

HOURS OF TRANSMISSION.

The total transmission time of stations operated by the National Broadcasting Service was 52,818 hours. Of this time, 36 hours were lost owing to technical faults and power-failures. The great increase of transmission hours is shown by the fact that in the calendar year 1932 the transmission time of national stations was just over 13,000 hours.

PROGRAMMES.

The National Broadcasting Service, at the 31st March, 1941, was supplying programmes from the sixteen stations indicated hereunder :—

Station.	Aerial Energy.	Frequency.	Wave-length.
		Kilocycles.	Metres.
1YA, Auckland	10·00 kW.	650	462
1YX, Auckland	0·15 kW.	880	341
1ZM, Auckland	0·75 kW.	1,250	240
2YA, Wellington	60·00 kW.	570	526
*2YB, New Plymouth	0·03 kW.	810	370
2YC, Wellington	5·00 kW.	840	357
2YD, Wellington	0·20 kW.	990	303
2YH, Napier	5·00 kW.	750	400
2YN, Nelson	0·03 kW.	920	327
*2ZJ, Gisborne	0·10 kW.	980	306
3YA, Christchurch	10·00 kW.	720	416
3YL, Christchurch	0·30 kW.	1,200	250
3ZR, Greymouth	0·10 kW.	940	319
4YA, Dunedin	10·00 kW.	790	380
4YO, Dunedin	0·15 kW.	1,140	263
4YZ, Invercargill	5·00 kW.	680	441

* Stations owned by the National Broadcasting Service, but operated under contract.

In addition to the above stations there were two stations privately owned which are subsidized by the Government.

BROADCASTING AND THE WAR.

During the year the war continued to provide the National Broadcasting Service with new problems not hitherto encountered in the conduct of broadcasting in New Zealand, and many fresh opportunities to serve the nation in its war effort. The dominant aim has been to keep the people informed reliably and promptly as to the progress of the war by frequent broadcasts of news bulletins and expert commentaries; to further the national war effort by means of talks by representative citizens, by appeals and announcements, and by broadcasts of special programmes and events. At the same time, there has still been available normal broadcast fare of a cultural, entertaining, or informative nature. It has been recognized that, although broadcasting is a powerful medium for the furtherance of the war effort, there should be maintained in the programmes a due proportion of entertainment and diversion, otherwise the listening habit might diminish with a consequent loss in the effectiveness of broadcasting as a stimulating and unifying medium in the national interest.

NEWS AND COMMENTARIES.

Through the continued courtesy of the British Broadcasting Corporation and Messrs. Reuters Limited, the news bulletins broadcast from London have been available to the Service, and the national stations have rebroadcast these bulletins seven times a day. These rebroadcasts, together with commentaries on the news and talks on all aspects of the war, have occupied from two and a half to three hours daily of the time of the main national stations.

To meet the special needs of country listeners and of those in remote districts, a news summary under the title "The N.B.S. Newsreel" is broadcast each evening at 9 o'clock, containing all the important news available up to the time of broadcasting, and compiled from sources such as the broadcasts of news from London, New Zealand Press Association messages, and the news service of the Director of Publicity and the Prime Minister's Department. The main stations still broadcast each evening at seven o'clock local news made available by courtesy of the daily newspapers, as well as sports results and market reports.

TALKS.

Owing to heavy demands on available broadcasting time there were fewer general talks of New Zealand origin than in a normal year, but overseas rebroadcasts have provided an unprecedented number of talks by distinguished speakers of international importance, mostly connected with the war. There were three broadcasts by His Majesty the King, the first being an Empire Day broadcast given while the evacuation of the British Expeditionary Force from France and Belgium was in progress. The second broadcast by His Majesty was in September, when the institution of the George Cross and George Medal was announced, and the third broadcast was a Christmas message. Her Majesty the Queen was heard on two occasions—the first a broadcast on the eighty-fifth anniversary of the founding of