

OTAGO NOTES.

Radio Sets for Unemployed Camps

Five Camps in Otago Now Equipped With Radio by Toc H Members—
Dunedin Listeners Praised Goodwill Programme—Longer
Hours For Popular B Station.

FIVE of the unemployment relief camps in Otago are now equipped with wireless receiving sets provided by Toc H. As a result of its movement to secure funds for the purchasing of battery-operated sets for the camps, Toc H collected the sum of £170, with which it has obtained eleven receivers, some of which are already installed at the Conical Hills camp, the Kingston camp, the Eglington Valley camp, the Hollyford camp, and the Makarora camp. It is hoped to have the remainder fitted up at the camps at Blair Tateri, Otarehau, Lander, Omakau, Poolburn, and Pebbly Hills as soon as possible. From reports, it is gathered that the men at the various camps which now have their own radio sets, are highly pleased, and greatly appreciate the link with other parts. The Toc H members are hopeful that the nearest garages will service and charge the batteries without cost, so that the funds the movement has for this purpose may be put to another use.

NEW ZEALAND was certainly on the air on the occasion of the recent good-will broadcast from the four main centres, and although the programme was designed primarily for the benefit of other countries, undoubtedly it was listened to with interest in the Dominion itself. As evidence that Dunedin listeners were intensely proud of the messages that were broadcast, especially the flattering references to their own city, the good-will broadcast was the main topic of conversation on the morrow, little or no adverse criticism being voiced within hearing of the public ear. Listeners could but be impressed once again with the tremendous possibilities offered by radio as a means of international communication.

STATION 4ZM has commenced working on a new and lengthier schedule. This is good news for those who regularly listen to the broadcasts of this popular little station, the programmes of which have for some time past been of the lighter order, calculated to appeal to the general taste.

"AIDA" is the next Grand Opera scheduled for presentation from 4YA. This opera in four acts by Verdi is to be broadcast on November 18. Verdi is regarded as Italy's greatest composer of opera, and "Aida" was produced at La Scala under the direction of the composer on April 7, 1872. It was composed at the request of the Khedive of Egypt for his new opera house in Cairo, but the production was delayed for a year on account of the Franco-Prussian War in 1870, the intricate scenery and gorgeous costumes being in belanguered Paris.

THE community singing season for 1934 has ended, and the committee has a very satisfactory amount to hand over to the Mayor's relief of distress fund. Some of the credit of accumulat-

ing the total sum is given by the committee to 4YA for its assistance in broadcasting the appeals made at each Friday's session. Only by the co-operation of the broadcasting authorities could the committee hope to reach such a vast audience as it undoubtedly did every week, only an odd thousand being able to gain admission to the hall on Fridays. Broadcasting, then, brought the sings to the homes of thousands more, and the financial response of listeners to the broadcast appeals was gratifying.

"PROGRAMME by the Otago Branch of the Music Teachers' Association of New Zealand" appeared promising in a recent programme announcement of 4YA but it proved to be just another

instance when one must not judge by appearances. Lengthy and uninteresting annotations—some of these were even longer than the songs that followed—were prepared, and handed out to listeners in over-doses, making one wonder whether or not the remarks were designed by some humourist, who had chosen the wrong time to air his sense of humour. These annotations were read before quite ordinary numbers were performed, and were, to the average mind, quite unnecessary. There was one redeeming feature, however, this being in the form of flute solos, clearly and correctly played to an excellently modulated piano accompaniment.

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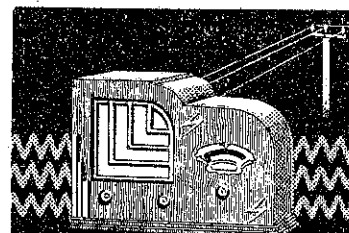
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DEALERS.

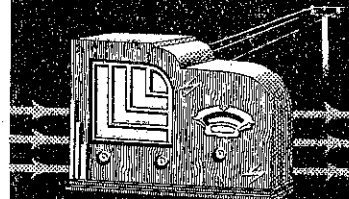
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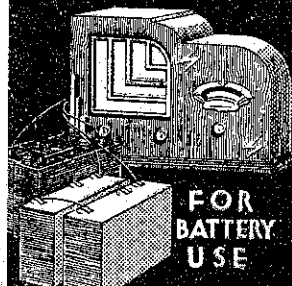
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