

Minimising Flood Dangers

Prompt Work by 2ZF Saves Settlers

THE recent heavy rains, and the consequent floods upon the flat country in the Wellington province, have caused a great deal of anxiety, and in some cases, heavy loss to farmers. In the Manawatu basin, the floods are usually severe, and generally occasion great losses. In some cases, roads are blocked by several feet of water. The rivers rise rapidly, and, unless the farmers are quickly warned, they suffer loss.

During the recent rain, the Manawatu River commenced to rise at an alarming rate. The Radio Society rose to the occasion. Hurriedly getting permission from the telegraph engineer, the officials put the station on the air, and at 7.30 p.m. the first warning of the impending danger was broadcast.

For an hour, this station sent out continuously. Reports were collected from various up-river points, so that a forecast was able to be issued. These gave the indication that the river was still likely to rise. In consequence, a message was broadcast, together with a report on the state of the river locally.

These warning messages were picked up, and several anxious farmers in Foxton and other outlying districts stated that they quickly spread the news to those vitally interested.

2ZF then went off the air for a brief three-quarters of an hour, in order to collect further data, at 9.30 p.m., the full seriousness of the flood was put out to listeners, together with the latest reports and indications.

This was a great service to the farmer, and, no doubt, the promptitude and initiative of 2ZF saved the pockets of many, and the lives of some stock.

THIS station is proving very popular with local residents, and the Manawatu Radio Club is growing rapidly. The membership figures published last week were those representing the position a few months back, but they do not represent the position now. As stated by a letter from the secretary, Mr. I. N. Leet, the membership stands to-day, or rather stood on November 3, at 389 financial members. This is a fitting reward for the enterprise of the club.

The station has been received at loudspeaker volume in several Australian States, and in the Cook Islands. The reports state that the music is very clear, and the transmission generally steady. The power on these occasions, has been 50 watts.

During the last few months, many relays have been put over the air, with great success. 2ZF claims to be the first station to rebroadcast short-wave transmission from PCJJ, 2XAF, 2XAD, 2XAG, and the long-wave transmission from KOA, a station rarely heard in New Zealand.

The two-way telephony tests were put on the air twice during the last month.

For these relays, two purposes are claimed—to allow their listeners to hear foreign programmes, and to try and improve the technique of rebroadcast. In this latter respect, improvements have already been effected.

For the Manawatu district, 2ZF is becoming quite a feature, trying, as it does, to minister to local needs, and it looks for, and merits, the support of those who benefit from its existence. Judging by the way its membership is increasing, this is to some measure being realised.

Two-Way Talk

America and Australia

MR. T. A. DOBSON (Denniston) supplies the following interesting report on the telephone talk between America and Australia.

I AM sending you a report of the talk which took place between W2XAF, U.S.A. and 2ME, Australia, on Friday, October 27. The air was hot and heavy on the high waves so I thought I would try the short, there being very little static on these bands. Time was about 11.15 p.m. N.Z. S. time, tuned W2XAF (2XAF has put a W in the front of its call also 2XAD). "This is Mr. Rice speaking. Hullo, Australia. Hullo, Sydney, it is a bright morning in Schenectady. The Mayor of Schenectady, Mr. Pagle, will say a few words to you. Mr. Gerber of the United Press (U.S.A.) then spoke to Mr. McDonald, 2ME (Australia) and gave greetings to Mr. W. G. Connelly, of the "Sydney Morning Herald." Mr. Russell Haselway, of the Associated Press (U.S.A.), also spoke to Roy Myers (Australia). At this stage, Mrs. McDonald took up the speaking from Australia. This lady was asked if she could pronounce Schenectady which she did. The Yank

laughed and said, "Very good Mrs. McDonald. Do you know the meaning of Schenectady? Well it is an Indian word which means 'River flowing, or valley beyond the pines.' The time here is about 7 a.m., U.S.A."

U.S.A.—Mr. (name missed by smack of static) sends greetings to Miss Mary X—, Mr. W. A. Doyle Mr. and Mrs. McNeil, Sydney.

U.S.A.—Mr. Dudley Hill to Mr. McDonald (Aus.): "What about giving us a little bit of your spring for some of our summer?"

U.S.A.—Mr. Walter Main, "Evening Star," Schenectady: "What about sending me a kangaroo?"

