

Children's Session

(Continued from page 23.)

ing to-night from the Lower Hutt. Uncle Toby and Aunt Gwen will be here too with messages for the little folk.

SUNDAY:

The Children's Song Service will be conducted by Uncle George, assisted by the Petone Church of Christ, under Mr. Thomas.

AT 3YA.**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23:**

Where do you think we are all off to to-night with Scatterjoy? Why, away to the homes of Precious Stones! You may be sure that you will always hear something interesting on Monday nights. And the Melody Maids with ukuleles providing the music on the way.

WEDNESDAY:

Mother Hubbard with songs so sweet, and Uncle Frank with stories so neat, fill this bedtime hour with happiness—and then, Sweet Sleep!

THURSDAY:

Oh, Uncle John and the children from Sydenham School making a happy and jolly band, who will please you so that you wish they would stay, and not go.

FRIDAY:

Storyman is bringing some little helpers to-night—who are they? Why, Cousins Yvonne, Mianle, and Gordon, with song, story, and music for all.

SATURDAY:

Peterkin and Aunt Pat down on the cottonfields of Georgia—banjoists, fiddlers, coon songs, and plantation fun. Listen in and hear all the fun.

SUNDAY:

Children's Song Service, conducted by the Rev. Rugby Pratt, and hymns sung by the Methodist Sunday School.

The Thousands that Listen

IMAGINATION, says "Wireless Weekly," is a fine possession, and is a tremendous attribute in the enjoyment of life, but it sometimes leads one astray, especially where the visualisation of the unseen audience is concerned. This fact is frequently brought to mind when we hear bed-time storytellers speak of the tremendous thrill they get out of speaking to an audience of hundreds of thousands scattered over the globe. The thought of the thousands of loudspeakers in thousands of homes each reproducing every inflection of the speaker's voice seems to stimulate even further imaginative exaggerations. The thought of millions (favourite comparative) naturally follows, especially if the short-waves are being used. But that millions, or in Australia, even hundreds of thousands listen is a pretty well exploded idea.

A radio event is a momentary flash. It lasts but half an hour or an hour and that is its weakness. That and the fact that it depends largely on newspaper announcement for the public to know that it will happen. An event like the Southern Cross transmission, of course, receives considerable prominence from the newspapers and as a result many thousands may listen. But for events of less importance and interest a more diligent search is required to find mention, with the result that fewer people listen.

However, the belief that hundreds of thousands are listening to one's voice is a pardonable vanity. After all, why should not the speaker glow with the thought that his audience is a vast one? It stirs him to greater effort—to the greater enjoyment of those who are listening—and produces a pleasurable sensation to himself. It pleases him and hurts no one. And, of course, the audience is large. It is only a matter of degree.

Australian Programmes

TO mark the change from the former regime to its own control, the Australian Broadcasting Company, on taking over the service recently instituted programmes of very high calibre. Listeners in Australia were glad to note the improvement, but the more reflective amongst them have for some time felt that the cost involved in maintaining the initial standard set was heavy, and likely to be followed by a period of retrenchment, in order to recoup the heavy outlay that was being incurred. That there is solid ground for this feeling, which has been growing for some time, is evidenced by a brief cabled message from Melbourne which is to the effect that Mr. Stuart-Doyle, chairman of directors of the Australian Broadcasting Company, in giving evidence before the Arbitration Court, admitted that on the present basis of super-programmes the operating company was losing between £10,000 and £15,000 a year. Obviously the company will not continue at that rate, and retrenchment may be expected to enable the loss to be recouped. There are some who have felt that, while it was human for the new company to mark its advent by a series of super-programmes, these have been continued for too long a period, and the more reasonable policy would have been to have reverted earlier to a standard of programmes within the means of the operating company.

Rodgers Batteryless Radio

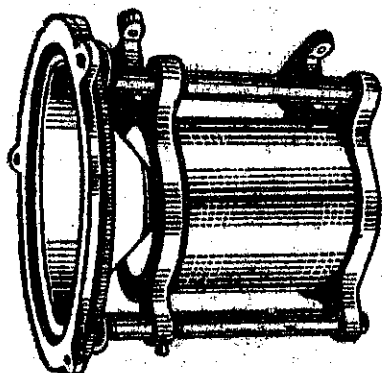
OF this popular line of A.C. receivers there are a wide variety of models, but all maintain a distinctiveness particular to their line. The consoles offer a wide choice of original designs, and are an asset to the furnishing of any room.

The set itself is a very fine one, embodying as it does the five pronged A.C. valve. Rodgers have manufactured their own valves, and have long chosen the cathode type for all stages except the last. Here the valve is suited to the purpose, but the Rodgers No. 15 or 245 type is most popular. This valve has been fully discussed elsewhere in this number. Another feature is the automatic voltage control which maintains uniform voltage on the filaments of the valves—and this is essential. A gramophone pick up can be easily added, and the audio stage of the receiver converted into an amplifier.

A distinctive feature is a regeneration system which, as those who are familiar with circuit design will know, increases both sensitivity and selectivity. The line of receivers has been designed in Canada, and is manufactured at Toronto. A. R. Harris and Company, Christchurch, are the N.Z. agents.

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