

## 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.

Mr. F. W. Sellens writes:—

Mr. Gerald Marcuse, the owner of 2NM (the first Empire short-wave broadcaster) has recently been granted an extension of his license by the Postmaster-General. The latest advice from Mr. Marcuse gives his regular times of transmission as follows: Sundays, from 5.30 p.m.; Mondays, from 4.30 p.m.; Thursdays and Saturdays, 9.30 a.m. till 11.30 a.m., New Zealand time.

A few weeks ago a select party of distinguished radio men from New York were shown by Senatore Marconi, at the Bridgewater beam station, how he could receive ordinary broadcast transmission from Montreal, using the same apparatus and aerial, at the same time, as was being used for the usual morse telegraph. No trace of morse interference was noticed whilst the dance music rattled through.

### Future of Short-Wave Certain.

MR. HUGO GEONSBACH, editor of "Radio News" (U.S.A.), says:—"And as time goes on, the interest in short-waves is becoming greater and greater. It may well be said that we have as yet not scratched the surface. Technicians believe that in due time all broadcasting will be done on the short waves; everything seems to point that way. Already many stations are operating two transmitters simultaneously; one on the upper wave-band, and the other in the lower wave-band. These stations in doing so are simply staking out their claims for what is to come in the future; and the recent scramble for short waves for television purposes points unmistakably in the same direction.

"It will not surprise me at all if, during the next five years, the broadcasting of both sound and sight will be done completely on short waves; and the upper wave-channels from 200 to 600 metres gradually abandoned, as fast as we learn more about the short waves.

"At the present time, the only thing that stands in the way of universal adoption of short waves is the skip-distance effect. Take, for instance, 2XAL, broadcasting on 30.91 metres: within 200 miles of New York, the reception is poor. Beyond this distance it becomes better and better, the further you get away from the transmitter. This is one of the problems that has yet to be solved and, when it has been solved, there is little doubt that all stations will move down into the short-wave part of the spectrum."

A CHRISTCHURCH correspondent says he stayed up for the relay of the signing of the Peace Pact by 5SW, and although strength was good only parts were clear enough to understand. This is better than Wellington reception.

tion. A suggestion of speech was all that was audible here. Reception on the short waves appears to be better as a rule in the south compared with Wellington.

A German station has been heard several times during the week on just over 40 metres. When the station is on the air, between talks, a clock ticking can be distinctly heard. The call has not been heard; each talk commences with "Achtung! Achtung" (Attention).

RFM (Russia) has been heard again after a silence of some weeks.

2ME, 28.5 metres, has been heard several times broadcasting the programmes of the Eucharistic Congress in Sydney. Reception has been strong and clear, with bad fading at times, but always readable.

### Saturday, September 1.

At 6.30 a.m. 5SW was R5. Rapid fading spoilt reception.

KDKA, 27 metres, was tuned-in at 1.45 p.m. at R2-3.

2XAD at 1.45 was R4-5. The programme was supplied by the National Broadcasting and Concert Bureau, 711 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

At 2.30 p.m. the transmission was continued from Reilly's Habe House, Saratoga Springs, New York. Amongst the dance items were "Oh, Baby" and "What Do You Say?" Reception was excellent, 100 per cent. readable and very steady at good loudspeaker strength.

PCJJ was first heard at 1.30 p.m., but too weak to be readable, about R2. "Hullo" and "Philips" about all that was heard. Later announcements were heard in a foreign language. English not being spoken. At 3.55 p.m., after giving his last foreign call, Australia and New Zealand were called. Strength R7. Maximum volume was attained at about 5 p.m., decreasing to about R4 at 6.30 p.m., when I left them to try Australia for news of the Tasman flight.

2AJ, Wellington, was testing on 'phone on about 31 metres.

### Sunday, September 2.

2ME was broadcasting the service from St. Mary's Cathedral. Although volume was very good, howlers spoilt reception.

KDKA was R2 at 12 p.m. Could not find them after dinner.

2XAF was spoilt by howlers nearly all through. A dance programme was

being relayed from the Crystal Room, Hotel, Albany, New York. Strength was up to R8. When closing they gave their frequency as 9550 kilocycles (31.4 metres).

The Crosley Radio Corporation's station WLW was then tuned-in at R2-3, increasing to about R5 at 4.30 p.m., when they signed off. There was slight static. Rapid fading spoilt intelligibility.

2ME relayed the ceremony at St. Mary's Cathedral. Cardinal Cerretti and other speakers, including Archbishop Redwood, of Wellington, were clearly heard.

2FC, on 31.7 metres, were transmitting a studio programme. Morse QRM was bad.

RFM was heard for the first time for quite a while. When tuned-in at 9.50 p.m. an orchestral item was received at good strength.

2AJ, Wellington, and 3CM, Christchurch, were among the amateurs heard on telephony.

### Monday, September 3.

3LO, 32 metres, was up to R8-9, but faded badly. An announcement was made about 2ME on 28.5 metres broadcasting the proceedings of the Eucharistic Congress for overseas stations to rebroadcast.

RFM was heard transmitting talk and music. Strength R9.

5SW, 11 p.m., Big Ben struck the half-hour. Rapid fading spoilt chance of hearing any announcement.

