

AUCKLAND NOTES.

Alan Mulgan's Talk "Blacked Out"

1YA Transmitter Developed Fault During "World Affairs" Talk — Well-known Radio Inspector's New Job — Neon Signs and Interference—Broadcasting Woolworth's Fire.

IN the middle of what was probably the most interesting and important broadcast on "World Affairs" that Mr. Alan Mulgan has given, on the evening of Tuesday, March 26, the transmitter of 1YA at Henderson developed a fault, and Mr. Mulgan was off the air for about seven minutes. Apparently some people thought that the censor had been to work on Mr. Mulgan's talk, which was entirely taken up with the new development in Germany. This was quite an erroneous idea; the break was due entirely to a mechanical defect, and when the station came on the air again Mr. Mulgan resumed at the point where he was cut off. Immediately the station went off the air, 1YX broadcast an announcement together with an apology to listeners.

ONE of the best known of Auckland's radio inspectors, Mr. G. C. Hart, last week left the employ of the Post and Telegraph Department after 20 years' service. Mr. Hart has accepted an important position on the technical staff of Johns, Limited, the big Auckland radio firm, and he started his new duties on Monday. For the past three years Mr. Hart has been on the radio inspectors' staff, where he was regarded as a highly qualified radio technician. There is no doubt as to his ability and he should go far in his profession.

SEVERAL complaints have been made alleging that the big Neon signs on the top of the 100ft. mast on 1YA have caused interference with the reception of 1YX by listeners in the locality of the 1YA studio building. In fact, some of the complainants insisted that they could "hear" the signs. Although some Neon signs are known to cause interference, there is no founda-

tion for the complaints concerning the 1YA electric signs, which are properly fitted with filters.

THE congestion of pedestrians and motor-cars in Queen Street on the night of the big fire in Woolworth's store was attributed in part by the chief traffic inspector, Mr. G. R. Hogan, in a report presented at last week's meeting of the Auckland City Council, to an announcement from a broadcasting station that a fire was in progress. On the advice of the legal and by-laws committee, the city council requested the Metropolitan Fire Board to urge the Broadcasting Board that such announcements should not be made over the air, as they tended to cause congestion of traffic and pedestrians and hindrance to fire fighting. As a matter of fact the matter has really nothing to do with the Broadcasting Board at all, as the broadcast referred to was made by an Auckland B station, which does not come under its control.

A NEW LYNN listener last week made a complaint and a radio inspector was dispatched immediately to investigate the trouble. He found the woman very annoyed and almost in tears. She explained the cause and pointed to the back garden of her home, where there lay on the grass a few pieces of bent wire—what had once been the stay wires of her aerial mast. During the previous night a thief had visited her property and, not only removed the aerial, but the tall aerial post as well. So silently did the nocturnal prowler work that the owner did not hear a sound to arouse suspicion.

MR. GORDON HUTTER, 1YA's popular sports announcer, took ill early last week and had to stay abed. In the

middle of the week he suffered a bereavement in the loss of his mother. Mr. Hutter, on Friday night last, was unable to deliver his usual weekly sports talk, his place being taken by Mr. J. W. Wray, of Remuera, the skipper of the 34ft. keel yacht Ngataki which last week returned from Melbourne and Hobart after taking part in the Tasman yacht race in December, won by the German yacht Te Re-

Some Leg-pulling In Nelson

City Council Meeting and a "Broadcast"

CITY councillors in Nelson sat up and took notice at their meeting last week when a man, well-known as an announcer, arrived in the council chamber with radio apparatus and a microphone. Councillors brushed up their repartee and there were some notable efforts at speech-making. When the minutes had been read Cr. H. E. A. Washbourn asked the Mayor (Mr. W. J. Moffatt) if the council was on the air that evening. The Mayor replied that apparently it was. But there was one councillor who rather wanted to hear the council as others were hearing it, so he slipped round to his home. What was his surprise when he twiddled the dials to hear, instead of pearls of wisdom from the council chamber, the bright warblings of Gladys Moncrieff. Investigation proved that the "broadcast" was a hoax, the wire "connections" merely being draped out the window and trailing on the footpath outside! Some of the councillors went home still under the impression that they had been on the air but the Mayor and one or two others knew that some leg-pulling had been going on.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Confusion having arisen owing to the similarity of names of wireless sets marketed by us and those of another organisation, we, PHILIPS LAMPS (N.Z.) LTD., marketing "Philips Radioplayers", give notice that we have no connection with the organisation marketing wireless sets under the name "Philco".

Our set is a "PHILIPS" not a Philco.

Philips Lamps (N.Z.) Ltd.,
286-288 Wakefield Street,
Wellington.

punga. Mr. Wray gave a thrilling account of the two severe storms met with by his stout little yacht.

LISTENERS are reminded that they now have to relicense their sets, the period having expired on Monday last. New licenses are cheaper, costing £1/5/- per year, as compared with £1 10/- as formerly. The new scale works out at 2/1 per month, which is really cheap considering the good radio fare that is now served up. Short period licenses are still procurable.