

GSB, 31.5 m., R6, QSA5, 7.30 p.m. Light orchestral items. Station very good this morning.

DJA, 31.38 m., R7, QSA5, 1.23 p.m. Programme of orchestral items. This station is good round about the above time, with very clear signals, which is characteristic of the German stations.

FYA, 25.60 m., R6, QSA5, 1.29 p.m. Talk being given in French.

WSXK, 25 m. Seems to have gone, owing to conditions, no doubt.

VKSLR, 31.3 m., R8, QSA5, 9.15 p.m. Giving out racing news. Signals very good to-night.

The writer of above notes will be away from Wanganui for three weeks, but on his return his shortwave notes will be continued.

Questions and Answers

(Continued from page 25.)

not indicated. If you have a circuit diagram, send it along and repeat your questions.

"DXER" (Waitaka): I have recently had trouble with my battery-operated seven-valve superhet, which was installed by a serviceman about five months ago. Though it gave very fair results, both volume and tone are not up to expectations. Recently I gave the set a thorough overhaul, and found that the bias battery had been connected up wrongly. When the connections were made correctly, the set performed as it never had before. Has the set in any way been harmed by this mistake, and if so, what parts are most likely to be damaged?

A.: The reversal of the two leads you mention meant that the bias supplied to the driver valve (type L2) was + 3 volts instead of — 3 volts. This would have the effect of increasing the plate current of this valve far beyond its rated limit, and hence by now its emission is probably ruined. This also would account for the poor tone and volume you have been experiencing. The only other component which could be affected by the mistake would be "B" class transformer; the high plate current passing through its primary might have burnt it out, but evidently this has not happened. Of course, your "B" batteries will be a little flatter now than if the connections had been correct in the first place, owing to the greatly increased current taken by the L2.

2. The set whistles loudly on three or four stations between 245 and 253 metres. What is the cause of this?

A.: It is improbable that this will be due to oscillation. It is more likely to be heterodyne interference, which is very pronounced on this portion of the wave-band.

3. Is the set harmed in any way by using it with a pick-up? If not, how could one be connected to my set?

A.: The set would not be harmed in any way. The simplest way of using a pick-up to your set would be to connect it across the 1 megohm grid leak.

I.M.I. (Auckland): Could you supply details for a wave-trap to cut out 12M, Manurewa?

A.: Connect a coil of 50 turns or so of 28 d.s.c., wound on a 2in. length of 1 1/2in. diameter former, across a .0005 mfd. variable condenser. Then take the

aerial to one side of the coil-condenser combination, and take a short lead from the other side to the set. Then tune in 12M, and adjust the condenser until the transmission disappears, or greatly diminishes in volume.

2. Would an A409 be suitable for the enclosed circuit?

A.: Yes, quite suitable. The A409 is a general purpose battery valve taking 4 volts on the filament.

3. What resistance would be suitable for a pair of phones?

A.: The resistance is not very important—any pair of phones with a resistance of from 1000 to 4000 ohms per earpiece would be quite suitable.

"ENGINEER" (Lake Coleridge): I propose to build the "Times" oscillator into the cabinet which already contains the "Times" analyser. I find it impossible to get all the components into the space I have available, unless the type 30 valves are mounted horizontally. Could this be done without danger to the elements?

A.: Yes.

2. Would the operation of the oscillator be affected by placing the components close together?

A.: Within limits, no. Try and keep the coil at least an inch away from any metal screens or partitions. The space you have available should be sufficient. Note: You will find that you will obtain the best coverage of the broadcast and i.f. bands with plug-in type coils by reducing the turns on the broadcast coil to 95 and on the i.f. coil to 400 turns, centre-tapped.

"RADIOGRAM" (Auckland): The fault in your combination receiver is rather a puzzling one, and providing the new 224A is not defective it is difficult to suggest a solution. The 224A is identical in type with the 224, but is of improved construction, and hence it is quite in order to use it for replacing the earlier type valve. No doubt an examination of the circuit of your set would give some clue to the source of the trouble, but unfortunately you have not quoted the model of your set.

Hawke's Bay Branch Club Meeting

THE next meeting of the above branch will be held at the business premises of Mr. L. Beachen, next Annand's, Wai-pukurau, at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 31.

Members are requested to bring their verifications for the cup and ladder competitions.—L. W. Mathie (District Secretary.)

Wellington Branch Meeting

QUITE a pleasant meeting was held on October 16, when 157, 177, 186, 201, 224, 226, 232, 233, 238 and 240 were present. An apology was received from 208.

The three-monthly competition was won by 244W, who entered some good verifications.

New talks are being arranged. 177W will deliver the next one, his subject being "Aerial and Earth Installations." This talk should be of interest to all, particularly beginners.

We have to thank 201W for his donation. The next meeting will be held on October 30.—E. J. Reeves (District Sec.),

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