**VOLUME 28, ISSUE 2** 

EDITOR: W. T. Norris,

"Waipapa", Swannanoa, Rangiora R.D.1., NEW ZEALAND

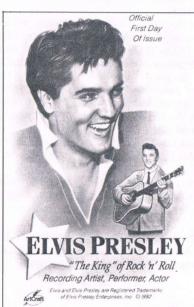
#### FEBRUARY/APRIL 1993

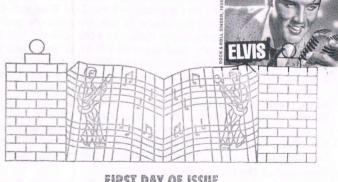
SECRETARY:

Mrs L. Drummond, P.O. Box 5175.

Papanui, Christchurch,

NEW ZEALAND.





FIRST DAY OF ISSUE January 8, 1993 • Memphis, TN 38101

Elvis Presley First Day Cover.

#### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

We begin another year and with much to do, my 21st year as your editor. We appreciate all the good wishes received at Christmas and are pleased with all the photos sent by members of their collections.

Photographs and information on Columbia cylinder machines would be most acceptable. We would like to cover every model Columbia produced. There has not been any information received as yet about the machine pictured on the cover of our last issue.

We are sorry to learn of the passing of a member, Jack Marshall of Hokitika on the West Coast,

South Island.

He attended a number of our end of year functions in Christchurch. Like our local member Joffre Marshall (no relation) he also played a button accordian and was a member of the well known Kokatahi Band which played for functions up and down the West Coast.

Westland, in the South Island of New Zealand, still holds its identity as a province somewhat different from others in this country. One of the reasons for this is surely that colourful and unusual

organisations such as the Kokatahi Band still exist there.

The Band was formed in 1910, when the fiftieth Jubilee of Westland was being organised, and it was styled on the miners' bands of the 1860s. The uniform was based on the "going-out" dress of the early miners — red shirt and sash, black scarf, white trousers, and bowyangs. Each member found his own instrument, and the band's instrumentation became — and has remained — as colourful as its dress: Concertina, flute, accordion, violin, jew's harp, mouth organ, cymbals, bones, tambourine, side and bass drums, and an unusual instrument known as a saxolin.

In its early years the band played regularly at race and sports meetings at Kokatahi. At the end of 1911, after a visit to Kumara, some members are reported to have taken a week to get home. In recent years the players have been invited to the Seddon Shield (rugby football) Districts Band Festival, and make a strong contrast with the bands — men of the Westport, Greymouth, Nelson, Blenheim, Takaka and Motueka brass and pipe bands; in fact, they usually steal the show.

Westport held its centenary in 1960, and a film called *Think of Tomorrow* was made. This depicted the growth of "the Coast" and the early life of Richard John Seddon, known as "King Dick", later Member of Parliament for Westland and Prime Minister of New Zealand. The Kokatahi Band played a prominent part in the film, in the scenes recalling early days of the West Coast.

Most of the band's members now reside in Hokitika, but some travel twenty miles, and one thirty miles, regularly to practices and engagements. At the age of 89, Mr Frank Heveldt still turns out occa-

sionally to play the bones, the band's oldest instrument.

Today the Kokatahi Band fulfils about twenty-five engagements a year, and invariably adds a friendly warmth to the spirit of the occasion. Colourful in its uniform, unusual in its instrumentation, and unique in its sound, the Kokatahi Band stands as a living segment of New Zealand history.

Personnel at the time of this recording:-

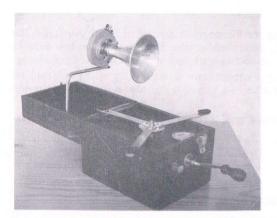
P. Crough (conductor), J. Innes, D. Chinn, E. Charteris, R. Manley, W. O'Brien, J. Tomlinson, K. McKay, J. Milner, S. Thorpe, P. Kirwan, L. Inwood, J. Heveldt, A. Wilson, M. Hutchison, D. McLeod, M. McLeod, J. Woolhouse, J. Marshall, F. Heveldt, W. Wilson, A. Thompson, T. Robinson.

#### NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY

Orders are being packed and despatched once more, and members are reminded we have reasonable stocks of most items on our sales list. A \$5.00 fee is charged for the extra packing materials used on fragile items such as horns, and more 'awkward' items, i.e. cranes. Members will appreciate the high cost of packing materials required for despatch of orders.

We thank all those members who sent their good wishes at Christmas/New Year, also for letters commending the quality of the magazine, our parts supply, and packing of orders.

