

Looking on the Brighter Side

A Cheerful Correspondent

QUITE a number of New Zealand listeners are troubled with electrical interference, and it will probably be of some consolation to those unfortunate to learn that their fellow-listeners in many countries are much worse off in this respect. This is particularly the case in America, where the widespread use of electricity for every conceivable purpose is a serious drawback to trouble-free reception.

However, every problem has its lighter side, which in this case is well illustrated by the following amusing letter contained in a Canadian electrical journal:—

"Friend Joe,—

"You may not know it, but I reside on the north-east corner of Summer and Barret Streets, in a brick veneer house, comfortably mortgaged. The mortgage doesn't perturb me much, but a transformer on a pole south of my mortgage on Barret Street, causes me acute misery, not to mention unspeakable anguish. The transformer, I am informed and believe, is the property and corporate holding of a benevolent institution doing business under the name and style of — Southern You-tell-me-one Company, of which you are the local Big Gun.

"What I am getting at is that last evening, when radio reception all over the town was remarkably clear and pellucid, the disturbance which erupted from my all-electric set sounded like the patter of spring rain on a red-hot stove. The first selection on the Palm Olive Hour was like unto the Battle of the Marne, with effects. The effects were contributed, presumably, by the — Southern Interference Company, incorporated under the laws of —. The second number (introduced by Philipps Carlin, with staccato accompaniment) was a weird representation of Feeding Time in the Zoo. We distinctly heard the roar of the famished lions, the strident yelp of the hyenas and sibilant hissing of the boa constrictors, all furnished presumably by the — Static Disability Company, a corporation organised and persisting contrary to the statute in such case made and provided. The third number, I think, was Fun in the Foundry, with a stunning climax, representing the blowing up of the whole damn works, the falling of debris on tin roofs, the siren shrieks of the fire department and the agonised wails of dying foundrymen—all sound effects by the — Sputterin' Inferno Company, a conspiracy organised and operating on a frequency of 500,000 discontented kilowatts. At this point, we wrecked the radio, wrapped our ears in hot towels, and slunk to our couch like quarry slaves scourged to the dungeon.

"I think, Joe, your naughty little kilowatts are running around at night, wasting the kilowatt hours in ungodly revelry. They are badly trained; they think every night Hal-Hallowe'en, and go yelling around our block, necking and sparking, and making life miserable for staid householders. I know that kilowatts must have their fling but keep them in at nights and teach them some manners.

Popular Comedian to Broadcast

From All Stations

THERE are few entertainers who enjoy greater popularity than Jock Lockhart, the Scottish entertainer, whose mirth-making jokes and bright humour are features of the 3YA programmes. Those who have not heard him have missed one of the brighter spots of the programmes. But, of course, not every set can tune to the southern station, so the Broadcasting Company have made arrangements for Mr. Lockhart to appear from the northern stations and from 4YA during the Christmas season. While in Auckland he will appear at one of the municipal band concerts and so the northerners will be able to enjoy this versatile entertainer first hand. This particular



concert will be broadcast, but one needs to see this comedian to fully appreciate his art.

Mr. Lockhart is one of the most regular broadcasters at 3YA, where he takes part in sketches or in his distinctive type of monologue entertainments, humorous Scottish songs at the piano, with a rippling fire of humorous patter, much of it entirely original and topical. Letters received from all parts of New Zealand testify to the popularity of this entertainer.

Mr. Lockhart's tour is similar to that which he undertook last year, when his inclusion in the programmes of 1YA and 2YA met with great appreciation. His itinerary is as follows: 2YA, December 24 and 29; 1YA, December 26 and 27; 4YA, January 1 and 2.

Children's Sessions

AT 1YA.

Monday, December 22.—This Monday is not a silent day, so don't forget to tune in and listen to the Farmer's Boy's funny songs, and the rest of the fun.

