

## Polish Stations.

**L**ISTENERS on the short waves who may have picked up the Polish programmes in which the ticking of a metronome (about 240 strokes to the minute) was heard between items, will be interested to learn that the broadcasts emanate from the new Posen transmitter on 30 metres. The power at present is only 30 watts in the aerial, but this is shortly to be increased to something much more substantial. The tests are carried out between 11 p.m. and midnight, B.S.T., on Mondays and Tuesdays (9.30 a.m. till 10.30 a.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays, New Zealand time). Announcements by both male and female speakers are made in Polish, German, French and Italian; the bulk of the transmission consists of gramophone records.

## Solving a Puzzle.

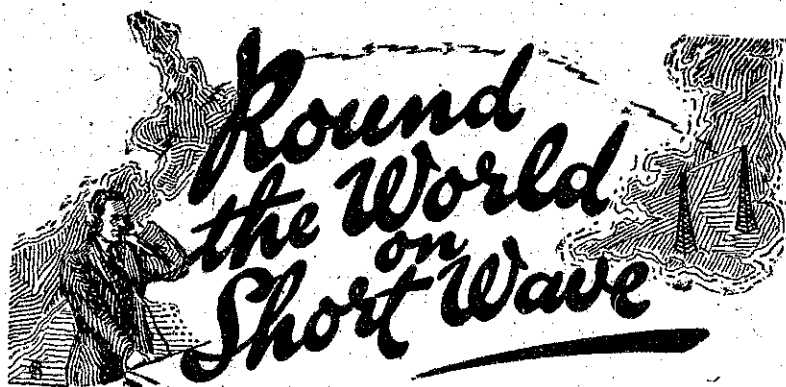
**A**N Australian short-wave station, in reference to interference with G5SW, says: "We had the opportunity of solving the puzzle of that peculiar rumble in 5SW which has been apparent for some weeks past, when a commercial station, which, from the call sign, appears to be a French station, was working just below the wavelength of 5SW. It appears that the rumble was possibly the unmodulated carrier of the French station which has been moved just below. The transmission of the French station consisted of the testing signal interspersed with the call sign.

KZRM Manila, Philippine Islands, has changed its wavelength to about 31.4 metres, exactly where PCJ and W2XAF are to be found. This station has been heard several times on the new wavelength since writing last week's notes. Strength as a rule is very good, up to full loudspeaker volume at times.

Another station, a German, has been heard each morning during the past week. This one has been reported before, but has not been heard regularly. The German commences each morning at 6.30 a.m., as a rule with "Achtung," followed by a few more words in the same language, and then orchestral music. One morning a clock was heard to chime and strike the hour of eight before the familiar "Achtung" was heard. This interesting stranger works on about 31.5 metres—just a fraction above PCJ, 2XAF, and KZRM. Volume and modulation are all that can be desired. I do not know how late they carry on, but they are always going strong at 8 a.m., when I have to close down.

GBX, England, and VK2ME, Sydney, can be heard almost every morning and evening, carrying out duplex telephony tests. I often receive the English station better than the Australian during the early morning test.

RFM is not heard so often now, but comes in at good volume—with plenty of talk, as usual, when on the air.



My log for the week shows the following:—

Saturday, August 17.

**T**HE 31.5-metre German was heard with some talk just before 6.30 a.m. Some orchestral music was heard later at R8-9. There was a slight ripple, but not enough to spoil reception. No call sign heard.

PCJ was R8 from tuning in at 6.20 a.m. till signing off at about 7.30 a.m. There was a slight rapid fade, otherwise reception was excellent.

5SW was very unsteady at R8. Not good enough to listen to.

W5XN: The carrier only was audible from this Californian station at 6.30 a.m.

PCJ was R5 at 2.30 p.m., increasing to R9 by 4.30 p.m., remaining at that till 5 p.m., when volume decreased again. The special New Zealand-Australian programme commenced at 3.45 p.m., and continued till the station closed down at 5.35 p.m. Static and slight fading were troublesome early, but this cleared up for our special transmission.

KDKA was R3 at 1.30 p.m., with rapid fade. The "Slumber Hour," from 2.30 p.m., was better at R8.

W2XAD was very good, the last hour being devoted to dance music from Reilly's Lake House Hotel. Morse QRM at times necessitates a quick "get-away" from this station.

RFM during the evening was R9, with what appeared to be a debate between a man and woman. Static was very bad.

Sunday, August 18.

W2XAD and W2XAF transmitted the General Electric programme till 1.30 p.m. Lucky Strike Hour till 2.30 p.m., and from then till 3.30 p.m. dance music was heard from the Crystal Room, De Witzler Hotel, Albany, N.Y., signing off at 15 seconds past midnight, E.D.S.T. (15 seconds past 3.30 p.m. here).

