

Hawke's Bay Notes

ON Tuesday night, April 30, Mr. J. Ball, editor-announcer for the R.B.C., paid his promised visit to Hastings, and he was probably very surprised at the enthusiasm shown, in Hastings at least, over his visit. Mr. Ball was met on his arrival at mid-day by members of the executive of the Hawke's Bay Radio Society, and in the afternoon was taken for a lengthy tour of the district, including a run to the top of the Havelock Hills, the site which local enthusiasts contend is an ideal one for the establishment of the relay station as suggested by Mr. Harris's proposals before the Post and Telegraph Department. Mr. Ball was also very favourably impressed with the site and realised that a station at this point would undoubtedly efficiently serve all of Hastings and Napier, and, in fact, the whole of the Hawke's Bay province.

AT the conclusion of the afternoon tour (during which the visitor was given an opportunity to listen to the afternoon transmission from 2YA), the members of the Hawke's Bay and Napier Clubs' executives, and also the local radio dealers, entertained Mr. Ball at dinner at the Grand Hotel, this being a very happy and social gathering.

Following the dinner an adjournment was made to the Y.M.C.A. lounge, where Mr. Ball was greeted by an attendance of over 100 listeners. He was extended a very cordial welcome by His Lordship the Bishop of Aotearoa, who is president of the Hawke's Bay Radio Society—a welcome which was heartily endorsed by all present.

MR. BALL gave a lengthy but exceptionally interesting talk on the history of the R.B.C., and also outlined the proposals for the chain of relay stations, announcement concerning which he made at the opening of 2YB, New Plymouth. After his talk supper was served and then a receiver was tuned in to 2YA to give Mr. Ball an idea of reception of the big station in this quarter. Although with a strange turn of fate reception at this demonstration was better than it had

been over the past fortnight, it was certainly not good, and Mr. Ball is probably convinced of the great room for improvement. If he needed any further proof, however, he got it in the form of comments from all sides to the effect that the test relay of the band concert from Auckland on Sunday, the 28th, was received here at least 50 per cent. better from Auckland than it was from Wellington—yet Wellington has ten times the power of Auckland and is much closer to Hastings.

THE meeting was an exceptionally fair one, for although they had just reason for a kick over 2YA's reception, those present realised that the Radio Broadcasting Company had done and was still doing its best to meet the wishes of all, and this sentiment was embodied in a motion of confidence in the R.B.C., which the meeting unanimously passed. Mr. Ball was also asked to convey to his headquarters the thanks of all local listeners for the innovation of the dinner music session and also the extra dance music programmes.

ON the following day, Mr. Ball was again the guest of the Hawke's Bay Radio Society, on a motor tour of the district, and in this tour about 90 miles were covered. An interesting break was the visit to the New Zealand Tobacco Company's factory. In the evening, he was the guest of Dr. Ziele, president of the Napier Radio Club. He surely had quite a busy but enjoyable visit to this part of the Dominion.

NOT many local listeners were able to pick up 2YB with any appreciable volume and this new station will be of no use to Hawke's Bay.

LOCAL fans will be glad to know that the Auckland Boxing Association has now decided to allow broadcasts of future boxing contests in the Queen City.

CONGRATULATIONS to the Radio Broadcasting Company for its relay of 2YA through 1YA. It was a great piece of work, and in this quarter at any rate, 2YA was discarded in favour of the Auckland station.

MR. BALL, by the way, has promised to investigate the possibility of a relay from Hastings on the same lines as was carried out from Wanganui.

If this comes to a head, the local society promises to arrange a concert which will "startle the natives."

THERE is every prospect of that fine orator, the Bishop of Aotearoa, being heard over the air from 2YA towards the end of this or early next month. Mr. Ball made the necessary arrangements with His Lordship, during his visit to Hastings.

Auckland Notes

(By "Listener.")

LAST week has been one of such achievements that one wonders if he can remember them all. First in order of time there came the opening of 2YB, with 1YA's attempt to rebroadcast. The fates could not have been more unkind. Static was virulent. The rebroadcast was thus marred, but sufficient was achieved to show that under favourable conditions, whenever Taranaki has something special to offer, Auckland will be able also to put it on the air.

ONE of the greatest of local broadcasting efforts culminated in a veritable triumph on Sunday evening. The relay of 2YA astounded even the most optimistic. It was as perfect as a local broadcast, and was in itself an education as to the possibilities of radio. Many who heard Wellington for the first time on crystal sets, without any interference, were delighted. Inevitably the experiment will react for the benefit of broadcasting, for those who heard it now realise what lies ahead, and will become set owners if they are not already so. Both the telegraph staff and the staff of the Broadcasting Company concerned in the relay deserve best thanks for the splendid achievement. Incidentally, the public in Auckland were awakened to the disadvantage under which they are labouring through the absence of our own Municipal Band on the air.

AS a number of councillors returned at this week's poll are definitely pledged to the extension of broadcasting privileges where municipal music is concerned, we are hoping that the whole of the "ban (ne) d" question will be reopened at the council table and not in committee.

1YA kept up its reputation for sports announcements when it described the first of the season's Rugby at Eden Park on Saturday. Football began at 1.30, and so did 1YA. Both matches were exciting struggles, as all who listened are aware. Mr. Dudley Wrathall was at the microphone, and did full justice to the teeming incidents in three and a half hours' play.

"A NIGHT OF CONVIVIALITIES." Such was the title of this evening's programme from 1YA, and the title did justice to the fare offered. It was one of the breeziest evenings which local listeners have had. There was a delightful blending of humour and seriousness. Music, song, story, and "gag" were well interspersed, and the big unseen audience laughed as heartily, and felt like applauding as enthusiastically, as did those assembled in the studio. It was quite a "brain wave" to present such a programme, and whoever is responsible

for the freshness of the speeches and the many local "hits" deserves congratulation. We are all quite willing to join in many more such convivial nights.

THE pleasure of dining to 2YA's music has been spoiled for several nights by execrable atmospheric conditions, and all are hoping that the indication of better conditions over the Dominion and the Tasman will enable us to hear Wellington at its best. Then, of course, we shall ask for dinner music at 1YA.

THE newly-formed Radio Society did not fail to champion the cause of listeners during the municipal elections. It made the "band question" a subject of interrogation to each candidate, and was doubtless gratified with the replies received. Unfortunately the move made by the society was at such a late hour in the campaign that it was not as fully effective as it might have been.

Verification of W6XN

I HAVE to hand a verification card from the General Electric Co., Oakland, California, in regard to their station W6XN. W6XN is the short-wave station on KGO, and is to be on regularly to relay KGO's programmes. Their schedule is: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 9.30 a.m.-1 p.m., Pacific standard time. Evening schedule not definite yet. Wavelength, 23.346 metres. Power, 5 k.w. writes a correspondent.

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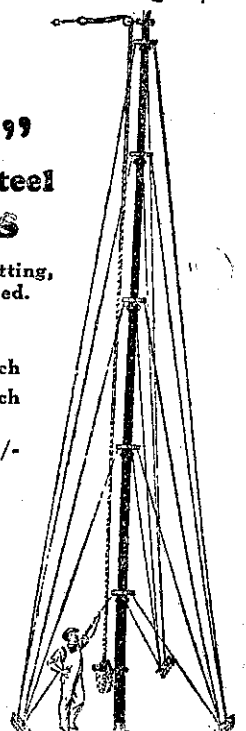
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