

MR. F. W. SELLENS writes:—

Mr. Mavin H. Thoreau, Vancouver, in a letter just received, expressed surprise at the poor reception of the Heeney-Tunney fight in New Zealand. He says the broadcasters were not to blame as he has never heard 2XAF or 2XAD better than on this occasion. All or most of the American stations are due for wavelength and power changes. The Monday morning programme from 3LO on 32 metres is not audible in Vancouver. Short wave reception in that district is none too good now. RFM is very inconsistent; 5SW is seldom heard—not even the carrier. On the other hand, Mr. Thoreau says that 2XAD, 2XAF and KDKA are still "pounding in."

#### 90-Metre Tests from Nairobi.

THE station recently opened by the British East African Broadcasting Company at Nairobi, Kenya Colony, is broadcasting a series of experimental programmes extending over a period of about three months, which began on Sunday, July 15. This transmission will take place daily from 5.30 to 8.30 p.m. (B.S.T.) (4 a.m. to 7 a.m. New Zealand time.) The station authorities are also hoping to arrange for an additional programme to be broadcast every Saturday, which will last until 10.30 p.m. B.S.T. (9 a.m. Sunday, New Zealand time). The Nairobi station has an aerial power of approximately 4 K.W., and works on a wavelength of 90 metres. The call sign is 7LO. Reports of reception will be welcomed by the station directors. The above particulars are only just to hand.

#### Radio-Telephony in Aerial Drill.

THE brilliant display of air drill carried out at Hendon on Saturday, June 30, by 56 squadrons was repeated on Friday and Saturday last at the R.A.F. display at Blackpool.

Each machine in the squadron was equipped with a short-wave receiver, while the leader's machine also carried a transmitter. During the flight various spectacular evolutions were carried out on the leader's word of command, the stunts including looping the loop, flying in line, and re-forming squadron.

#### General.

A REVISED schedule is to hand, dated August 1, 1928, of the short-wave stations owned and operated by

## 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.

the General Electric Company, Schenectady, New York.

The following are the particulars in New Zealand time. Until October 1, daylight saving time is observed, so till then the times will be one hour earlier than given.

2XAF, 31.4 metres:—

Tuesday, 9.30 a.m.-3.30 p.m.

Wednesday, 9.30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Friday, 9.30 a.m.-3.30 p.m.

Sunday, 9.30 a.m.-3.30 p.m.

2XAD, 21.96 metres:—

Monday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Tuesday, 5.30 a.m.-7.30 a.m., and 9.30 a.m.-3.30 p.m.

Thursday, 9.30 a.m.-3.30 p.m.

Friday, 5.30 a.m.-7.30 a.m.

Saturday, 9.30 a.m.-3.30 p.m.

Although these are the official hours of transmission, each station carries on till 3.30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, when, according to the above schedule, with daylight saving in operation, the closing time should be 2.30 p.m.

Mr. H. M. Myers, of Birmingham, England, reports an amazing feat of international reception in which 2XAF, WGY's short-wave sister, participated. Tiring of the local programmes, Mr. Myers tuned to Stuttgart, Germany, when rebroadcasting 2XAF. The Schenectady announcer informed his audience that a programme from London was coming in so well that 2XAF would rebroadcast it. The Britisher listened to the London programme to the end, setting his watch to Big Ben, after the signal had made two trips across the Atlantic. Distance lends enchantment!

A strange station has been heard on about 50 metres during the early morning. On each occasion static was too severe to hear much talk or music.

#### Saturday, September 8.

5SW at 7 a.m. was very good strength, but spoilt by rapid fading.

KDKA, 27 metres, and 2XAD were broadcasting their programmes till about 2.30 p.m. The song "Drink to Me Only" came through very well, as

did items by the National Light Orchestra and the National Light Quartet.

KDKA closed down about 2.30 p.m. at strength R5, while 2XAD at the same time was R7.

The latter station carried on till 3.30 p.m. with a classic programme from the Roof Orchestra, Hotel St. Regis. R9 was the strength for last half an hour.

2ME, broadcasting the Eucharistic Congress, were weaker than usual with me, about R5.

Reception from PCJJ from 3.30 p.m. was rather disappointing, being weaker than usual, slightly unsteady. Speech was 100 per cent. readable. It was noted that Australia only was called towards the finish, New Zealand not being mentioned. Reports were asked for. God Save the King was played at 6.37 p.m.

