

# THE NEW IMPROVED

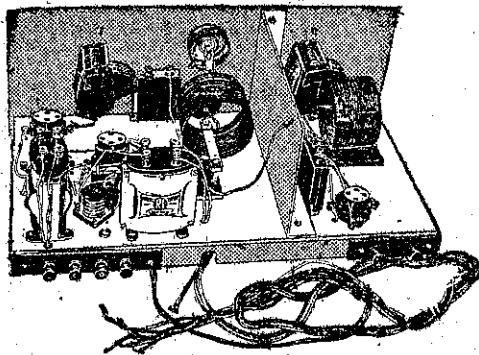
# Mullard

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## Auckland Notes Gathering of "Reds"

(By "Listener.")

THE last issue of the "Radio Record" has evoked even more than the usual local interest. Readers found much for encouragement and discussion in the excellent account of the dinner at which all types of radio folk were present, and where broadcasters, dealers, and listeners fraternised to mutual benefit. The account gave Aucklanders, away from the centre of affairs wireless, a clear insight into all that is being done, and an indication of what the future will hold. A gathering of a similar type, if held here, would be just as enthusiastic and productive of equally good results. The only things necessary are the occasion and the organiser.

THE time is only recent when owners of radio sets were concerned merely with the achievement of picking up something, and the further the distance of the "picked-up" station the greater the delight of the recipient of the transmission. Our early receptionists were not, in the main, musical, nor even critical, except upon the point of volume. Now, however, conditions have altered. People who are true lovers of good music own sets, and their ranks have swelled to many thousands. They expect quality, not distance, and there is no doubt that the catering for this growing proportion of listeners deserves fullest consideration. And it appears to be getting it. One hears occasional complaints concerning the gramophone records of acts of great operas, but for one complaint there are dozens of appreciations, and it is pleasing to note that these recitals are being continued. A local listener, also a keen musical student, suggests to the writer that on the local "classical night"—Tuesday—the whole programme should be given over to the gramophone. There is much in his contention that it is preferable to hear the world's best artists in their recordings of the great masters of music, than to hear the interpretation of Auckland's best vocalists in the same items. He argues further that the additional orchestral scope afforded by the gramophone is another justification for the adoption of his suggestion. How the general listening public would view his proposal can be gauged only through the correspondence columns of the "Record"—the best medium for securing the opinions of listeners throughout the length and breadth of the land.

EVERY New Zealand station is supposed to have a silent night, a point upon which there has been much discussion and some complaint. There should be no occasion for the latter so far as Auckland is concerned. Scarcely a Monday now passes but 1YA is on the air, giving breezy and accurate accounts of some sporting fixture in the Town Hall. Both boxing and wrestling are receiving excellent advertisement through local radio descriptions of contests.

BOTH direct, and through 1YA the splendid Maori Pageant had excellent reception in Auckland. On the Friday night the writer entertained a trio of visitors to New Zealand, and so interested were they that they insisted on listening till the programme

WHAT was first thought to be a demonstration in connection with the trouble between Russia and China turned out to be the progress of the "Red" congress which was being broadcast by the Russian short wave station, Thursday night (N.Z. time), writes Mr. R. Leslie Jones (Lyall Bay). The extraordinary excitement both of the speakers and the audience was a feature of the broadcast. In between the speeches the "Red Flag" was sung, and during each speech considerable excitement prevailed, there being a good deal of calling out by the crowd, and other noise.

Speakers were introduced in English, and amongst them was a representative from the Philippines who spoke very rapidly, and Japanese or Chinese telegrams were read in English, including one from America which was sent to "Our Comrades," with an apology for not being able to reach congress personally in time for the opening. Never have I heard such an uproarious meeting broadcast. The Proletariat was frequently mentioned; and most of the speeches, although fairly short, were fired off in rapid succession; the whole being staged evidently with a view to making an impression abroad. From a radio point of view the signal strength was good, the broadcast being received here in Wellington at exceptional volume, but owing to the screaming voices, and the excessive shouting by the speakers, there was some slight blurring in the speech; bits here and there were understandable, and the major portion of the American telegram could be pieced together.

One could picture the audience rising as one man and cheering various remarks made by the different speakers; in fact, during the show, it almost appeared as if a riot was taking place. There appeared to be at least a good-sized hall full of screaming hysterical people with vehement words on their tongues, the word "comrade" being used frequently. One speaker was announced as being a general of the Red army of Germany. I listened to this for an hour and then gave it up as the noise and din was terrific.

concluded. From the broadcast they obtained a much more faithful idea of the real Maori than does the average Rotorua tourist.

THERE will be general regret at a loss which will soon fall upon Auckland listeners. Regularly we have listened to and enjoyed the relays of the Majestic Theatre Orchestra. Now the Majestic is going over to the "talkies," and presumably the orchestra will no longer be required at the theatre. From the purely selfish point of the listener, the change is to be regretted.

SOME listeners have asked of late why the "talkies" themselves could not be broadcast. Chatting to a theatre manager the other day, the writer mentioned the subject, to learn that such a broadcast would be appreciated as a boosting medium by the picture people themselves, but unfortunately that vexed law of copyright interfered. It seems that very stringent conditions bind down the exhibitors of the latest type of film.