

Dunedin Radio Exhibition

Series of Relays and Rebroadcasts at Opening



THE third annual Dunedin Radio Exhibition opened on Wednesday, April 21, and continued for three days. It was a display that for general arrangements and variety of exhibits excelled the two previous shows. The exhibition was organised by the Otago Radio Association in co-operation with the radio dealers and the Broadcasting Company. The whole of the evening concert programmes were the responsibility of the Broadcasting Company.

As two halls were required, the exhibition was held in the Pioneers' and Early Settlers' Halls. The display of sets could not fail to bring home to all visitors the present perfection of radio equipment. Sets to suit all pockets were on view—from tiny crystal sets to imposing cabinets. While battery sets seem still to be popular, there was naturally a marked predominance of the all-electric.

Sitting before a microphone in 2YA studio, the Hon. J. B. Donald, Postmaster-General, officially opened the exhibition. His remarks were broadcast by 2YA, picked up at 3YA, and then relayed to 4YA. 4YA's transmission was in turn broadcast at the exhibition.

"Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen in Dunedin,—

"I HAVE much pleasure in responding to the invitation so kindly extended to me, to offer a few remarks upon the opening of the Third Otago Radio Exhibition," said the Minister.

"The science of radio communication in all its phases is undoubtedly being developed on sound lines; and to-day has reached such a stage of progress that it is difficult to forecast what the future may have in store. At the outset I desire to say that it is quite recognised that societies such as the Otago Radio Association perform a useful function in keeping the public abreast of advances that are being made, and in assisting to create interest in the technique generally of radio communication.

"In New Zealand, which may be called one of the outposts of our Empire, the immense value of radio as a means of world communication is peculiarly appreciated. I need only refer to broadcasts of outstanding events in other parts of the world which are now becoming quite frequent, and may even be considered to be an established part of our broadcasting system.

"Though not altogether germane to broadcasting, the opening of the radio-telephone service between New Zealand and Australia, and the projected extension of the service at an early date to the United Kingdom and other countries, may be accepted as examples of the progress being made in radio communication and the bridging of the wide distances separating New Zealand from other countries. The broadcasting service is now accepted as prac-

tically a permanent factor in our social life. By its means, entertainment and instruction may be brought into the homes of almost every one, no matter how isolated may be their situation.

"As an indication of the growth of receiving licenses in New Zealand during the past five years, I would quote the following figures:—

March 31, 1926	..	3,588
" 1927	..	18,162
" 1928	..	39,315
" 1929	..	44,616
" 1930	..	53,192
" 1931	..	62,453

"These figures may be taken as positive proof of the popularity of broadcasting as a national service, and may perhaps be regarded as further proof of the fact that the best radio apparatus may be obtained in the Dominion. I am not in a position to view at the present moment the various types of apparatus on view in your exhibition, but perhaps in a few years, or less, the new and marvellous service of television will enable a view to be obtained from this studio.

"I have no doubt that the best efforts of those concerned in the manufacture and supply of radio apparatus will be concentrated upon producing sets which embody the most up-to-date features and at a cost within the scope of moderate means.

"I wish all success to the exhibition, and trust that it will be the means of further popularising broadcasting in the Otago district, and now have much pleasure in declaring the exhibition officially open."

Editor-Announcer of R.B.C. Speaks.

MR. JOHN BALL, editor-announcer of the Radio Broadcasting Company, then spoke:—

"IN the absence from the city of Mr. A. R. Harris, general manager of the Broadcasting Company, I would take the opportunity on his behalf of extending to the radio dealers of Dunedin the greetings and best wishes of the Broadcasting Company for the success of the exhibition which they have organised. In Dunedin, exhibitions always are a success, financially and otherwise, and the one that has been opened to-day by the Hon. Donald will be no exception to the rule.

"As usual the Broadcasting Company is co-operating with the radio dealers, and has taken up the responsibility of providing the evening concert programmes. Dunedin is first in the field with the 1931 exhibitions. The dates for Auckland and Wellington have already been announced, and Christchurch will no doubt follow suit. Every year sees increased interest in broadcasting. There are now over 60,000

licensed listeners—or there were, on March 31. Five years ago, when the Broadcasting Company first began operations, there were not as many thousands as could be counted on the fingers of one hand. That alone is an indication of the growing importance of the broadcast service.

"Broadcasting is the greatest economic and social factor in the life of the people to-day. It is the greatest and most economical of entertainers for the home. In times of prosperity radio shares in the boom, in times of depression it should be more than ever in demand, for it provides entertainment at a minimum of cost—at one penny a day. And entertainment is not a luxury but a necessity.

"One of the reasons why people like to listen to the radio is because it is cheerful. They can always hear some programme that will lift them out of the gloom that sometimes comes with business depression and unemployment. Everybody would like to forget that once in a while and think about something cheerful. Radio gives them this something. It is to be noted that all the modern things which make life worth the living have come as a result of scientific research. While business has been halting, science has been marching forward, and has been getting

(Continued on page 29.)

2YA Listeners bid
Au Revoir to
Hy-Wide and
Handsome



Next Week
2YA begins
a new series
of International
Programmes,
but these two
vaudeville artists
can still be heard
from 1YA and 4YA.
Listen for the new
2YA series this week.