

The New Zealand Radio Record

(Incorporating the "Canterbury Radio Journal.")

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WELLINGTON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 1930.

TELEVISION.

THE development of television is reaching a stage when the public are focusing their attention upon it, and asking when it will be in the home. An English television periodical has answered by an announcement printed on its cover in large letters, "Now." The journal points out that the television broadcasts from English stations can be received in the home with a special apparatus attached to the amplifier of the radio receiver.

It adds that television is already here in a practical form, and points out that the delay in its becoming popular is a matter of disposition on the part of those controlling an ether monopoly rather than because of technical difficulties. They are agitating for the broadcasts to assume a form more acceptable to the public—not to the experimenter.

On the other hand, Captain P. Eckersley, late chief engineer of the B.B.C., states: "I am impressed by the enthusiasm of the television and telepicture experts, but am unable to agree that in the present stage of development the science of television allows an immediate service aspect."

It seems, taking all evidence into account, that there are grave difficulties confronting the progress of television in its present form. These are in brief, the size of the image, which is rarely larger than a magazine illustration and does not allow of detail, the necessity of breaking up the image into two million small impulses per second for a satisfactory picture, and the expense and size of the requisite apparatus. Like radio, television is subject to atmospheric disturbances, and the same difficulty is met in overcoming them.

Recent experiments in America lead us to believe that television must be confined to the laboratory until a radically new system has been evolved. The fact that several American stations have ceased to broadcast television strengthens this view. The transmissions from the British stations are interesting to the public, but of use only to the experimenter, and the present indications are that this state of affairs will remain until the whole system is recast.

OSCILLATING VALVES.

THIS menace to the listeners' tranquillity does not cease; in fact it is on the increase. During the Christmas and New Year holidays, when some of the stations were on the air at different times to the others, city listeners found it almost impossible to listen-

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S-O-S

TRAVEL IN COMFORT BY
CAR

WELLINGTON — PALMERSTON
NEW PLYMOUTH

in when the local station was not operating. Short, sharp squeals, long, prolonged whistles and speaker shattering screams were all we could hear while endeavouring to listen to 3YA on Boxing Day. Whether through ignorance or carelessness the offenders should be brought to account. Ignorance is unpardonable, the owner of a home-built set should have sufficient knowledge to neutralise and operate it, the owner of a commercial neutrodyne should leave it alone and consult a radio expert when it becomes noisy. The careless operator does not deserve to have the privilege of listening-in, and we feel that if measures were taken by the Post and Telegraph Department to bring some of the offenders to account a great service would be done for radio.

An Excellent Radio Development Announcer Leading Countries Differ

Archdeacon Holbrook
Pleases Listeners

THE ARRANGEMENTS made by the Broadcasting Company to let listeners hear the Solemn Requiem Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral in connection with the death of Bishop Cleary were excellent and a credit to all concerned, says the Auckland "Sun."

The description of the service was carried out by the Very Reverend Archdeacon Holbrook, and a most dignified and graphic effort it was. Listeners, no matter what faith they subscribed to, were thrilled by the announcer's perfect knowledge of the form of service, and his rich Irish voice. In parts of the service, when obviously it would have been out of place for the announcer to have spoken in ordinary tones without disturbing the solemnity of the service, Archdeacon Holbrook's deep, clear whispers went on with the description and so clear was his enunciation that every word he said was heard with clarity. In the background could be heard singing or chanting, yet the announcer's voice did not seem to unduly obtrude itself.

The whole description was carried with the reverence the occasion demanded, and it is not surprising to hear that the cathedral authorities have received many congratulations on Archdeacon Holbrook's work.

Cricket Broadcasts

From all Stations

THE great summer pastime, cricket, is taking a more prominent place in the broadcast programmes this year than ever before. This is one of the results of the visit of the M.C.C. team to New Zealand. The visit is giving a great fillip to the sport, and the part played to that end by broadcasting is considerable. All stations are broadcasting descriptive reviews of the various matches. The stations are also broadcasting resumes of the play in provincial matches.

WANTED AND FOR SALE.
for column of casual advertisements
see page 32.

IT is remarkable how the practices of different countries vary in the methods of radio development. One would expect that the tendencies in each country would be much the same, but such is not the case. The differences are very marked, both in relation to components and set design. The countries where radio has developed most are England, America and Germany, and in each it is proceeding along different lines.

In set design, the Germans and the English are concentrating on small efficient sets, while the Americans are adding valves at a rapid rate. Even the construction magazines contain descriptions of six, seven and eight valve receivers. These employ transformer coupling, single dial control, solenoid coils, band pass filters, and push-pull output; they are almost invariably all-electric, using the 2.5 volt valves. All d.c. sets use 5 volts.

The English set is confined to one, two, three, four, and a very rare five-valver, resistance coupled audio, single valve output, two volt valves, basket coils, and two-dial control. The battery sets predominate, and there has not been a panic through the introduction of the electric set. This has happened in America, where perfectly good battery sets have been discarded, and it appears that New Zealand is rapidly following suit.

Like the English, the German set is small, but in general employs transformer coupling, in conjunction with resistance. The popular set is the three-valver. They are not taking rapidly to the all-electric set—those introduced are employing the four-valver.

It is interesting to note that different countries prefer different voltage on the filaments—England, two volts; France and Germany, four volts; America, five, while the six-volt valve is found scattered through Europe and the Empire.

ON the shelf of every Radio
Listener should be found the

RADIO LISTENERS' GUIDE

AN INDISPENSABLE WORK.

PRICE 2/6 from Booksellers, or
2/9 Posted.
BOX 1032 :: WELLINGTON.