

The New Zealand Radio Record

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Home Journal

(Incorporating the "Canterbury Radio Journal.")

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RADIO PUBLISHING COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND, LTD.,
P.O. Box 1032, WELLINGTON.

WELLINGTON, FRIDAY, MAY 22, 1931.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

CONGRATULATIONS may be extended to the Wellington Rugby Union upon its decision to permit of its matches being broadcast this season by 2YA. By this decision the Rugby Union will maintain the prestige of the national game in the Capital City and its environs, and confer a distinct benefit upon invalid and country listeners. There is no doubt as to the popularity of football broadcasts, and the decision to meet the public wishes in this matter is a wise one. The arrangement effected on both sides fully meets the position.

ALTHOUGH the official opening of the private station which has been erected in Wellington has been postponed from May 14 to 21, the station has been operating for the past few days. Its operation has brought home to listeners who use crystal sets and unselective valve sets certain disabilities which will have to be rectified by them before they can enjoy radio in the future as in the past. From the technical point of view the position created is that, because both 2YA and the new station are using relatively high power, and are close together, listeners with non-selective sets are bound to be troubled with interference. The position created is that crystal users with sets of old design will in all probability have to scrap their old apparatus. A design of crystal set, however, is possible which can separate the two transmissions. A description of such a crystal set which, on results so far secured, it is believed will give the necessary separation, is printed elsewhere in this issue. Those using non-selective sets will be compelled to install a wave-trap. The material for the construction of an ideal wave-trap is, we understand, unfortunately not on the local market at the moment, although supplies are en route. In those circumstances a certain amount of inconvenience is likely to be caused set-owners in that category, although less efficient "traps" are possible.

BECAUSE of the technical difficulties indicated in the foregoing, the trend of radio in America, where numerous stations operate relatively close together, has been for the elimination of the crystal set and the low-powered non-selective set, and concentration of sales effort upon the relatively high-powered make with a high degree of selectivity. This imposes a certain amount of extra cost upon listeners who have been relying upon the class of apparatus now rendered unsuitable.

B CLASS stations are now operating in each of the four centres, Wellington being the last to witness this development. We have on previous occasions expressed our views on this situation. We believe that the best interests of listeners will be served by concentration upon one main national service, building up over a period the necessary relay and distributive points in provincial centres. For the sake of alternative programmes and more speedy coverage, the Government authorities have permitted the development of a number of privately-owned stations at different points. The Postmaster-General has expressed himself as being definitely averse to the institution of radio advertising of either a direct or sponsored character. We commend his declarations on that point, and trust that the regulations thereupon will be adequately administered. The danger inherent in the creation of a B class system is that demand may ultimately be made, either for a share of listeners' revenue, or the right to secure advertising revenue at the cost of artistry. Either of those developments, we believe firmly, would do ultimate damage to the interests of listeners; but, given suitable guarantees against those possibilities, listeners may in the meantime welcome and enjoy any extra service made available from B class sources.

New Wellington Station

Hours of Operation

SEVERAL months ago it was announced in Wellington that in the near future a private station, owned and operated by Messrs. H. Nimmo & Sons, Ltd., would commence transmissions.

An unexpected delay ensued, however, and it was not until a few days ago that 2ZW, the call allotted to the new station, began operations. Reports on transmissions have been received from listeners in every province of New Zealand, and many of these remark on the clarity and volume of reception. 2ZW is operating on a power of 1 kw., on a frequency of 1120 kilocycles (268.9 metres).

Hours of operation are as follow:—Monday-Saturday (incl.), 10-11.30 a.m.; Monday to Friday (incl.), 12-2 p.m.; Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 7-11 p.m.; Wednesday, 5-11 p.m.; Friday evening, silent; Saturday, 2.30-5 p.m., 7-12 p.m.; Sunday, 9-10 a.m., 11-12 a.m., 8-10 p.m.

Reports from listeners would be appreciated by Messrs. Nimmo & Sons, Ltd., whose address is Nimmo's Buildings, 89 Willis Street, Wellington.

Margherita Zelanda Touring YA Stations

NEW ZEALAND has every reason to be proud of the coloratura soprano Margherita Zelanda (Miss Daisy Hall), just now touring the YA stations under engagement to the Radio Broadcasting Company. She has only recently returned from Italy, which country she proposes to visit to make her debut in grand opera at the La Scala, Milan.

In Italy she was known as the Bambino prima donna.

Miss Hall was born in Dupedin, and made her debut at a school concert at the age of seven years. She recalls how the schoolmaster carried her on his shoulder and called her "our little Melba." His prophecy has come true, for to-day critics compare her golden voice with those of the great Patti and Tetrazzini. Leaving Dunedin, she crossed over to Australia to study, and later completed her studies in Italy, first at Palermo and then at Milan with the famous Maestro Manlio Bavagnoli.

Margherita Zelanda will sing at the Auckland Radio Exhibition this week. She is to sing from 2YA on Monday, May 25, and Tuesday, May 26, and for 3YA on Friday, May 29.

Sports Broadcasts Position Summarised

THE position in the four cities in regard to the broadcasting of football is as follows:—

AUCKLAND.—Permission granted week by week. The Auckland Union has always been favourably disposed to broadcasting.

WELLINGTON.—Permission granted, subject to the Wellington Rugby Union being referred to in the event of the Broadcasting Company wishing to broadcast some outstanding topical event which clashes with a football match.

CHRISTCHURCH.—Permission refused by the Canterbury Rugby Union. Fee of £500 stipulated. Rugby League requests broadcasts of its matches, as also does the Football Association.

DUNEDIN.—Permission refused by the Otago Rugby Union, but privileges of the Press accorded for the purpose of preparing reports to be broadcast at the conclusion of the matches, if desired.

Metrodyne

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AT

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AT ROYDS-HOWARD CO. 553 COLOMBO ST. CH. CH.