

AUCKLAND NOTES.

Tragedy of Clothes' Line Aerial

Auckland Youth Uses Line as Aerial, and Mother is Electrocuted While Hanging Clothes to Dry—"Au Revoir to the 'Buckshee' Broadcasting Station, 1ZB."

THAT care should be taken to ensure that clothes' lines are not used as aerials, and that aerials are kept well away from lines where clothes are hung, was brought home vividly in the death of a widow in Epsom, Auckland, on Thursday last. Giving evidence at his mother's inquest on Friday afternoon, a youth of 17 said that he had been experimenting with a crystal radio set in his bedroom. He said he had an aerial running from his window and connected to the clothes' line, while he also ran a lead with the electric light into the room, to the set which was on the table. "I must have left the plug in when I went to the city at 9 a.m.," added the grief-stricken youth. His mother, a widow, aged 56, was found lying across the clothes line, which was charged with electricity. She received a shock which caused her death when she hung a wet blanket on the line.

THOSE lovers of music who favour tenor singers are in for a feast on Sunday, October 22, when, from 1YA, Mr. Leo Whittaker is to present a recital of recorded items entitled "One Hour with the Tenors." This may sound a little boring, a whole hour of tenor singers, but the vast range and wide variety of tenor vocalists should make the hour one really worth listening to. All the world's best tenors will be heard in operatic arias and the best songs and ballads.

"AU Revoir, listeners, to the buckshee private broadcasting station 1ZB," said Mr. Charles H. Pearson from that station recently. "Auld Lang Syne" followed, and a second later the familiar hum of the transmitter, heard lately on only two nights of the week, ceased. Mr. Pearson, in a special announcement, said he hoped that the station had only closed down temporarily. He said his firm was removing shortly from Karangahape Road (a stone's throw from 1YA), and they were taking the opportunity of overhauling the plant. Mr. Pearson felt that a few words at that juncture would not be amiss. Station 1ZB, he added, had been on the air for eight years, and that to 1ZB was issued the second private broadcasting license in New Zealand, the first being issued to Charlie Forrest, who ran 2YB, Wellington, transmitting from the top of Ford Buildings, Wellington. From him, Mr. Pearson said, his company purchased the original 1YB plant.

IN those days, continued Mr. Pearson, 1YA, transmitting from the Scots' Hall, was silent on Monday nights, and his station, 1YB (as it was then known) came on the air on Monday nights. He therefore claimed that 1ZB could say it was one of the pioneers in broadcasting in the Dominion. Other and more up-to-date stations had since come into existence, giving longer hours of transmission than 1ZB, but he had

always aimed at giving wholesome entertainment of a popular variety that appealed to all listeners.

A QUAIN announcement of 1ZB's "death" was made the following Tuesday morning by station 1ZS. To the strains of the Funeral March the announcer said it was a matter for regret that the station had closed down. He invited all listeners to heed the advice given from 1ZB and to join and support the United Listeners' Club.

ON the occasion of his last talk from 1YA on "World Affairs," Mr. Alan E. Mulgan had to follow Mr. Harold Black, the well-known golfer, who gave one of his nightly summaries of the play in the golf championships at Titirangi that day. "I feel at a disadvantage, coming from the pure regions of golf to the more sordid realities of world affairs, but there is a distinct connection between the two topics," said Mr. Mulgan, who related an interesting anecdote. "Just after the war, Lloyd George, who was then Prime Minister of England, went to Cannes to hold a conference with M. Aristide Briand, who was at the time Premier of France," said the speaker. "Lloyd George suggested to M. Briand that they should enjoy a game of golf

before they settled down to the solemn business of the conference. Briand agreed. The game between the two famous statesmen was fully reported in the French newspapers and the French public became frightfully annoyed. They thought it was frivolous and out of all reason. So serious were they that three days later the Government of France dissolved and poor Monsieur Briand lost his position!"

ALBERT RUSSELL, New Zealand's greatest mirth provoker and gloom remover, still goes strong during the early morning sessions from 1ZB. "Let's have a laugh now and be happy," says Albert, and off he goes in a hearty burst of rollicking laughter which makes even the most worried listener smile and feel better. "Hello, World," is his quaint greeting when he starts his splendid broadcasts. This form of saying good morning, coming from a one-lamp power transmitter, to a visitor who is accustomed to listening to 50,000-watt transmitters, is the most amusing thing he has ever heard.

GORDON HUTTER, 1YA's sports announcer, paid Wellington another visit recently, when he broadcast (Continued on page 45.)

Start Thinking Right Away!



for the New Radio

Xmas Annual

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Have a really merry Christmas with one of the splendid prizes we are offering for the best contributions to our new Radio Christmas Annual. Entries have started coming in already, so get busy on one—or all for that matter—of the sections which have been set out in recent numbers of the "Radio Record."

Since we announced this Annual the sun has been on the job with more vigour than ever, and the good old corner is practically turned. Don't be left out of the general return to prosperity, get down to work right away; remember, entries close on Saturday, NOVEMBER 4—it isn't so very far away, and it would be a calamity to be cheated of a prize because your entry arrived too late.