

# THE RADIO RECORD

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## Official Opening of 2YB New Plymouth

### Important Announcement Concerning Relay Stations



THE opening of 2YB on the evening of Saturday, April 27, was an outstanding success, and has made radio a subject of prime importance throughout the whole Taranaki district. The official function in the studio situated on the premises of Collier's Limited, New Plymouth, was full of sparkling enthusiasm. The arrangements made passed off very satisfactorily and were a distinct credit to the organisation undertaken by the North Taranaki Radio Society. Pleasure was added to the occasion by the receipt of numerous telephone calls from all parts of the district as the programme advanced reporting very satisfactory reception over a wide area.

The advent of the station has met with a welcome reception from both Press and public, and it is plain that it will fill a felt need in the territory.

THE official opening was marked by a number of important, though brief, introductory speeches. The Mayor of New Plymouth, Mr. H. V. S. Griffiths, officially opened the Studio and commented on the significance of the occasion, occurring as it did in the same week in which the district aeroplane hangar was completed.

Mr. Griffiths conveyed the thanks of the community to Mr. Payne, Station Director, and President of the North Taranaki Radio Society, and those associated with him, for their vision, energy, and enthusiasm in bringing the station into existence. He also extended a welcome to Mr. John Ball, and asked him to thank the Radio Broadcasting Company for the generous way in which it had responded to the request of the Taranaki Society for the equipment of the station. He hoped that the station would fulfil the anticipations of the promoters.

supply the felt need of listeners, and shed happiness to all hearers.

MR. S. G. Smith, M.P., represented the Postmaster-General at the ceremony and conveyed a message of goodwill from the Postmaster-General. "The Government of New Zealand recognises the important place that wireless broadcasting occupies in the life of the community," telegraphed the Hon. J. Donald, "not only for pleasure, but also as a means of supplying to people in back-blocks weather reports, market reports and other information regarding topics of the day. Radio and the telephone have removed much of the isolation of rural life. It is the desire of the Government to afford this modern adjunct of civilisation every facility to achieve the widest popularity. When the Radio Broadcasting Company commenced operations in 1925 there were approximately 3000 receiving licenses. At March 31, 1927, the number had increased to 18,162. In 1928, it was 39,315, and this year it is 44,810. Compared with other countries New Zealand suffers considerable disadvantages from a broadcasting point of view, as our population is neither large nor concentrated, and many stations are required to give good reception everywhere. I hope that licenses will continue to increase and enable improved facilities to be given to many places which at present do not enjoy first-class reception. At present our revenue is less than £67,000, as compared with £377,000 for Australia and £1,342,000 for the United Kingdom. In the circumstances, the

broadcasting company's service must be regarded as remarkably satisfactory. I trust that the new station 2YB will give the result that is expected in better radio service to the people of Taranaki, and I again congratulate them on having brought their efforts to a successful conclusion."

#### Relay Stations.

MR. John Ball, Editor Announcer of the Radio Broadcasting Company, in the course of his remarks made an important pronouncement on behalf of the Broadcasting Company concerning the possible future of a relay system throughout the Dominion.

"This is indeed an auspicious occasion," said Mr. Ball, "and, speaking as the representative of the Radio Broadcasting Company of New Zealand, Ltd., I feel it a privilege to be afforded this, and especially to the band of radio amateurs whose enthusiastic enterprise has made possible the establishment of a broadcasting station in New Plymouth, sincere and hearty greetings and good wishes. Such enthusiasm is indeed a great community asset. I am commissioned by Mr. A. R. Harris, the Company's General Manager, to express on his behalf, and on behalf of his co-directors, his and their hearty congratulations to the officers and members of the North Taranaki Radio Society on the success that has attended their efforts, and the company's best wishes for the successful operation of station 2YB. They desire me to say that the society's solicitation of the company's co-operation is deeply appreciated by them, realising as they do that the development of a truly national and thoroughly efficient broadcast service is only possible by a strict adherence to the principles of unified control."

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