Lex Finch, Treasurer of the Phonograph Society of South Australia (and also a member of our Society) has written to me advising that his Society is now accepting overseas members. He writes:

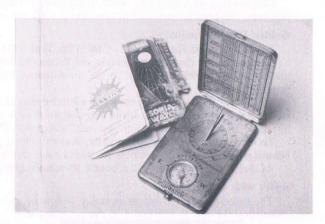




Eclipse gramophone



Miller Hutchison



Very early sundial. Burtoft collection







- If any of your members are interested in joining the Phonograph Society of South Australia, the subscription has been set at A\$25.00 for New Zealand membership. Bank draft or money order in Australian currency please; no personal cheques please as bank fees are exorbitant for processing.
- The subscription gives members 11 newsletters per annum (sent airmail). Our year runs from 1st July to 30th June each year, but anyone joining after 31st March is regarded as paid up to the end of June the following year.
- If any of your members are interested, they should send a remittance to the following address:

Mr L. Finch, 9 Dilston Court, Klemzig, S.A. 5087, AUSTRALIA.

#### ILLUSTRATIONS

#### STAMPS:

As a number of our members collect stamps with radio and phonographs on, we have included stamps and first day covers in this issue.

Our cover is of a first day cover of an Elvis Presley stamp that came out on the 8th of January this year. So popular was this stamp that it sold out in New Zealand in the first few days.

#### Golden Days of Radio:

Australia issued four stamps on the 13th June 1991 to mark the gold days of radio.

Remember the days before television? When the family, for entertainment, would gather around the crackling wireless and thrill to the soap operas, serials, quiz shows, talent quests and children's programmes.

The '40s and '50s are often regarded as the heyday of Australian radio — or wireless as it was known back then. Many of our best-loved stars began their careers in the shows we fondly remember today, like Blue Hills, Dad and Dave, The ABC's Argonauts' Club and Pick a Box.

To coincide with a new stamp issue, Australia Post proudly presents "Golden Days of Radio", a beautiful hard-cover book which commemorates the best years of Australian radio.

Accompanying the book is a bonus 30 minute nostalgic cassette.

#### Radio with pictures:

The success of early Australian radio, following its official start in 1923, relied heavily on listeners visualising the events portrayed in the programme.

"Golden Days of Radio" tells us how, with the help of an orchestra and a few sound effects, the writers, producers, actors and comperes were able to conjure up images that many of us will never forget.

"Golden Days of Radio" is a nostalgic trip back to those days and documents each of the shows that captivated so many.

#### Bonus cassette offer:

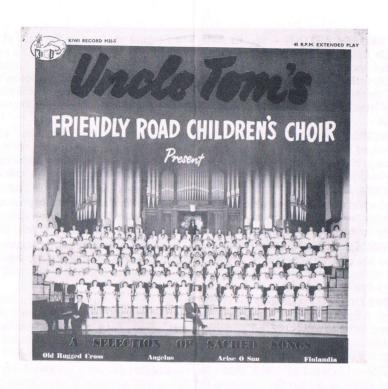
A bonus, 30 minute "Golden Days of Radio" audio cassette lets you enjoy, once again, the voices and music of our favourite programmes from days gone by.

Excerpts include Episode 528 of Blue Hills and part of the "McCackie Mansion" 1947 Christmas show, plus much more.

At only \$17.95, "Golden Days of Radio" is a must for those with fond memories of early wireless in Australia. For someone with a special interest in this area, it would make a delightful gift. Equally, it would make a fascinating addition to your own library.

These stamps were meant to represent the best of radio in the 40s and 50s First day cover. Painting the clouds with sunshine issued 4th November 1992 (see Boom Years).

**FLAMING YOUTH** — **45c:** Overseas styles in music, dance, dress and behaviour, particularly from the United States and Britain, were embraced by New Zealand youth in the 1920s. The Charleston became *the* social dance of the era, and the "flapper" — meaning a woman who was considered bold and unconventional — became a symbol of the decade.





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1903 H.M.V. Dunn collection



Sonora

**BIRTH OF BROADCASTING** — **50c:** Radio in New Zealand was born on the night of 17th November 1921 when Dr Robert Jack, Professor of Physics at Otago University, switched on a small transmitter in his Dunedin laboratory and began broadcasting music from gramophone records. The country promptly became wildly enthusiastic about the new-fangled "wireless" that could pick up voices and music from the air, and by the end of 1927 more than 30,000 homes had radio licences. The Radio Broadcasting Company of New Zealand was established in 1925 with stations in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin.

