

Maori Pageant Proves Great Attraction in Australia



It is particularly gratifying to read the high praise and splendid tributes paid by distant listeners to the Radio Pageant, proving that although intended primarily for the benefit of New Zealanders the Pageant served a national purpose far abroad from the shores of this Dominion.

We publish below some extracts from the letters received.

Dora Creek (N.S.W.):

"I am writing to express my appreciation of the most remarkable and unique programme I listened to from your station on Thursday night last, the Maori Pageant. I had heard your announcement the previous night of the week, and was ready for you when you commenced at 6.30 p.m. our time. Myself and family listened from start to finish; there were only two slight fades and, absolutely no static. We never missed a word and enjoyed the programme throughout, so much so that we sent word to all our neighbours with sets to listen to the Friday night's programme, but unfortunately the static and fading were bad and we missed quite a lot. We listen a lot to New Zealand stations, as we enjoy the programmes."

Zeehan (Tasmania):

"We feel we would like to send a line or two to 2YA to say how splendid the Maoris' entertainment was that was transmitted last Friday night, especially the Jew's harp item and the hukkas (hakas). It was all so very interesting."

Birchip (Victoria):

"Permit me to express my appreciation at the splendid concert you put on the air last night, August 9. I picked you up some time late in the evening and continued to listen to your concert until I closed down at 11.45, Victoria time. The music and singing was beautiful—of course, mostly in the Maori tongue."

Rockhampton (Queensland):

"Just a few words to let you know how much we appreciated your programme last night, August 8. Having spent some years in New Zealand some pleasant memories were revived. The reception was splendid, full volume on loudspeaker. Will look forward to the pleasure of hearing you again."

South Brisbane:

"When 4QG closed down this evening at 10.30, I managed to tune in your station, and I must say that the Maori melodies as supplied by your station were wonderful and very pleasant to listen to."

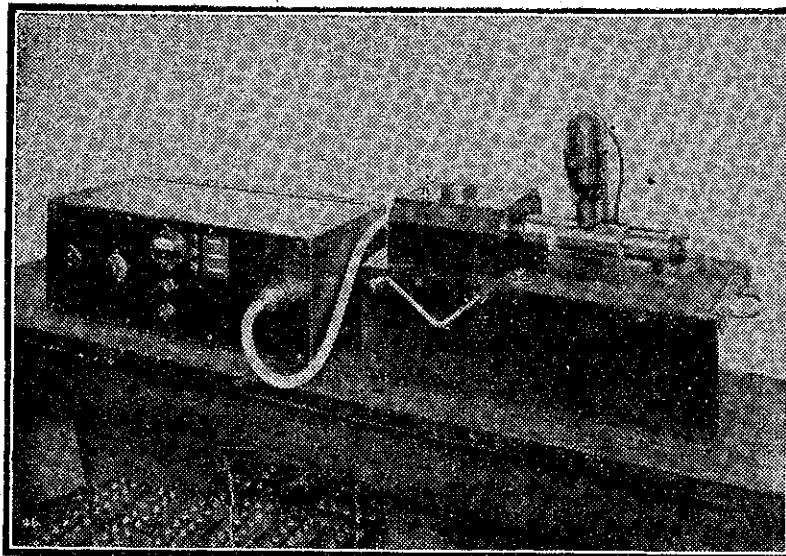
Correspondence from overseas goes to prove the overwhelming success of the Radio Pageant of the Maori Race. The first communication was from Commander Byrd, in Antarctica, but the last mail from Australia was very heavy, indicating that many thousands of people were listening in.

Reception was well nigh perfect and although rebroadcasting was carried out by the Australian stations many sets were tuned in direct on 2YA.

Collaroy Beach (N.S.W.):

"May I thank the Maori broadcasters and yourself for the delightful programme of Thursday and Friday nights. It was quite by accident I heard the items, for New Zealand programmes do not appear in the

evening, and to demonstrate the powers of my self-constructed three-valve set, I got on to 2YA, and I am satisfied that all present were as delighted as I was, and the lucky owners who possess sets sufficiently selective will be listening in again to-



The transmitter of the Fultograph apparatus for sending pictures by radio. A description appears in "The Future of Radio" on pages 1 and 2.

"Wireless Weekly." I wish they did, for some of the stuff being given us by our new B.C. Co. is appalling. On Thursday, in particular, the clarity of the productions was very good. Following as it did a delightful ten weeks recently spent by me in New Zealand, including a week at Rotorua, the broadcasting was most acceptable."

Geelong (Victoria):

"I would like to express my appreciation of the magnificent concert broadcast from your studio by the Maori Operatic Society last night, August 8. I had some friends in last

night for the repetition of this concert. Every item came through at excellent strength and clarity, and the rendering of 'Danny Boy' was beyond description. If possible I would like you to thank that lady personally for me, and let her know how much that item was appreciated. I wonder if you could possibly let me have a photo of this operatic society. Surely some New Zealand paper would be publishing the photograph of such an excellent performance. I would esteem it a great favour if you could send me on a photo. I sincerely hope I am not overstepping the bounds of propriety, but you would understand if you knew my enthusiasm."

Mallee (200 miles from Melbourne):

"From 8.30 onwards I listened to one of the finest programmes I have ever heard. A most interesting and beautiful evening was spent both on the 8th and 9th inst. The harmony was indeed wonderful and I have to

thank you for such. I feel very gratified with the results of my set and look forward to more (many more) enjoyable evenings. It is results of this kind that make the high-class broadcasting a very real factor in our home life."

Benalla (Victoria):

"I am dropping you a line to let you know that your broadcast of the Maori artists has been received by me to-night beautifully, and I have enjoyed every moment of it. As I write 'Home, Sweet Home' is being sung and the singer is most sympathetic in her rendering of the number. All the items have been splendid. Although not able to understand the native tongue, the music, like all good music, is most beautiful ('National Anthem' just finished). I may state I enjoyed your transmission very much."

Grafton (Clarence River):

"The reception was perfect and the voices lost none of their rich sweetness in the long journey to 'Aussie.' They were, I think, the best and sweetest voices I have ever heard over the air. I wish to add my thanks and congratulations to that of other listeners for those two very pleasant hours of sweet, inspiring, and soothing concert. My home is on the Clarence River, 442 miles north of Sydney, and on clear days we can bring in 2YA and 1YA at 4 o'clock in the afternoon."

Sydney:

"As a native of Christchurch who has been a resident of Sydney for over thirty years, it was with the greatest of pleasure that myself and family listened to your programme on Friday last, when you broadcast the Maori Pageant. Many of the items given revived pleasant memories of the early history of my native country which I learned in my school days. As on previous evenings, I had no trouble in picking up your station on a three-valve set of my own make, but probably owing to your transmission running later than usual the strength of your station was much better, and all the items could be heard all over the room on the loudspeaker. I hope it will not be long before I have the pleasure of hearing a similar programme through your station."

Lidcombe (Sydney):

"This evening I have been listening to a concert from your studio until

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