

SHORT-WAVE TRANSMITTING SERVICE

Owing to the difficulty in obtaining labour and materials, the installation of the aerial radiating system and equipment has taken longer than was anticipated, but it is expected that this will be completed shortly.

EXPANSION AND RENEWALS

Orders have been placed overseas for new transmitting and studio equipment for the purpose of establishing certain new stations and also for replacing existing equipment which has almost fulfilled its useful life.

A new transmitting-station of 10 kW. output will be located in the vicinity of Paengaroa and will improve the service at present available to listeners in the Bay of Plenty district. This transmitter will be linked to a studio at Rotorua and, ultimately, to a second studio at Tauranga.

New stations of 2 kW. output are to be erected in Whangarei, Hamilton, Wanganui, and Timaru, but, in view of the shortage of building materials, it is expected to use accommodation of a temporary nature in the meantime.

The equipment on order allows for the replacement of the main National stations with transmitters of the same power as at present, and also for the replacement of the transmitters radiating the Commercial service programmes. The latter stations are to be increased in power to 10 kW. in the case of 1ZB, Auckland; 2ZB, Wellington; 3ZB, Christchurch; and 4ZB, Dunedin; and to 2 kW. in the case of 2ZA, Palmerston North.

The power of stations 3ZR, Greymouth, and 2YN, Nelson, is also being increased to 10 kW. and 2 kW. respectively.

When the transmitters of the main National stations have been replaced by this new equipment it is the intention to use the existing transmitters for a period for the auxiliary stations in the main centres. This will enable the power of Stations 1YX, Auckland; 3YL, Christchurch; and 4YO, Dunedin to be increased to 10 kW. each, and for 2YC, Wellington, to be increased to 60 kW.

The increase in power of the various stations mentioned above will result in improved reception in many districts.

MOBILE RECORDING-EQUIPMENT

This equipment, in the form of a special motor-van accommodating two high-grade recorders, has been completed and has been in use for several months. It has proved itself to be most valuable for the recording of special items at a distance from the main centres.

NETWORK BROADCASTS

It is still necessary to use the radio rebroadcasting method in most cases when it is required to link the stations for network broadcasts.

Representations have been made to the Department responsible during the last fifteen years requesting that high-quality circuits be made available for this purpose, as is done in other countries, but the position is apparently such that it may be some years yet before suitable circuits can be provided.

The present rebroadcasting method cannot be considered satisfactory as its success is dependent on the absence of fading and atmospheric and electrical interference, which on many occasions may be particularly severe when distant stations are being received.

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Director of Broadcasting.

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