THE INVINCIBLES — 80c: The 1924 All Blacks earned the title "The Invincibles" with an unbeaten 28-match tour of the British Isles, France and Canada. The team was studded with stars, including fullback George Nepia, who played in every game. Among the other legendary players on the tour were the brothers Maurice and Cyril Brownlie in the forwards and brilliant back Mark Nicholls and Bert Cooke.

THE SWAGGIE — \$1.00: The 1920s were the swan song years for the New Zealand swaggies, who'd opted out of society and its work ethic to drift around New Zealand exchanging labour for food and a bed, or simply begging for handouts. The dusty, often unkempt figure, trudging along a country road, swag over his shoulder, a figure familiar to generations of New Zealanders, disappeared into history.

THE MOTORCAR BRINGS FREEDOM — \$1.50: The age of mass motoring was underway. The revolutionary Ford Model T was introduced in 1908, and New Zealanders bought more than 90,000 of them before they were superseded by the Model A in 1929. Local assembly of cars and trucks began in 1926, and total production reached 12,000 by 1929.

THE ARRIVAL OF THE AIR AGE — \$1.80: The last years of the decade were a boom for the aviation industry. With the arrival of better and less expensive aircraft from overseas, new airline companies sprang up and aerial pageants became popular entertainment. Then, on 11th September, 1928, a three-engined Fokker called The Southern Cross, flown by Charles Kingsford Smith, landed in Christchurch after setting off from Australia. The country went aviation mad — the air age had arrived.

THE DESIGN — UNMISTAKABLY 1920s: Stamps and first day cover designer Terry Crilley skilfully mixes bright yellow skies (literally "painting the clouds with sunshine") with vibrant pinks, blues and greens to convey the 1920s mood of optimism and release. Each of his designs has been realised in the "poster art" style of the period, with the typeface, borders, layout and other graphic elements combining to give the stamps and first day cover an unmistakable 1920s look.

First day cover of Enrico Caruso issued 20th July 1987.

## Uncle Tom's Friendly Road Children's Choir:



#### Uncle Tom (T. T. Garland, M.B.E., J.P.):

From early years Uncle Tom as been interested in music. First it was brass bands and then he became known in orchestral circles, playing oboe for the Auckland Choral Society and the Orchestral Society. For several years he conducted a well-known orchestra and he gave some years as choirmaster of a city church.

When a young man he entered the Christian ministry in Melbourne. As a fully accredited minister he enjoyed full status in the connection to which he belonged, filling appointments in Australia and New Zealand. For the last thirty years he has been Minister of the Fellowship of the Friendly Road. Uncle Tom is in his 82nd year and "quite well thank you".

Thirty years ago in Auckland a Radio Church was established by T. T. Garland to broadcast undenominational devotional services and Mr Garland made a strong feature of children's choirs. At that time anyone with a Radio programme for the children was named "Uncle this" or "Aunt that". All

the other Aunts and Uncles of those days have long since left the world of Radio, leaving Mr Garland so firmly labelled "Uncle Tom" that nothing can be done about it.

A Sunday morning and a Sunday evening choir of seventy members was formed for broadcasting sacred songs. A week-day choir of seventy children also came into existence, its purpose being to sing popular songs old and new. The three choirs combine for Festivals at the Auckland Town Hall during the May and August holidays and it is the combined choirs who entertain you on this disc.

Children join the choirs between the ages of eight and thirteen. When 13 they retire to make room for those on the waiting list. It is well when estimating the worth of their work to note they are not adolescents, but quite young children of an average age of ten years.

The choirs are arranged in sections, 1st and 2nd, soprano and contralto. Much of their music is re-arranged or transposed to keys within the compass of young voices and this provision is largely the secret of their success.

The choirs were twice guests at Government House, Auckland and were entertained by both Lord Freyberg and Lord Norrie when they, in turn, were the Queen's representatives in New Zealand. Lord Freyberg wrote Uncle Tom eulogising his work with the children and their fine standard of singing. Another great distinction was conferred when the choirs were invited to sing carols to Queen Elizabeth II when Her Majesty was in residence on Christmas Day, 1953.

This choir used to be broadcast on ZB stations every Sunday morning at 9 o'clock. A programme that was well received.

#### **Dunn Collection:**

Lovely H.M.V. about 1903 no decal, but inserted "Angel on the record" front left hand corner. This machine spent most of its life as a display item in Kobenhaven, Denmark music store. Original condition. Top is 10½ inches square, 16 inches long with 15½ inch bell brass horn.