Strength was from R3 to R5, decreasing to R4 at the conclusion.

#### Sunday, September 9.

2ME, 31.7 metres, broadcasting Solenn High Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, was R5 at its best. Fading was bad.

KDKA was tuned in just as they were signing off at 2.33 p.m.: R4.

2XAF were weaker than usual. At 3 p.m. they were only R4.

WLW also was very weak.

2ME was heard from 5 till 7 p.m., R8, with intense fading. At each fade it was noticed that many listeners tried to bring up the signal strength by oscillating.

RFM was very good at R7.

2BE Hastings, came in at R9, testing with gramophone records.

#### Monday September 10.

At 6 a.m. a stranger was heard on about 50 metres. The talk was foreign. R4 and very rough. The carrier went off by 6.10 a.m.

3LO were very weak, only audible at times before 6.30 a.m., about this time when "Darling, I Am Growing Old" was on, the signals suddenly increased to R6.

#### Tuesday, September 11.

5.30 a.m., Big Ben from 5SW. Talk followed at R2-3. Not readable on account of rapid fading. It improved later.

The progress of the Southern Cross was of more interest than 5SW, therefore did not bother any more with them, but kept with 2YA.

During the evening RFM was R8, spoilt by QRM and QRN.

At 11 p.m. 5SW was about R2. Big Ben was heard but talk not readable.

#### Wednesday, September 12.

PCJJ were in good form. Very steady, not any fading to notice, 100 per cent. readable. Strength R8 at 6 a.m. to R7 when signing off at 7.37 a.m., with the announcement that they would be on again from 2300 till 0200, G.M.T.

5SW, although fair strength, rapid fading was bad. At 7 a.m. a band was about R6, the announcement being about 50 per cent. readable.

Again at 11 p.m. 5SW was heard. "5SW, Chelmsford," was clear, though weak, but on switching over to London speech was not clear enough to understand. Orchestral music was heard.

#### Thursday, September 13.

At 5.50 a.m. pianoforte items were R7. A lecture followed, but again rapid fading spoilt intelligibility.

The 50-metre stranger was talking at R5, but static was very severe. 5SW was quite free of static at this time.

RFM at 10 p.m. was heard at full loudspeaker strength. An orchestral item was very good except that static was too noisy.

#### Friday, September 14.

Music was heard this morning from the 50-metre station. Static was too bad to listen long. PCJJ was almost perfect reception except for a slight fade. Maximum volume at 6.30 a.m. at R8.

5SW was R8 at 7.30 a.m., but rapid fading spoilt reception. At 11 p.m. reception was fairly steady at R3.

#### The Java Station.

A CORRESPONDENT in our last issue wrote correcting us on the wave-length of the Java station. This he stated to be 15.93 metres, and not 31.93 as stated by us. Investigation along the latest channels of information shows that both wave-lengths are correct: but both are used on different days. These short-wavers frequently change and we welcome information regarding them.

## 2YA Miscellany.

### Appreciated in Australia.

"I WOULD like to express my satisfaction with the programmes you put on the air. In fact, I think they are better than we get here in Victoria. Of course, this district is very bad for reception from Melbourne at night. Both 3LO and 3AR fade very badly after sundown, and we have to look to other States for our radio. 2BL and 2FC are very steady and the programmes are very good. 5CL is received very clear, and steady, as 4QG also, but, as you see, one has to have a set that will bring in the inter-State stations at night, so radio is fairly expensive to put in.—Aussie."

"JUST a few words of praise for the very fine programmes I have heard from 2YA lately, which come through with power equal to and better than some of our A class stations in Australia, and always with less distortion. It is always a pleasure to tune

distortion or interference, and good speaker strength. In conclusion, a word of praise to your announcer, whose fine, clear voice can be distinctly heard always. Wishing you and your station staff every success in any further trials."—Victoria.

A comprehensive list of short-wave stations compiled by Mr. Sellens is unavoidably held over till next week by pressure of space.

in and listen to your programmes, and we are sorry when 8 o'clock comes (our time), and hear you close down, as somehow your programmes appeal to us more than the Australian station, and, taken on the whole, the artists are of a higher standard. I am only using a Radiola A.W.A. 4-valve, and the aerial could be much better, yet I can always bring your station in without

## THE WHOLE COUNTRY TALKED—

of the wonderful relay of the recent EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS held in Sydney. This is but another signal proof of the excellence of a

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