

Power Interference

(Concluded from page 2.)

In cases such as these the sledge hammer is brought into useful commission. By striking the offending pole the noise is increased and then usually frequently located.

As can be well imagined, this is a slow process, and the officers of the department who can be spared for this investigational work are necessarily limited.

It is in the interest of all those anyway connected with radio to mutually help to reduce the interference. Co-operation between listener, dealer, power boards and Department is essential if the trouble is to be reduced. Listeners can help by making observations, and if these reveal nothing they should communicate with the radio inspector. They are assured that all is being done to help them. Dealers can and have helped in tracing trouble inside the wireless set of the complaining listener. In the Wellington area, at least, there are dealers or their technical men in almost every locality who are willing to help combat the trouble. The listener who finds that the trouble he is experiencing is particular to himself, should communicate with his dealer, who will arrange for someone in his vicinity to listen in and check up. If the trouble is not experienced by him or others the set is probably the offending link, and here the radio doctor, and not the Department, is the man to see.

Between the Department and the power and tramway authorities there is close co-operation, and the chief engineer could not instance a single case where they would not co-operate in the interests of listeners.

The Position As We See It.

THE problem is grave, and the ultimate solution lies with the power boards. The radio receiver will never be entirely free from interference, but it can be very much lessened.

We urge that as reticulation of the country is far from complete the power boards take measures to make the lines not only free from defects that might imperil safety of life—this they are now doing—but to make them free from radio troubles. This is possible by the introduction of special equipment, and although no one can expect duplication of existing material, they do ask that steps be taken to obtain this equipment for future lines.

Every consumer of electricity is a potential listener, and as such will rely even more on the lines than before. By doing so he is entitled to service from radio and electrical viewpoint.

When interference is noticed the listener should first make sure that the point of origin is not in the receiver itself. This can be verified by communication with the dealer in his district or other listeners, then endeavouring to locate it himself and reporting to the power board if he is successful. If he cannot locate the fault he should communicate with the district radio inspector who will then give the case attention. But this in itself does not guarantee a cure. Some of the points of origin have been attacked for some considerable time without success.

IN conclusion, we would state that by no means all electrical interference is caused through power lines. On the contrary, any electric motor incorporating a commutator may cause bad interference. An effective cure utilising chokes and large value condensers has been devised, but its practical application is limited to a certain extent by the voltage output of the motor. For example, the average electric motor as used by picture theatres would require a choke, which, when wound with the heavy gauge wire necessary for the purpose, would be of an enormous size in order to secure the necessary inductance. Should any listener locate such a source of interference, however, he would be well advised to seek an expert's advice on fitting a suitable filter circuit.

Rugby Broadcasting

(Concluded from page 3.)

Mr. Tamihori (East Coast) and other delegates also endorsed the sentiments expressed by Mr. McLeod in favour of the matches being broadcast. Mr. Colquhoun (Manawhenua) said that he considered broadcasting must be to the benefit of Rugby football in New Zealand. The matter should not be allowed to degenerate into a question of £ s. d.

Greatest Good to the Greatest Number.

MR. A. ST. C. BELCHER (Auckland) said that so far as his union was concerned, it was entirely in favour of broadcasting, but he thought that the suggestion put forward by Mr. Prendeville was one that should be considered.

Mr. McFarlane (East Coast) contended that broadcasting had proved to be a very fine advertising medium. "Why not do the greatest good to the greatest number and give the country people a chance?" he said.

In the course of his reply, Mr. Sterling said that there was undoubtedly a clamour for broadcasting which had to be listened to. In considering the question he had endeavoured to think it out on the lines mentioned by Mr. McLeod. If they withheld the service from the public, what was going to be the effect on the game? The case in favour of broadcasting, in his opinion, was overwhelming.

Mr. Prendeville's amendment was lost, and a further amendment by Major King (Wellington) that only the Test matches should be broadcast was also not supported by a majority.

After some further discussion, Mr. Sterling's motion was then put to the meeting, and it was carried, section (b) being deleted.

Mr. Harris's Comments.

SEEN by a representative of the "Evening Post," relative to the decision of the delegates to the N.Z. Rugby Union, Mr. Harris, general manager of the Broadcasting Company, said that naturally he was very pleased with the decision to allow the broadcasting of the matches to be played by the British Rugby team in New Zealand. He felt that it would be accorded the warm approbation of Rugby enthusiasts from one end of the Dominion to the other. Broadcasting would assuredly prove to be in the best interests of the national game.

"I notice," said Mr. Harris, "that in the course of the discussion one of the delegates referred to broadcasting as 'a phase of social evolution which

has come to stay.' No one is likely to challenge the accuracy of that statement. Therefore, it seems to me, that every organisation whose purpose is the promotion of clean and wholesome sport should recognise this fact and seek every opportunity to turn this great service to useful account.

There has been some suggestion that the broadcasting of the big matches will adversely affect the 'gates' of provincial unions. Taking the broad view I do not think this is in the least likely; but, even if it were there is no reason why the unions themselves should not take advantage of the broadcasts to keep patrons of local games posted as to the progress of any big game which may be being played at some other centre while their own game is being played. Details of the scoring in the big game could be given to the assembled crowd at half-time and again after the final whistle. This can be done by means of either an amplifier or megaphone, while the scores as received could either be put up on a notice board. By this means the broadcasts can be used to provide an additional attraction for the local matches.

The number of unlicensed listeners to every sporting broadcast of a national character is many times in excess of the number of our licensed listeners; but we do not refrain from broadcasting on that score. Rather are we pleased because of the evidence it affords of the value of the broadcast service to the community.

I just want to say, in conclusion, how very much the Company appreciates the sporting and public-spirited attitude of the delegates of the New Zealand Rugby Union. That their decision will be more than justified by the ultimate influence of the broadcasts I have not the slightest doubt. They have placed the interests of the great Rugby public first, and for so doing they will assuredly reap a rich harvest of grateful appreciation."

Short-Wave Notes

(Continued from page 31.)

Zeesen commenced at 6.30 a.m. at R8. 2MB and GBX at 7 p.m. were giving a list of names and phone numbers for calls. 3ZC on about 47 metres were R8, with severe fading and a strong ripple.

RA97 opened at 8 p.m. with their lady speaker, at R8. Static medium. KZRM at 8.30 p.m. were R5 with slow fading. Volume was weak for them at 9.30 p.m., being only R6.

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