U.S.A.—Mr. J. F. Allenpay: "We have just had our morning cup of coffee, Mr. McDonald."

U.S.A.—Mr. W. B. Potter (railway engineer), will now say a few words to you, Mr. McDonald—"Greetings from sunrise to sunset. I would sooner have a Wallaby. Greeting to Mr. Juiler and Mr. Harold Clapp."

This was the finish of the speakers, but W2XAF kept on waiting for Java to come in, but 2ME advised that he was not too good. So W2XAF closed down.

I then tuned 2ME, who began to talk to Java A.N.E., but Java was coming in badly, having a bit of trouble. I heard him say to (Mr. McDonald, 2ME) that he was going to speak to Vienna. Looking up Mr. F. W. Sellens' short-

wave list, as you have in the "N.Z. Record" on September 28, I notice that Vienna has stations OHK2, wave-length 70 E.A.T.H. 37, and two others with no call sign down, one at 44.4 metres, and the other at 22.2 metres. The Java station ANE is on 15.98 metres, but the Vienna station that I got was not (as it seemed to me) any more than about 18 metres. I heard Java and Vienna talking for about ½ hour, but Vienna was hard to understand—broken English, very much smashed. I could make out, "Hullo Bandoeng, Hullo Bandoeng," and "Dr.—will speak." Time would be about 1.30 a.m., Saturday, October, N.Z. S. Time. Also I had 5SW on for about half an hour before I tuned Vienna in great volume. I would like to ask Mr. Sellens, does he notice a

high-toned note beat about six times when 5SW is changing over to London? It seems to be a signal of some kind. I also heard 2HC, New South Wales testing. Good strength, but fading bad.

I have received six continents in one day's tuning: America, A9, Java R3, Vienna R4, London R5, Holland R3, and Australia R9, all on loudspeaker.

TWO American stations regularly broadcast "still" pictures, while four are experimenting with television. The transmission of picture "stills" has reached a fine art. As a specimen of a commercial telephoto-graph transmission an American journal depicts a police identification card showing a fingerprint.

RADIO DIRECTORY

What to Buy and Where

AUCKLAND

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| ALTONA & HAMMARLUND. | Johns, Ltd. |
| ROBERTS SETS. | Chancery Street, Auckland. |
| ATWATER-KENT RADIO | Frank Wiseman, Ltd. |
| | 170-172 Queen Street, Auckland. |
| BREMER-TULLY RADIO | Superadio, Ltd., |
| | 147 Queen Street, Auckland. |
| BURGESS RADIO BATTERIES, | All Radio Dealers. |
| FEDERAL, MOHAWK, GLOBE | Federal Radio House, |
| | 8 Darby Street, Auckland. |
| FERRANTI RADIO COM-PONENTS | A. D. Riley and Co., Ltd. |
| | Anzac Ave., Auckland, and all leading dealers. |
| GREBE RADIO | Howie's, |
| | Dilworth Building, Custom st., Auckland. |
| MULLARD VALVES | All Radio Dealers. |
| PREST-O-LITE. Car and Radio Battery Service | L. J. Purdie & Co., Ltd. |
| | 97 Dixon Street, Wellington. |
| RADIOLA RECEIVERS and Expert Radiola Service. | Farmers' Trading Co., Ltd., |
| | Holjson Street, Auckland. |
| T.C.C. CONDENSERS | A. D. Riley and Co., Ltd. |
| | Anzac Ave., Auckland, and all leading dealers. |

COUNTRY TOWNS

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| ANCHORADIO, BREMER-TULLY, RADIOLA, BROWNING-DRAKE, AND ATWATER-KENT RADIO | Radio House, |
| | Hamilton. W. S. Anchor, Manager. |
| BROWNING-DRAKE SALES AND SERVICE | J. H. Sinclair, |
| | Otane, H.B. |
| CROSLEY ELECTRICAL AND BATTERY MODELS | The Forrest-Crosley Radio Co., Ltd. |
| | Cuba Street, Palmerston North. |
| GREBE, CROSLEY AND RADIOLA SERVICE | E. Dixon and Co., Ltd., |
| | Hawera. |
| RADIOLA DEALER AND SERVICE | G. C. Carrad. |
| | 140 The Avenue, Wanganui. |
| PHILIPS VALVES AND APPARATUS | All Good Radio Dealers. |