

News and Views

A NEW development of interest to every radio enthusiast is the perfection of an A.C.-operated valve that is entirely free from hum. It is rumoured that these will be available shortly.

LISTENERS in Doncaster, England, are complaining of a new form of interference to broadcast reception, caused by automatic traffic signals. The regularity of the "clicks" is said to intensify the irritation. This type of interference is not unknown in New Zealand.

THE Radio Commission which has been investigating broadcasting conditions in Canada recommends that the cost of an annual radio license be increased from 1 dollar to 4 dollars, to be collected by the dealer who sold the set.

A NEW departure in the policy of the Ontario Government has been the installing of a microphone in the Legislative Chambers of the Parliament Buildings at Toronto. It is intended to broadcast the majority of speeches made during the Parliamentary sessions.

MICROPHONES connected to special amplifiers are being used by the American Coastal Survey Department as a means of taking soundings at sea. Curiously enough, it has been found that the greatest drawback to this method is the fact that the noise made by oysters when opening and closing their shells seriously interferes with the reception of pre-arranged submarine signals! Any decrease of sensitivity in the instruments used would, however, impair the usefulness of the apparatus.

Children's Sessions

From 1YA.

TUESDAY—

Uncle Dave on the spot with many interesting tales to tell, Cousin Jean singing, and Cousin Betty playing the piano. Oh, and don't forget to listen to the "Bird Wedding" puzzle that Uncle Dave and Cinderella have for this evening.

WEDNESDAY—

Cheer germs from Uncle Tom, as well as stories and songs. Cousin Elva will be heard for the first time in some sweet songs.

THURSDAY—

Once again Miss Sale is bringing a talented little band of performers to make the hour bright with solos, duets, and recitations. Peter Pan in charge.

FRIDAY—

Nod and Aunt Jean have a treat this evening—the Girl Citizens are presenting the programme, and we hope to have a few words from Tuki Kimura San too.

SATURDAY—

Gather round and hear what Cinderella has for the Happy Hour, and listen to Cousin Dorothy's recitations and another Dorothy's piano solos.

SUNDAY—

Children's Song Service conducted by Uncle Leo, assisted by Beresford Street Sunday School.

From 3YA.

MONDAY—

Here we have "Scatterjoy" and the girls, in happy mood, gathered about the microphone. With tales about "Binkie" the Bantam, our mascot for Mondays.

WEDNESDAY—

Heigh-ho, and we are off to the Radio Exhibition at the Art Gallery this evening. Scatterjoy, Peterkin, Uncle John, and the Girls and

Boys. Off for a trip in the good ship "Nautilus"—everybody on board, and music provided by our friends, "The Orchestra" from the Ferry Road Convent. Songs by Lidda Grenell and others. Piano solos by Marjorie Alexander. Fun and frolic for all.

THURSDAY—

Off we go to the Radio Exhibition again—this time with Ladybird and Uncle Frank, who have songs and stories for all. We are having, too, a little play, "The Fairy's Riddle," with the Fairy Queen,



Miss Malona Juriss, who gave three elocutionary items from 4YA on Monday, June 23.

—Crown Studios.

Grig, and Evelyn. Little Neville Burnell visits the Market, and tells about it, and Cousin Jeffrey sings for us.

FRIDAY—

Aunt Pat and Chuckle, off to "The Wedding of the Painted Doll," given by Miss Iris Edmonds's pupils, and also to see "Fanchette from Paris," a little play with songs and all, given by Mrs. Frye's pupils. Listen for the Golliwogs, the Rag Dolls, the Chinese Doll, Teddy Bear, Sarah Ann, and all the others. A topping time for all who listen-in to-night.

SATURDAY—

Uncle Charlie, with a group of his singing and musical lads, are entertaining you all this evening. So we are all at the Radio Exhibition again, and Aunt Pat, with Three Little Fairies, sings "The Fairy Song," while Birdman tells of his feathered friends. Then Alice sings our Good-night song for all at the exhibition, and all who listen-in from far and near.

SUNDAY—

"The Children's Song Service," conducted by Rev. Rugby Pratt, assisted by the children from the Methodist Sunday School.

Of Topical Interest

(By "Switch.")

THE writer read with much interest Mr. J. M. Bingham's article on "The Phenomenon of Fading and Its Relation to Distortion," published recently in the "Record." Many listeners must have observed how curious is the incidence of fading. On some evenings certain distant stations fade badly, while others suffer only slightly. Take 2BL and 2FC, the two Sydney stations, as an example. Perhaps 2BL has a severe attack of fading, while 2FC is fairly steady. On other evenings the position is reversed. Then, some of the stations on the shorter wavelengths display the same vagaries, although their cycles of fading are generally much briefer than, say, 2FC, Sydney.

A LISTENER, whose experience should have guided him better, sagely informed "Switch" recently that 2FC and 2BL employed the same power as 2YA, Wellington. Although those two Sydney stations are rated at 5000 watts, the system of rating power is different in Australia to that in New Zealand. In Australia and England the power of a station is taken as the amount of energy in the last amplifier in the transmitter, while in America, Germany and New Zealand the amount of actual energy in the aerial is taken as the power of the station. While 2BL and 2FC are rated as 5000-watt stations, the amount of energy finally sent out from the radiating aerial for reception may not be as much as 1½ kilowatts.

THE Japanese station, JOHK, Sandai, was coming in with remarkable volume on a recent evening when "Switch" had as a visitor, Mr. K. Kubota, the newly-arrived Trade Commissioner for the Imperial Japanese Government. Mr. Kubota was astonished at hearing the Japanese station so loudly and clearly, and could scarcely believe it was about 5500 miles distant. He listened to the Japanese announcer, and then interpreted his words, which were to the effect that the concert was being given by a class of juveniles from the local primary school. School choruses (Japanese items) were on the air till after midnight.

MR. KUBOTA, the recently arrived Japanese Trade Commissioner, explained to "Switch" that the writer's all-electric (A.C.) receiving set was the first he had seen. In Japan crystal and battery-operated sets were in general use, and owing to the low purchasing power of the masses crystal sets were most extensively used.

"SWITCH" gathers that not infrequently parents telephone the "YA" stations with requests to repeat the birthday greetings to little "Johnnie" or "Joan," as he or she was late in getting home and did not hear the greetings. This sort of thing is becoming too frequent, at one station in particular, and if these requests were complied with the children's sessions would be spoilt.

The Joy of Winter!

BIG REDUCTIONS in FARES for special winter excursions to New Zealand's peerless winter resorts—

THE CHATEAU (Tongariro National Park).

THE HERMITAGE (Mount Cook).

Franz Josef and Fox Glaciers (Westland).

Days of exhilarating snow sports outdoors.
Nights of cosy comfort within.

Full particulars from any Railway Station or City Booking Office, and offices of the Mount Cook Tourist Co.