

Christchurch Radio Exhibition

(Concluded from page 3.)

of them on the air. Their programmes were varied and wide, embracing the instructive and the entertaining.

"I am not well versed in radio," said the mayor, "and until I am no longer mayor there are two things which I intend to leave alone. Those are the radio and the gramophone. Very often I am exceedingly sorry that there is a telephone in my house, for with the termination of mayoral duties I like to enjoy the absolute quiet of complete rest. That, of course, is purely professional, but I know that the radio in many homes is a delight and an entertainment."

Mr. Archer added that thanks were due to Station 3YA for the ready manner in which the services of the company were always placed at the disposal of the public. It was noticeable

that any request made to the company met with prompt and courteous response.

Sunday Services.

ON Sundays the radio stations were put to good use, continued the mayor. That was well known. Listeners-in had a choice of concerts or of sermons.

"Quite a lot of people," he said, "find it convenient to listen-in to sermons

without having to subscribe to the collection. (Laughter). But, it has been my experience that when a church service is being put on the air, people come to church in larger numbers than usual."

The people of New Zealand, Mr. Archer went on, not only had the advantage of the local radio stations, but they had also the benefit that is brought to them from stations overseas. On a recent occasion listeners-in in New Zealand were able to hear the King's speech. And on another occasion some people had heard the nightingale singing in the Homeland. This was very close to being a miracle. The mayor briefly referred to the service performed by radio in the Byrd Antarctic expedition, and in Mr. Kingsford Smith's flight across the Atlantic.

Spiritual Mysteries.

CONCLUDING the mayor said that there was one aspect of radio that deeply interested him. That was the wonderful system of radiology, which might lead to the solution of some of the great mysteries of the spiritual world. "All persons," he said, "have a spiritual side, and whether they pay any attention to religion or not, they cannot get completely away from it. Radio seemed to suggest that those things which seem impossible to some people, and difficult to most people, are possible, and I believe that it will eventually solve the mysteries of the spiritual side of life." The mayor wished the Olympia the best of success.

Important Improvements.

THE president of the Radio Olympia, Mr. L. B. Scott, stated that the strong support accorded the initial effort last year had given rise to the enthusiasm which had resulted in the present exhibition. The Olympia had been made possible through the co-operation of the Radio Broadcasting Company and the Canterbury Radio Trading Association.

Tracing the steps by which the industry had advanced, he said that the most noteworthy among improved accessories were the battery eliminator, and the development of artistic radio furniture made practicable the unit assembly. Further technical improvements were made, the dynamic speaker and the A.C. valve being the most noteworthy examples.

The trend had been towards the complete elimination of all batteries, and the use of higher voltages as a means of securing greater realism in reproduction both with respect to tonal quality and volume. All in all there was no cause for worry concerning radical departures in receiving sets which might make obsolete present-day models, for there were no important changes in construction in sight this year, and for some time to come. Radio had now been put on wheels. Radio sets for motor-cars were being manufactured, and motorists would have the opportunity of listening-in while travelling. Television was as interesting as ever, though in some circles there had been too much unfounded optimism. Manufacturers

would have to burn much midnight oil before it could become universally practicable.

Musical Education.

MR. J. E. STRACHAN, principal of the Rangiora High School, congratulated the promoters of the Olympia on the enterprise they had shown and on their desire to keep up to date in all that was modern in radio development. It was appropriate that the Olympia was being conducted at the Art Gallery because the present-day radio set was a work of art.

"Radio to-day," he said, "is a work of art from another point of view, for it is a true musical instrument." Radio was playing an important role in the education of the public in music, and if it did nothing else than to bring that cultural instinct into prominence a great and important service would be performed.

Touching on the references made by the Mayor, concerning radio and spiritual revelation, Mr. Strachan said that radio was taking science nearer to the frontiers of human knowledge and had reached the line where energy turned into matter and where matter turned into energy. It was destined to cause a sociological revolution and be a means of ending war, for it was the greatest discovery of all time in bringing the peoples of all nations into closer harmony. The radio telephone within the space of a few years would be the means of communication to all parts of the world, and the radio telephone was one thing that could not be controlled by a sect whose interests were purely selfish.

The electro-dynamic development is the outstanding feature of Olympia, and the bays occupied by the various exhibitors are proof of the sweeping nature of the improvement which has followed the perfection of the latest advancement made by radio science.

Artistic console cabinets in various designs are a prominent feature. The bays illustrate the utility of radio as a medium of distributing sports results, providing music at dinners, and at dances, the bedtime stories which are so popular with children, entertainers in the home, and assistance to the small set owner.

In connection with the radio competition held at the Olympia, over 2000 entries were received. On Saturday night the winner, Mr. F. Chiverton, of Christchurch, was announced, and he was presented with a £40 radio set.

One end of the hall was fitted up as a drawing-room, and here evening concerts and children's sessions were performed. All decorations were artistically carried out by Mrs. J. M. Bingham.

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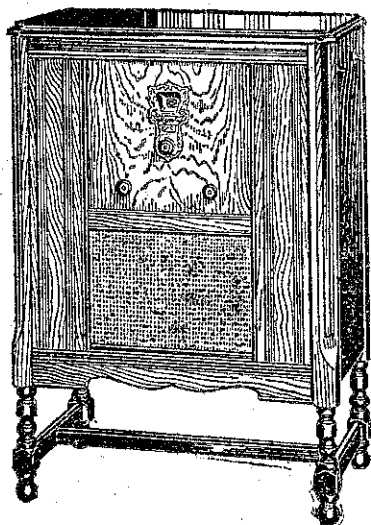
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