

KDKA's New Station.

ACCORDING to latest advices, engineers at the pioneer American broadcasting station KDKA, have embarked on the construction of a new high-powered transmitter, the design of which will include many of the latest radio developments. The Westinghouse Company, which owns and operates KDKA, has purchased 120 acres of land on which to house the main broadcasting transmitter, the various shortwave transmitters, and the administrative buildings. As before, the studios will be located at East Pittsburgh, about five miles from the transmitting station.

Long-distance Radio Telephony.

RECENTLY Amalgamated Wireless carried out wireless telephony tests between Sydney and New York, via London. The company's engineers, carrying out special tests, instituted by Mr. E. T. Fisk, managing director, spoke with London Telephone Exchange, and asked it switch over to the New York Exchange. This was done, and a lengthy conversation ensued. This is the greatest long-distance telephony test carried out by Amalgamated Wireless, and, in point of distance, represents a telephony conversation over more than 15,000 miles. These experiments at the Australia end were transmitted through the specially designed Australian-made 20 k.w. transmitter, at A.W.A. Radio Centre, Pennant Hills, Sydney, while the reception was effected at the company's receiving centre at La Perouse.

Empire Broadcasting.

THE following is a portion of a letter from Mr. Gerald Marcuse (the well-known pioneer of Empire broadcasting) to the editor of "Wireless World":—"The bone of contention amongst our scattered Empire is that nothing is provided during the week-end when naturally listeners have the most time for listening-in to the Old Country, and I am still anxious and willing to carry on, on a suitable wavelength, concentrating on week-end transmissions, at my own expense, not that I have the slightest commercial interest in wireless, but simply out of amateur enthusiasm in order to fill the gap which, it seems to me, is not filled by those whose duty it is to fill it.

The Post Office have always shown a sympathetic interest in my endeavours, and possibly with the present change of Government, the vested interests may also show some enthusiasm in my proposal. In conclusion, 2NM has been dismantled, and is now being rebuilt in a more favourable location, and could be ready to start in two months' time."

The Log.

RECEPTION during the past week has, on the whole, been poor. Static has

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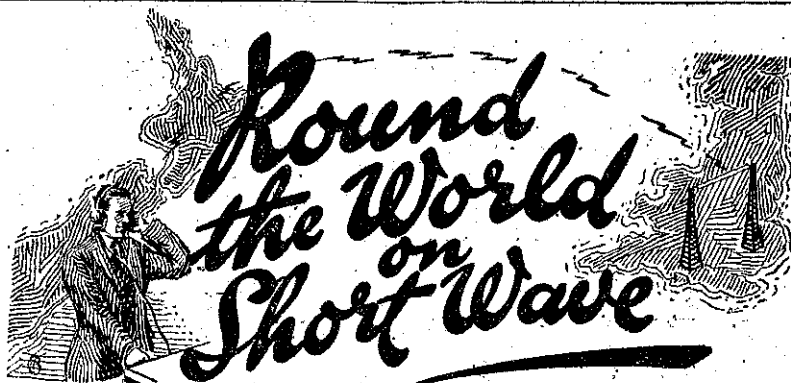
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THIS page is conducted in the interests of shortwave enthusiasts. A weekly log comprising notes of reception and interesting topical events is contributed by Mr. F. W. Sellens, Northland, Wellington, but all listeners are invited to send in paragraphs of general interest.

been very troublesome except on the ultra shortwaves.

Sunday, November 3.

ALL American short-wave stations were late in reaching fair volume except W6XX. This Pacific Coast station was at its maximum (R8) at 3 p.m., after which signal strength decreased. KDKA was gushy till toward 5 p.m.—closing time—when volume was R8-9.

The General Electric Co.'s S.W. transmitters, W's 2XAC, 2XAF and 2XAD, were all broadcasting the same programme. I found W2XAF the best, weak till 4 p.m., but reaching R9 by 5 p.m., with a special programme for the Byrd Expedition. W9XF, as usual, carried on much later than the other Americans (except W6XX).

Monday, November 4.

DID not listen in till 7.50 p.m., when VK2ME at R8-9 and GBX at R8 were carrying out their regular duplex test. Static was very bad.

RA97 was on the air, but static was too bad.

Tuesday, November 5.

7LO, Nairobi, was about R2, too weak to be readable. Conditions were exceptional for this African station, as static, the usual trouble, was very weak.

Zeesen had a strong carrier on from before 6 a.m., but music or speech was not heard till 6.25 a.m., when they opened with an orchestral selection at R8. 5SW, with Big Ben at 7 a.m., was gushy at R3. W9XF at 7.15 p.m. was R8, with medium static. VK2ME put on some records while waiting for GBX. Volume was full speaker strength. GBX was R8 when they came on the air. W6XX (KGO), fair volume, spoilt by static. Radio, Manila, was heard at 8.45 p.m. at R6 with their early transmission. At 10 p.m., when commencing their evening programme, they were R8. RA97 was again smothered by static.

