

# The New Zealand Radio Record

—AND—

## Electric Home Journal

(Incorporating the "Canterbury Radio Journal.")

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WELLINGTON, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1930.

### EMPIRE SHORT WAVE BROADCASTING SYSTEM.

ON another page we give an authoritative article on the question of the establishment of a short wave station in Britain capable of affording an Empire service. This subject was briefly discussed last week at the Imperial Conference, where a pessimistic note was struck. It was represented that the technical and financial difficulties confronting the proposal were insuperable and that it was not possible to face the issue. The contributor of our article, who is a technician of high standard, analyses the problem presented from the technical standpoint; and potently enough concludes by reference to the degree of efficiency achieved by the famous PCJ station in Holland. The case of that station goes far to discount the technical problems raised. It is pointed out that a 24-hour service for transmission is not necessary, as due consideration would necessarily have to be given to the hours at which reception was normally feasible in the different portions of the Empire. It is concluded that three major areas could be served by effective beam transmission; that these transmissions at suitable hours could in many instances be picked up by short wave receiving sets and duly rebroadcast through existing stations on popular wavelengths. For a definite period such rebroadcasts of overseas stations have been effected. On outstanding occasions YA stations have picked up important transmissions from 5SW, Britain, American stations, and even Dutch stations, and effectively relayed them to listeners. Mr. Harris recorded, as a result of his recent visit to America, that the interchange of programmes between Britain and America was now regularly feasible through increased efficiency of reception. By the use of the same system of antennae, it will in due course, we anticipate, be possible for New Zealand and other portions of the overseas Empire to achieve similar results. Certainly considerations of cost must be kept in view, but having regard to the importance of the service, it is to be hoped that this difficulty will not be unduly exaggerated.

IT is known that Britain has financial interests in the ordinary commercial beam telephone system operating in portions of the Empire. Her interests in existing cables are also immense. These factors, it

is almost to be feared, may have a more important bearing upon the attitude of the installation of a short wave transmitting station for popular service, than the technical and financial problems of which so much is made. The functions of the service, however, are different. Due protection must be accorded to existing cable and beam systems, but the installation of a central short wave broadcasting system would be a gesture of such wonderful import that it is to be hoped something practical will evolve from the Imperial Conference.

### Broadcast from the R100

#### While Above Ottawa

DETAILS have recently arrived from Canada of the rebroadcast over the Canadian network of a two-way wireless telephonic communication between a land station at Ottawa and the airship R100 during the latter's passage over the capital of Canada. The Hon. R. B. Bennett, from the studio of station CNRO, spoke to Wing-Commander Colmore and others on board the R100. In turn, those on the airship addressed the land station.

Transmission both ways was clear and distinctly audible, though reception in the ship was better, due to the greater power of the land station. It is believed that this is the first occasion on which a broadcast of such character has been conducted.

### Origin of Radio

#### Curiosity and Experiment

AT the opening of the Berlin Radio Exhibition, Professor Einstein gave wireless enthusiasts something to think about. "When you listen to wireless broadcasting," he said (according to a British United Press report), "do you wonder how mankind came into possession of this marvel of communication? The source of all technical achievements is sublime curiosity and playful experimenting in both the amateur searcher, and the constructive, imaginative inventor. Remember, it is the technicians who make true democracy possible, because they not only alleviate man's daily labour, but make the work of the finest thinkers and artists—the enjoyment of whose work was until lately reserved for a privileged class—available to everybody, and thus arouse the people from drowsy sluggishness."

### French Empire Short-Waver

CLOSELY following the announcement of the intended establishment at Rugby, England, of an Empire short-wave station, comes the intimation that at the Paris Colonial Exhibition in 1931, an experimental colonial broadcasting station for France will be inaugurated.

The test station will be erected by the post office authorities, and the experience gained in its operation will be utilised in the construction of a permanent station at Saint-Germain, to be controlled by a "National Federation of Colonial Broadcasting."

### Talks About Radio Series from 2YA

WHAT should prove an interesting series of talks about radio has been arranged from 2YA to commence on Saturday, November 1. These talks, essentially of a non-technical and chatty nature will be given by our Technical and Associate Editor, Mr. Colin W. Smith, B.A., who will take for his first subject "The Romance of Radio." Although primarily addressed to the general listener, the enthusiast should be interested in such topics as "Home Constructing" and "Trouble Tracking." Although the majority of listeners now use commercially made electric sets, and wish to know no more about them than how to find stations, yet there are many things, though simple, which would be of advantage to them. It is of some of these that Mr. Smith intends speaking. Other topics will include the electric gramophone, aerial, earth, and accessories, house wiring, and "how and why" of radio transmission.

No doubt Mr. Smith will have some interesting sidelights to throw upon the subject of trouble tracking, for it is he who conducts the "Questions and Answers" columns.

### The World We Live In Scientific Talk From 1YA

MR. Frederick R. Field, of Auckland, civil engineer and scientific research worker, is to give a series of talks from 1YA. Mr. Field has made a life long study of the history of the Earth and has evolved a theory concerning it and the Universe. His first talk from 1YA will be given on Friday, October 31, and will deal with "Rotation of all Bodies in Nature." Further talks concerning the working of the sun and the influence of the heavenly bodies will follow.

### Eight O'clock Revue

ACCORDING to correspondence received from interested listeners it appears that the series of Eight O'clock Revues broadcast by Mr. Will Bishop and his company have been thoroughly enjoyed. Numerous requests have been made for a reappearance before the microphone of the Revue Company, and to comply with this a new series, commencing on Tuesday, November 25, has been definitely arranged.

These will be of one hour duration and will be even more snappy than the previous ones.

# WHY?

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