

**Shakespearean Broadcast**

(Continuation of Front Page.)

the integrity of Mistress Ford. Falstaff, unaware of the true identity of Master Brook, brags of his secret meeting with Mistress Ford, and relates how he had to be smuggled in a buck-basket from her house owing to the unexpected approach of her husband. Ford, seething with jealous anger, and scarcely able to control his emotions, engages Falstaff to again visit Mistress Ford secretly, for it is Master Ford's intention not to permit Falstaff to escape from his house a second time.

The next scene shows Falstaff once more with Mistress Ford. While pretending to encourage Falstaff's advances, Mistress Ford is suddenly warned by Mistress Page that Master Ford is approaching again. The dilemma in which Falstaff finds himself and his endeavours to escape never fail to create uproarious laughter. With all his frailties, Schlegel says of Falstaff—"He is the most agreeable and entertaining knave that ever was portrayed. Falstaff is the crown of Shakespeare's invention." Here, then, is a part in which the world's dramatic genius is considered to have attained the pinnacle of his art. Grossly corpulent, dissipated, cowardly, sensual old Falstaff is an outstanding figure in all the world of drama, and his immortality is assured.

Mr. Wilkie has a decided liking for the part of Falstaff, and, indeed, his striking success in the role may be due, in no small measure, to his close study of the psychology of the old knight. And despite his failings, with

Schlegel, one may say of Falstaff "we are never disgusted with him."

Nearly 330 years have elapsed since Shakespeare first staged "The Merry Wives of Windsor." What marvels have been wrought by man since those Elizabethan days when even the very stage and theatres in which the plays were performed were, with their open roofs, but a sorry makeshift compared with the palatial theatrical edifices of to-day! But what of the wonder of radio! Listeners many hundreds of miles from the theatre will sit in the comfort of their homes harkening to wisdom and wit of the great master mind. When the merry laughter storms our ears we may well think of the laughter of those happy audiences back through three hundred years to the days of Good Queen Bess when Shakespeare and his own company of players moved to mirth the patrons of the old Globe Theatre in London.

**Mr. Wilkie's Views on Broadcasting.**

THE broadcast on Friday will be the first that Mr. Wilkie has ever experienced, and he is looking forward to the experience quite keenly. Asked if he thought that broadcasting would ever replace the stage, he replied in the negative. To him, the appeal of "flesh and blood" would for ever remain an attraction to theatre goers.

He added that there may possibly come a dull time in drama, but that the mechanical broadcast in his opinion, could never display the actual actual performance on the stage.

In conclusion, Mr. Wilkie remarked that he would like very much to hear the opinions of listeners regarding the broadcast. In this respect, listeners are invited to air their opinions through our columns

**What 1928 has Written into the Record**

THIS year, 1928, has been a very fruitful one, says "Radio Retailing," America. As the past twelve months are recalled there stands out clearly a number of stabilising influences that the year has contributed. Several definite indicators of the future have also become apparent.

To begin with 1928 has broken all records in the number of sets sold to the public. A record volume of sales has been accomplished since January, assisted enormously by the stimulating influence of the election. Electrically operated sets also contributed to this prosperity, because of their intense popularity. This popularity of electric sets has accelerated the progress of both simplification and stabilisation and has led to lower prices. This trend holds promise of still lower prices next year.

Engineering developments have been most significant in 1928. In addition to the perfection of A.C. sets, the outstanding feature of the year was the electro-dynamic reproducer. After a slow start early in the spring, dynamics assumed large importance at the trade show and have since dominated the market.

Increasing interest in the perfection of audio amplification, both in the set and in external equipment, was also notable in 1928. The power valve has been a potent factor in making available greater volume and better tone quality in this year's receivers. Undoubtedly these valves will have a beneficial influence upon 1929 receivers from the standpoint of tonal improvement.

Higher voltage is also clearly indicated for the coming year. Present power valves require high voltage. New developments in reproducers may also make increasingly higher voltages necessary. With this condition confronting the trade, manufacturers may well give thought to protecting the set-owner from high-voltage shocks.

Again, great interest centres in the laboratory right now. For there are several technical developments to-day in the laboratory stage which have every promise of being potent factors in the radio market place in the very near future.

**Future Developments.**

FIRST, is automatic volume control an important improvement which will automatically regulate the intensity of all signals received? If the signal is too strong, this control reduces it to the proper volume. If the signal is weak, it is amplified to satisfactory audibility. Sets using this control will undoubtedly feature in the 1929 market.

Second, is the screen-grid valve for alternating current? Laboratory difficulties have held this valve back. But we can expect that these kinks will be ironed out, just as other "insurmountable" difficulties in radio's progress have been hurdled. The A.C. screen-grid receiver, then, is another development which may be expected for next season.

Then, third, comes the multi-valve tube. It is widely used abroad, and known there as the "Loewe valve." If this valve wins acceptance here, small compact receivers can be built for a popular price market. For three or

four multi-valve tubes can be made to produce the same results as six or seven of our present valves. It is not beyond the realm of possibility that receivers using this valve will appear on the market in 1929.

**What of Television?**

AND no record of what is now on the horizon for 1929 would be complete without mention of three other significant laboratory achievements—television, the "electric-static" reproducer, and talking movies for home use. While the television excitement has now died down somewhat, public appetite has been whetted and experimentation in television may consequently be expected to continue. It will assume a larger place as time goes on.

The "electric-static" speaker, which has been popular in Europe for some time, is now being taken up by American manufacturers. It is simple and inexpensive, and will therefore fill an important place if merchandised in this country.

Talking movies for home use is another product of radio laboratories which should not be overlooked. It has already been accomplished experimentally. It will be accomplished commercially in the course of time. The radio trade should prepare itself to be the natural outlet for this equipment when it is ready for sale to the public.

**The Future Market.**

ALL these new and prospective developments have their immediate commercial influence. Each will add impulse to stimulation and expansion of the market.

The amazing growth of the demand for more and more artistic and expensive radio furniture in the past few months is perhaps the most spectacular example of the rapidity with which new ideas in radio merchandise immediately become market trends and write new chapters in the romantic progress of the radio business. It has been so in 1928. It will be so in 1929.

And if the new developments that lie ahead are wisely directed, the coming year should bring to the radio industry a season of fine achievement and splendid prosperity.

**Lyttelton Tunnel****Electrification Ceremony**

ALL the work in connection with the Lyttelton tunnel electrification scheme has now been completed, and the official opening ceremony will take place on the afternoon of February 14. It will be the occasion for some interesting speeches, and SYA will broadcast the whole proceedings.

AT Home a new company is being formed. It is to be Wireless Pictures, Ltd., and its business will take the form of building and selling radio picture receivers.

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Life,  
Honest  
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Voltage	Capacity Amp.	Price
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6	60	4 10 0
6	80	5 5 0
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