

Radio Exhibitions

Dunedin, Auckland, and
Wellington Fix Dates

RADIO Exhibitions are to be held in Dunedin, Auckland and Wellington on the following dates:—

Dunedin—April 22, 23 and 24.

Auckland—May 13, 14, 15 and 16.

Wellington—June 10, 11, 12 and 13.

The radio dealers in these centres are organising exhibitions which will be even more successful than those held last year.

Distance Lends Enchantment

JUST as distant fields always appear to be greenest, so distant broadcasting stations have an attractiveness all their own. A Southland radio writer recently made very disparaging remarks concerning the dinner music from 4YA. He said:—

"The reversion to standard time has brought about a notable improvement in reception conditions in the early evening during the last fortnight. One of the most pleasing features is that the 2YA dinner music hour is available, and it is only after having endured an almost unending repetition of very second-class records from 4YA during the summer that one really appreciates the high standard maintained for this hour from 2YA."

The writer also remarks that "it becomes very monotonous to hear the same records repeated in almost the same order week after week, and in some cases at more frequent intervals."

A critic can safely express an opinion as to the attractiveness of programmes, for that is essentially a matter of opinion, but he should walk warily on the question of dinner music. There, he has to contend with figures, in black and white, for the Broadcasting Company's filing system shows when and how often recordings are broadcast from any of the stations. Full advantage is taken of the record library in Christchurch, and the dinner music sessions for the four stations are carefully organised.

No far from hearing the same programmes "week after week and in some cases at more frequent intervals," the same records are not broadcast at more frequent intervals than eight to ten weeks, and the same programme would not be heard twice in three months, if then. It is possible, but unlikely, that the same musical number recorded by two different firms may be broadcast twice in two weeks.

As to 2YA having superior dinner music, this is clearly a case of distance lending enchantment, for no exception is made in the case of 2YA to the disadvantage of any of the other stations. Identically the same recordings are used. New records are continually being added to the Broadcasting Company's library and new programmes of dinner music are continually made up. The four stations take it in turns to be first to broadcast these recordings. It is quite likely that some of the records which pleased the southern critic so much when he heard them from 2YA were first broadcast by 4YA.

International Programmes from Auckland and Dunedin

Probable Relay to Invercargill

THE international programmes which have been a feature of the service from 2YA every Wednesday evening for some months past, are soon to be heard from 1YA and 4YA.

These programmes of electrical transcriptions, which are selected features from overseas broadcast programmes given by artists of international repute, have met with widespread appreciation, and many requests have been received by the Broadcasting Company for their broadcast from the distant stations, 1YA and 4YA. These broadcasts will begin early in May.

An indication of the interest manifested in these programmes is found in the relays which have taken place between 2YA, Wellington, and the B stations at Palmerston North and Masterton. The Manawatu Radio Society, controlling station 2ZF, and Mr. W. D. Ansell, controlling station 2ZD, Masterton, by co-operating with the Broadcasting Company, aided by the Post and Telegraph Department who made available the necessary relay lines, provided their listeners with the opportunity of hearing these programmes direct from their local station. In a similar way, if a line be available from Dunedin to Invercargill, the Southland Radio Society will broadcast simultaneously with 4YA.

Trained Young Broadcasters Christchurch Musicians' Efforts

REALISING that radio broadcasting is the greatest outlet at the present time for musical talent, the music teachers of Christchurch take a great interest in the technique of radio performance. It enters into the training which they are now giving their pupils. Both tutors and pupils visit 3YA studio, where the pupils perform before the microphone while the teacher listens critically at a loudspeaker in another room.

The teacher is thus in a position to compare the quality of the reproduction with the actual performance and to advise the singer as to how the rendition of the song can be improved, from the listener's viewpoint.

A Lonely Outpost

Radio Greatly Appreciated

MORNINGTON Island, in the Gulf of Carpentaria, is 100 miles by water from the nearest post office, which is at Burketown, North Queensland. There, for the past eight years, Rev. R. H. Wilson and his wife have been working alone among the aborigines under the direction of the Presbyterian Church. A small ketch carries them supplies and brings mail eight times a year. They have, however, a small short-wave transmitting and receiving set, with which they are in daily touch with the mother station in Cloncurry, 300 miles away.

Mr. Wilson is able to send telegraphic messages by Morse to Cloncurry, and if these are intended for further dispatch they are handed in to the post office and transmitted over the land wire in the usual way. The replies are given by voice from Cloncurry.

Secret Radio

Amazing Invention

A CABLE message from London conveys the news that secret radio transmission has been promised by the French inventors of a new, ultra-shortwave system. This was demonstrated by Post Office officials who conversed from the Cliffs of Dover with French engineers at Calais with a wavelength of 18 centimetres.

(The lowest wave now is about 10 metres—60 times as long.)

The transmitting and receiving aerials are less than an inch long, and the amazingly low power of half a watt, which is barely sufficient to light a flashlight bulb, is used.

The discovery is known as "micro-ray," and its essential principle is a guarded secret. Briefly, speakers' voices are converted into a ray which is concentrated by two reflectors into a fine pencil ray, which behaves in a manner similar to that of light. It is thrown into space and picked up by an associated apparatus at the other end.

The success of the experiments envisages the complete disappearance of expensive, tall aerials and elaborate stations, and the end of the present serious congestion of the ether.

Also, it presages universal radio telephony at a relatively small cost, and the intense development of television, which is brought within commercial grounds.

The "Morning Post" says the presence of numerous foreign high officials reveals the interest aroused.

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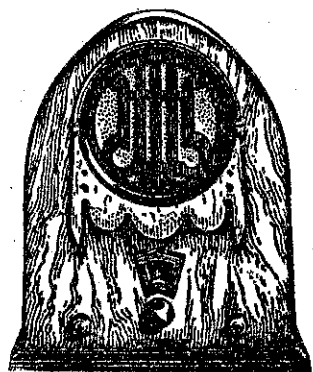
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