

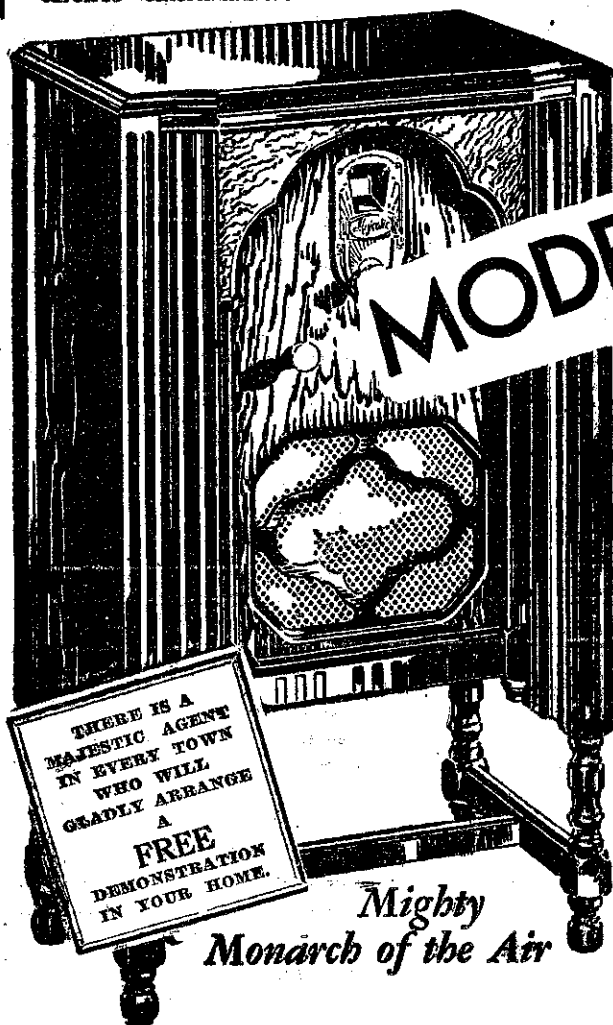
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lington, which would transmit to 2ME, the short wave station in Sydney.

The Roll Call

AFTER Mr. Harris had read from a newspaper for a minute in order that 2XAF might make adjustments in tuning, the American speakers were announced and the stations were invited to call the roll.

2XAF announced itself, then 2ME was called, then 2YA, and then 4YA (the Chicago announcer overlooked 1YA and 3YA).

"What time is it?" New York asked of Sydney, adding, "It is 7.34 a.m. on Tuesday, March 11, here; a delightful spring day. What season of the year is it there?"

2ME's reply was not heard.

"Hullo, 2YA! What time is it?"

"12.35 a.m. on Wednesday, March 12," replied 2YA.

"Mr. Ochs will now speak."

"That you, Commander Byrd?" said a new voice, neglecting in the excitement of the occasion to address the gentleman concerned by his new and full title, Rear-Admiral.

"Yes, sir," a strong voice replied.

"I recognise your voice perfectly," said Mr. Adolph Ochs, owner of the "New York Times."

"I am delighted to hear your voice," echoed Rear-Admiral Byrd, and further pleasantries followed.

"I want to tell you that I could hear everything you said in your broadcasts. You don't know how much the boys enjoyed them. It is simply great to hear your cheerful voice now."

Welcoming Rear-Admiral Byrd.

MR. OCHS went on to welcome Rear-Admiral Byrd back to civilisation from the Antarctic, and to congratulate him on the complete success of the enterprise. "You have taken a place among the immortals," said Mr. Ochs. "The 'New York Times' had confidence that you would do what you undertook. In Russell Owen's story we had the greatest narrative of adventure in the history of journalism."

"You have to your credit the greatest success in broadcasting, operating over 10,000 miles. A royal welcome awaits you and your crew. When we think of the preparations and arrangements made and the dangers, perils, and hardships undergone, and when we think of your safe return with the enterprise fully accomplished, our wonder never ceases, and our admiration knows no bounds. Admiral Richard Evelyn Byrd is a national hero. You appear among those whose voice has been heard over half the globe. You are hearing to-morrow to-day."

Admiral Byrd: I heard every word, and am entirely overwhelmed. We realise what your support meant and all the things that were done to make the expedition possible.

Mr. Ochs: I want to say that you showed that Dicky Byrd is the greatest flyer.

Conversation then began with Mr. Russell Owen, Mr. Ochs saying he was delighted to hear his voice again, and was proud to know that he was associated with the "New York Times."

"We on the 'New York Times' want to say how glad we are that you are back safe and sound," said Mr. Ochs. "I hear you have lost 40lb. of flesh. How are you feeling?"

"I am feeling well," was the reply. "I only lost 20lb., and with the New Zealand milk they are feeding me on, I will rapidly get the weight back again." "You don't know how glad I

am to hear you, Mr. Ochs," was Mr. Owen's next remark.

Mr. Arthur Sulzberger, vice-president of the "New York Times," spoke to Mr. Owen, and also stated that the day was Mr. Ochs's birthday.

"I am tickled to death to be able to send congratulations in this way," said Rear-Admiral Byrd to Mr. Ochs, and he emphasised that every man in the expedition also joined in sending congratulations.

Mr. Ochs: Listen, Dick. This is, I think, the biggest hook-up and party line ever attempted.

Rear-Admiral Byrd: Is that so?

Mr. Ochs: It is almost overwhelming to hear your voice and to think that you have passed over the North Pole and the South Pole, and with your men have accomplished the great tasks and came through safe when ice threatened.

Band Concert Relays

Listeners will be interested to know that band concert relays from various Wellington theatres will commence on Sunday, April 6, with a recital by the Wellington Tramways Band. The Port Nicholson Silver Band will present a further concert on April 13, and on each succeeding Sunday evening throughout the winter, with the exception of Easter Sunday, further concerts will be presented.

you at Little America. We are pleased that you are now among friends.

Admiral Byrd: I heard that fine. What has been said to-night has so overwhelmed me that I am lost for words. We feel we don't deserve all you say, but we are human enough to like it all the same. We do not realise you felt like that up there, and we like to know it. We can thank you adequately when we get back.

Mr. Mark C. Rice, of the General Electric Company: "Good morning, Admiral Byrd." And he proceeded to extend a welcome and his congratulations.

"Thank you very much," said Admiral Byrd. "You cannot imagine what your broadcasts meant to us on the ice."

Mr. Russell Owen: It's nice to hear your voice again.

Mr. Rice said more people were listening-in to the broadcast than had ever listened-in before.

Mr. Ochs came to the microphone again and discoursed about the prosperity in U.S.A.

"I am pleased to hear that," said Admiral Byrd.

Mr. Emanuel Cohen, of the Paramount News Reel, familiarly addressed as "Mammy," was the next speaker, and then Admiral Byrd's private secretary, Mr. C. Lofgren, spoke.

At this stage it was intimated by 2XAF that atmospheric conditions were getting bad, and it would be desirable to close down. All stations then "signed off" and the world-wide broadcast was at an end.

N.Z. Stations keep on the Air.

NEW Zealand stations, however, kept on the air to hear Mr. H. L. Tapley, C.M.G., New Zealand agent for the expedition. He said that he was glad to have the opportunity of speaking on the occasion of the safe arrival from the South Pole of Rear-Admiral Byrd and his party. It was a great pleasure in-