MR. MARCUSE'S EMPIRE BROADCAST

POOR RECEPTION IN NEW ZEALAND

At the time of going to press, reports of only poor reception have been received in connection with Mr. Gerald Marcuse's broadcast from London on September 11, at 5.15 to 7 p.m., New Zealand time. It may be mentioned that this was the first occasion on which exact times had been given for Mr. Marcuse's broadcast, and although he had been heard earlier, it had been more or less by accident.

With the notification of the time, amateurs in New Zealand were on the tiptoe of expectation, and took considerable pains to endeavour to satisfactorily receive 2NM. Mr. Clive Liddell, of Lyall Bay, Wellington, stood by throughout the time of the test and heard voices in rapid speech on 2NM's wave-length, but the exact words were not distinguishable. On the previous day, at approximately the same time, Mr. Liddell was in touch for an hour with 2NM, and heard Mr. Marcuse detailing the list of items to be given on the succeeding day's test, and also heard some gramophone selections. On the actual day, however, the conditions were by no means as satisfactory and reception was poor. The nearest approach to satisfactory reception was the interception of a message from Mr C D. Maclurcan, of Sydney, Australia, to 2OD London. This message was delivered very slowly and with many of the phrases repeated, and came through perfectly clearly. He said that 2NM started very well, but was later subject to a lot of interference, which was very bad there, especially on Sundays. Mr. Maclurcan's message continued: "2CM Maclurcan, Sydney, Australia, speaking. This station will be closing down from to-day for about 12 months. Some other amateur has been using the call sign of 2CM. If anybody hears this call sign in the next 9 or 12 months, would they oblige by sending a report to the radio inspectors? 2CM to 2OD, England, I hope to see you very shortly. Please reply now on the lower wave. I will not mention it It is impossible to work you on 32 This station is closing down for about 12 months."

Mr F W. Sellens, of Northland, reports that his reception of the Empire broadcast was also very poor. Before 5.30 p.m he could hear music very faintly, but Morse was coming in from everywhere, especially on 2NM's wavelengths. At 5.30 p.m. Mr. Sellens heard "Hullo — 2NM calling, first—from studio——." This was followed by an other voice apparently making a speech from that time till 6 p.m. Mr. Sellens heard nothing definite, but at 6 o'clock the call 2NM was again heard and "Just stand by." Nother further was heard till 6.10 p.m., although later attempts were made.

The station 2OD is owned and operated by Mr. E J. Simmonds, F.R.S.A., M.I.R.E., the enthusiastic English amateur, who has done a great amount of pioneer work on short-wave, and who was amongst the first few in England to get into direct communication with the antipodes.

A SHORT-WAVE ENTHUSIAST

Mr. F. W. Sellens, of Northland, Wellington, is a good illustration of the enthusiasm that is permeating the ranks of amateurs in relation to short-wave work. As a listener of some four years' standing he determined, when the possibility of London was first mooted seriously some six months or so ago, to "get in on this," and after making a number of judicious inquiries, set to work to build his own set. He completed this on May 1 this year, and the very first afternoon he went searching was successful in getting 5GC Adelaide on 31 metres. As a matter of fact, Mr. Sellens at the moment was trying for UTXAF on 32 metres. He did not get that station, but picked up the amateur in Adelaide, which, having regard to the transmission, was really a greater feat Since that time Mr. Sellens has compiled quite a respectable little list of short-wave stations on his log, and this is given for the sake of others who may be interested in the wave-lengths used by the stations.

	Metres.
Europe.	
PCJJ (Eindhoven, Holand)	30.2
4AC (Belgium)	30 (about)
2NM (Gerald Marcuse)	33
Asia.	
RFN (Siberia)	50 & 60
America.	
WLW (Cincinatti, Ohio)	52.2
UXAF (Schenectady, New York)	32.79
UTXAD (Schenectady, New York)	21
KDKA (East Pittsburg)	63

(Also heard on about 26 metres.)

Australia.

5GC (Adelaide)	31
3LO (Melbourne)	29.8
2AJ (Rangiora)	36 (approx.)
2AU (Rangiora)	35
2XD	34
— (unidentified)	60

(Songs and instrumental items heard in a foreign language.)

