

Hastings Concert

A Brilliant Success

THE special concert organised by the Hastings Radio Society on Thursday evening last for transmission to 1YA was a notable success. Practically the whole of New Zealand listeners were treated to a concert of outstanding merit, much talent not hitherto heard on the air being made available by the enterprise of the Hastings Society. Considerable enterprise was shown, too, in relaying the Hastings performances to a Napier concert hall, where another large audience listened to it by means of amplifiers and loudspeakers. By this means extra funds were secured for the objective, viz., the installation of radio in the Napier Hospital. In the latter part of the programme, the Bishop of Aotearoa, who is president of the Hastings Radio Society, outlined the objective of the concert, and invited contributions from his vast unseen audience of radio listeners. Such contributions can be sent to the secretary, Radio Society, Hastings.

Favourable comment as to the success of the function has appeared in a number of daily papers. We make the following extracts from the Christchurch "Star" by "Aerial":—

If anyone had prophesied three years ago that, in 1929, listeners all over New Zealand would hear a concert performed in Hastings, relayed by land line to a concert hall in Napier, and put on the air for another audi-

ence there, by means of amplifiers and loudspeakers; that the Hastings concert would, further, be relayed by land line to Wellington, broadcast from there, be picked up and rebroadcast in Christchurch, and, still further, be relayed from Christchurch to Dunedin, and rebroadcast there—well, we should have looked on him (or her) as being (to be polite) a very foolish person. Yet it was an accomplished fact last night—thanks to the Hawke's Bay Radio Society, the Radio Broadcasting Company and the Post and Telegraph service.

The concert was quite well done and that listeners (in Christchurch at least) did not enjoy reception that was beyond reproach was no fault of either the performers or the broadcasters. There was a trifle of land line induction audible—and it was a wonder it was so slight when the great distance covered by the land line is taken into consideration.

It was a curious fact that, heard direct—on "Aerial's" receiver at least—2YA, Wellington, suffered somewhat during the early portion of the broadcast from both fading and distortion, whereas 3YA's rebroadcast of 2YA did not show these defects to the same extent. After 9.45, station 2YA was again tuned in and reception, in the main, was first-class.

And that is not the whole of the story. Happened to tune in 1YA, Auckland, at 10.30, and discovered that that station was also rebroadcasting 2YA's relay of the Hastings concert. And did it well, too. 1YA cut over to their own programme for a time, but put the concluding portion of the Hastings concert on the air.

After last night's feat almost anything in the way of land line relays, simultaneous concerts in various towns (as with Napier last night) and rebroadcasts are possible of accomplishment by co-operation between towns, the Radio Broadcasting Company and the Post and Telegraph Department.

Panel Polish

THE following recipe is an excellent one for making an effective polish for ebonite and composition panels of the bakelite type. Even the most highly polished radio panel tends to dull when exposed to the impure atmospheres of our manufacturing towns, but the application now and again of a little of the following panel polish will not only remedy this dulling effect on the panel of a receiver, but it will also serve to prevent atmospheric deterioration and colour changes taking place within the panel material itself.

Pure sweet oil	5 parts
Camphor	1 part
Castor oil	1 part
Methylated spirit (to which a few drops of ammonia have been added)	1 part

Shake the mixture well in a bottle until the camphor has dissolved completely. The polish will then be ready for use, and, stored in a cool place, it will keep its good properties for an indefinite time.

For use, apply very sparingly to the surface of the panel, using a perfectly clean and soft rag. Finally, rub the surface of the panel over with a dry, soft duster.

Hawera Hospital

Equipped with Radio

THE Hawera Hospital, thanks to the activity of local enthusiasts, is now equipped with radio, thus enabling the patients—or at least a large proportion of them—to enjoy the benefits of music over the air.

The scheme has been designed to provide for 85 "pillow-phones" for patients. Each of the three main wards has 24 of these outfits, and there are three in the annexes to the children's ward and ten in the isolation ward. There are also two loudspeakers in the children's ward and two in the nurses' home. These are all connected by cables with the receiving room, a small room off the main corridor, in which there are three visible appliances—a six-valve Atwater Kent radio set, an electric gramophone with a special device enabling gramophone music to be broadcast throughout the hospital, and an amplifier, which increases the volume of the sound gathered from the air.