Wednesday, November 6.

BEFORE 6 a.m., 7LO, Nairobi, was quite good volume, being about R5. Slight gushiness and static spoilt readability. They were not audible after 6.15 a.m. 5SW was too gushy to be readable. W9XF at 7 p.m. was R7-8.

A stranger on about 30 metres at 7.15 p.m. was calling, "Hullo, London," in American voice. Strength was R8, but could not understand his talk.

2ME filled in the time with records while waiting for London to be readable. GBX was weak, with poor readability here. Radio, Manila, with records, were R7-8 at 8.30 p.m. A band programme commenced at 10 p.m., after the chimes and striking of 6 p.m. was heard. Volume R8-9 at 10 p.m. Holland and Java, both at R8, were on duplex telephony. RA97 broke their rule for a silent night on Wednesday, and were heard at R8-9, but static was too strong to listen.

Thursday, November 7.

ON about 45 metres music was heard at R3-4, which concluded at 6.5 a.m. A man was then heard speaking in English, "Revolution," "Workers of America," "United States of America," "President of the American Federation of Labour," etc., was heard. Speech was about 50 per cent. readable. This talk concluded at 6.10 a.m., when a few bars of music were heard, then a foreigner had a lot to say. Reception was much weaker at 6.30 a.m. A call was not heard, but this station was probably XC51, San Lazaro, Mexico, which transmits on 44 metres.

Zeesen at 6.15 a.m. was R5 with musical items. Did not hear them again after 6.30 a.m.

7LO, carrier only was audible. 20.5 metres about, a lady was heard talking at R7 in a foreign language. At 6.25 a.m. a man spoke in very fair broken English, "Circuit," "Hullo —," "Are you getting me better now," and "O.K." were heard from him. Foreign talk followed.

5SW was gushy at R4. The gushiness and a howler spoilt readability. W9XF was R7 with bad static. 2ME was R9. On account of some lines being crossed, bedtime stories from 2FC could be heard. GBX was R7 and about 50 per cent. readable. Kootwih and Bandoeng with duplex were R8 and both very clear. These stations in the vicinity of 15 metres are seldom troubled with static. Radio Manila from 10 p.m. was R8-9.

Friday, November 8.

THE Mexican (?) was again heard at 5.50 a.m. with foreign talk, the nature of which was similar to yesterday. After each talk a short band selection was heard at R4. Zeesen was R4-5 at 6 a.m. with very bad static. 7LO at R5 was quite good with orchestral music except for static. PCJ from 6 a.m. till 7.30 a.m. was at its best, only R6. Static, gushiness, and generator hum were bad. 5SW opened at 7 a.m. with Big Ben. Readability was again very poor. Static was very bad during the evening. W9XF R8, 2ME R9, GBX R7, and Radio Manila at R8 were all spoilt by atmospheric. W3XAL, Boundbrook, New Jersey, testing on 49.1 metres, was received at R8. The test consisted of counting 1, 2, 3, 4 and short talks.

Saturday, November 9.

On 41.5 metres (about) talk was just audible. This concluded and the station closed at 6 a.m. PCJ was again spoilt by static and generator hum. Zeesen was R8 with a very good programme of music, which, except for slight static, was perfectly received.

5SW at R5-6 was more clear than of late. W2XAD was R3 for a time about 2 p.m., but was soon lost. PCJ at its best was only R4 and then very gushy. KDKA also was weak and gushy. W9XF at 7 p.m. was quite good at R7. W3XAL was again testing on 6100 kilocycles or about 49.1 metres, with gramophone records.

Volume was very good. Reports were to be sent to W3XAL, Boundbrook, New Jersey, U.S.A. They signed off at 8 minutes past 2 a.m. (7.8 p.m. here). Radio Manila opened at 10 p.m. with the chimes, followed by selections by the Philippine Constabulary Band. Strength R8-9. Two Bandoeng, Java, stations were heard calling Amsterdam. Both stations were transmitting the same speaker. This talk commenced about 11 p.m.

Military Tattoo

Short Wave Broadcast

LAST night, while listening-in on my short-wave set at 10 p.m., I picked up a station on about 24 metres, which I took to be a German, broadcast a military tattoo. It was coming through well, R8-9; the bands could be plainly heard, as they passed the microphone, orders were being given, bugle calls sounded, and the people could be heard cheering. The broadcast lasted for about 45 minutes, and then they returned to the studio; talked a long while in a foreign language, and went on broadcasting items from their studio. Unfortunately I did not get any call-sign, as static came along just as the announcement was made. Hoping that some other short-wave fan was more fortunate than I in picking up the call-sign, as I am rather interested to know what station it was. —F. B. Busby (Auckland).

AS the value of the detector's grid leak has an important effect upon the sensitivity of the set, it is a good plan to try all the grid leaks you have on hand, especially in a short-wave receiver.

THRESHOLD howl in a short-wave set can sometimes be cured by connecting a large fixed condenser of 2 mfd. or more across the A battery terminals.

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