

LETTERS FROM LISTENERS

Letters sent to "The Listener" for publication should be as brief as possible and should deal with topics covered in "The Listener" itself. Correspondents must send their names and addresses even when it is their wish that these should not be published. We cannot undertake to give reasons why all or any portion of a letter is rejected.

NEWS IN ENGLISH.

To The Editor,
"The Listener."

Sir,—In reference to the list of broadcasts in English published in your last issue, Turkey should read T instead of E. There are two further broadcasts of news in English as follows:—

Moscow, 8 a.m. 31.25 31.51 37.17 49.75 metres
9.59 9.52 8.06 6.03 mc/s

Rome, 2.R.O.3. This station on 31.13-9.63 has no definite time for news, but it is usually heard between 9.30 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Yours, etc.,
DUAL WAVE.

Auckland,
March 9, 1940.

To The Editor,
"The Listener."

Sir,—Much interest is taken these days in your DX notes, and News Bulletins in English, and as a regular reader, I have followed these two items with interest.

In the present issue (Vol. 2, No. 37) you publish a letter from "Dual Wave," and his information is not all correct.

EAT Ankara, should read TAP and EAQ as TAQ, EAQ is Madrid's call sign on 9,860 mc/s. VLR is still on 11,850 mc/s, although I believe that this change is only temporary.

WRVL's frequency is 11,790 mc/s. 25.45 m.

WGEF is possibly WGEA on 15,330 mc/s. 19.57 m.

WGCL may be either WGEA 9550 mc/s. 31.41 m or WGEA 9,530 mc/s. 31.48 m., though probably the first named WCBX is on 11,830 mc/s. 25.36 m.

It may be of interest to readers to know that after many months of experimenting, 2RO3, 9635 mc/s. 31.13 m. has commenced a regular schedule from 6 p.m. till 7.15 p.m. with news in English at approximately 6.40 p.m. 2RO6, 15,300 mc/s. 19.61 m. carries the same programme.

I think, too, that Berlin has now dropped DJN 9540 m/c/s in favour of DJW 9650 mc/s. 31.09 m.

WCBX 6170 mc/s. 48.62 m. (6120 mc/s. 49 m. every second month) and WBOS 9570 mc/s. 31.35 m. gives a news summary at 6.55 every night.

Listeners will find an interesting talk broadcast each evening from Paris on 9,520 mc/s.

Yours, etc.,
H. R. COX.

Cobden,
March 7, 1940.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

To The Editor,
"The Listener."

Sir,—We sell pickled cod by the barrel, trowled cod at so much each, hooked cod by the score, crimped cod by the pound, shrimps by the stone, soles by the pair. Dutch smelts go by the basket, and English smelts by the hundred. Butter in Ireland is sold by the cask and the firkin, in England by the pound of 16ozs., but the roll of 24ozs., the stone, and the hundred-weight (which is not 100lbs. as in Canada and the United States, but 112lbs.).

A load of straw is 1,296lbs., of old hay 2,160lbs., though it is not specified when hay becomes old. A firkin of butter is 56lbs., a firkin of soap 64lbs., and a firkin of raisins 112lbs. A hogshead of beer is 54 gallons, but a hogshead of wine is 63 gallons. So a pipe of Marsala is 93 gallons, of Madeira 92 gallons, of Bucellas 117 gallons, of port 103 gallons, and of Teneriffe 100 gallons.

A stone weight of a living man is 14lbs., but a stone weight of a dead ox is 8lbs., a stone of cheese is 16lbs., of glass 5lbs., or iron 14lbs., of hemp 32lbs., of flax at Belfast 16¾lbs., and at Downpatrick 24lbs., of wool sold by growers 14lb., sold by woolstaplers 14lbs., sold to each other 15lbs., while a hundred-weight of pork is 8lbs. heavier at Belfast than it is at Cork (another injustice to Ireland).

A barrel of beef is 200lbs., of butter or flour 196lb., of gunpowder 100lbs., of soft soap 256lbs., of beer 36 gallons, and of tar 26¼ gallons, while a barrel of herrings is 500 fish.

Shall we win the war?

Yours, etc.,
MAXIXE.

Napier,
March 12, 1940.

"ROOKIE."

To The Editor,
"The Listener."

Sir,—Your contributor, 23/762, in his article "Army Slang" in your issue March 17-23, attributes "Rookie" to the influence of American films and suggests that is a new word. Read "Back to the Army Again," by Rudyard Kipling, in *Barrack Room Ballads*. These, I believe, were written before American films were the vogue.

Yours, etc.,
RESERVIST.

Taihape,
March 17, 1940.

LETTER FROM YORK

The Cook Family Atkinson

On January 5 of this year *The Listener* published a family tree made up from information given by Jabez Atkinson, of Miramar, Wellington. Mr. Atkinson said he was a descendant of Captain James Cook, in the same line as Commander Frank Wild.

Available evidence established the facts as far back as Robert Cook, of Lilling, but there was no definite evidence that Robert of Lilling was the grandson of Captain Cook. Mr. Atkinson, a true Yorkshireman, simply stated the facts as his family had accepted them through five generations. He made no claims, and would not be drawn into any arguments.

In an attempt to gather additional evidence, *The Listener* wrote to C. J. Hutchinson, alderman of the ancient City of York. Alderman Hutchinson was the son of the brother of the wife of the son of Robert of Lilling.

Mr. Hutchinson's reply has now been received. He does not give any fresh evidence, but supports Mr. Atkinson's statement that the family has always accepted the belief that Robert of Lilling was the grandson of Cook and, therefore, that Captain Cook has many living direct descendants. Historians say that this is "not impossible," as we quoted Dr. J. C. Beaglehole at the time.

This is Mr. Hutchinson's letter:

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter and also the article on the Cook family in *The Listener*, which I have read with great interest. Robert Cook of Lilling (near Sheriff Hutton, Yorkshire), married my father's sister, Mary. They died about 1880, but I remember them quite well. Mr. Wild was Wesleyan Schoolmaster at Sheriff Hutton and he married my cousin, a daughter of the above Robert and Mary Cook. Their son Frank Wild was the explorer who accompanied Shackleton. I remember Frank as a boy and often played with him. He visited with his mother at my home. My son heard him lecture at Newcastle on Tyne, and after the lecture he chatted with him and Frank talked to him of his boyhood visits to Sheriff Hutton. I have no evidence that Robert Cook of Lilling (1) was a grandson of Captain Cook, but it was quite taken for granted in our family that he was. Mr. Atkinson of New Zealand is a second cousin of mine. It is true that I was Lord Mayor of York 1937, 1938, and am a Justice of the Peace and an Alderman of the City and have been a member of the Council for 30 years. The Lord Mayor of York holds precedence over all Mayors or Lord Mayors excepting London, in England.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,
C. T. HUTCHINSON.

P.S. Lilling is one mile from Sheriff Hutton and ten miles from the City of York. York has a population of over 100,000.

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