Tuesday.—The pupils of Madame Humphrey-Steward will be singing choruses and Christmas carols, so be sure and join in the singing. Piano solos from Leonora.

Wednesday.—Christmas Eve—"Hang-up-your-stockings" session this evening, and many other good things.

Thursday.—Children's session at 9 a.m. instead of 5 p.m., so don't sleep too late and miss it. Everybody saying "Merry Christmas" to everybody. Christmas songs, Christmas stories, and a happy time altogether.

I am a patient man, but if I ever find one of your kilowatts pedalling around my screen-grid on his little kilocycle, I'm going to grab him and shake the brat until the sparks fly. I never killed a watt, but another night of torture like last and the — Stentorian Dynamic Dissonance Company, a corporation disorganised and existing under the laws of Gehenna, will be holding kilowatt obsequies.

Statically yours,

Book Lady, and Story Book Man will also be present.

Saturday.—We are to have to-night in the studio the excellent little orchestra which is conducted by Mr. Tanner. Little pupils from Miss Ivy Hoare's studio will provide piano-forte and vocal items. Spot loves violins, so if he knows about the orchestra he is sure to be there.

Sunday, December 28.—The Vivian Street Church of Christ Children's Choir will be the singers for this evening, and Uncle George will conduct the session.

AT 3YA.

Monday, December 22: To-night there is to be a Surprise Party for Aunt Pat, so we won't tell her anything about it. But Mr. Davies' choir boys have some fun in store and will begin this Christmas Week in the jolliest way.

Tuesday: An extra night of fun with Uncle Alf, Cousin Nell and all the little Nellies from St. Saviour's School. Songs, Christmas cheer, choruses and lovely Santa Claus stories.

Wednesday: Christmas Eve! Aunt Pat, Ladybird, Chuckle, Peterkin, Uncles Frank, Dick and John, with Cousin Margot having lots of fun in the Studio to-night. A "Visit to Father Christmas's Toyland" with songs you all can join in.

Thursday, Christmas Day: At 9 o'clock Santa arrives at the studio; and we greet him. Then we are to have a special Christmas story, and some carols by the young Welsh singers.

Friday, Boxing Day: Uncle Frank is here to-night with some good songs and stories to tell, and White Fang too will be here. Nola Swindell will provide you with some pretty music.

Saturday: Aunt Pat and Uncle Charlie have a lot of interesting stories and songs for you at the end of this jolly week—so just listen-in and join in with this cheerful hour.

Sunday: The Children's Song Service will be conducted by the Presbyterian Sunday School to-night.

A Novel Burglar Alarm

A MICROPHONE has been installed in a Chicago bank vault as a burglar alarm, and is connected to the nearest police station. It is smaller than those used in broadcasting, but so sensitive that the slightest noise causes it to function. It is expected to prove useful in case someone is accidentally locked in the vault, as well as in the event of attempted robbery.

If You want to get Ahead

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Friday.—Nod and Aunt Jean making the hour a happy one with stories, jokes, and songs.

Saturday.—Cinderella in charge, and who do you think to help her? Well, never mind, we'll keep it a surprise for the girls and boys.

Sunday.—Children's Song Service conducted by Uncle Bert.

AT 2YA.

Monday, December 22.—Uncle Jeff has another new puzzle for to-night. Cousin Claude and the Kipling Lady will also be here with their stories, and the little pupils of Miss Lottie Rastall are bringing a delightful programme.

Tuesday.—Uncle Toby and Jumbo have promised us a most entertaining programme, and they will have in the studio Miss FitzGerald's pupils, who are bringing songs, recitations and piano-forte items. The Milly-Molly-Mandy Lady will also be here.

Wednesday.—Christmas Eve! A Merry Christmas to you all! We are to have a Christmas party to-night, and the little pupils of Isobel Halligan will present a special little play called "A Christmas Tree Joke."

Friday.—Cousin Vermont will celebrate Boxing Night with his bird and animal imitations. Uncle Jim, Story