

Hawke's Bay Notes

(By "X.Y.Z.")

ANOTHER quite enthusiastic meeting of the Hawke's Bay Radio Society was held in Hastings on Tuesday, the 21st. The attendance numbered 33, which was good for a very cold night, and was presided over by the Rev. R. B. Waugh, in the absence of the president, His Lordship The Bishop of Aotea Roa.

It was reported at the meeting that arrangements were being made to have the relay concert from Hastings, put over the air about the middle of August, as by that time, the Bishop will have completed his tour of New Zealand, and will be able to settle down to arrange the Maori portion of the entertainment. Fuller details will, of course, be made known later.

A good part of the evening was given over to a discussion on interference by "whistling willies" (several of which have lately come into our midst), and three members offered to go on a crusade with the idea of assisting the local radio inspector. In regard to power line leaks, a sub-committee is to wait on the Hawke's Bay Power Board at an early date.

IT was pleasing to see half a dozen ladies at the meeting, and the manner in which they entered some of the discussions, suggests that they had quite an enjoyable evening. It is a fine thing to get the ladies interested, and it is hoped that future meetings will gradually find the numbers increasing.

WORKING through 2BE, Hastings, Mr. H. Roberts gave an interesting short-wave demonstration, but this was not as successful as it might have been, on account of the close proximity of the transmitting station. It was literally in the next door section, and of course justice could not be done.

A SUDDEN falling off in the strength of the Sydney stations was noted last Saturday and Sunday nights. The writer tuned into 2BL for the Grime-Shack boxing contest, but even with five valves very poor reception was obtained. Strangely enough, at the same time, 3LO, Melbourne, was received with splendid volume. The New Zealand stations were also on their best behaviour. The recent long spell of static seems to have departed, and conditions generally are very much improved.

THE Hawke's Bay Radio Society is making a big effort to make its meetings more popular, and the latest move is the inauguration of a suggestion box with the idea of getting members to make suggestions for future meetings. The move did not take on too well at first, but at the last meeting a hat full of suggestions were received. These will all be acted on as far as possible.

WHILST all listeners are full of appreciation of the dinner music session from 2YA, from opinions versed locally, it would seem as if there is plenty of room for improvement in running these. For instance, it is suggested that it is a mistake to start the music simultaneously with the clock chimes. Many also hold that it is a mistake for the station call to be given during the music, and suggest that this might easily be done with better effect just before or after the intervals. These intervals, by the way are not popular either, and a programme carried right on would prove much more enjoyable.

IF you take "B" current from the mains do not imagine that because the ordinary lighting switch is off it is impossible for there to be high voltages inside the set. It often happens that there is, so the best way is to disconnect the flexible lead's plug from the mains before tampering with the inside of the receiver.

Gisborne's Plight

(To the Editor.)

MANY thanks for your publication of my letter re Gisborne and the position of licensees owning short-range receivers. You attach an editorial footnote that calls for further comment, on account of the logic you advance.

Certainly no one is "compelled" to purchase a short-range receiver, but the fact remains that should a person of limited means (for any reason whatever) purchase such apparatus, that person "is compelled" by law to take out a license, and 25s. is collected on behalf of the R.B.C., the other 5s. being retained by the Government to pay expenses of administering the law, etc.

The R.B.C. are not a licensing authority, and therefore the 25s. they receive cannot be claimed under that head. Upon this argument it becomes apparent that the 5s. retained by the Government covers "the privilege" of a licensee owning radio receiving apparatus of any status. This fact is borne out by the number of ultra-short-wave receivers, etc., that cannot receive R.B.C. transmissions, but still have to be licensed. Included in this category I place all crystal receivers outside the radius of, say, 40 miles from a R.B.C. station, and in Gisborne I must include many short-range valve receivers, owing to distance. It does not seem good business ethics to suggest that these poor outtraged receiver owners should be "compelled" to keep on paying out 25s. per annum to the coffers of the R.B.C. until that body collects enough to instal some supply to fill the void. It may be for years or it may be for ever. Allow me to show by close analogy how the present system would apply in other forms of business.

