

MR. F. W. SELLENS, Northland, writes:—

A report of reception of the "Palmolive Hour" each Saturday from 2XAD through WGY sent to the Palmolive-Peet Company, Chicago, was replied to by the last U.S.A. mail. They state that at the present time they are broadcasting through a chain of 32 stations throughout the United States, and WGY is a part of this hook-up. Until October 1 their programme is receivable here each Thursday from 1 till 2 p.m., and from that date from 2 till 3 p.m. (This is the change from daylight-saving time to standard time.) They also advise me that to date I am their most distant listener. This would probably be nearer the mark if they added "who has sent in a report." The letter was accompanied with some advertising matter, and a photograph of Miss Olive Palmer, who they announce as "Radio's most popular soprano."

OFTEN a short-wave detector will work at a lower temperature than its rated value.

World Telephony.

THE following from the "Listener In" (Australia), dealing with the importance of wireless beam development in Empire telephony, is of interest to short-wave listeners:—

"It is understood that further important developments may be expected shortly in connection with beam wireless communication, and that Senatore Marconi is nearing the completion of experiments, about which a great deal of secrecy has so far been maintained, for the simultaneous transmission of wireless telephony and wireless telegraphy over the beam system.

"As wireless telephony, to be a commercial success, must be available at a reasonable cost to the user, Senatore Marconi directed his attention to developing a system at the lowest possible cost. His experiments were on the lines of combining wireless telephony with wireless telegraphy, and with producing a system in which the greater part of the apparatus used for a wireless telegraph service could also be used simultaneously for a wireless telephone service. It is understood that his experiments have been crowned with complete success, and tests are now taking place across the Atlantic with apparatus which it is claimed will operate two high speed telegraph circuits simultaneously with one duplex telephone circuit, utilising the same transmitter and aerial and only one wavelength for all three circuits.

"It is understood that the time is not yet ripe for a statement in regard to the possible date for the opening of

Round the World on Short Wave

Notes of special value to short-wave enthusiasts are contributed weekly to the "Radio Record" by Mr. F. W. Sellens, Northland, Wellington. Observations from others are welcomed.

such a service, which will naturally be a matter for discussion with the Post Office, which is now operating the Dominion beam services, but that the tests indicated that such a statement may not be long delayed.

"One of the Marconi engineers engaged in these tests seen by a Press representative, said:—

"Some preliminary experiments took place about twelve months ago, and as a result of discoveries then made more complete apparatus has been designed and manufactured.

"A few days ago this apparatus was taken down to the wireless stations, and installed ready for test. We could hear our friends in Canada perfectly in spite of the fact that high speed telegraph services were being conducted by means of the same apparatus and the same aerial.

"Those who have taken part in these tests are very much impressed with the wonderful results obtained. There will be no difficulty in connecting the telephone to the whole of the landline telephone system on either side of the Atlantic or in any country between which a similar service is established by means of the beam system and conversing with a clearness equal to that of the best telephone system in this country."

Revolving Beams.

"The possibilities opened up by these new developments are enormous. One can picture the world in the near future being so completely linked up by wireless that no one will be out of reach of the rapidly expanding tentacles of the telephone service.

"From the strategic point of view, a revolving beam is likely to be of great value. One of the few criticisms which has been made of the beam system is that, owing to the fact that the waves are radiated over a narrow angle, a large number of beam stations might be necessary to enable the British Admiralty, for instance, to establish communication with the fleet in any part of the world.

"With a perfected revolving beam this difficulty would disappear entirely, and it would be possible to communicate by beam telegraphy or telephony with any ship at any time in any part of the world."

Reception Improving.

DURING the past week reception from 5SW, Chelmsford, England, has improved at the time I am able to

listen, i.e., up till about 7.30 a.m. They have also been heard, very weak but partly intelligible, at 11 p.m. This has not been possible for some time. Probably the most interesting reception since last writing was a speech and bagpipes from Dundee through 5SW. Very little of the talk was readable on account of quick fading, but there was no doubt about the bagpipes.

Saturday, August 11.

5SW, 6 a.m., signals were only R1-2 (with a screen grid). This increased to R4 at 7 a.m. From about 7.20 till 7.30 a.m. the above Scotch relay (on rebroadcast) was heard. 7.30 a.m. Greenwich time, signal, followed by announcement that "you have been listening to the programme radiated from Dundee."