Reception was good from both stations, 2XAD for the earlier part and 2XAF

later. The former station was much the clearest, as it always is.

KDKA was good volume, but rough. This harshness was not so noticeable later on when the Byrd Expedition programme and messages were being transmitted.

After the special programme for Little America a test was carried out on 25.4 metres (KDKA'S shortwave) with WFA, a shortwave station at Little America. This consisted of a long series of dots on a 1000-cycle note. The radio expert of WFA has an instrument to measure the intensity of signals received, also the echo received back from the "Heaviside Layer."

A message from WFA was re-broadcast by KDKA at 5 p.m.

Before signing off at 5.10 p.m., it was announced that the next special Byrd programme would be on Saturday, August 31 (Sunday, September 1 here).

A peculiar effect was noticed concerning the above transmission. What at first appeared to be another station on about 31.5 metres, proved to be KDKA which was working on 25.4 metres. This I took to be a harmonic of another transmitter of KDKA on a higher wavelength—about 62 metres. Later, when the special test with WFA, consisting of the series of dots, was being carried out, there were also heard on this wavelength—about 31.5 metres. It was distinctly stated that the test was on 25.4 metres. Can anybody solve this? The only explanation I can think of is, that the 62-metre station was going, and it was a harmonic that was heard of this.

On about 17 metres at 7.45 p.m., what sounded like a description of a fight in a foreign language was heard at about R2-3. Cheers could be heard during the talk.

Monday, August 19.

**A** 31.5 metre German commences at 6.30 a.m. with "Achtung," and the word "orchestra" several times. Orchestral items at R8 were received with excellent modulation. The "Toreador" song from "Carmen" at 7.30 a.m. was well received. All the records were high-class music.

On about 22.5 metres at 10 p.m. a very excited foreigner was talking with a crowd yelling in the background. This was received at R8. The talk may have been Japanese; it sounded like this.

20.5 metres about at 11 p.m., duplex telephony was heard.

5SW at 11 p.m. was just audible. ZLZE and ZL2AW were both R9 at 10.20 p.m.

Tuesday, August 20.

**A**T 6.20 a.m. 5SW was quite good, with an organ recital received at R8-9. The quality was not so good later.

The German (31.5) commenced at 6.30 a.m. with "Achtung," etc. This was followed by "We begin our concert—" (name of item not caught) in very good English. This is the only English announcement I have heard from this station. "The Volga Boatman" was the first item. Volume R8, modulation perfect.

GBX and 2ME were testing on duplex telephony, both R8-9, and 100 per cent. readable.

Wednesday, August 21.

**T**ALK in progress from 5SW at 6.10 a.m. in reference to farming in Aus-

tralia for English boys. The speaker was speaking from personal experience of conditions in Queensland. Strength R7, about 75 per cent. readable. "The Blue Danube" was the first musical item to follow the above talk.

2ME and GBX were only R6 this morning, not so good as usual.

W6XN was just audible.

31.5 German with an orchestral programme was perfect at R8-9 from 6.22 a.m., when first "Achtung" was heard.

W6XN (KGO) was tuned in just in time to hear the concluding remarks about music from a radio exhibition which had just been relayed. From 6.30 till 7.30 p.m., the "Musical Musketeers" entertained with dance music. Before closing they gave the latest news of the Graf Zeppelin touring the world. Reception was quite good at R8. 2ME, R8, 100 per cent. readable, and GBX, R5, very poor, were testing duplex.

KZRM on about 31.4 metres were picked up at 10.35 p.m. at R7. Stock and market reports were being relayed. Static was very bad.

Thursday, August 22.

**5**SW at 6.20 a.m., a play was being broadcast, 50 per cent. readable at R7. Whistling solos with piano accompaniment were quite good just after 6.30 a.m. Strength improved later to R8.

GBX and 2ME were again testing duplex; both R7, static spoiling reception. These stations during the early evening were: GBX, R5; and 2ME, R9.

31.5 metre German was again excellent at R8, with orchestral selections.

KZRM was tuned in at 9.30 p.m., when a programme of gramophone records was broadcast, the names being given both before and after the items. KZRM, Radio, Manila, was the call given. A talk in foreign language was given at 10.20 p.m.

Later, news items and programme announcements were given.

Volume R8-9; excellent reception except for static, which was bad.

Friday, August 23.

**B**IG BEN from 5SW was weak. Talk was not readable. Reception at 6.30 was much better at R7, but became unsteady again later.

GBX at R5 was 100 per cent. readable, while 2ME could not be heard. Records from the English station just before 8 a.m. were much better than music from 5SW at the same time. The German, as usual, was very good at R8. A woman and man were heard at 7 a.m. for a time. The "Blue Danube" played on a piano at 7.50 a.m. was received splendidly.

(Concluded on page 31.)

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