

Auckland Notes

DECISION has been reached. Auckland is to have a radio exhibition. It will not be the first display of this kind that has been given in the Queen City, for some years ago a radio society now defunct conducted a most successful "small scale" display in the science rooms of the Auckland University College. It will, however, be the first ambitious attempt, and such is the degree of enthusiasm over matters wireless in the city and suburbs, that already the function is assured of success. So far as is known at present, the exhibition is to be entirely a radio one, for the associated dealers who are sponsoring it feel that they can fully equip the big Town Hall with displays, which alone will provide a powerful draw.

Our radio exhibition will eventuate during the last week in October, and will be kept open for three or four days. At the Dunedin and Wellington displays, held a few weeks ago, official opening ceremonies were held during the daytime, and thus the radius of listening to these functions was more confined than it would have been were the ceremonies conducted at night. It should be worth while for the executive of the Auckland exhibition to consider the advisability of an

evening official opening. The wider range of publicity that can thus be secured is well worth a few hours' postponement. The southern stations would have better chance of broadcasting important speeches by night, and there would be an infinitely bigger audience to hear them.

The advantages of holding an exhibition so late in the year are apparent. The very latest models will be available for display, and the Christmas radio trade, which this year should be a record one, will receive a splendid boost. It is known that the Broadcasting Company will render every possible help, and listeners and local radio societies can be relied on to put their shoulders to the wheel. For Auckland is out to make her radio exhibition a record one and to eclipse even Wellington's fine lead.

[The official opening of the Wellington Exhibition was held at 8 p.m.—Ed.]

QUITE a wrong impression—the idea that a radio set may be a menace to life and property—has gained some ground locally through incomplete explanations of the cause of a fatality through electrocution. A local resident was killed by an electric shock when affixing an earth wire for a radio set; but, and this is the essential point, he suffered death from shock through a faulty flex used on an elec-

tric lamp which was giving him illumination under the floor of his house. This electrical connection had in itself nothing whatever to do with a receiver. In fact, the receiver which the unfortunate gentleman was making preparations for had not at the time been delivered. The public generally should be made aware that the likelihood of accident from electrical connections for radio sets is infinitesimal compared with the risks run in using an electric iron.

BATTERY-OPERATED sets are selling for a song these days, for the public is quick to recognise the added advantages of the electric receiver, for which there is now a most heartening demand. Shrewd investors, however, find the older models, with eliminators and trickle chargers, render most efficient service for a remarkably low price. There should be little excuse now on the score of cost for the absence of a wireless set in the home.

OUR dinner music session is now in its first week of presentation, but already it has won a wide popularity. On all hands the writer has heard commendation of the action of the Broadcasting Company in instituting this service, and also, incidentally, in thus providing an extra hour of broadcasting per day. This is a "service point" that has not yet fully dawned upon listeners.

BEING anxious to hear accounts of the New Zealand boxing championships at Greymouth, the writer tuned in Christchurch last Saturday evening and obtained excellent reception. Tuning to 1YA for an instant, he found the local station rebroadcasting 3YA to such splendid advantage that not a word of the ringside descriptions in the West Coast town was indistinct. It is doubtful if Christchurch has ever been rebroadcast better in the north than it was on Saturday evening.

"Past, Present, and Future"

"To Sartor and his magic carpet, there was no there and then but all was here and now."

—Carlyle.

IN the last fifty years there have been many scientific discoveries most of which have been the result of slow and regular development, but there is one exception, that of wireless. It sprang into being with a suddenness which attracted to it the attention of the world. Within the space of thirty years it has been developed to unconceived bounds. It is not long ago that Hertz and Marconi were investigating something new and intangible. These pioneers of science, like all men of genius, were striving for the realisation of their ideal—perfection of communication. They strove to give form to what was little more than a dream.

Scoffed at by their fellow scientists, designated by the world as maniacs, and in the face of baffling opposition these pioneers of wireless bequeathed to the world an unrivalled heritage. The struggles for recognition of the

inventors of radio would read like a novel. Then it dawned on the commercial world that here was a means of communication hitherto undreamed of. Before this the employment of the air for communication was regarded as impossible. The pioneer of a science usually builds a firm foundation and leaves in the hands of another the perfection of his discovery. Not so with radio. It has come very near maturity within the last thirty years.

Radio makes nothing of space and time. Distance is an obstacle easily overcome. Commercially it is invaluable. It has saved countless lives and has made travel by sea safe. Almost every day we hear of some new use to which it has been put. It is teacher, doctor, and entertainer, and to those who are away from civilisation and its comforts, a receiving set is no little consolation. In hospitals it has done wonderful work. Those who are in pain are grateful at having their minds distracted from the thoughts of an approaching operation. Those who are confined to a bed for the whole of their lives find at last something to make life worth living. We may be amused to think of the uncivilised Indians, as described in Mr. J. Curle's new book, listening with mouths agape to the latest "hits" broadcast from an up-to-date American studio. Wireless will never become a thing of the past until it has been displaced by a discovery that offers a better means of communication, and that is unlikely. In certain directions wireless can be improved. It will never be totally displaced. With the perfection of radiovision there will be a means of communication not even foreseen by that prince of prophets, Jules Verne. It is no exaggeration to say that one day those in New Zealand will see and speak to their dear ones abroad, for television is a child of radio.

The possibilities of radiovision, which is slowly coming into being, are without number. Space and time, man's greatest enemies, have been overcome. We live in a scientific age, and this century has been a prolific one in both arts and sciences.

WIRELESS of to-morrow! Who can tell? The world is becoming more and more a world of science and the "machine age," as foretold by Wells, may be a thing of the near future. Telephone communication from one end of the world to the other has already been accomplished; soon it will appear commonplace, and new phenomena of communication will fill the columns of our newspapers.

ON the shelf of every Radio Listener should be found the

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