### Tuesday, September 4.

5SW was R5 at 6 a.m. with rapid fading. A lady gave a lecture, but could not be understood. After the time signal at 7.30 a 15-minute interval was announced.

Fritz on about 40 metres was heard calling "Achtung" at about R6.

### Wednesday, September 4.

PCJJ at 6 a.m. was R8-9, with slight fading at about one second intervals. A good programme of gramophone items was heard. Strength remained fairly even till after 7 a.m., when it decreased.

5SW were transmitting a talk at 6.10 a.m. The title was not heard, but the talk was about money as a means of exchange. Every word could be clearly heard at R8. The Wireless Military Band was heard later.

2ME was heard at 6 p.m., and again later in the evening. Strength very good, with some fading. Static was very bad on the higher wave lengths.

### Thursday, September 6.

5SW was tuned-in just before 6 a.m., when rapid fading was bad. Strength R6. A talk was given about the pottery districts of Staffordshire. The musical programme following, it was announced, was being broadcast by all stations. Later a lecture on "Craftsmanship" was heard.

From 9.30 p.m. 2ME was again "on the air." All speakers at the congress were very clear. Reception full speaker volume.

Big Ben was heard at 11 p.m., R3. Announcement not readable, but orchestral item fair.

### Friday, September 7.

At 5.28 a.m. 5SW opened with the call and said they were now going over to London for the evening programme. 5.30. Big Ben followed by "London calling" was quite clear at R7. Mrs. — gave a talk, which rapid fading spoilt. Strength was steady till 7.30 a.m.

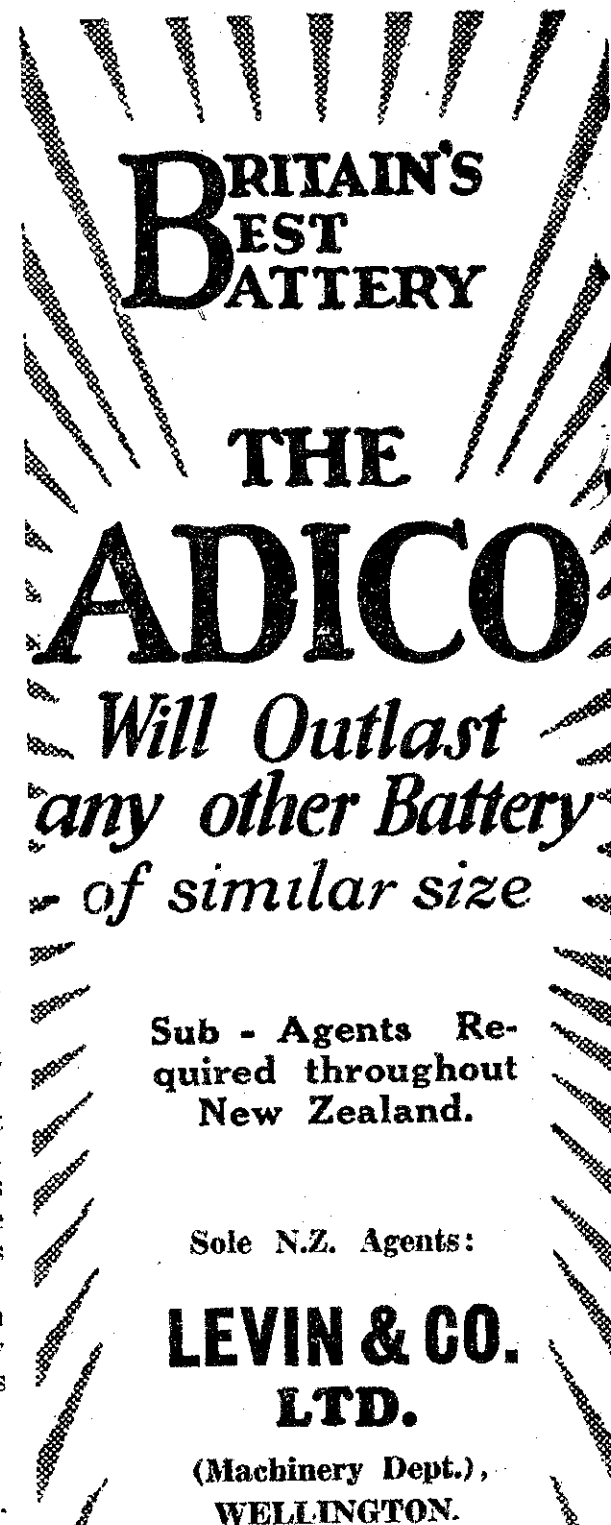
PCJJ was very good, strength R7 at 5.30 a.m., increasing slightly. 100 per cent. readable.

Fritz was R6. Clock ticking clearly audible between talks.

2ME broadcast a lecture from the Australian Hall, Elizabeth Street, Sydney. Reception very good, except for fading.

5SW was the best yet for the evening transmission. Big Ben followed by orchestral, vocal, and organ items were heard quite well several feet from the speaker. At 11.30 p.m. the Greenwich time signal was heard. This would be noon, Greenwich mean time.

RFM was talking, as is the usual custom.



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