

What Broadcasting Means to Me

Educational Broadcasts Must Stir the Imagination

"I'd rather talk on what broadcasting means to the children at my school—and at hundreds of other schools all over the country," said Mr. O. A. Banner, head master of the Lyall Bay School, Wellington, to a "Radio Record" representative who approached him for his opinion on broadcasting. Mr. Banner was a member of the committee set up to advise the Broadcasting Board on the merits and demerits of school broadcasts, and he has made a close study of the whole system.

"When broadcasting to schools was first introduced the talks were too difficult and sometimes too dull. If children can become active participants in the broadcast—or if their imaginations are stirred, the broadcast will be more successful. Abstract subjects have no power to hold a class of youngsters, but if something novel can be introduced they will be all attention. For instance, a geography lesson entitled 'An Aeroplane Trip Over the South Island' was made alive and vivid

to the children by being introduced with a record giving the sounds of an aeroplane. Similarly, a most successful talk on the Wellington Zoo was interspersed with records giving the roaring of animals.

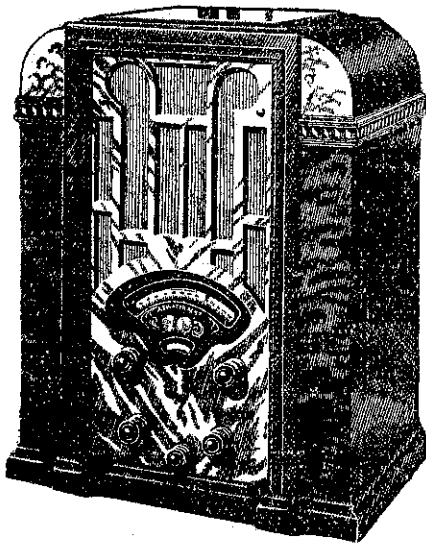
"Music always appeals to children and I find the classical hour from two to three in the afternoon can help children to cultivate an appreciation for good music. I don't mean that I sit them down and make them listen to it for an hour. They are given handwork and the music is used as a background. By this means a love of real music is being born, unconsciously, in a child. Nine of the rooms at the Lyall Bay School are equipped for reception and we have also five portable speakers.

What Programmes are YOU Missing?

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MR. O. A. BANNER, a member of the Educational Broadcasting Advisory Committee, and headmaster of the Lyall Bay School, Wellington, with whom an interview appears on this page.

It is possible for us to listen in with perfect ease to Wellington, Christchurch and the new Auckland station, a variety that means giving something interesting to practically every class. Different classes have become interested indifferent speakers, and they watch eagerly for their appearance at the microphone.

"Yes, there is a tremendous future in educational broadcasts, and, with the N.Z. scheme beyond the experimental stage, the importance of the 'unseen teacher' is being fully recognised by the educational authorities."

Harry Thurston to Appear on Stage

MR. HARRY THURSTON, the celebrated English stage, radio and screen star, whose recent broadcasts throughout the Dominion over the YA stations have been so thoroughly enjoyed, has acceded to the many requests for him to make a personal stage appearance, and has finalised arrangements to appear for one week starting Saturday next at the New Opera House, Wellington, where he will present his famous "Character Studies of London Life on the Thames Embankment." Of course, "Old Bill" will be included in this talented artist's humorous delineations. Mr. Thurston's stage presentations are entirely different from his radio programmes, and his many admirers will doubtless flock to see him in the "flesh."