Let us, for illustration, take a supposition case, in the motor and petrol business. The "Carpetro Company" vision a unified supply of petrol to licensed motor-vehicle owners, and to that end offer the Government a contract to supply petrol to such licensees, providing the Government add £25 per annum to the annual license fee. Presuming the Government were idiotic enough to accept such conditions, your argument would favour only supply to Rolls Royce's, etc., while Ford owners would only be allowed to receive a

charitable "present" of petrol now and again, from some garage proprietor, or benevolent citizen. The analogy may not be exact, but the principle in business ethics is the same. The theory of a firm building extensions from profits may be correct, but those profits should be made upon goods delivered for cash received.

When one considers the relationship between company, shareholders, and customers added to capital expenditure and profit expenditure to increase business, the glaring injustice of the present system of licensing becomes apparent. Speaking for Gisborne, I may state we are willing to pay full fees if immediate steps are taken to give a supply by the R.B.C.—Sam J. Pearson, 14 Parau Street, Gisborne.

[We will have to agree to differ with our correspondent on the question of what is and what is not logic. We retain our view that it is both illogical and impracticable to expect any broadcasting authority (Government or company) under present conditions to guarantee reception to crystal or short-range users in any part of New Zealand that they establish themselves. Naturally the governing authority will provide service to meet demand, but there is an obvious limit to the rate at which it will pay to invest capital and expand service. Such investment must have relation to the prospective return.—Ed.]

IF condenser-controlled reaction is used, and the reaction condenser is not connected in series with another condenser, but is joined direct to the plate of the valve, it is a good plan to insert a spare fixed condenser of, say, .001 m.f.d. between these points. It will not affect the reaction results, but will protect against a high-tension short-circuit.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE

The rate for small advertisements under this heading is 2/- cash for 20 words, and twopence for every other word thereafter.

BREMER-TULLY Power six, guaranteed order; very selective, perfect condition; handsome Oak Cabinet. What offers?—Williams, P.O. Dominon Road.

FOR SALE Ferranti 25.1 output Transformer, £1; Ferranti AF3, 17/6; Jefferson 30-Henry Choke, 12/6; Claritone Junior Speaker, £2; all good order, postage paid. "Audio," Box 584, Dunedin.

FOR PRIVATE SALE, Seven 20-Volt Units Fuller "B" Batteries; large capacity; in perfect condition; cost £9 9s. What offers? Write Radio, care 110 Southern Cross Building, Auckland.

KEEP your "Records" neat. Filing covers, strong, printed and pierced. 1/6 post free.—"Radio Record," P.O. Box 1082, Wellington.

HAVE you obtained your "Listener's Guide"? 2/6 from booksellers and radio dealers, or 2/9 post free from the publishers, Box 1032, Wellington.

YOU can save money by writing for our special radio mail-order price list. Electric Lamp House, 27 Manners Street, Wellington.

Printed and published for the New Zealand Radio Publishing Company at the registered office, Wakefield Street, Wellington, of the Wellington Publishing Company, by Archibald Sando, of 47 Freyberg Street, Lyall Bay, FRIDAY, MAY 31, 1929.

The Very Latest IN Electric Gramophones

For use in—
**DANCE HALLS
PICTURE THEATRES
or THE HOME**

For the Amateur Builder we offer—
**POWER AMPLIFIERS, MOVING COIL SPEAKERS, ELECTRIC
PICKUPS, ELECTRIC GRAMOPHONE MOTORS.**

THOS. BALLINGER & CO., LTD.
58-62 VICTORIA STREET :: WELLINGTON.
"WHERE THE QUALITY GOODS ARE SOLD."

THROUGHOUT the DOMINION Mack's Radio Service Spreads!

Just some things that can be added to your set. A Volume Control or a Gramophone Pick-up Jack, or My Famous Short-Wave Set or Adapter, or else the lot can be added and bring your set up to date.

MACK'S RADIO
76 KENT TCE., WELLINGTON.
Telephone 20-798.