

**Charles Dickens****Birthday Commemoration  
at 1YA**

LOVERS of the writings of Charles Dickens will note with pleasure that the birthday of that famous man, Friday, February 7, is to be commemorated by a special programme at 1YA. Mr. A. B. Chappell, M.A., will give a lecture and members of the Auckland Dickens Fellowship, of which he is president, will read excerpts from Dickens's works.

**"Corners" of the "Radio  
Record"**

A CORRESPONDENT has asked for a definition of the different "corners" in the "Radio Record." They are as follows:—

Questions and Answers—A gratuitous service to readers who are in technical difficulties.

The D.X. Club—An "exchange" column, where readers who are interested in long distance reception compare notes.

Short-wave Notes—Mainly contributed by Mr. Sellens, of Northland, but items of interest are welcomed from all short-wave readers.

Our Mail Bag—Letters from correspondents representing their views on topical events, etc.

**Special Trans-Pacific  
Broadcasts**

AN exchange contains the following paragraph in reference to a special broadcast service for long-distance listeners. It is predicted that these transmissions will be available in New Zealand and Australia, and though the present season is not conducive to long-distance reception, these broadcasts have probably been picked up by New Zealand DX enthusiasts.

In response to requests received from Far Eastern radio listeners, an early morning broadcast will be started for them in the near future over WGY's associated short-wave transmitters, according to a representative of the Schenectady station. The entertainment is to be put on daily, except Sunday, between 6 and 7 a.m. Eastern Standard Time, in the WGY studio. Such broadcasts will be heard in Eastern Australia at 9 p.m. the evening of the same day. Station W2XAF, which operates on the wave of 31.48 metres (9530 kilocycles) will carry the programme.

The presentations are to include news items, talks and music. In New Zealand and Australia the transmissions of the General Electric stations are said to be intercepted regularly, and rebroadcast frequently takes place over large networks, just as European programmes often are carried to listeners here by the transoceanic short-wave lengths. The hour adopted is said to be one most suitable for widespread reception in Australia and New Zealand.

**2YA Sporting Service****Sporting Summary to be Given at 11 p.m.**

IN our issue last week we published a certain amount of correspondence in connection with the variation of the service given to sporting enthusiasts by 2YA. In that it was indicated that the Saturday night summary had been abandoned, but that there was a question of its being resumed either at the old time of 10.45 p.m. or 11 p.m. Sporting enthusiasts will be glad to learn from the letter from the Radio Broadcasting Company published below that the summary will be resumed forthwith, but that it will be given at 11 p.m., instead of 10.45 p.m., as in the past. The alteration of time is designed to avoid interrupting the dance programme customarily arranged for Saturday evening. The letter reads as follows:—

"IN your article entitled '2YA Sporting Service' in last week's issue of the 'Radio Record' there appears to be some misunderstanding wherein you state that the Saturday evening 10.45 summary has been dropped, and that you understand from communication with the Broadcasting Company that the question of reinstating this service either at 10.45 or 11 p.m. is under review.

"We would advise that the Saturday evening sports summary has not been dropped, but is broadcast at 11 p.m., fifteen minutes later, so as not to trespass on the dance session.

"From a careful study of the position the Company finds that a large number of listeners have arranged dances on Saturday night, so as to take advantage of the special programme arranged by the Company, but in consequence of the innovation of the sports summary they have received only three-quarters of an hour instead of one hour as previously, and as is the case at our other stations. Arrangements have now been made whereby the summary of the main sporting results is repeated at the close of the dance session, or only 15 minutes later than hitherto.

"As stated in your remarks, the further summaries of sports are broadcast at 3.30 and 4.30 during the afternoon sessions, except when special relays are undertaken, and all available news and sports matter as far as practicable is broadcast during the 7 to 8 p.m. session, which has been primarily set aside for this particular purpose as the hour most suitable for the majority of listeners."

**Weather Forecasts****Special Reports During  
Harvesting**

AS was the practice last year during harvesting, special weather reports are being broadcast this year from 3YA and 4YA daily from 12.45 till 1 p.m. This service commenced on January 20 and will continue during the harvesting season.

The special forecasts are being provided by Dr. Kidson, of the Meteorological Department.

**"Home, Sweet Home"**

AN interesting story attaches to "Home, Sweet Home" (which is to be sung by Miss Ngaire Coster at 2YA on Thursday evening). This song had its origin in the form of a Sicilian melody by Sir Henry Bishop which was embodied in an American play. This play was completely lost when the manuscript was destroyed in the burning of the theatre in which it was being presented. The song "Home, Sweet Home" alone survived.

**Relays of "Talkies"**

ARRANGEMENTS have now been completed and the necessary technical equipment installed for regular weekly relays of items from the Majestic Theatre, Auckland. These relays will take place on Tuesday evenings.

**Uncle George of 1YA**

THE REV. GEO. COATS, who for the past couple of years has been a very popular "uncle" at 1YA, is leaving New Zealand this month for a period of a year, or longer. He will be greatly missed by the radio children of 1YA, who will wish him bon voyage and a safe return.

**Relay from Taihape**

THE thriving Main Trunk centre of Taihape will be given prominence throughout New Zealand on Sunday, February 9, on the occasion of the broadcast by 2YA of a concert to be given there by Queen Alexandra's Band, from Wanganui. The Wanganui bandmen have broadcast on previous occasions, and always presented a programme of supreme excellence.

**Tennis Championships****Broadcasts by 2YA**

DESCRIPTIONS of play in the New Zealand tennis championship meeting, which is to be held at Miramar next week, will be broadcast by 2YA. Mr. C. F. Williams will be the narrator at the microphone. The broadcasts will take place on Thursday, Friday and Saturday afternoons.

**Flying by Night**

NIGHT-FLYING pilots are enabled by a new device to switch on all the lights of an aerodrome below before landing. The pilot drops from a height of between 600 and 1000 feet an ignited flare. In a moment all the boundary lights, obstruction lights, and flood searchlights spring to life. The lights are controlled by a light-sensitive electric cell placed on top of a concrete pillar about three feet high within a triangle of coloured lights, showing the position of the landing ground. When within 200 feet of the cell the dropped flare causes a tiny electric current to pass.

The current is amplified in a series of relays, ultimately allowing a powerful current to travel through the aerodrome lighting circuit, and thus turning on every landing light. Once lit the lighting remains switched on till it is turned off by pressing a button, which also resets the relay and places the entire device ready for further use. The apparatus is the invention of a Spanish engineer, who is at present in London with the intention of bringing his device before the notice of the English aerodrome authorities.

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