Mr. Sellens has been particularly interested in the broadcasting work of station PCJJ, and has made the practice of forwarding full reports of the quality of the reception to that station. This has meant a good deal of early rising for Mr. Sellens, as Holland works at the equivalent of approximately 5.30 a.m. to 7, New Zealand time. The reception is sometimes very good, giving fair loud-speaker strength; at other times only weak 'phone strength.

A word of advice to enthusiasts now taking up short-wave work was given by Mr. Sellens. This was that they must not expect too much at first. To secure distant stations on short wave required the operator to have a pretty full knowledge of his set and the best means of handling it. The conditions varied so much that the results secured on one occasion could not always be repeated, and this might lead those who had entered the field to lose heart and blame their sets or the makers thereof. Short-wave reception was opening up a tremendous field, in which, of course, a great deal remained to be learned, and those exploring this field had to realise that patience and knowledge was demanded of them

NEXT WEEK'S SPORTING

Monday, Sept. 19—Cricket talk, "Do we know the Immortal W.G."?—3YA, 8.47 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 22—Dempsey-Tunney fight. (If any results can be received from the shortwave broadcast due to begin about 2.30 p.m., they will be announced.

Saturday, Sept. 24—All Black Trial—1YA.

Saturday, Sept. 24—All Black Trial—4YA.

CANADA'S CELEBRATIONS

The jubilee celebration for the Confederation of Canada was broadcast world-wide by radio. Trade Commissioner Lynn W. Meekins, at Ottawa, recently reported to the Department of Commerce.

A network of circuits was arranged in Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific, involving twenty broadcasting stations, with Ottawa as a centre. About 21,650 miles of telegraph and telephone lines were used, and also fifty-three repeaters for amplification at a distance of about 200 miles. Equipment, lines, and apparatus cost 3,000,000 dollars (£600,000).

The broadcast was sent overseas by high power, short-wave transmission from the Canadian Marconi station at Drummondville, Quebec, on a wavelength of 26.18 metres The wavelength from Ottawa was 431.5.

Have you noticed the difference in style between the "goodnight" of the announcers at 2BL, Sydney, and 2FC, Sydney. George Saunders, the cheerful, buoyant official at 2BL, calls out a prolonged "Go-o-o-o-d night. Now bunky-doo everybody!" The more sedate gentleman at 2FC, says "Good night everyone," then a pause and a solemn "Sleep well."

DATA ON RADIO TIME SIGNALS

The Dominion Observatory has received the following information on radio time signals:—

FRANCE.

French radio time signals are now transmitted in accordance with the systems adopted at the meeting of the International Time Commission, held at Cambridge, England, in July, 1925.

The signals are sent from the standard clock at the Paris Observatory in accordance with the following table:—

G.M.T. h	m	Station.	Call.	Frequency kilocycles.	Wave length metres.	Kind.
08	00	Paris, Eiffel Tower	FL	113	2650	Spark
08	00	Paris, Eiffel Tower	FL	9038	32	C.W.
08	00	Bordeaux	LY	15.85	18940	C.W.
09	30	Paris, Eiffel Tower	FL	113	2650	Spark
20	00	Paris, Eiffel Tower	FL	113	2650	Spark
20	00	Paris, Eiffel Tower	FL	9038	32	C.W.
20	00	Bordeaux	LY	15.85	18940	C.W.
22	45	Paris, Eiffel Tower	FL	113	2650	Spark

As soon as the time signals are sent at 08h and 20h the (usually very small) correction to the signals sent on the previous day is sent in the morse code.

Of these signals the short wave 32-metre and the long wave 18,940-metre are regularly received in New Zealand.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Admiralty, with the co-operation of the Board of Trade, has arranged with the Post Office for the distribution of time signals from the wireless station at Rugby. The signals will be sent at 10h and 18h, G.M.T.

This service is expected to be in operation before the end of 1927.

G.M.T. h	m	Station.	Call.	Frequency kilocycles.	Wavelength metres.	Kind.
10	00	Rugby Radio	GBR	16	18740	C.W.
18	00	Rugby Radio	GBR	16	18740	C.W.

GERMANY.

The time signals from Nauen are received regularly in Wellington, chiefly 0h, G.M.T.

