

In Lighter Vein

Husband: "Don't sit quietly there! Can't you see I've been stung on the cheek by a bee?"

Wife: "Never mind, darling. Perhaps it's a vitamin bee—so good for you."

A Psychic Phenomenon.

A man and woman accidentally touched each other's feet under the table.

"Secret telegraphy," said she.

"Communion of soles," said he.

Equality.

Her Father: But, my boy, you are too young to marry my daughter. You are but twenty-one and she is twenty-seven.

Suitor: But, sir—

"No; at present the disparity is too great. Better wait half a dozen years and she'll probably be about the same age."

Welcomed Death.

The after-dinner speaker droned on and on. One diner after another yawned and nodded, one finally resting his head on the table. Leaning over, the chairman tapped him on the head with his gavel. The delinquent raised his head a little.

"Hit me again and harder," he said, "I can still hear him."

A Waiting Job.

Daisy: Dick, you look like a waiter in that dress suit!

Dick: I expect I do. Haven't I waited two hours for you to get ready?

Seeing is Believing.

A guide was conducting a party of visitors round New York. They stopped before the Woolworth building.

"That is a skyscraper," said the guide, laconically.

"Hm," muttered an old farmer, sceptically, "I'd like to see it at work."

He Got It.

"Well," said the lawyer for the defence to his client, "I was certainly surprised at your conviction."

"I wasn't; it was all your fault."

"All my fault? I put up a magnificent fight for you."

"Yes, an' you kep' yellin' at the jury that you demanded justice fer me till they went an' give it to me."

Topical Notes

A CORRESPONDENT recently wrote stating that two broadcast stations were clashing on the shorter broadcast wave-band. "Switch" gave it as his opinion that one of the stations referred to was in New Zealand. The other night the writer set about identifying the clashing stations, and identified them as the Invercargill station and 3DB, Melbourne. The latter was coming through with good volume, and the Invercargill station was working late, on tests.

ADVERTISING by radio is, in the opinions of many prominent radio people in America, becoming a menace to the popularity of broadcast listening. Dr. Lee De Forest, the famous inventor of the radio valve, as we know it today, speaking on his election to the presidency of the U.S.A. Institute of Radio Engineers, suggested that advertising by radio was "killing the broadcasting goose, layer of many golden eggs." This illusion aroused much controversy in the American newspapers, and met with widespread support for De Forest.

GERMANY is making most rapid strides in popularising broadcast listening. At the commencement of last October there were no fewer than 2,843,569 receiving licenses in Germany.

AMERICAN radio statisticians have been engaged on the question of how many people there are in the United States to the number of sets in use. To every receiving set in use, they estimate, there are 12½ persons in the United States. The figures computed for Europe are 53 persons to every set, and 88 persons in the world for every set in use. The writer ventures to suggest that the latter estimate rather exaggerates the number of sets in use, considering the teeming millions in China and coloured peoples

in Africa who have never seen a set. They would bring the average down considerably.

THE New York "Radio World" reports that "the speech by King George went over the Columbia Broadcasting system due to the heroic completion of an open circuit through the body of Harold Vivian, chief control operator. Someone tripped over the generator wire just before His Majesty was to speak. Thousands of listeners were eagerly awaiting the royal voice. Vivian grabbed the several ends, one in each hand. The shocks of the 250-volt charge and the leakage of current through his body to the floor shook his arms with spasms. But he held on until new wires could be connected. By that time his hands had been slightly burned and he was feeling the effects of the ordeal. As soon as the broadcast was finished he was sent home to bed. But officials of the company said that he was not seriously hurt."

THIS will interest New Zealand listeners: Mr. H. P. Brown, Director-General of the Commonwealth Postal Services, stated in Sydney recently that the plant for the relay station to be erected near Newcastle was on the point of delivery and the station would be in operation by the middle of May or June. The second station would be at Rockhampton (Q.) and would be working about two months later. Three more sites had been determined definitely, one on Spencer Gulf, South Australia, another, also in South Australia, near the borders of New South Wales and Victoria, and the third in the Albury district. Mr. Brown stated that it was not desirable to announce the sites of the remaining eight or twelve relay stations as circumstances might arise before their establishment to make it necessary to modify the present proposals.

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