

**Static Forecast****Scientific Research**

NOW that New Zealand scientists and radiotricians are about to investigate the mystery of static in this part of the world, it is of interest to mention that the subject is being taken up scientifically abroad.

The New York "Radio World" of February 1, states:

"Static, which spoils radio entertainment so frequently, is to be forecast and made known in the same manner as weather forecasts are now disseminated. When this service has been put into operation it will be possible for radio enthusiasts to know what kind of radio reception they may expect during a certain period.

"This subject will be taken up at the Stockholm meeting of the section of terrestrial magnetism and electricity of the International Geodetic and Geophysical Society to be held next August, and a proposal will be made that daily reports of magnetic disturbances, which cause much static, be broadcast on short waves along with the regular weather forecasts and reports on seismic activities, according to an announcement by Dr. D. L. Hazard, assistant chief of the division of terrestrial magnetism and seismology of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey.

"Investigations on the relationships between magnetic storms and reception of radio waves have been made by Dr. G. W. Pickard, Newton Centre, Mass., research associate in terrestrial mag-

**Remember the Date!****Are Your Reasons Ready?**

THE closing date of the competition in connection with the Electric Washing Machine is April 12.

Within the next month you may have won for yourself an admirable and efficient electric washing machine. So send along your Seven Sensible Reasons, demonstrating the desirability of installing an electric washer in your home.

Post as many entries as you like. There is no limit to your opportunities, nor to the virtues of the washer. See the page advertisement elsewhere in this issue—back cover.

Don't procrastinate, marshal your facts, remember the Black Monday washing day of yesterday, take a chance, and try your luck!

netism of the Carnegie Institute, the Bureau of Standards, the Naval Research Laboratory, and the General Electric Company, and the conclusion is that fairly accurate forecasts of magnetic storms and their effects on radio reception can be made."

**Heard in Japan****2YA's Rebroadcast of Naval Conference**

MR. MINORU NAKAMURA, whose letter paper describes him as "The Licensed 'DX' hunter in Mikado's country," heard the broadcast of the London Naval Conference on January 21. He heard it through 2YA. The absence of any announcements perplexed Mr. Nakamura for some time, but he held the station till it closed down and he supplied sufficient details of what he heard to secure verification of reception. Japan is a radio distance of 6700 miles from 2YA.

Mr. Nakamura is an enterprising and up-to-date Japanese radio enthusiast, with a good, though not perfect, knowledge of English. His letters, on printed letter paper, are typewritten. He frequently corresponds with the Broadcasting Company (and no doubt with every station he can pick up). He sends out every Christmas a pretty Japanese card.

Occasionally he expressed himself rather quaintly. In his latest letter, in recording what he heard at different specified times, he remarks in one instance: "Speaking by man in foreign language with bad fading." After hearing the programme he concluded (it was relayed from London): "Was my thought all right?" he asks. As our American friends would say, "It sure was."

**"Uncle George" of 4YA****Resigning His Position**

THE children of 4YA are to lose "Uncle George," who will in future reside in Invercargill. "Uncle George," who is in private life Mr. George Palmer, M.A., is headmaster of the Caversham School, but he has now received advice of his promotion to the position of Inspector of Southland schools, with headquarters at Invercargill, whither he is moving. Uncle George has become well known to all the children of Dunedin since he first became acquainted with the microphone in May last year. At the recent picnic he was a host in himself and his help in organising parties and the annual picnic was invaluable.

**Nelson Radio Club**

THE Nelson Radio Club is still active and during the past month some useful and instructive work has been done. The attendance has been lower than usual, no doubt because of the summer outdoor attractions. On the last meeting night an invitation from Mr. C. T. Webley to his studio was accepted and members spent a pleasant evening. Mr. Griffiths demonstrated all the sets from the latest all-electric with dynamic speaker to the battery set and horn. The club heartily thanks Mr. Webley and staff for their in-



A few of the thousands of school children who listened at Kilbirnie Stadium, Wellington, to the Byrd broadcast.