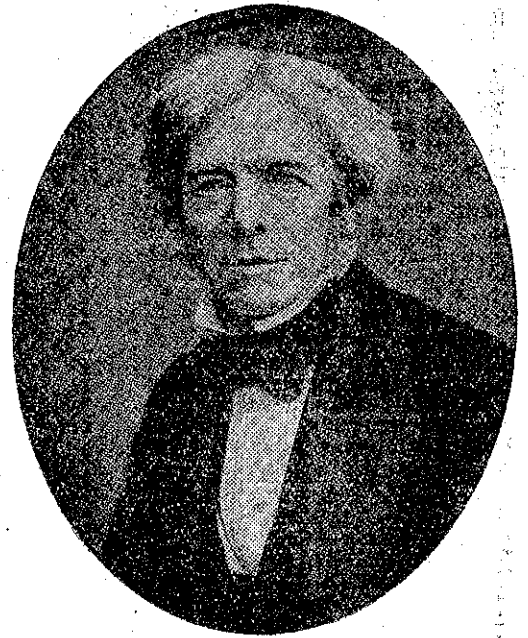


Wellington Celebrations of Faraday Centenary

Scientists, electricians, engineers, and thinkers generally, in all parts of the world, are this month paying tribute to the memory of Michael Faraday, who, a hundred years ago, discovered and proved by demonstration to sceptical contemporaries the principle of electro-magnetic induction. From this beginning was evolved the present electrical age, and because of this the world owes to Michael Faraday a debt which can be paid only by the honouring of his name and an appreciation of the man himself and of his high character and ideals.



Michael Faraday.

RECENTLY electrical engineers from all parts of New Zealand gathered at a formal dinner in Wellington to celebrate the Faraday centenary, but it was felt that something more should be done, and, as a result of the co-operation of the Wellington Branch of the New Zealand Society of Civil Engineers, the Institute of Electrical Engineers, and the authorities of Victoria College, a public demonstration of electrical developments to mark further the centenary of the discoveries of Michael Faraday was held at Victoria College on the evening of September 11. In every way the evening was a great success.

The chair was taken by Mr. M. Cable, general manager of the

Municipal Electricity and Tramway Department, and he in a few words

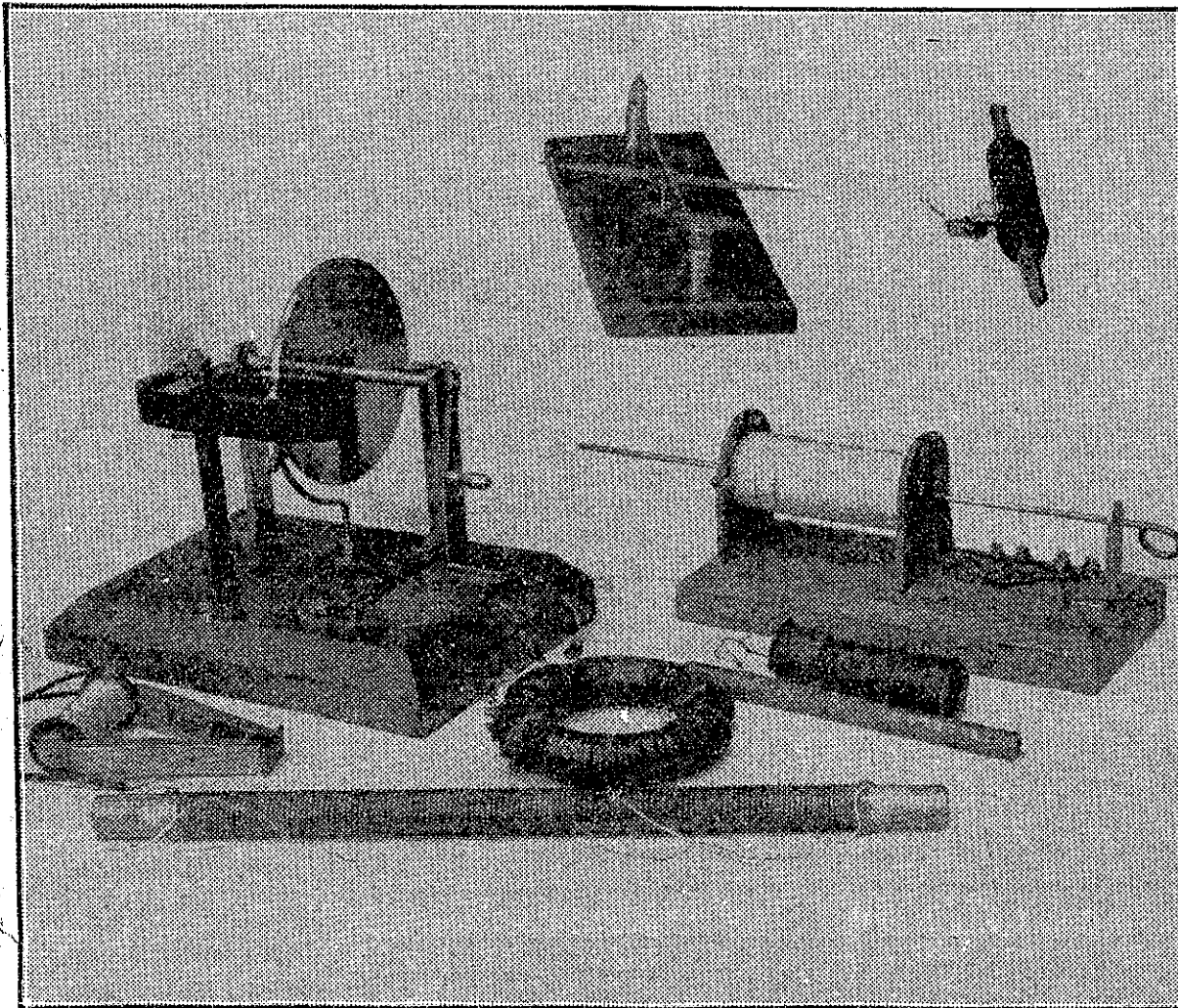
spoke of Faraday's achievements and of his high personal character and lovable nature. "The world," said Mr. Cable, "knows of Edison and of his works, but does the average man know anything of Faraday, or even who he was?"

"With a view to removing this charge of ignorance concerning Faraday," he continued, "it behoves electrical engineers throughout the Empire to give greater recognition in the future to Faraday's work, and to take steps to let the public know that all modern electrical facilities and amenities are due to the momentous discovery of 1831."

Then followed a surprise—a trans-Tasman radio telephone conversation between Mr. A. Gibbs, Chief Telegraph Engineer, and Mr. A. Wilson, one of the leading engineers of the Sydney Post Office. Both sides of the conversation passed through a powerful amplifier and loudspeaker, and every word was surprisingly clear. When invited to address the audience, Mr. Wilson spoke briefly of the Faraday centenary.

AT the conclusion, Mr. Gibbs conveyed to him the thanks of the meeting and remarked that he thought it was the first time a New Zealand scientific meeting had been addressed by one of the Commonwealth engineers or, for that matter, by anyone else across the Tasman Sea.

The first address, given by Mr. W. H. Gregory, engineer-in-charge of the hydro-electric station at Waikaremoana, traced the growth of electrical knowledge from 600 B.C., when the first knowledge of static electricity obtained from rubbing amber was gained, down through the centuries to when the ancients learned of the properties of the lodestone, the natural magnet; the early eighteenth century when it was (Concluded on page 8.)



A photograph of facsimiles typical of the crude apparatus with which Faraday worked in making his great discovery of the principle of electro-magnetic induction just one hundred years ago.