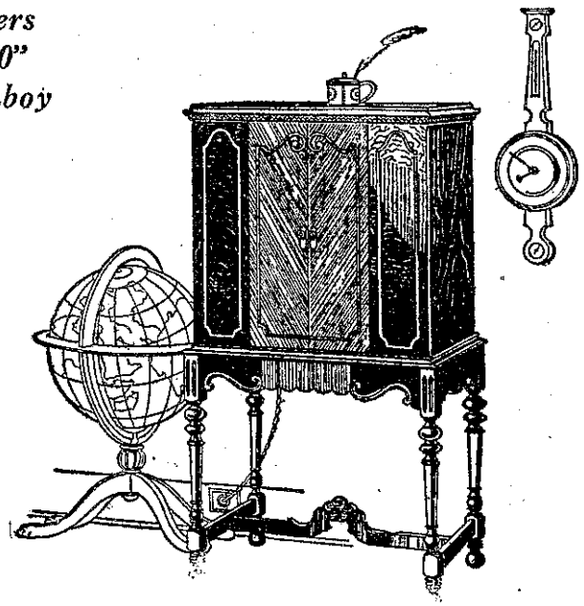
Finally, Your Worship, Mr. Scott, ladies and gentlemen, I congratulate you on your enterprise in holding this exhibition. I wish it every success, and I declare the exhibition open.

DR. H. T. J. THACKER congratulated the promoters of the Exhibition on their excellent display, and stated that the show would be the forerunner of many big radio shows. Endeavours should be made to obtain three or four thousand more licensed listeners in Canterbury, which would make the service far cheaper to everyone. Television was coming, he said. It was operating in other parts of the world, and, with the Dominion's wonderful resources, there was no reason why she should not fall into line with world movements.

Radio meant an excursion into the infinite, and no one knew its possibilities. In fact, it was little doubted that the time would come when New Zealand would be sending airships to Sydney on beam wireless. "To my mind, there is too much 'high falutin' ' music coming over the air," said Dr. Thacker. "These things like 'Tannhauser,' etc., are too heavy. I like the light music. Radio can be good, bad, or indifferent, but I like the brightness of music." The benefits of radio were immense, he said, and no people in the world derived more pleasure from it than sick people—it brought joy to the bedside. Dr. Thacker again congratulated the executive of the exhibition, which, he said, had made the Choral Hall into a stepping-stone towards a far greater expansion of radio.

PERFORMANCE PROVES ITS VALUE

Rogers "550" Highboy



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MR. L. B. SCOTT said that the increasing popularity of radio placed an obligation on the radio industry to put before the public in the most convenient form its latest developments. For this reason the Christchurch Radio Exhibition was being held—the first of its kind in Christchurch. This year had seen a market advance in receiving sets, particularly in regard to tonal qualities and purity of reproduction. "The day of much volume without clarity is past," said Mr. Scott. "Clarity is now the first but not the ultimate aim, as with modern improvements, amplification of volume is possible to an extent not previously anticipated. This has been attained by the general improvement in the design and construction of the various components throughout the whole of the receiver up to the speaker, which plays an important part.

During the past eighteen months the all-electric set has been on the market, and has proved very popular; by making use of the electric light supply it does away with the need of batteries and so makes for simplicity of operation. Broadcasting is fast becoming a public service, and is an indispensable means of entertainment—at a remarkably low individual cost. The farmer is realising the value of weather reports and market reports, and an endeavour is being made to institute a primary producers' service to deal solely with agricultural and pastoral problems. We see the application of radio principles resulting in the "talkies." We hear of the progress made with television, and await the next move—wondering. Television is a present field of endeavour just as was radio some few years ago, and probably in the near future you will be able to witness distant happenings from your armchair at home." Mr. Scott concluded by welcoming everyone to the exhibition and commended them to inspect the various stalls which housed the most up-to-date apparatus imported into the Dominion.

Rendering Fog Transparent

A New Radiovision Development

AN invention which should prove of immense value to shipping and to aviation was recently demonstrated in England by Mr J. L. Baird, the inventor of radiovision. The "Noctovisor," as the apparatus is called, is the result of a series of experiments conducted by Mr. Baird to reduce the intensity of illumination with which it was necessary to flood persons being radiovised.

He discovered that by using invisible infra-red rays he was able to obtain almost equally satisfactory results. To obtain these rays he simply covered the front of the boxes containing his flood-lights with thin sheets of ebonite, which allowed only the invisible ultra-red rays to pass. By swtching off the ordinary light in the transmitting room, the person being televised found himself apparently in complete darkness, and yet in the receiving screen the image of his face appeared quite clearly.

In the initial stages of this discovery, the phenomenon produced was regarded merely as a scientific curiosity, but during the past few months, Mr. Baird has been devoting nearly all his time in endeavouring to apply his invention commercially. His efforts have been rewarded to such an extent that several naval and mercantile marine officers who witnessed the demonstration of the apparatus unanimously declared that it is one of the most epoch-making inventions of the age.

For the public demonstration, the "Noctovisor" was set up on top of a hill in order to secure an unobstructed view of the surrounding country. At nightfall, a car was despatched along the main road in the valley below. About three miles distant from the apparatus on the hill-top the car was stopped, and one of the headlights directed towards the hill.

At a signal from the operator of the Noctovisor, the headlight suddenly vanished, and all was pitch darkness. The light on the car had been obliterated by placing a sheet of ebonite in front of it. On the hill, the operator, acting as the navigator of a supposed ship, was endeavouring by means of the Noctovisor to pick up this hidden light, which for the purposes of the demonstration was considered to be a light-ship or a lighthouse obscured by fog. Suddenly, to the amazement of the audience, there appeared on the border of the screen the first signs of the hidden light, which, as the apparatus came into focus, turned into a spot of brilliant orange light. By further adjustment to the apparatus, the operator was able to read off the exact compass bearing of the invisible ray.

The apparatus is very compact and easily manageable, and will probably displace the wireless direction-finder for use over short distances. Direction-finders, though very efficient over long distances, prove unreliable when ships are within a very few miles of one another, owing to the rapidity of movement of the ships concerned. In clear weather, an approaching ship can be seen, and steps taken to avoid a collision. In foggy weather, however, the direction-finder cannot with certainty be relied upon to overcome this danger, because the closer the ships are together, the more difficult it is to determine accurately the position of the approaching vessel.

It is in such circumstances, by rendering fog transparent to navigators, that the Noctovisor will prove invaluable. In cases, also, where it is necessary to sail close to a lighthouse or lightship in foggy weather, this new device will eliminate much of the uncertainty of blind navigation. Its application to commercial aviation, however, will probably prove equally beneficial in preventing loss of life, as its use will eliminate much of the danger and uncertainty of "blind" flying and landing in fogs.

Mullard

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