2XAD, 21.96 metres, at 1 p.m. was R3 (on the speaker) and increased in volume to R6. The programme till 2.30 p.m. was supplied by the National Broadcasting Concert Bureau. From then till 3.30 p.m. dance music was relayed from Reilly's Lake House—closing 4 minutes past midnight, eastern daylight saving time. PCJJ, 31.4 metres, commenced at 3.30 p.m. at strength R4, increasing to about R5-6 at 5 p.m. Volume then decreased to R3-2 when closing at 6.38 p.m. Reception was spoilt by an unsteady rushing noise all through the programme.

Sunday, August 12.

For some unknown reason neither of the Yanks could be heard during the afternoon. 2XAF, 31.4 metres, was heard at about R2 at 11 a.m. Among the amateurs heard were 1BH, Auckland, 2B1, Wellington, and 2AB, Wanganui. The latter came in at R8.

Monday, August 13.

3LO, 32 metres, was very weak when first tuned in, increasing to R5 on speaker at 7.30 a.m. with intense fading usual. 5SW at 11 p.m. was just audible, too weak to be intelligible.

Tuesday, August 14.

5SW, 6 a.m., R2-3, increasing to about R3 at 7.25. Several organ items were heard.

Wednesday, August 15.

PCJJ was tuned in at 5.30 a.m., strength R5, reaching the maximum volume at 6.30 a.m., R7, then decreasing to R5-6 at 7.30 a.m. Unsteady, with one second fading. 5SW was heard at intervals between 6 a.m. and 7.30 a.m. The orchestra was on each time. About R4 all through. 2BO Wellington was transmitting gramophone items on the 30-metre band during the evening. His strength and modulation, though good, was not up to his 80-metre work.

Thursday, August 16.

5SW at 6.30 a.m. were relaying what appeared to be a musical comedy. The name was announced as being "Gipsy Love," the last word not certain, but "Gipsy" clear enough. The cast was also given. Strength was R4 at first, increasing to R5 (speaker). On account of "surging" talk was not wholly intelligible, but the music was enjoy-

able. At 7.30 the relay was "cut out" for a moment for the Greenwich time signal, returning again to the theatre. The play finished at 7.45 a.m., when the title and cast was given. After this a talk commenced, subject not heard, but a lot was spoken about snakes. At 11 p.m. an orchestra was heard at R2-3, from 5SW. Big Ben was heard striking the half-hour first (12.30 B.S.T.).

Friday, August 13.

At 5.30 a.m. PCJJ was R9, excellent reception, very steady and modulation perfect. When signing off at 7.37 a.m. strength had decreased to about R4-5, still clear and steady. 5SW at 5.30 a.m. were transmitting a lecture which finished at 5.45 a.m. From then till 6 a.m. pianoforte items were heard. At 6 a.m., after "London calling" it was announced that the next quarter of an hour would be devoted to the works of "Coleridge Taylor," most of these being orchestral items. "King Charles" was sung at 7 a.m. At 7.5 "Norwegian Rhapsody" was announced, another orchestral item. At 7.30 the time signal was heard. During the evening 3AU Rangiora was relaying the programme of 1YA, and was heard at good strength. Static spoilt reception. At 11 p.m. 5SW was just strong enough to hear an orchestra at times, the music coming in short rushes. This is peculiar to this station, more so than any short-wave transmitter I have heard.

THE life of a radio valve is governed by the filament, which is the wire that is heated to red heat by the current from the A battery, or, in the case of alternating current type tubes, by the low voltage current from the filament heating transformer. The filament is coated with a substance which when heated produces a copious flow of electrons that travel from the filament through the grid to the plate. Excessive filament current will, of course, burn out the filament and abruptly terminate the usefulness of the tube; but if the tube is normally used, its useful life will be governed by the flow of the electrons from the filament. After somewhat over a thousand hours of use, the electron flow from the filament will gradually cease, and when it has fallen below a certain critical point the life of the valve is ended, and it should be replaced with a new valve. The fact that the filament still glows when the A battery current is turned on means nothing except that the filament is not burned out.

A BUS line operating between Birmingham and Montgomery, Ala., U.S.A., has recently equipped all of its vehicles with receiving sets that are proving popular with passengers. They give the travellers news of the day, the latest weather reports, and seasonal sports.

FRENCH radio manufacturers are christening their sets with tongue-twisting, jaw-breaking names. The Elgedyne, the Strobodine, Zutterodyne, Supermoduladyne, Tubeheterodyne, Strazodyne, and Supertridyne are a few of the names.

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