The lead-covered cable required to link up all the sections of the installation in the hospital building is about a mile in length. The contractor for the installation was Standard Telephones and Cables, Ltd., of Wellington.

The installation is already in use, but it is probable that there will be an official opening ceremony before long. The cost of the radio was subscribed by the people of the district.

A Radio Concert.

ARRANGEMENTS are in train for the production of a radio concert in Hawera, which will be broadcast to every quarter of the Dominion, and even further afield (states the "Taranaki News"). Some time ago Dr. J. McGhie, himself an enthusiastic radio amateur, made a special trip to Wellington with the object of interesting the Broadcasting Company in the project. He is now in receipt of a letter from the company's headquarters in Christchurch stating the company will be pleased to co-operate in broadcasting a concert in Hawera. It is pointed out that it will be necessary to obtain the consent of the Telegraph Department to the use of a land line from Hawera to Wellington, but no difficulty in this connection is anticipated.

Dr. McGhie is hopeful of receiving the support of the best concert performers in South Taranaki for this entertainment, the proceeds of which will be devoted to the Hawera Hospital radio fund.

IT is claimed that the Hawera District Hospital is one of the most modern and completely equipped hospitals in Australasia. Built about two years ago no effort was spared by its designers to make its construction conform to the latest practice as carried out in Europe and the United States.

There appeared to be only one thing which the hospital lacked, and that was a radio installation, and it was not long before the residents of Hawera and outlying districts decided that this omission should be rectified. A strong committee was formed for the purpose of raising funds, and due to the energy of the honorary organiser, Mr. L. O. Hooker, a substantial amount

was obtained, and early in the year a consulting engineer was called in to advise the committee as to the equipment.

The control room, which is situated in a central position, contains an all-electric receiver, the audio frequency amplifier of which has been removed. This feeds into a power amplifier, the final valve of which is a UX250 capable of supplying about 4 watts of undistorted power. Coupled to the power amplifier is an electric gramophone, with motor turntable and magnetic pick-up, and by moving one switch the receiver is disconnected and the gramophone connected to the amplifier. This arrangement enables gramophone concerts to be given to the patients when no broadcasting stations are transmitting.

The power amplifier is connected through a filter to the main distributing system which consists of lead-covered cables suitably protected by casing running under the floors to junction boxes below each ward. In the wards equipped with headsets and pillowphones, the cables protected by a casing are run to a jack box at the head of each bed, the box and casing being finished in white enamel to match the walls. The children's ward is fitted with two large loudspeakers placed in positions to give the best effect.

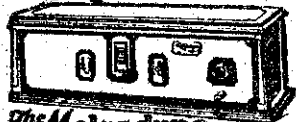
The distributing network consists of pillowphones, headsets, and speakers, grouped in such a manner that the load on the power amplifier is of correct impedance to prevent distortion. The balancing arrangements are such that speakers and pillowphones get their correct proportions of the total energy. Each jack box is provided with a jack switch and impedance coil of the same electrical characteristics as the speaker or headset, so that if only one pillowphone is in use, the volume is no greater than when all pillowphones and speakers are in use. Immediately a headset plug is removed from jack box the impedance coil is cut into circuit.

THE quality of reproduction has been considered of great importance, and the tonal qualities of the speakers and pillowphones are quite equal to that obtained from the highest grade receivers. The pillowphones, which consist of a pillow in which a telephone receiver is concealed, are mainly for the use of patients lying down, while for those sitting up headsets are provided. The isolation hospital, which is connected by air line with the main building, is fitted with headsets and pillowphones.

The nurses' home is provided with a separate receiver operating a loudspeaker in the sisters' and nurses' sitting-rooms. This was done, as it was considered that the time when the nurses would want to listen to concerts would be after the main plant had been closed down.

The installation was designed by Mr. C. R. Russell, M.Sc., A.I.E.E., of Christchurch, consulting engineer to the Radio Committee, and the work was carried out under contract by Standard Telephones and Cables, Ltd., of Wellington, in conjunction with Mr. W. W. Davy, of Hawera. In his report to committee, Mr. Russell expressed his satisfaction with the work, and stated that the contractors had used a very high degree of workmanship in carrying out the specifications, and that the installation would compare favourably with any similar one in Europe or the United States.

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