G.M.T. h	m	Station.	Call.	Frequency kilocycles.	Wavelength metres.	Kind.
00	00	Nauen	POZ	16.6	18075	C.W.
12	00	Nauen	POZ	16.6	18075	C.W.

JAVA.

The time signal from Malabar is heard regularly in Wellington.

G.M.T. h	m	Station.	Call.	Frequency kilocycles.	Wavelength metres.	Kind.
01	00	Malabar	PKK	19.2	15600	C.W.

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

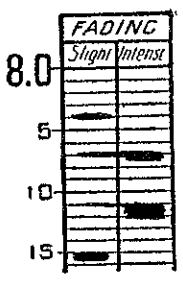
The time signal from Honolulu is heard regularly in Wellington.

G.M.T. h	m	Station.	Call.	Frequency kilocycles.	Wavelength metres.	Kind.
00	00	Honolulu	NPM	26.1	11490	C.W.

Combined Fading Investigation Fixed For Sept. 26 and 27

The combined fading investigation, in which we ask the co-operation of our readers, has been arranged to take place on September 26 and 27. The first day is Auckland's silent day, so that on that evening North Island listeners will be able to concentrate upon 2YA without difficulty. The report to be used is set out at the foot of this article, and readers who are taking part in the investigation are invited to kindly clip that coupon and fill in the necessary data, which is arranged to facilitate the rapidly sorting of the reports into the provinces and districts principally concerned. This schedule covers only the actual fading, and readers are invited to make supplementary reports of as full a nature as they can.

Here is an example of how the actual fading record should be made. This example shows that at 8.4 there was a slight fade of slight duration, which was followed three minutes later by an intense fade lasting about half a minute, and at 8.11 another intense lapse occurred for about a minute. At 8.15 a slight fade lasted for over half a minute. Use a soft pencil, so that the marks will show distinctly.



The definition of slight fading and intense fading may be given as follows:—For the purpose of this test, the fading will be considered slight if a considerable weakening is noticed, but it is still possible to hear music or speech, by listening more definitely, by the same reproducer, whether 'phone or speaker, without any alteration in tuning. As soon as the items cannot be distinguished, then the fading is to be classed as intense, and noted accordingly.

The reports will be of most value if the listener tunes his set to the station, and then does not interfere with it throughout the period of the test, except so far as may be necessary in accordance with the paragraph above.

Listeners are requested to write plainly in their reports. We are specially interested in getting records from isolated sets, and where the nearest valve set is a mile or more away, the fact should be noted and the approximate distance given. If barometer readings can be given as well, they would be acceptable, and a brief indication of the nature of the weather—whether electrical or calm and settled, etc.

An address on fading from the technical aspect will be given from 2YA shortly after 8 o'clock.

As timing is an essential feature of the investigation, listeners are requested to set their watches carefully by the station time, which will be given at 8 o'clock, and, as far as is possible in relation to the items being broadcast, at quarter-hour intervals thereafter. Accurate reading of various meters on the station will be logged throughout the evening, and these will be available for analysis later.

Considerable interest is being displayed in this dual test, and we have already received advices from a number of isolated listeners that they will be giving their assistance. We would like to thank in advance all those who will be taking part, and wish to assure them that their co-operation will be keenly appreciated. We hope that the result will be the establishment of some facts of interest to both listeners and the operating officials. If it is not possible for a listener to give records for the full two hours on both evenings involved in the test, we would be glad to have an accurate record for even one hour. Reports are desired not only from distant listeners, but also from those at the nearest point to the station from which fading is noticeable. Even crystal users can render valuable help on this occasion. Should any desire extra charts, we will be glad to supply same on request. Prompt dispatch, after the investigation, of the reports will be appreciated. They should be addressed to "Fading," P.O. Box 1032, Wellington."

FADING REPORT, SEPTEMBER 26

Province .....

Name .....

Address .....

Crystal, or how many valves?

Will isolated sets please state approximate distance from nearest valve set—a mile or more.

FADING REPORT, SEPTEMBER 27

Province .....

Name .....

Address .....

Crystal, or how many valves?

Will isolated sets please state approximate distance from nearest valve set—a mile or more.