

small cone type. Most of their programme is dance music and advertising their "Silver Fizz"—"which will make the roughest stuff on earth taste like a million dollars."

WENR is a good second. Your correspondent thinks his slogan is "The Voice of Service," but it sounds to me like "The Voice of the Sloux." KGO and KFON sometimes come in well, but cannot be depended upon, while KHJ sometimes bids fair to drown IYA. Can any reader tell me the station which heterodynes sometimes with 2BL (not JOAK)?—"CIRCUIT" (Pahiatua).

Americans Heard.

IN a recent issue of your valuable "Record" you gave a list of American stations which had been heard in New Zealand, and also a list of other high-powered Americans, which to your knowledge had not been heard in New Zealand. Well, on Thursday, January 31, at 11.50 p.m. approx, I heard on loudspeaker, volume fair, W.L.W., Cincinnati, Ohio, gramophone music and then speaking about the flu, which apparently is prevalent in the States. He plainly announced his call and time—50 minutes after 6 a.m. His location on my set a six-valve, was just two notches above 2YA, Wellington. KNX, California, comes through good every night, and also the Japs. I thought perhaps this information might be useful if you have not already heard of the reception of WLW, Cincinnati, Ohio, before this.—HECTOR R. HAYWARD (Wairaki).

New Zealand Broadcasters.

PERHAPS some member can tell me the name of the Christchurch station which I heard last evening (Tuesday, 5/2/29), operating on 242 metres, and using 50 watts output. His last two items prior to closing at 11.15 p.m. were "Oh, Doris" and "Toy Town Artillery."

To-night on 208 metres I logged a station using the call 2ZQ. Plenty of volume, but fading was very pronounced and rapid. Some of his items were:

8.21 p.m.: "Hallelujah Blues"

9.55 "It Goes Like This."

10.15: "Just Like a Melody out of the Skies."

10.45: Closing down.

Can anyone tell me the locality of this station?

I am in receipt of a verification from 4ZO Dunedin, in which he states my report is the most distant received, the next most distant report coming from Pahiatua. Auckland DX should get this station, as he comes in here at good speaker strength. He gives his hours of transmission as follows: Daily except Sunday, 12 noon to 1 p.m. and 5 to 6 p.m.; Fridays, 10 p.m. to 12 midnight. Wavelength, 277.8 metres; 1080 KC, power 7½ watts. On the dial just below 2ZM. I have not heard KFOX since Monday, 28/1/29, when he closed at 9.55 p.m. WENR was very loud to-night. I have found the DX corner a great help in logging new stations.—"JAKEMAN" (Huntly).

Station 3ZC operates on 250 metres, while 2ZQ is a private Masterton broadcaster.

Letter From WENR.

IN this week's "Record" you publish a letter received by W. G. Sturgess, Christchurch, from Mr. E. H. Gager, chief engineer of WENR. As I have also received a letter from Mr. E. H. Gager, which seems to be of a later date than the previous one,

I am sending you a copy, which will explain why 3XF has not been heard so frequently. Hoping this may be of interest to DX listeners.—J. A. CALLAGHAN (Rakaia.)

DEAR Radio Friend:

Thank you for your report and comments on the transmission from our new 50,000-watt transmitter, which operates under the call-letters WENR and 3XF.

This station is located on a 40-acre plot of land, three and a-half miles south of Downer's Grove, or about 23 miles south-west of Chicago. This station was constructed at a cost of approximately 500,000,000 dollars (£120,000,000), by authority of the Federal Radio Commission, and was ready for operation on April 1, 1928. Since that time, the Federal Radio Commission has restricted the use of this station to daylight hours at a reduced power of 5000 watts.

On previous test programmes, this station has been heard in every State in the United States, every province in Canada, Alaska, Cuba, Mexico, Hawaii, Australia, and New Zealand, so that we know that it is able to furnish good service to the people in a large proportion of the United States if we are given the authority to use it at its full power. Under the new allocations, WENR has been assigned to a frequency of 870 kilocycles (344.6 metres), sharing time with station WLS, with power restricted to 5000 watts. Under this plan, station WLS is to be given five-sevenths of the time, while WENR is restricted to two-sevenths of the time. We feel that this restriction is unjust, and that we should be allowed to use full power, and should be given more time on the air. Very truly yours,

GREAT LAKES BROADCASTING COMPANY,

E. H. GAGER,

Chief Engineer.

Wireless Pictures

Marconi's New System

FOR some time the transmission of still pictures has been an accomplished fact. In England, the Fultograph system has been used quite successfully, but there has been a difficulty in that the pictures take some time to transmit, and it is doubted that the result will be permanent. Realising these limitations, Senator Marconi has been developing a new system, and a cable message has just come to hand stating that the written messages were successfully transmitted on short-wave by the beam wireless system between New York and Somerset.