#### Sonora:

An unusual leather covered Sonora portable purchased at auction from South Australia.

#### Peter Pan, Dunn Collection:

In this issue we have two of this type which are all different. They all look like a box Brownie camera. For others see Vol. 22, 1 & 2 and also Vol. 21, Issue 1 & 2.

## Harold Braker, Canada:

We have a nice clear illustration which was sent to us by Harold. He says he has just completed a trade for the last stock of Edison, Victor and Columbia parts.

These gears are of an 1800 LB warehouse find, some sixteen years ago.

I will some day write the story of my three year, many thousand mile search for parts, which was legendary in among a few collectors, then in Vancouver.

The photo shows me cleaning them up, using my unimat.

Editor: Harold repairs gramophone motors and has very kindly supplied us with written information on maintaining and repairing motors.

## Bing Pigmyphone:

These came in colours brown and blue. Dunn collection.

## **December Meeting:**

Bill Dunn, John, Harry and Bernie and some twenty-five small machines on display.

Bill Dunn with two H.M.V. Re-entrant Exponential tone chambers (gramophone horns). These were bought at auction for \$2.00. They were identified as part of an air-conditioning duct. Dunn collection.

## **Eclipse Gramophone:**

Left photo. This, another of the camera phones made by The Eclipse Gramophone Company, 116 Putney Bridge Road, Putney S.W. 51/40 wide, 63/40 long, 51/20 high. Dunn collection.

## **Eclipse Gramophone:**

Right photo. Note the volume control in the throat of the horn (not unlike the butterfly choke control on a car.

#### Man Who Worked For Edison:

He wanted to work for Edison. Dr Miller Reese Hutchison see article elsewhere. Taken from 1937 copy of Modern Mechanix.

#### Very Early Sundial:

Photographs have been sent to us by Harold Burtoft, N.S.W. Australia. One is included with this issue called a sun watch and is equipped with a compass as well.

Three record labels from D. Taylor.

## REPORT ON A.G.M. ON 28th SEPTEMBER 1992 AT THE PRESIDENT'S HOME 'WAIPAPA', SWANNANOA

This meeting was reasonably well attended in the comfort of Walter's home. Peter Mallison, the treasurer, gave a report of a favourable level of assets and working finance and illustrated good progress on the sales side of the Society.

Walter, having served yet another two years as president, in his retiring statement, reported an average attendance of members at the regular monthly meetings held at members' homes, and thanked all those who have helped in any way in the running of the Society in the last year, the taking and recording of minutes, organising the making of parts, hosting the meetings, making reports, and especially the sterling work done by the secretary and treasurer.

Thanks were accorded to Adair Otley as the retiring patron and the acceptance of that post by Bill

Flett was passed with acclaimation by the members present.

After nomination, Gavin East accepted the position of president for the next two years, and Robert Sleeman accepted the post of vice-president, the positions of secretary and treasurer, Lyndsey Drummond and Peter Mallison respectively, to be retained by them, Lyndsey's service as such going into its? year.

A very welcome letter was received from "Van" Van der Lans in Invercargill where he now lives.

His presence at the meetings is missed.

A report in the Radiogram, the journal of the Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Club of W.A., detailed the purchase of one of the fake machines outlined our own Phonographic Record recently, by someone who is inordinately satisfied with his purchase, knowing it is a complete reproduction and is enjoying it as such. That is one very satisfied customer.

The meeting closed at 10.30p.m. and a very enjoyable meeting then took place at a very well covered

supper table, thanks to Hilda and Walter.

B. A. Bisphan

#### **OCTOBER 1992 MEETING**

Our October meeting was held at the home of Joffre Marshall, Rangiora, where 12 members gathered. The usual business of minutes, etc. dispensed with, members discussed the purchase of needles, also turned Columbia handle wooden knobs which Bernie Bisphan had had manufactured for the Society.

Our secretary read out several letters of interest from members including one from Alan Goodwin of Tasmania re his involvement with a nostalgia radio programme transmitted from a Hobart station, and another from a new member, Alan Lackie, Australia, re Edison labels. It was pleasing too, that one or two members had submitted articles for inclusion in the magazine.

Business over, Joffre treated us to a short tape with interview as broadcast from Plains FM and Joffre on accordion live.

Walter Norris produced an Australian Vintage Radio magazine, whilst Bob Wright read out extracts from a latest gramophone magazine on the subject of compact discs.

Supper and general discussion concluded our evening.

