

The New Zealand Radio Record

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WELLINGTON, FRIDAY, JULY 19, 1929.

RADIO EXHIBITIONS.

INTEREST in both Wellington and Dunedin is concentrating upon the forthcoming Radio Exhibitions. Arrangements in each centre are well in hand, and those responsible feel assured of attaining definite success in comprehensive displays of the latest radio apparatus calculated to interest the public. The advance that radio has made in the technical field of late has been remarkable, particularly since the development of the all-electric set. This more than anything else of recent years has popularised radio, in providing a receiver that is, to a greater degree than ever before, fool-proof. Where electricity is available, the A.C. set is enjoying a wonderful popularity, and the indications are that this will continue. Especially in rural districts is it proving popular. The battery occasions some little trouble, which many wish to avoid. In certain districts the battery has a sphere of usefulness with which nothing will interfere. The battery-operated set will not disappear from radio, because it offers definite advantages, and will continue in spite of the A.C. receiver. Each type of set has its place, and in the Exhibition about to be staged the best in each field will be submitted for the consideration of the buying public.

THE Wellington Exhibition will be opened by the Postmaster-General, the Hon. J. B. Donald. Mr. Donald has already proved himself a fluent speaker over the air, as he was broadcast from Station 1YA on the occasion of the opening of the Auckland Winter Show. That he is specially interested in radio Mr. Donald has already shown, and we think the cause of radio in this Dominion will not suffer at his hands.

SOME letters of special interest appear in this issue in our Mail Bag Corner. These are from listeners in the country who have felt impelled to reply to observations concerning programmes made recently by other correspondents. The striking point about these indications is the emphasis they lay upon the service that radio renders to the country dweller.

THIS, too, is the note that has struck the Editor-Announcer of the Radio Broadcasting Company as a result of a recent comprehensive tour of the Dominion, carried out by himself in connection with the important relays made recently by the Company from various provincial centres. Radio has a special appeal for the country dweller,

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and it is interesting to know the emphasis that these typical country correspondents lay upon their enjoyment of it, in contrast to what they regard as the pin-pricking criticisms of essentially city dwellers.

THIS point of view is of particular interest in face of the progressive policy announced last week by the Company in its plans for extending service to country dwellers. By either A.C. sets or battery sets, it is now possible for practically every corner of the Dominion to derive a high degree of service from the existing YA stations. The technical efficiency of that service would, of course, be increased by suitable relay stations established at strategic points; and that objective, we take it, will not be lost sight of by the Company. Rather it will be brought nearer of accomplishment as the numbers of distinctly rural listeners increase. Testimony such as is afforded by the letters of correspondents this week is valuable as a corrective of the slightly one-sided view that may develop on the part of city listeners.

Broadcasting from Radio Exhibition

2YA Prepares Interesting Special Programmes

ONE great attraction at the Radio Exhibition which will appeal to visitors will be the actual performance of programmes for broadcasting. This will be done in full view of the public, so that visitors to the exhibition who have never before witnessed the "staging" of a radio programme, will be able to see how it is done. They will also have the opportunity of seeing many artists who have so far been known to them only over the air. The full programmes will not be broadcast from the Town Hall, only sections, thus giving time for visitors carefully to inspect the exhibits.

THE OPENING NIGHT.

THE official opening of the exhibition will take place on Thursday evening, the ceremony to be performed by the Postmaster-General, the Hon. J. B. Donald.

The Wellington Municipal Tramways Band will supply the instrumental items of the evening's entertainment, the vocal portion of the programme being provided by the Welsh Choir (who provided listeners with some very fine choral numbers on St. David's Day), and the following artists: Miss Nora Gray (soprano), Mr. Ernest Short (baritone), Miss Hilda Chudley (contralto), and Mr. G. Austin Blackie (tenor). The popular entertainer at the piano, Mr. E. A. Sargent, will be heard in several numbers. It is the intention of the station to give half-an-hour's programme from the exhibition and then switch back to the studio for approximately twenty minutes to give the visitors a chance to look at the various exhibits. The programme during the Radio Exhibition will commence at 8 p.m. and conclude at 10.30 p.m.

FRIDAY'S PROGRAMME.

ON Friday evening a further relay from the Radio Exhibition will be carried out, the programme on this occasion being furnished by the Wellington Harmonic Society and the 2YA Orchestra, assisted by Mr. Will McKeon, who will recite two humorous numbers. The Harmonic Society, which performs under the baton of Mr. H. Temple White, will present a varied programme of part songs and vocal solos, the soloists being Miss P. Liddell (soprano), Mrs. W. J. Coventry (contralto), Mr. E. W. Robbins (tenor), and Mr. E. McLellan (bass).

SATURDAY'S RADIO VAUDEVILLE.

FOR Saturday night, which will be the closing night of the Radio Exhibition at the Town Hall, a special vaudeville programme has been arranged.

The artists contributing to the programme will be the Melodie Four, Mrs. Winifred Birch-Johnson, Mr. Len Ashton, Mrs. G. Reeves, and Mr. James Connell. The Melodie Four will sing as concerted numbers Holloway's "Cornfields Medley," "Mosquitoes" and the ever-popular "Drifting and Dreaming." Mr. Sam Duncan (tenor) will sing Purcell's "Passing By," and baritone solos by Mr. James Connell will be "Like Stars Above," and "The Gay Highway." Mr. Frank Bryant (tenor) will sing "The Joy Bird," and Mr. W. W. Marshall, "Stonecracker John." Mr. Len. Ashton will render (by request) "Nelly Bly" and "Our Village Concert," a well-known Mel. B. Spurr number. A further item of interest to be given by this artist will be "Like the Big Pots Do," a number from the pen of Tommy Handley, the well-known B.B.C. comedian. Mrs. H. G. Reeves's banjo items will be "Footlight Favourites" and a "Popular Song Medley" arranged by herself.

The items by 2YA Orchestra will include Friedman's "Slavonic Rhapsody," a selection from the musical comedy "Sunny," a novelty number, "In a Bird Store," a flute and clarinet duet by Messrs. Brown and Langtry (members of the orchestra), Winter's arrangement of marches known as "Martial Moments," and several dance novelties. A feature of the programme will be Mrs. Winifred Birch-Johnson's whistling solos and comic songs. Mrs. Birch-Johnson's items are always bright and entertaining.