

## Hawke's Bay Notes

(By "X.Y.Z.")

ANOTHER quiet radio week has passed, and again that demon static has prevailed. In fact the past couple of months have been the worst the writer has experienced in nearly four years' listening. Each night finds one tuning in in the hope of "a better night." On some occasions the better night has eventuated, but generally it has been the reverse, and the "fed-up" feeling prevails. However, we'll carry on, and still hope for the better nights to come.

A WORD of praise to 1YA for its transmission of the boxing contests at Auckland on June 3. This reception was well-nigh perfect. One felt as if the man at the ring-side was really in the room. There was nothing to rave over in the ability of the announcer, but he used a great radio voice and managed to keep things interesting.

VISITING Hastings this week is Mr. J. Ball, editor-announcer. He met the Hawke's Bay Radio Society's committee on the 5th and discussed details in regard to the concert to be broadcast on August 22. A skeleton programme was arranged, and if this eventuates as set out, one ventures to predict that it will be equal to any concert ever presented in New Zealand. A rather unique move is also contemplated in regard to the concert, but until details are completed, "mum's" the word. More of this anon.

EVIDENTLY the activities of the Hawke's Bay Society have spurred on the newly-formed Nelson club, for in a letter received this week the secretary of that club expressed the hope that the new club would be as successful as the one in Hastings. We wish them the best.

FOLLOWING the effort being made locally for the erection of a 500-watt relay station, the local society got in touch with the Postmaster-General urging that every facility be granted the R.B.C. to proceed with its proposed scheme for a chain of relay stations. The P.M.G. promptly replied that no obstacle would be placed in the way of the company to get busy, and that the Government was just as anxious as the company to help listeners. Looks as if it's up to the R.B.C. now!

[We imagine that certain business adjustments as to period of operation, scale, etc., are necessary before any large capital expenditure can be undertaken.—Ed.]

WITH conditions as they are now, the improvement cannot come too soon. Except for static and occasional fading, we get good service here from 1YA and 3YA, but with the coming of the summer months these stations will gradually fall off. More often than not, 2YA is difficult here, and as it is really our only station in the summer (until fairly late at least), something should be done before the "longer days and shorter nights" arrive.

SOME time back the R.B.C. assured the local Radio Society that Saturday night dance music would commence at 9.30 p.m. It did—for a while, but now it is a case of any old time. R.B.C. please note.

IN the effort to get satisfactory reception from 2YA up this way, the Hawke's Bay Society was backed up by the Napier Radio Society, and now word comes that the Gisborne Listeners' League will lend their support. This is a sporting offer, for Gisborne is included as a place for a relay station, but they are quite satisfied to leave their claim to last provided a decent 500-watt plant is installed at Hastings. This gives a good indication of the feeling up this way, and with these three bodies in full accord it is up to the company to put on their thinking cap and look for the way out.

## 'Phone from the Air Success Attained

AIRMEN have been presented with the means of speaking from cloudy peaks with their bosses, their sweethearts, or anyone else of the earth-bound millions who have access to a regular telephone instrument. The Western Electric Company demonstrated, in a series of tests for the Press, an invention linking aeroplanes on the wing to the land lines of the commercial telephone system. The first call was put through by an associated Press reporter, who went aloft in the flying telephone booth at 11 a.m. and stayed up until noon. Wearing a regular telephone headset and speaking into a microphone held in his hand, he gave the telephone number of the Associated Press office in New York to the Bell telephone experimental radio station at Whippany, New Jersey, by wireless telephone. A moment later he heard the Associated Press switchboard operator respond, and was switched to the city desk, which in turn handed the call over to a rewrite man, who took the report of the demonstration from the flying reporter.

Though the reporter in the aeroplane was sitting but four feet from the

roaring engine, from which he was separated only by a thin pane of glass, he could hear the people in the New York office as clearly as an ordinary telephone conversation, and his words were plainly audible in New York.

The take-off was made in a driving rain, but the telephone 'plane rode above the storm, and the demonstration was made while 2000ft. over Plainfield, in New Jersey, and while the aeroplane was making about 100 miles an hour.

### Radio Talk from Trains.

Remarkable success that promises to revolutionise travelling on trains is announced by the radio experimental department of the Canadian National Railways, which has succeeded in sending messages from speeding coaches to centres many miles away.

Complete telephonic conversation was maintained in one case for two hours. In that time the train from which the experiment was being made had moved more than 70 miles. The test, hailed as one of the most outstanding in radio discovery of late years, was followed by another remarkable demonstration, when a man spoke over the long-distance telephone on the moving train, his remarks being carried by telephone to C.N.R.T. and broadcast to a radio audience. The broadcast was picked up by the radio receiver set on the observation car on the same train from which he spoke. It was the first time this had been accomplished.



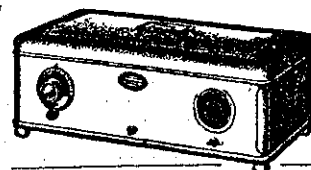
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