

Notes and News from the North

(By "Call Up.")

A NEW brass band to be heard shortly by IYA listeners is the Devonport United Band, well-known as a proficient combination of players. They will broadcast for the first time on November 12.

OTHER interesting concerts to be broadcast by IYA next month will be given by the Orphans' Club Orchestra, November 13; the Aeolian Orchestra on relay from the Town Hall, November 18; and the Auckland Piano Students' Association on November 19.

THE REV. ALBERT WHITE, better known to listeners as "Uncle Bert" of IYA, has become very popular with the children since he took over Uncle Leo's place about three months ago. His children's song service on Sunday evening is always good and is listened to not only by children in all parts of the North Island, but also by many hundreds of grown-ups. Uncle Bert has been sent many photos of his little listeners, and these are arranged round his study so that while he is composing his talks for the Sunday services he can see the children who will later form his unseen congregation.

ANOTHER of the IYA half-hour recital services will be given on the evening of November 7 by Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Simpson, baritone and pianiste. Mr. J. Clark and company will also be heard in scenes from "Henry VIII."

THE "B" class station 1ZM, Manurewa, has been on the air only four or five weeks, and there are still a number of local listeners who have not heard it. It is operated by Mr. W. W. Rodgers and on its broadcasting days gives a practically all-day service. Its output is 10 watts and the wavelength 247.89 metres. On Sundays and holidays it is on the air during the following hours:—10 a.m. till noon; 1-3 p.m.; 4.30-6 p.m.; and 10-11 p.m.

AN extensive series of talks given under the auspices of the Auckland Manufacturers' Association is to be given from IYA commencing early in the new year. The idea is, of course, to encourage the buying of locally-made goods.

NOW that summer-time conditions prevail and the clock has been put on, reception of Australian stations is not so good nor so convenient as during the winter. However, they seem to be coming in a good deal better than they were at the same time last year.

ALTHOUGH there was some talk of another radio exhibition in Auckland, nothing further seems to have been done about it, and at present such an event looks unlikely. In any case, the spring is not the most suitable time for a radio exhibition and the local dealers would probably derive more benefit from it if it were put on next autumn—a much more suitable season.

"Radio Record and Electric Home Journal"?

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Balclutha Celebrates Jubilee Anniversary Concert Broadcast

FROM Balclutha, which is celebrating its Diamond Jubilee this month, a Jubilee concert will be relayed to 4YA on Tuesday, October 28. An excellent programme has been arranged. In addition to the musical numbers, there will be speeches by a Minister of the Crown, and by the Mayor of Balclutha, Mr. S. V. White, who will be presented with a mayoral chain by Mr. A. E. Russell, on behalf of the citizens.

The Jubilee celebrations will be spread over several days and will include many varieties of sport and entertainments, and such novel events as a children's dress parade, trade displays, cricket match (old councillors versus present councillors), fireworks display, street dancing, jubilee services in the churches, sacred concerts by Balclutha Male Choir, cutting the Jubilee birthday cake, citizens' ball, children's sports, planting of Jubilee memorial oaks, and Diamond Jubilee concert. In the broadcast of the concert the old identities of Balclutha who will be unable to attend the celebrations, will have an opportunity of listening to at least one of the events held on this occasion.

Once noted for the devastation wrought in the town by the frequent floods in the Molyneux River, Balclutha, on the main railway line, 53 miles south of Dunedin, has during the past decade made remarkable progress. While other towns and districts still suffer from the unfortunate visitations of floods, Balclutha has been enjoying wonderful immunity. To a large extent this has been due



Mr. S. V. WHITE.
The Mayor of Balclutha.

to the very strong embankment with which the ratepayers fortified the town after the last serious flood about eleven years ago. To-day, Balclutha is the thriving centre of one of the most prosperous agricultural and pastoral districts in the Dominion, and its reputation as a sound business town ranks very high with commercial interests. Including its suburbs of Rosebank, Toshvale and North Balclutha, it has a population of well over 2,000 people.

It is sixty years this year since Balclutha was constituted a borough, and the citizens have therefore deemed it right that the occasion should be marked by appropriate jubilee celebrations. These are to take place during the Labour Day week-end, and will commence on Saturday, October 25. The present Mayor of Balclutha, Mr. S. V. White, is the seventeenth on the list. "Sid," as he is popularly known, is a real live wire. An enthusiastic sport, he was well known on the athletic field in his earlier days. During the eleven years that he has been on the Council, for seven of which he has occupied the mayoral chair, he has had the best interests of his town enthusiastically at heart.

The motto of the town, selected by its chief citizens in far away 1870, is: "Let Balclutha Flourish," and ex-residents of the Clutha now living in other parts of the Dominion will be able to obtain through 4YA on the night of October 28, an idea of how the town has flourished and progressed during the past sixty years.

Business Talks by Radio Conversation Electrically Recorded

AMALGAMATED Wireless (A/asia), Ltd., the company which operates the wireless telephone service between Australia and England, has been informed of an ingenious stratagem adopted by a Melbourne firm to obtain a permanent record of a conversation conducted between Melbourne and Birmingham. Being advised that a call was coming through from Birmingham, the Melbourne firm arranged to have an electrical recording instrument tapped in their telephone circuit during the whole of the conversation.

The telephone discussion concerned detailed figures and specifications, which were recorded, and which constituted an accurate statement of the business which could be dealt with when the time factor did not involve the charge of £2 a minute. Verbatim reports of the conversation have, it is understood, been sent from Melbourne to Birmingham, and the firm intends to place this and future recorded conversations on the office files for reference.

This is believed to be the first occasion on which a long-distance call of this nature has been electrically recorded. Radio experts look forward to the time in the near future when such a record will prove in business dealings as binding as the written contract.

Our Mailbag

Uncle Billy and His Famous Four.

I FEEL sure 75 per cent. of listeners will agree with me when I say Mr. Will Bishop and the Four, not forgetting "the girls," gave us from 2YA hours of clean, amusing, and witty entertainment, and it is to be hoped they will continue. The Eight O'Clock Revue was always appreciated, and part songs by such singers as the Four are always a treat. In my opinion, too, the limericks are a source of education as well as amusement, and I trust they will be carried on. Anything that will induce our young people to take an interest in poetry, music, and art is uplifting, and what we want as a nation is more culture. Carry on, W.B. and Co. I am—Fiat Lux (Wanganui).

Marching Onward.

WHEN I tuned in to a New Zealand station to-night I heard an old piece, "Marche Militaire," which was in existence at about 55 B.C., and still they play it. I suggest music with plenty of "kick" in it. I wonder if the R.B.C. has a limited stock of records for dinner music, because the same records are played year in and year out. Could the stations have turn about for dance music during the dinner session?—Yankee (New Plymouth).

Broadcasting Control.

AS one who has for years had the interests of radio in New Zealand very much at heart, permit me to congratulate you upon your editorial in the "Radio Record" of the 10th inst. The proposals of the Government are bound to meet with opposition, especially from certain interests which have long been manoeuvring to obtain and retain the control of broadcasting in New Zealand. Whilst giving every credit to the Radio Broadcasting Company for the intensive spade work which Mr. A. R. Harris has put in, one must realise that the present company is not financially in a position to give the extensive service that the peculiarities of this country need. The details of the scheme will have to be carefully watched, but there is no doubt, as you truly remark: "From the point of view of radio itself it will certainly be beneficial to the listening public."—B.T.P. (Silverdale).

WHEN a set is changed to short-wave working it is often an advantage to change the value of the detector leak to a greater figure to increase sensitivity.

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