#### **NOVEMBER 1992 MEETING**

Due to work and farming commitments, our numbers were depleted to seven for our November

meeting. Minutes and finances were confirmed, also witches hats horns and badges into stock. Robert was thanked for his efforts in this regard.

Our United States of America members Alan Hibsch and Ken Blazier had written to the Society, namely on the collecting scene in California, and commending the content quality of the magazine.

After discussion regarding packing of orders, etc. Robert showed us a rather battered but reparable horn he had recently acquired, whilst Grant Hobson produced his "find" consisting of old irons (one kerosene heated) an array of postcards which created some amusement, raffle tickets 1940's vintage, and "threshing rules" issued by a Union in 1926 with T. Norris being mentioned as one of the farms involved in the Swannanoa area, this farmer being Walter's late father.

Grant told us all these items came from a local farm shed about to be demolished.

Finally, member Folly Hamill, Invercargill, had left a short video programme for us to view, depicting an assortment of some of his record collection with one or two rare examples, whilst Robert produced two small records from 1945 era; messages to families from soldiers in Italy waiting to return home to New Zealand, Roma Radio — "Her Master's Voice".

Gavin gave a vote of thanks to Robert and Maxine for their hospitality.

## REPORT ON THE ANNUAL DINNER AT THE SHOWGATE LOUNGE ON THE 13th DECEMBER 1992

A most enjoyable and satisfying evening was shared by twenty of our local members at our usual pre-Christmas function. The very popular venue at the Riccarton racecourse was crowded as usual and the many different parties involved in their own group activities made for a scene of festivity and relaxation. The two tables reserved for us in one corner provided us with a modicum of separation from others and allowed us to carry on with verbal exchanges relatively easily.

The quality and variety of the food for the taking smorgasbord style, was first class, as is usual in that establishment, and was enjoyed to the full by all who attended. By all gastronomical and social standards the evening was a total success. Roll on next December!

B. A. Bisphan

# HE WANTED TO WORK FOR EDISON by Aubrey D. McFadyen

At the age of 12, Miller Reese Hutchison announced his ambition to aid the Wizard, and did—but before that he won many laurels by his inventive genius.

Dr Miller Reese Hutchison is an extraordinary combination of inventor, engineer, manufacturer, business executive and financier. Born and educated in Alabama, he was one of the first students to be graduated from the Alabama Polytechnic Institute with the degree of Electrical Engineer.

Science and invention have fascinated Dr Hutchison since childhood. Edison was ever his hero. As a child he devoured every printed page he could get about the great man. One day, when only 12 years old, he confided to his father: "Some day I am going to be Mr Edison's engineer, so I must study and work to get ready for the position."

Upon completing his college course the lad accompanied his father on an extensive tour of the industrial centres. Their travels took them to the Edison Laboratories. The great man shook hands with him. Looking him straight in the eye, young Hutchison said: "Mr Edison, some day you will ask me to become your chief engineer." That prophecy was later to come true, but first the lad had to win his spurs.

Inventing began early with Miller Reese Hutchison. At the age of 15 he patented his first invention. At 19, while a student at Auburn, he conceived what he considers his greatest invention — the first of his series of electrical devices designed to enable the deaf to hear. At 21 young Hutchison enrolled at the Alabama Medical College — to study the anatomy of the human ear for the avowed purpose that he might intelligently and safely proceed with the development of this invention. Many difficulties were to be encountered by the young inventor before realising his vision. His ultimate success, however, may be attested to by grateful people throughout the world who hear today through aid of the electric devices invented by Hutchison.

At the age of 26 Hutchison was requested to appear at the Court of St. James to attend Queen Alexandra, whose hearing was impaired. He was given a special gold medal, having on one side a basrelief of King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra, and on the reverse a bas-relief commemorating their coronation, at which Hutchison attended.

While working on sound instruments for the deaf, Hutchison invented the dictograph. This invention has been of great aid to our Secret Service, and is seen on every hand as a loud-speaking inter-

communication system for offices.

He was not quite out of his twenties when his work in accoustics brought forth the Klaxon Horn, of which more than 15,000,000 have been sold. Mark Twain, an old friend, jestingly accused Hutchison of inventing the Klaxon to make people so deaf they would have to buy his accousticon.

It was natural that Edison, inventor of the phonograph and then doing research work in sound recording and sound reproduction, would become interested in this young man who was attaining success in another branch of accoustics. In 1910 Hutchison became associated with Edison in a professional capacity. Two years later Hutchison became Chief Engineer of the Edison Laboratories. His childhood ambition was achieved. Shortly thereafter he was promoted to the position of Chief Engineer of all the Edison interests, as well as personal engineering advisor to Edison.

