

were able to receive our station. You probably do not know that our station—the Comintern, operating on 1724 m., and simultaneously on 25 m.—broadcasts in English, and can be received in most distant countries. Enclosed we are sending you a cutting from our English newspaper, 'The Moscow Daily News,' dealing with the Comintern station.

"Under a separate cover we are sending you a small souvenir, an album with views of the U.S.S.R.—'The U.S.S.R. in Construction.' Please acknowledge receipt, as books and magazines are sometimes lost on the way. (The album has not yet arrived.) Enclosed we are also sending you our programmes for the month, with all the particulars of our broadcasts."—"Sunny" (Alexandra).

500 k.w. Moscow Giant.

The cutting from "The Moscow Daily News" is as follows:—

"The most powerful radio broadcasting station in the world—the Moscow Comintern station, of 500 k.w. power, has completed six months of service without a breakdown. Designed by Soviet engineers and manufactured in the Leningrad Comintern factory, this station is operated automatically by one person sitting at a control desk. The entire staff of this radio giant, twice as large as the 250 k.w. French station at Luxemburg, consists of five people.

"The apparatus is constructed in five blocks of 100 k.w. capacity each, any one of which may be shut off for repairs at any time, without interfering with the continuous operation of the station. While it was being tested the Comintern station sometimes ran for 72 hours without interruption. The principle of blocks, here tried out for the first time, is now being used in a new broadcasting station in Cincinnati, Ohio.

"The broadcasts carry about 9000 k.m., reaching such distant points as Kamchatha, Vladivostok and, under favourable atmospheric conditions, America. Reception in Irkutsk and Tashkent is reported extremely good at any time of the day or night, while in Europe Comintern programmes may be picked up by the most simple receiving sets."

46 Reports on Special.

CONDITIONS have not been of the best lately, owing to very heavy QRN, which makes dxing very difficult. American reception has been excellent lately, while Japanese stations have also been at good volume. Australians are much weaker, and occasionally several VK's are heard. The early morning Americans are plentiful, but are hard to log on account of static. Nearly all the Pacific stations can be heard opening between 2 and 3 a.m.

Latest loggings are KGGC, OKMO, CKOD (all 100 watts). KTPY (1340

k.c., not 800 k.c.), KTUL, KQW, WMT, KGRS, KPOB, KFEQ, CP4, KFNF, KDGM, CHWC and VK4LW.

KFEQ, St. Joseph, was on a test programme on November 24, and CHWC was on a special DX programme for CDXR on Sunday, December 16. KFNF was the best heard station on the Iowa specials. CP4, La Paz, was very weak on his special, and being under 42M, made it very difficult to get much data. WTAM and KDKA can be heard up till 9 p.m. on Sundays, KPRC (920 k.c.) till 8 p.m., and KGDH, Stockton, till 9 p.m. or later on Mondays.

The Eastern station on 560 k.c. can be logged with good volume any morning, and must be fairly powerful, as it is stronger than XGOA. I think it is a Japanese, as I believe 'here are three new 5 k.w. stations opening there soon.

Verifications received lately are from WJAG, KJR, WPG, XMH, JOGK, JOLK, JOPK, JORK, Poste Parisien, and VK's 3FY, 3EW, 3KE and 5MW.

WJAG, Norfolk, stated that they received 46 New Zealand reports on their special on September 19. Poste Parisien verified very promptly in 11 weeks.

Compliments of the season to all dxers. —164A (Morrinsville).

Advance, DX Specials.

THE following DX specials are taken from a copy of the November issue of "The British Globe Circle," "European organ of the International Dxrers' Alliance, sent to us by Mr. F. Crowder (310.), of Leeds, England.

KFH, Wichita, Kansas will broadcast specials on December 27, January 31, February 28, March 28, and April 24, from 08.15 till 08.45 G.M.T.

KFJZ, Fort Worth, Texas, will broadcast specials on January 9 and February 10, from .07 till .08 G.M.T.

Dxers should send their reports to Mr. Grosvenor, Mid-Co. DX Exchange Wichita, Kansas.

Endangering the Milliammeter

When nothing else happens to be available, there is a temptation to use a milliammeter in conjunction with a dry battery as an indicator of continuity. But such a procedure should be strongly discouraged, both for the beginner, who does not realise the possibility of damaging a comparatively expensive instrument, and for the more experienced enthusiast, who realises the danger but thinks he can adequately guard against it.

It will be fairly obvious that a milliammeter can only be used for this purpose when the circuit through which a test is to be made includes a high value of resistance—sufficiently high, in fact, to limit the current flowing to a value not exceeding the maximum rating of the instrument. But the danger is that in the process of testing a short-circuit may take place between the test leads, or, even more likely, they may be applied across a component which is thought to have a high internal resistance. (Continued at foot of next column.)

Features of the December "Radio Times."

Battery Set With A.V.C.

THE "Golden Superhet Five," a powerful battery set incorporating diode detection with delayed automatic volume control, is the "star" receiver in the December "Radio Times," now on sale.

New type Philips valves are used throughout. Two multi-mu Golden Series pentodes, type KP2, are used as r.f. and i.f. amplifiers; a 1C6 as mixer oscillator, a KBC1 as combined diode detector, A.V.C. control, and triode amplifier; and a C243N high-efficiency pentode, as output valve. An interesting feature of the KP2 and the KBC1, is that these valves have a sprayed metal coating on the glass envelope, which obviates the need for shield cans. This receiver gives splendid results, particularly on distant stations, and as the valves it uses have just been landed in New Zealand, it is the most up-to-date set yet described in the "Times."

Another receiver which is certain to be popular with constructors is the "Picnic Portable," a simple portable receiver which is capable of providing good speaker reception up to a distance of forty miles from powerful local stations.

In addition to the descriptions of these two receivers, there is also a fine selection of technical articles. The principles on which meters operate, and their use in radio work, are simply explained in "Meters, and How to Use Them," the first of a series of four practical articles. Other articles which the experimenter will find very interesting are those entitled, "Modern Automatic Volume Controls," "How to Minimise QRN and QRM," and "The New Golden Series Valves."

The Log Section.

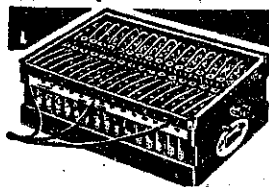
"DXING DURING DECEMBER," by Mr. D. N. Adams (2HQ), one of New Zealand's leading dxers, is an article which no dxers, whether beginner or old hand, should miss. It includes a comprehensive list of American stations which can be heard during the present month. The remainder of the log section is packed with a variety of articles and station lists, which every dxer will find of great interest.

tance, but where a short-circuit actually exists.

Unless one has a special instrument for continuity tests, the safe plan is to use a voltmeter in conjunction with a testing battery of a lower voltage than the maximum reading of the instrument.

The ampere is the unit of electrical current flow, and a quite good analogy is a gallon per minute. Actually when one coulomb flows in the space of one second, that equals one ampere.

The smaller the capacity of a series condenser, or the larger the inductance of a series choke, the greater the resistance to an alternating current of a given frequency.



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