

AUCKLAND NOTES.

Leap in Standard of Stage Relays

Best Stage Broadcast Yet Was Carried Out by 1ZB — Triumph of 1YA's New Studio Capacity — Election Results Well Covered — Empire Day Talks.

TO the technician in the New Zealand radio sphere, relays, and especially stage relays, are usually a time of trial. By the listener such broadcasts are usually suffered as a necessary evil. However, the introduction of the velocity microphone for this work appears to hold new promise, if the broadcast by 1ZB from His Majesty's Theatre, Auckland, can be taken as a criterion. With merely one microphone suspended in the curtains aloft, they managed on this occasion to transmit variety items, vocal numbers and band pieces by the full complement of Clem Dawe's Rhythm Kings, a combination of 12 instrumentalists. Throughout the full hour when transmission was made, there was not the slightest hint of back-stage noises, reverberation, line noises or dialogue fading, which usually mars the quality of such attempts. In the gratitude to the Clem Dawe company for a novel and high quality entertainment, listeners must include a sense of obligation and thanks for the technical perfection due to the assiduous work of the station electrical experts.

THE greatest number of artists that have so far taken part in a studio broadcast were easily accommodated in 1YA's main studio, or auditorium last Thursday night, when 280 vocalists and instrumentalists, members of the Royal Auckland Choir, Auckland Choral Society and Bohemian Orchestra presented a fine combined concert to celebrate the King's Silver Jubilee. It was easily the best broadcast of its kind yet given from 1YA, and listeners have since not been slow to notify the station officials of their appreciation of the fine bill of fare served up to them.

1YA gave listeners great service during the municipal elections last week, and the progress and final returns were broadcast fully and speedily. A special relay line was installed in the "Herald" office, from where the many announcements were made. The other Auckland stations, 1ZB, 1YX, 1ZM and 1ZJ, also covered the election results until a late hour.

WITH the limitation of hours under their license, station 1ZB has found itself confronted with a difficulty in regard to the children's session now that summer time is concluded and the winter period is at hand. Seven o'clock, the usual time for the beginning of the evening programme is found to be too late for the start of the children's half hour, and, short of eliminating the children's session, there has been no other course available except to move the evening schedule forward to 6.30, with close-down at 9.30. Accordingly the week night programme features will, as from this week, be broadcast half an hour in advance of the established times.

IN addition to special rebroadcasts of the Empire shortwave station last week, 1YA provided two excellent talks, one by Mr. Alan Mulgan, who spoke on "The King and the Throne," and the other by Mrs. B. F. Richards, on "Queen Mary and Her Work." Mrs. Richards possesses the ideal radio voice, and speaks with confidence and emphasis. She traversed the work and interest in many fields of the Queen from when she was 21 right up to the present time. Mrs. Richards, who is a daughter of the late Maurice Hewitt, the well-known author, is at present giving a series of talks on "Literary Trends" from 1YA.

THE organisation of the Friendly Road's activities in the Dominion will not be in any way lessened through the temporary absence of "Uncle Scrim" in Australia, although his absence from the microphone will certainly be noted. The devotional sessions—the main attraction of 1ZB—will be maintained at full strength, and the balance of the programme organisation will function as usual. A crowded Town Hall audience last Sunday night bade "Au Revoir" to Mr. Scrimgeour. The Mayor presented the station director with an illuminated address, together with the substantial amount of the thanksgiving offering from the public as a mark of esteem for the personality who conceived, and is so unrelentingly furthering, the ideal of the Friendly Road.

RUGBY enthusiasts are already showing much interest in the principal senior games which are now being described by Gordon Hutter every Saturday on relay from Eden Park. The same Rugby supporters will no doubt be pleased to know that on Saturday next, 1YA will, at 10 p.m., relay from 2YA a talk by Mr. Dan McKenzie, a noted Rugby authority, who will speak on "My New Zealand Team." In view of the impending English tour of the All Blacks, this talk should be of great interest.

FRIDAY next being Empire Day, the Auckland Victoria League is holding a special function at the foot of Queen Victoria's memorial in Albert Park.

Causes of War

Aldous Huxley Says—

It is fashionable at the present time to say that the causes of war, like everything from a mystical religion to unemployment, are economic.

The causation of current events is a multiple causation.

The Battle of Waterloo may have been won on the playing fields of Eton, but it was conceived in Corsica.

Wars are not fought by climates or systems. They are fought by human beings.

The grouping of the world gives deep psychological actions to people.

War is a catastrophe. Yet for every 100 who kill themselves in peace time only 70 commit suicide in war time.

The suicide statistics seem to indicate that life in war-time is about 45 per cent. more worth living than life in peace time.

Man derives enormous satisfaction by feeling himself at one with the members of the group.

War produces a certain simplification of the social structure.

Nationalism can be made to yield the individual immense satisfaction.

This is intensified even to ecstasy during war.

In times of peace vanity is more loudly and more often expressed than hatred.

People can get more pleasure out of hating foreigners whom they have never seen than by vaguely loving them.

All governments, directly or indirectly, foment hatred and vanity. School children are taught to boast about their own nation and to look down on all other nations.

The tendency to form groups is not only natural, but it is desirable.

There is only one certain way of creating a Utopian world state. That is, to have aggression from Mars. Unfortunately we cannot rely on the planet of Mars.

Nationalism is harmful, but satisfying. War, if we take the suicide rate, gives great psychological satisfaction to many people.

Much good can be done by making civilised life less monotonous. Abolish boredom, and you abolish a cause of nationalism.

If we can keep the "patient" alive long enough the doctors may agree on a diagnosis and decide on a cure.