No two men ever worked together in more perfect harmony. Edison found that his new associate thrived on work. He had at last found a man who could, and would, match his own 18 hours a day — and like it. Hutchison knew there was no royal road to inventing. He appreciated the truth of Edison's remark that "Inventing is the hardest kind of work." That both men believed in the truth of Edison's statement — "Genius is two per cent inspiration and 98 per cent perspiration" — is verified by the records of this pair. Hutchison spent days at a time in the laboratory without going to his beautiful home in Llewellyn Park, only a quarter of a mile away.

Only once did an invention seem to spring from Dr Hutchison's brain without demanding any of that "hardest kind of work". It happened back in 1918 that Dr Hutchison needed a gasoline gauge. In those days none was to be had. Quickly the Doctor made up one. It proved so satisfactory that he instructed his assistant to have it patented. The patent office refused his application on the ground that Hutchison had patented the identical thing ten years before. Dr Hutchison had forgotten all about his patent! "I thought that invention developed itself mighty easily," he remarked.

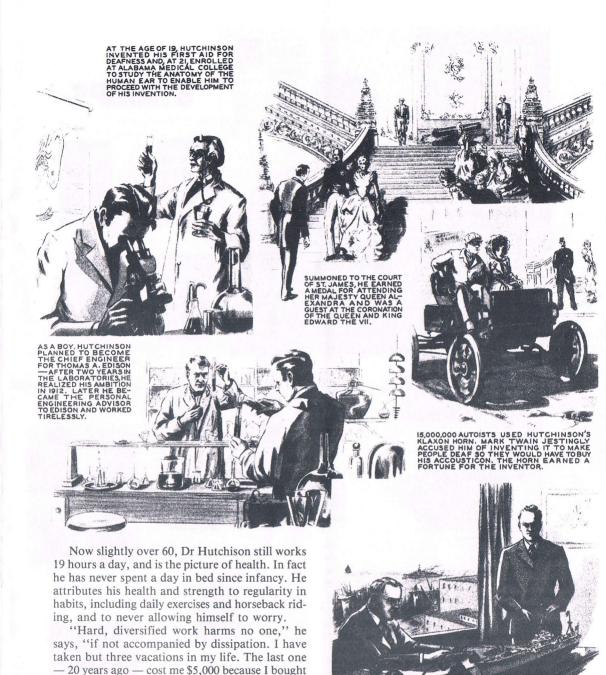
The Edison-Hutchison association, moreover, was extremely fruitful. During this period Hutchison patented approximately one hundred inventions, among which may be noted: an air conditioning system not materially different from those now being installed; storage batteries, automobile horns, an automobile self-starter, internal combustion motors, improvements in his earlier ear phones and in tele-

phony, loud speakers of many kinds, and even an arrangement for a self-service store!

When the United States entered the World War, President Wilson appointed Dr Hutchison, as a dollar-a-year-man, to the Naval Consulting Board. During the Spanish-American War of 1898, Dr Hutchison was engaged in laying submarine mines and cables in harbours on the Gulf of Mexico. As far back as 1904 he was awarded a medal for the installation and operation of the first commercial wireless telephone. Even before that, in 1902, the King of England had decorated him for merit in the field of invention. He has been honoured with membership in over twenty of the leading scientific and technical organisations of the world.

Such honours, however, have not been the supreme thrill of Dr Hutchison's life. The Doctor says that he gets more thrilling satisfaction when he beholds some individual, afflicted with defective hearing, conversing with a friend or attending theatre or church, hearing normally through aid of his inventions.

Although Dr Hutchison has produced and marketed hundreds of inventions, of a total value exceeding \$400,000,000 he has never been sued for infringement of any patent. Of this he is very proud. And it is indeed pardonable, for this unique distinction has its foundation in a sort of humanitarianism the man puts into his work. When it appears that someone else actually made an invention first, Dr Hutchison never puts up an argument. He just abandons the field to his rival. In numerous instances where he has stepped aside for fear he might wrong someone, he actually has assisted his rival in perfecting the invention and has even suggested where it might be sold.



a speed boat and spent the entire time working on

friends had made. "As I am in your employ, my share automatically belongs to you," the assistant

One of Dr Hutchison's assistants once came to him with a new discovery which he and two

it to make it go faster."

