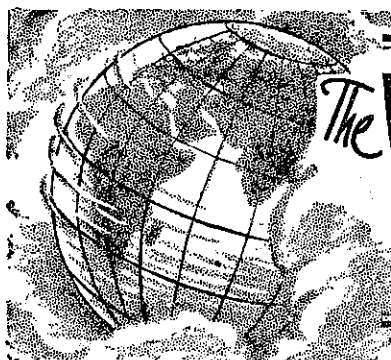




The WORLD on SHORT WAVE

Conducted by the N.Z. Shortwave Club

Club Notes

From the Secretary's Pen.

(By A. B. McDonagh, Sec., N.Z. S.W.C.,
4 Queen St., Wellington).

AS time for reception at headquarters was limited, only a brief summary can be given of the air race events. Reports were given out by various stations of the different nations on the air, and a comparison showed that the New Zealand national network of medium-wave stations did not lag behind.

The best information came from VK 3LR. Between times a great deal of interesting matter was put over, mostly

from the Australian national network. A recorded talk by Sir MacPherson Robertson was given, and prominent aviators, officers, and mechanics of the Air Force, combined to give most informative talks. VK2ME did not appear much, but probably most of their work was done during the times I could not keep watch. W2XAF was usually weak during the nights, but conditions were usually adverse except below 25 metres.

The arrival of the flyers was listened to both direct and from 2YA on a loud-speaker crystal set; on this occasion 2YA deserves credit. The telephony station VRY took part. The winning flyers spoke direct to London, and while this was being done, pictures were being flashed across which were to be screened in London a few hours later.

At 1.45 a.m. on Friday, October 25, W2XAF was working VK3ME preparatory to broadcasting a talk by the crew of the Dutch air-liner, and, while waiting, were rebroadcasting the Melbourne programme. I understand that VRY was standing by at the time, and it is possible the latter station may have done the work. Altogether, proceedings around 31 metres were very interesting indeed.

VK3ME was heard during the week from about 11 p.m. relaying 3DB, Melbourne, and asking for reports.

A letter from the chief engineer states that the equipment used by VK3XX on September 30 was that normally employed by VK3LR. The tests were on various radiating systems. The schedule of VK3LR is Monday to Saturday, 6.15 to 10.30 p.m., Australian Eastern Standard Time.

Germany, on 19 metres, heard on Sunday nights with their Australian programme, is received well here. They close with a hymn and the German National Anthem.

RNE, Moscow, usually comes on about 9.20 p.m. on Sundays on 25 metres. They close at 3 minutes to 12 midnight. The call is then given, "Attente-ione, Attente-ione, parley Francaise," as a preliminary to a broadcast for France.

Not a great deal has been heard of the Japanese stations relaying JOAK during the week, except for JVQ on 40.16 m. Listen to this station for English news just before 10 p.m. There is another Japanese station on the 49-metre band, but this must not be confused with the Java station on his native music session.

Sandwiched in between VK3ME and VK3LR at night is a foreigner. This is probably one of the Dutch East Indies stations (they seem to have as many stations, as the Japanese).

Dotted all over the band, from 31 down to about 15 metres especially are telephony stations, some on the "chopper"—others on plain speech. Mostly the carrier alone is on for hours. Beginners to radio are notified that these stations are for private purposes, and very few will verify.

Some booklets sent by the World Radio Research League have arrived, and will be sent to trained listeners in New Zealand, who will co-operate in the work.

Members are advised that full stocks of members' letterheads are now to hand, the price being 1/2 for 50 sheets, posted.

There are a number of new arrivals on short-wave, but it takes time for confirmation of their existence to arrive, so all listeners are well advised to keep a pad and pencil, or a slate, alongside the receiver, and note times, wavelengths, etc. Just recently two Mexican cards arrived, addressed to me. I asked a local member to bring along his notebook, and found that his entries exactly coincided with the data on the cards which, otherwise, would have remained unclaimed. Recently I have had the assistance of Mr. H. I. Johns, of Wanganui, in compiling a card index of all telephony, experimental, and short-wave broadcasting stations. All inquiries must be accompanied by a stamp. Dial numbers (except in megacycles as on the new aeroplane dials) are not of much assistance in identifying. Always state New Zealand time, nearest stations, and date, etc.

I am pleased to state that membership is again on the increase, and regret that limited time hinders prompt replies to all

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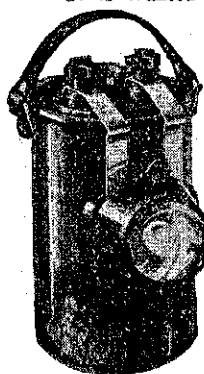
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