—Uncle Jeff, to-night with story and greetings. Cousin Eva is to sing and the Mouth Organ Symphony Orchestra are coming again. Their music was very much enjoyed the last time they played in the studio.

**TUESDAY.**—To-night Uncle Jim will talk to radioland, read a story and give fairy messages. Then there will be some music and poems by three or four little cousins who will just be home from their holidays in time to come to the studio.

**THURSDAY.**—Four little cousins are coming in a big train to-night to help Aunt Gwen to entertain. Claudia is the big cousin, Clarice and Alison are the little cousins, and Hilary is the little boy cousin. There will be music and

recitations, birthday wishes, and a bedtime story.

**FRIDAY.**—Big Brother Jack will greet you to-night with his cheery chorus and a cock-a-doodle-doo. Cousin Margaret will sing and recite some of her lovely little songs and poems, and Cousin Gladys will also sing and recite.

**SATURDAY.**—Uncle Toby, Aunt Gwen and Cousin Marjorie to-night. There will also be two new little cousins, Betty and Diana, who have dear little poems to recite.

**SUNDAY.**—The Children's Song Service will be conducted by Uncle George, assisted by the Karori Methodist Sunday School Choir under Mr. Clarke.

## AT 3YA.

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4.**—A surprise night, when Scatterjoy will wave her magic wand, and take you—where? Perhaps to the moon, perhaps to the sunny lands of Spain—so be ready for 6 o'clock to strike, and we'll all go a'travelling.

**WEDNESDAY.**—Big Brother, assisted by the Three Old Maids of Lee will make this bedtime hour an interesting one for old and young.

**THURSDAY.**—Uncle Hal back from his journeyings, with fresh stories and adventures, and songs for you. Cousin Roy is singing and reciting for us and so is Cousin Edna.

**FRIDAY.**—Mr. Storyman with his bag filled with snappy stories for the little ones, and the Simons Cousins with their music, and Cousin Miretta and Gwen with songs—so if you want something good to listen to—why you know what to do.

**SATURDAY.**—"Tune-in on 3YA" is Chuckle's new song—and it goes with a right good swing—so listen-in and we will all learn it. Aunt Pat ready with a little laugh and song, too.

**SUNDAY.**—Children's Song Service conducted by Uncle David, and the hymns to be sung by the children from the Sydenham Baptist Sunday School.

political parties claim the right to interfere." Likewise the urge is made that part of the Parliamentary proceedings should be broadcast.

Concluding this article, the writer says:—

"Just as the Press is spoken of as the Fourth Estate, so it is quite proper to speak of wireless to-day as the Fifth Estate; and no limits can be set to its importance, usefulness and the profound influence it will have in the future."

**S**IX months is a good time to allow for the normal life of a grid-bias battery.

## Russian Pirate's Fate

**A**CCORDING to a note in the "Scientific American," a radio "pirate" in Russia is there looked upon as a dangerous criminal. A case is cited of a Leningrad boy who was sentenced to three months hard labour for owning a set without a license. The judge said that he was "lenient" because the boy was young. In spite of the maximum penalty being three years in prison, it is estimated that 15 per cent. of Leningrad's listeners are "pirates."