PRESIDENT WILSON NAMED THE INVENTOR TO THE NAVAL CON-SULTING BOARD DURING THE WORLD WAR. HUTCHINSON DROPPED ALL COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY TO SERVE THE GOVERNMENT AS A DOLLAR – A - YEAR WORKER.





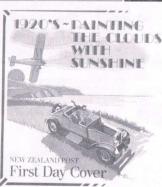
# **STAMPS**











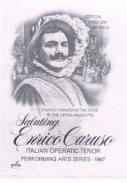
















explained, "but my two friends have contributed independently to the invention." The Doctor immediately replied, "I will assist you three men, but I will not accept one iota of your share of the invention."

Dr Hutchison recently told how this conversation came about. His assistant had stumbled onto the secret of a chemical emulsion that does away with the tedious, time consuming method of printing photographs from negatives. Three years ago Francis A. Holt, of Hutchison's Fifth Avenue laboratory staff, and Karl Robinson and George Crouse, were treating films in an experimental solution. But something had gone wrong; the film, instead of coming out negative, developed into a positive print. After checking back painstakingly for months, they traced the blunder that is revolutionizing photography. Hutchison formed a company for them — and immediately sold \$150,000 of stock.

At present Hutchison is working on a finely dispersed photo emulsion which makes huge picture enlargements possible. He has managed to "blow up" 1" x 3/4" snapshots to more than 3,000 times their original size.

Modern Mechanix March 1937, Volume XVI Number 5

## OLD 78s TAPED FOR RECORD OF YESTERYEAR by Robyn Bristow

New Zealand's elderly will be able to enjoy some precious moments from their youth thanks to the efforts of 71-year-old Bob Hollingum, of Kaiapoi.

Mr Hollingum has fought red tape for two years in his endeavours to produce a double-sided musical

tape of "slices of life in commentary form designed to meet the needs of the over-70s".

The record collection and the studio from which the tape was conceived belong to Mr Hollingum. He has collected 78rpm records for the last 40 years and has more than 15,000 titles. For the last few years Mr Hollingum has put together a series of taped audio programmes that he presents personally to elderly audiences in Canterbury retirement villages, rest homes, and geriatric hospitals.

Over the last two years these programmes have also been broadcast every Sunday over 3XP Radio

Ferrymead, in Christchurch.

Mr Hollingum said yesterday that it occurred to him that if the programmes were professionally taped and cleared for copyright they could reach a much larger audience.

After two years of discussion with the copyright authorities, permission was granted for two specified taped programmes to be released from copyright and issued on a cost-recovery basis only.

Anything beyond cost recovery needed further negotiation. One look at the artists and titles featured in this initial tape will give some idea of the complexities involved," said Mr Hollingum.

The 3XP Nostalgia Series tape entitled "Your Love Affair with Yesteryear" is now selling for \$12 and has been enthusiastically received.

"The tapes are not a profit-making venture, but just a cost-recovery exercise principally aimed at

returning to the elderly a few precious moments from their long-ago youth.

"The programmes are particularly mindful of the bedridden, the blind and poor sighted, those in pain, and those who are disconsolate and confused as well as those who are simply old," said Mr Hollingum.

If the tape is successful Mr Hollingum says the potential for future programmes is only limited by

"imagination".

"Once copyright problems have been resolved the elderly and the infirm can look forward to the old-time musical narrations dealing with horoscopes, grocers' shops, love stories, quizzes, theatre and dance hall memories recreated directly from the actual material used in their sparkling years," he said.

Mr Hollingum, a retired publicity and advertising manager with the Railways in Wellington, designed the jacket which was printed by Wilson Bros in Rangiora. The tape features "Waltzing Yesterdays" on side one and "Tale of Old Vienna" on side two.



Peter Pan. Dunn collection





Harold Braker, Canada



Bing Pigmyphone



December meeting, twenty machines. Dunn collection



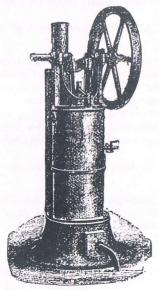
W. Dunn with re-entrant horns

The tapes are available from 3XP Radio Ferrymead, the Ferrymead Historic shop, or from Age Concern headquarters.

