

Experiments with the S.G.

I HAVE been experimenting with the s.g. valve on both short-wave and broadcast for the past twelve months, and I find that enormous amplification can be obtained if they are in matched circuits. I have had four stages of shielded grid working O.K. I first used tuned anode, then parallel feed tuned grid. My first set was an s.g., coupled by tuned anode to an ordinary neutralised triode transformer coupled to det. It worked splendidly. I do not use regeneration on broadcast, as I consider it unnecessary with s.g. circuits.

My present set is not exactly the same as the "Outspan," although the circuit is fundamentally. Modifications are: 10-ohm resistances in the filament negative, rheo. in positive, coils and condensers shielded in earthed boxes. The coils I evolved from the article in the "Radio Record" on radio-frequency design.

They are: Tapped aerial coil coupled to 8255, first transformer 75 turns 24 d.s.c., 2in. former coupled to PM16, separately shielded, coupled to second transformer, detector, leaky grid, transformer to PM6 output.

The first coil has a primary of 25 turns of 32 s.w.g. wound doubled spaced over wooden matches placed over secondary. This provides the tight coupling necessary. The det. coil is 3in. with 35-turn primary wound the same as before. I have tried several different primaries, but these are easily the best.

One modification which I think would improve the "Outspan" is variable voltage control to the screening grids. It is worth all the regeneration put together; put a higher voltage tap on the screen grids, and adjust to below oscillation point; it also acts as volume control.

I get plenty of power out of my present combination, and I can get more by careful by-passing and chokes in high voltage leads.

Turn out more sets like the "Outspan"; they are near the ideal for New Zealand conditions, but bar regeneration, which does spoil the quality.

One thing I do not like about the "Record" is that sometimes Questions and Answers and the constructional page are omitted. Now that DX-ers have a magazine of their own you could cut that page out, as any radio enthusiast can tell you DX-ing is simply a matter of locality. A super-DX set will not perform in a poor locality. I have been DX-ing in many different localities, and there is a vast difference in radio reception; therefore your DX Competition is not a square deal.

I propose using a pentode with inductor dynamic. Could you supply me with value of audio choke or output device to match valve.—S.T.G. (Otago).

[You will find all the information relative to matching a pentode to a dynamic speaker in the articles by Mr. Dawson published some time back.—Tec. Ed.]

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Musical and Dramatic Committees

Reports of Recent Meetings

MR. A. B. CHAPPELL, representative of the Dickens Fellowship, presided at the last meeting of the IYA Musical and Dramatic Committee, when there were present: Mesdames G. Bertram (League of N.Z. Penwomen), Joyce Parker (Auckland Piano Students' Association), Messrs. C. B. Plummer (Auckland Choral Society and Auckland Amateur Operatic Society), L. E. Lambert (Bohemian Orchestra), E. Blair (Workers' Education Association), O. Jensen (Auckland Society of Musicians), W. Colman (Royal Auckland Choir), J. F. Montague (Auckland Comedy Players), F. M. Price (Aeolian Orchestra), F. L. Armitage (Little Theatre Society), H. C. Trim (programme organiser at IYA), and L. C. Barnes (station director at IYA). Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. Tucker, Trask, and Graham.

The chairman cordially welcomed Mr. Armitage.

The station manager's report referred to the concert to be given by the Society of Musicians on Thursday, October 15, when Mina Caldwell, contralto, will sing. On October 22 the Orpheus Musical Club will give a programme, and the Jubilee Institute for the Blind on the 23rd. On the 28th, Eva Stern (who is Mrs. Paykel) will give two short pianoforte recitals. She was on the staff of the National Broadcasting Company, America, and is a very fine pianiste. Mr. Rex Harrison (baritone) will be appearing on October 30. On November 3 it was hoped to rebroadcast the Melbourne Cup. On Wednesday, November 4, "The Doge of Venice," a three-act radio play by Dr. George de Clive-Lowe, will be broadcast, and the Leys Institute Orchestra's concert on the 5th.

A new series of W.E.A. talks will commence on October 13, the first of the series being given by the Rev. Wm. Constable, M.A., who is taking for his subject "Bernard Shaw." Mr. Blair said that the W.E.A. was endeavouring to form listening groups in country districts and other districts, and also to have a summary of each lecture printed in the "Radio Record," to help in the understanding of the lectures.

After a general discussion on broadcasting affairs, the committee adjourned till November 6.

3YA Children's Session Advisory Committee.

MR. D. E. PARTON, representative of the Y.M.C.A., presided at the meeting of the 3YA Children's Session Advisory Committee on October 5. There were present Mesdames E. C. McLaren (National Council of Women), J. Schenkel (Mothers' Union), W. H. Meddings (Y.W.C.A.), D. James (Welsh Society), and Messrs. E. J. McElldowney (Y.M.C.A.), W. A. Rum-bold (Headmasters' Association), C. S. Booth ("Chuckle"), J. Mackenzie (station director, 3YA), and Miss M. Hall ("Aunt Pat"). An apology for absence was received from Mr. E. J. Ward.

Official visitors to the sessions submitted their reports. The chairman was congratulated on his broadcast talk about the work of the committee.

Aunt Pat reported on programmes broadcast during the month and on features arranged for the coming month.

Mrs. McLaren brought up the question of broadcasting control, and after discussion moved the following resolution, which was carried: "That this committee endorses the sentiments expressed by other advisory committees in connection with the future control of broadcasting."

3YA Church Service Committee.

A MEETING of the 3YA Church Service Committee was held on October 6, there being present, Dean Julius presiding; Rev. T. W. Armour (Presbyterian), Rev. Stevens (Church of Christ), Mr. J. Mackenzie (station director, 3YA), and Mr. O. S. Booth (secretary).

Matters mainly of a routine nature were discussed and arranged.

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