

# Lifetime Service

## Design of Modern Receivers

THE life of a radio receiving set has never been determined definitely, though many unfounded conjectures have been made by persons not thoroughly familiar with its construction. Such predictions as were made varied anywhere from two to five years, none of them correct when considering a

The problem of deterioration by moisture entering the radio receiver is of major importance in figuring the life of the apparatus. Of major importance also is the "factor of safety" provided in the electrical insulation and dielectrics employed in the chassis and the loudspeaker.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21 is

Oratagar Day

and there will be a

Commemorative Programme from 1YA

The items include

*The Revenge* ..... J. M. Clark  
*Admirals All* ..... The Octet  
*Hearts of Oak* ..... Frank Sutherland  
*The Signal* ..... A descriptive sketch

well-designed and efficiently-constructed receiving outfit.

The modern receiver is subject to mechanical wear at only three points, which are: the bearings in the variable condensers; the volume control unit and the "on" and "off" switch. While the parts that are subject to mechanical wear are usually designed to be easily replaceable in regular servicing operations, each unit is selected by the aid of "breakdown" tests to give a lifetime of service. These tests operate the moving parts of the apparatus hundreds of thousands of times, which reduced to years of operation represent a lifetime of uninterrupted service.

station in the Southern Hemisphere. The power is 5 k.w. Address: Amalgamated Wireless (A'sia), Ltd., 167 Queen Street, Melbourne.—J.C. (N.P.).

[There is no station VK2FI operating in Australia to our knowledge.—Ed.]

ON September 23 I heard KFIK, Milford, on several numbers at fair strength. At 12.30 a.m. I heard GWF, Perth, for the first time. On September 30, at 7 a.m., I logged KROW. I take it that this is a privately-owned station, as he said he had received approximately 6000 letters in one day. Following this up with: "Isn't that a lot of letters for one man to get in one day?" and requested listeners to consult him about business, etc. Can anyone tell me the address of WLW? I heard WLW on October 1 at 5 p.m. on several numbers at good strength. —"Proton" (Gisborne).

particular consideration with regard to soldering, as long, efficient life of the receiver depends on the materials used in this operation.

While quick and secure soldering can be done by an inexperienced worker, when acids or soldering pastes and solutions are used, it was early found in telephone apparatus construction that these kinds of soldering fluxes were the result of later troubles. Some of these fluxes are conductors for electricity and through creepage along the apparatus terminals or wires cause "cross-talk" or defects in operation. In other cases, the paste collected conducting dust which in time caused electrical trouble. Resin flux is probably the best to use.

It is unreasonable to expect a radio receiver to operate efficiently throughout a lifetime without receiving a reasonable amount of attention, any more than one would expect an automobile to run indefinitely without adequate service. Valves are among the most important considerations in this respect. Their occasional replacement should be practised if the maximum efficiency is desired at all times. Even one slightly defective valve will have a detrimental effect upon the operation of the set as a whole.

## Silencing Critics

IF listeners would like to hear some amusing "straight talk" from a station director from his own station he should try to catch Mr. J. Robinson, director of 4QG, Brisbane, answering correspondents from his studio. The other night he silenced a critic who had written in complaining of too much jazz. The actual proportion of dance music to other music from 4QG, quoted by Mr. Robinson, must have silenced the correspondent completely.

## Trickle Chargers !!!

We have landed limited supplies of "BALKITE" Trickle Chargers, suitable for charging 4-volt or 6-volt Batteries at .65 to .5 amperes.

These were formerly £3/10/- each  
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about September 1. The passengers and a part of the mail were recovered, your letter being among those saved, although it was stained and discoloured from contact with the sea water. KRLD received five letters from your country this week, two of them asking for confirmation (yours being one) on the programme of August 9, and were aboard this ship. A feature story appears in this Sunday's "Time Herald" about your letter on the radio page, with a copy of the letter.—H.F.A. (Masterton).

### A Special N.Z. Broadcast.

I RECEIVED verification by the last mail from several Americans, KSL, Salt Lake City, Utah, states that: "In the near future we hope to put on an organ recital from the famous Tabernacle Organ especially for you good people who live at this remote point. The broadcast will go on, we expect, at about 10 o'clock in the morning, our time, which should be around 7 or 8 o'clock your time." KSL also states: "We are especially happy in hearing from our friends way down at the bottom of the earth." I have given this extract in the hope that our DXers will be able to pick up the broadcast, and report to KSL on transmission. KSL comes through well here on a five-valve battery set when atmospheric conditions are favourable. It comes in about 2 metres below KMOX.—K.D.B. (Taumarunui).

### A Curious Coincidence.

DID any other listener notice the remarkable coincidence on September 30, at 9.45 p.m., when 2ZL, 3ZC, and 4ZP were all rendering "The Stein Song" at the same time? I tuned in W6XN, California (46 metres) later on in the evening just as he started the same item! Also, did anyone listen to the conversation between 2MD and 5SW less than two hours before the anticipated relay of the Premiers' Conference on Wednesday, 1st, and learn that 5SW had heard nothing about any proposed relay when questioned by Sydney in reference to the telegram received from New Zealand? Did the proposed relay originate with Schenectady? Conditions were perfect, although Zeesen was certainly weaker than usual later on. America is to give us a 24-hour continuous programme on the short waves on Sunday, October 12, by our time. This information also came from Schenectady.—G. Fraser (Ohura).

THE following is a summary of 2ZR's verification card: Hours of transmission, M. and F., 1-3.30 p.m.; T, Thur. and S., 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; W., 1-5 p.m.; children's hour, 6-7 p.m.; news, etc., 7-8 p.m.; music, 8-11 p.m. 500 metres (600 k.c.); power, 150 watts; M.O. system; TP-TG 3 stage RF amp. push-pull throughout; Xformer and rectifier, 2000 d.c. 2ZR, Radio Specialties, Ltd., 205 Victoria Avenue, Wanganui.—"Moi Whare" (Feilding).

I HAVE just received a card from KROW which is operated by Educational B. Corp. on 930 k.c. Address: 1520, 8th Avenue, Oakland, California. Their slogan is "KROWing to keep the East Bay smiling."—J.R.W. (Waipawa).

THE station operating on 31 metres (about) on September 15 (afternoon) was an Austrian station, most likely VORZ. Another local listener heard this station also. I recently received a card from VK3ME, the experimental station at Melbourne. They say that it is the second largest short-wave