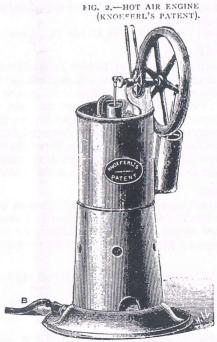
The Press, Christchurch Article sent in by Bryan Blanchard

# NOTES ON NOVELTIES by the Editor

The Britannia Company's Hot Air Engines — many readers of this Magazine have made inquiries from time to time with reference to cheap and effective motors for driving machinery, boats, etc., and attention has been directed by correspondents, chiefly from the other side of the Atlantic, to appliances of this kind, manufactured in the States. The Britannia Company, whose lathes, and wood and iron working machinery are too well and widely known to need mention here, being well aware of the want of a cheap, simple, and safe motive power, for various purposes for which hand labour has hitherto been much employed, and for amateurs, have recently augmented their considerable stock by the addition of two Hot-Air Engines, which merit the attention of all who stand in need of appliances of this kind. These Engines are illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, of which the former represents a hot-air engine on Robinson's patent, and the latter on Knoeferl's patent. In general purpose these engines are similar, although they differ essentially in many points of construction, but these will be easily recognised and noticed on an inspection of the two illustrations. The engine on Robinson's patent is the larger and stronger engine. It is described as being simple, reliable, durable, economical, safe, silent, easy to start, free from smell, and requiring no skilled attention, all of which are qualities that are most desirable for a willing mechanical slave, whose only food is a little gas, and which is capable of working any



rig. i.—Hot air Engine (ROBINSON'S PATENT).



THE BRITANNIA COMPANY'S HOT AIR ENGINES.

kind of machinery within reasonable limits, including printing-machines, chaff-cutters, dynamo-electric machines, corn-crushers, emery and polishing wheels, coffee-mills and roasters, centrifugal fans, glass-cutting machines, fret and hand-saws, drilling-machines, pumps, sugar choppers, rope-walk machines, organ-blowers, sewing-machines, rotary hair brushes, laundry machines, bottle-washing machines, maltgrinding mills, potter's wheels, amateur's lathes, and other machinery requiring motive power, which it would be tedious to enumerate. The following table affords useful particulars with respect to these engines and will be found useful:-

Power	Price	Revolutions per Minute	Diameter of Pulleys	Approx. Cost of Gas
One Man	£25	270	5 ins.	per Hour 1/2d.
One and a Half Man	£30	260	6 ins.	3/4d.
Two Man	£35	250	7 ins.	7/8d.

These engines require no boiler, and are actuated by gas. The smaller engine, shown in Fig. 2, affords a cheap, simple, safe, and noiseless small motor for small machinery such as dental lathes and drills, pumps, fretsaws, sewing machines, punkahs, fans, etc. It is heated by a small jet of gas at the rate of about ½d. for three hours, or it may be driven by paraffin oil flame at about ¾d. per day. They require no attention beyond an occasional oiling, and can be managed by a boy. The price of the apparatus, as shown in the illustration, is £9.

Amateur Work Illustrated, 1875

#### ADVERTISEMENTS

#### LOOK WHAT WILL BE IN MY NEXT TWO AUCTIONS:

First, on all classical "housecleaning" list, with many fine records at bargain prices, and second, an all jazz auction featuring a collection untouched since the 1960s. Specify which list you would like — stamps appreciated.

Reply: Tom Hawthorn, 4731 Melvin Dr., Carmichael, C.A. 95608, United States of America.

#### Notice/Advert:

The Christchurch Branch of the New Zealand Foundation for the Blind have written requesting donations of musical tapes to replace lost or damaged tapes to add titles to their Music Cassette Library. Many visually impaired members find it difficult to get to the Public Library in the city and if they do get there they then often cannot read the index describing various titles available.

If any member has some musical tapes they no longer require and would be willing to donate to the Foundation's Christchurch Music Cassette Library, the following categories they offer are:

Children, Classical, Comedy, Country, Easy Listening, Educational, Exercise, Golden Oldie (1950-80), Nostalgia, (pre 1950) Popular, Religious and Soundtrack.

Please post or drop off to the office at: 86 Bristol Street, St. Albans, Christchurch, New Zealand.

#### Advertisement:

Information requested: re an ALBA (English console) gramophone, or a MAESTROPHONE Reproducer Model 'Maestoso No. 2' console. I would like to know when either of these units were manufactured, or any other relevant information regarding them.

Kindly reply to: Eleanor Gendron, 17 Rosedale Drive, Urunga, 2455, New South Wales, Australia.

#### Wanted:

Fireside lid back bracket for Monach Disc Machine, also wanted unusual and interesting cylinder phonographs.

Robert Sleeman, 86 Tankerville Road, Christchurch, New Zealand.

#### Wanted:

Wanted for the magazine, photos, items you think of interest from your collection. Write Secretary or Editor.