The announcement adds that the transmission has exceeded all previous results achieved in the field of picture transmission. A system differing greatly from any other, whereby Marconi's are now able to transmit two images eight inches by ten across the Atlantic in twenty minutes, has been evolved.

It is stated that there are still certain difficulties to be overcome before there is practical perfection.

Our Mail Bag

Will correspondents please practice brevity, as heavy demands are now made on space. All letters must be signed and address given as proof of genuineness; noms de plume for publication are permitted. Address correspondence Editor, "Radio Record," P.O. Box 1032, Wellington.

To Suit the Views of Listeners.

WITH reference to arguments re B class stations receiving a portion of the revenue derived from license fees, I maintain that if the B stations put over programmes equal to the YA stations, then they certainly deserve support. Your contention is that the more money the main stations receive the better programmes they can provide. What do you mean by better programmes? If you mean higher-paid artists I agree with you, but if you mean more popular items, then I seriously doubt it. I was listening to a programme from 2ZM the other evening, and in my opinion it was a better programme than any IYA has put over for months. Another instance is the programme given by Begg and Co., broadcast by 2YA. This was one of the best I have listened to, yet I understand the artists were members of the firm. In a review of the past year, one contributor to the "Record" stated that there was too much classical music. I would suggest the following plan to find if this is so: Give a list of the different classes of items put over by the stations, such as humour, elocution, orchestral, guitar music, etc., and ask listeners to give the different classes marks in their order of popularity. This is something like your recent competition, but here is the difference. Your competition really resulted in placing the items in order of popularity rather than showing which types of music were preferred. For instance, the vocal gems' number received few votes because the item was unknown. However, the main point is: were this competition carried out would the Broadcasting Company abide by the decision of the listeners or would the company ignore it? Competitions or rather referenda of this kind are useless unless the decisions are carried out. In conclusion, I say either make sure the YA's are giving entire satisfaction or give the B stations some support.—"NORTHLAND-ER" (Whangarei).

Southland's Trouble.

CONGRATULATIONS to the company for the excellent programme. They show their popularity by the number of licenses issued, but why the few from Southland? Is it that they are Scotch, or have no money? I think not. Personally I believe that if the company put in, say, a 1000-watt station, they would treble those licenses in a very short time—the service must be at fault. I know that if it were not for 2YA I wouldn't be bothered with radio, and I know several of the same mind, and so it is no doubt with Southland.—"HAWERA."

Afternoon Sessions Appreciated.

I WAS very surprised to read in a letter signed "L.G. (Wellington)," that the afternoon session was very little availed of. This is absolutely wrong, so far as a number of your country listeners are concerned. In the back country, where marketing and much visiting (which is the way

housewives in town spend their afternoons according to the letter referred to), is out of the question. It is just lovely to turn on 2YA or any other YA station, thus turning the afternoons into real happy hours instead of the dull ones they otherwise would be. No, we really cannot spare our afternoon session. The children's session is also much enjoyed. It would be a shame to cut down the children's hour. It would be a splendid thing for the pupils if the Government correspondence school, Wellington, if lessons were occasionally given over the air, and trust some day this may be made possible.—E. E. SHRIMPTON (Spray Point).

B Stations.

I HAVE read much on the above subject, and in my opinion I think it a fair deal, if the B stations situated away from the YA's, should receive, say, half of the licenses from crystal sets which are in operation in their respective districts, but that they should be at least 50 watts, so that others outside the district where they are could derive some music on their valve sets. Also, why should they not advertise for firms? The newspapers do. Personally I fail to see why wireless advertisements should make an article dearer. The firms would sell more, and, of course, the same would apply to newspapers.—"LISTENER" (Hawera").

G-o-o-o-o-o-d Night.

I HAVE often been tempted to write and voice my appreciation of the splendid programmes, at various times, put over the air by 2YA, but my object in doing so now is to tell you that after listening in the other evening while the "Master Oscillator versus Crystal" test was on, we noticed a decided improvement in the clearness of that same gramophone record number which they changed over to crystal control. We have a home-made crystal set using two pairs of ear-phones, and get 2YA remarkably well at all times. While writing, I should like to tell you how disappointed not only ourselves, but other "radio fans" here were that Miss Copplestone's swim was not put over the air. We understood they were going to broadcast it. There are many popular artists whom we have not had the pleasure of hearing over the air for some time.

The Petone Black and White Entertainers were out on their own, and we are eagerly looking forward to their next concert, which, we hope, will not be in the too-distant future. In conclusion, I should like to say the announcer of 2YA deserves very many bouquets, not for his announcing alone but for the "stunning" G-o-o-o-o-o-d nights he gives when closing down. Wishing the R.B.C. every success—ignore the growlers—and carry on your good work.—E. M. McKENZIE (Kai-koura).

TO avoid fouling at the masthead, a large shell insulator will often give better results than a metal pulley.