

The N.Z. Radio Institute

Lecture on Automatic Volume Control

THE New Zealand Radio Institute is still making good progress, and at the last month's meeting a large number of members and associates from all over New Zealand were elected.

It has been decided to form a branch in Christchurch, the meetings having been fixed for the third Tuesday in every month at the Radio Society's room in Cashel Street. Inquiries in this direction should be made to Mr. Leslie Hurrell, radio engineer, Armagh Street, Christchurch.

A motion authorising the alteration of the Constitution to allow for branches to be formed was passed without discussion. The amended Constitution will allow for a vice-president of the society in each centre strong enough to have branch meetings. The amended Constitution allows for a vice-president in Wellington, and nominations for this position were called. They are to be lodged in writing with the secretary on or before November 3. Voting facilities for absentee members will be provided.

In reading his report the secretary touched upon the sad fatality which brought the career of Mr. G. B. S. King to an untimely end. Mr. King was well known in radio circles in Wellington, and had been associated with the institute in its inaugural work. Had it not been for this untoward occurrence he would have been elected a full member of the institute at this meeting.

In commenting on the fatality, Mr. Webster said he felt that, as a mark of respect, the members present should stand in silence. The institute, he said, extended to Mrs. King and the bereaved relatives, their deepest sympathy.

The main feature of the evening was a lecture by Mr. A. D. Baggs, on automatic volume control. Mr. Baggs traced graphically the effect of AVC, and showed the need for it in modern receivers. He then outlined the principles and applied them to the various types of circuits. In commenting on some of the latest American methods, Mr. Braggs mentioned that a system was now being developed in which the AVC had a choking effect upon the detector. When noisy signals were impinged, the detector cut off so only clear signals could be heard. This he said, was a very important step toward static elimination, and prevented the noise which is so disconcerting when tuning from one station to another.

The paper, together with the diagrams, will be forwarded to all members and associates of the institute.

Grand Opera Broadcast

Chorus and Solo Items from 2YA

THE first of two memorable concerts to be broadcast by the chorus of the Imperial Grand Opera Company is scheduled for Sunday next, November 6, at approximately 8.15 p.m., from 2YA, and will be broadcast also on relay by stations 3YA and 4YA.

Sunday's concert will be given by the male chorus of the Opera Company, and will include the following items:—

CHORUS: "Peaceful Slumbers"; "Midnight Shadows" (*Un Ballo in Maschera*) (Verdi).

Soloists—D. Maxwell and S. James.

CHORUS: "Opening Scene—Lucia di Lammermoor" (Donizetti)

Soloist—G. Livermore.

CHORUS: "Zitti Zitti"; "We Go in Secrecy" (Rigoletto) (Verdi).

CHORUS: "Soldiers' Chorus—Faust" (Gounod).

CHORUS: "Drinking Chorus—Tales of Hoffman" (Offenbach).

BASS: G. Veevers, "Hear Me, Ye Winds and Waves" (Handel).

BARITONE: M. Brien, "My Dreams" (Tosti).

TENOR: R. Baxter.

An added attraction at the concert will be the appearance of Madame Annette Chapman, the gifted Dunedin mezzo-soprano, who will sing the following numbers during the evening:

"Love Eternal (Brahms).

"Dort in der Weiden" (Brahms).

"To-morrow" (Strauss).

"Standchen" (Strauss).

"The Wraith" (Schubert)

ON the following Sunday, November 13, the mixed chorus of the Opera Company will present another fine programme from 2YA, the numbers to be broadcast including:

"The Torcador Song" (Carmen) (Bizet).

"Cigarette Chorus" ("Carmen") (Bizet).

"Anvil Chorus" ("Il Trovatore") with Soloists (Verdi).

"Misere Scene" ("Il Trovatore"), Chorus and Soloists (Verdi).

"Valse" ("Faust") with Soloists (Gounod).

"Quartet" from "Rigoletto" (Verdi).

Solos will be contributed by:

Evelyn Hall (contralto); Violet Rogers (soprano); M. Brien (baritone); and G. Veevers (bass).

This concert will also be relayed by stations 3YA and 4YA.

A Modern Studio

GERMANY has done much pioneering work in the field of acoustics and room characteristics. One of the latest successes is a compressible studio for the new quarters of the Hamburg station. One of the end walls of the studio is movable by hydraulic machinery, and the studio is adjustable to the type of performance to be broadcast.

B.B.C. Televised Programme

THE first television broadcasts of the B.B.C. have been considered more than to fulfil expectations. Images were successfully received at distances of over 400 miles, while reports from the London area unanimously praised the transmissions. The inauguration of television broadcasts has created a great deal of interest in Britain and already the B.B.C. is being urged to erect stations in other parts of the country.

Alfred Quaife

English Pianist from 2YA

THE Broadcasting Board announces another special attraction on Friday, November 4, when Alfred Quaife, the brilliant English pianist, will broadcast from 2YA a short recital at 8.30 p.m.

Mr. Alfred Quaife is a native of the Thames-side township of Chiswick, in Middlesex, and almost within the boundary of the County of London.

He received his early musical education at the Brighton School of Music, and in 1905 entered as a student at the Royal Academy of Music, where he studied pianoforte playing successively with Cydney Blakeston and Frederick Moore, and also privately with Tobais Matthay. Frederick Corder directed his training in harmony, and he received lessons in the art of singing from Frederic King, he studied the French horn with M. Borsedoff, and for some years played the tympani in the Senior Orchestra.

At the termination of his full and varied musical experience at the Royal Academy, he made his debut at the Queen's Hall Promenade Concert conducted by Sir Henry Wood, when he was responsible for the first performance in England of the Glazounov Pianoforte Concerto in F Minor.

In collaboration with his brother Edwin he established the Kensington School of Music, which last year commemorated the twenty-first anniversary of its foundation.

War service curtailed Mr. Quaife's musical activities for a period, and in 1918 when he resumed his profession he was appointed examiner to the Associated Board of the R.A.M. and R.C.M., and later accepted a professorship at the Tobais Matthay Pianoforte School.

In 1920 and 1922 he toured Canada, Australia, and New Zealand as examiner for the Associated Board.

Mr. Quaife is primarily a specialist in pianoforte teaching, and has frequently adjudicated pianoforte playing at the leading competitive musical festivals. In addition he has found time for recitals and other public performances at Queen's Hall, Wigmore Hall, and the Bournemouth Pavilion, where he played for the British Broadcasting Company.

A farewell recital previous to his present tour was given on February 23 at the Kensington Town Hall in London, when an appreciative audience listened to an exacting programme characteristic of his highly developed artistic temperament, and marked by refinement of style and delicacy of executive skill.

During Mr. Quaife's present tours he has given recitals and lectures in Trinidad, Barbados, Montreal, Vancouver, etc., and has broadcast for various corporations in Canada.

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THE strictest country in the world in the matter of wireless licenses is probably Bulgaria. Failure to pay an annual fee of 7/6 may incur the penalty of a fine, together with a year's solitary confinement. Yet last year, although less than 4000 licenses were issued, the authorities had every reason to believe that there were at least 8000 persons operating receiving sets.

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