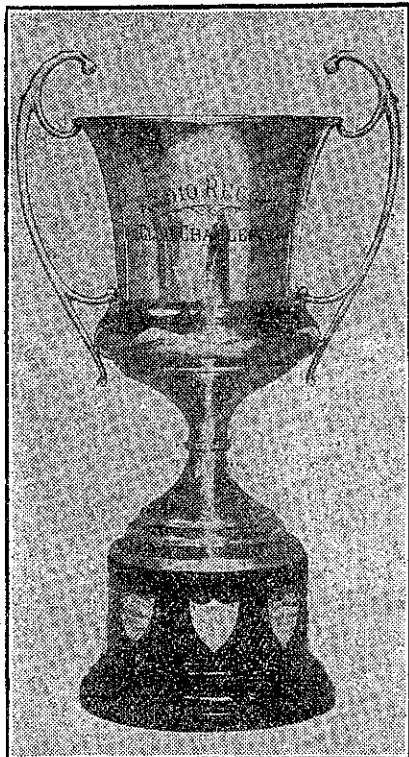


602 Verified Overseas Stations



The "Radio Record" DX Challenge Cup, which, as the shields on the base show, has now been won nine times. The first winner entered a log of 89 stations, and the last 602!

WHEN Mr. D. N. Adams, of Timaru, carried off the DX "Radio Record" Challenge Cup last June with a log of 546 verified overseas stations, it was generally thought that he had established an unbeatable record. In the latest competition, however, this huge total has been well topped, by no less than 56 stations. The entrant of this remarkable 602-station log was Mr. J. R. Bain, of Marton Junction, who thus wins the Challenge Cup, and with it, the title of DX champion of New Zealand. The winner's name will be inscribed on a shield at the base of the trophy, and in addition he will receive an engraved silver miniature.

A list of the prize-winners in the other competitions, together with the winner's log, appear in the February issue of the "New Zealand Radio Times," now on sale.

From 89 to 602 Stations.

The amazing rapidity with which the winning totals have increased since the first competition was held, in December, 1930, is a splendid testimony to the enthusiasm of the competitors. The cup winners, and totals to date, are as follows:—S. R. Ellis, 89; M. Stafford, 142; M. Stafford, 227; F. W. A. Barnett, 291; F. W. A. Barnett, 366; J. E. Downes, 417; J. P. Cowlishaw, 500; D. N. Adams, 546; J. R. Bain 602.

Four Years' Dxing.

The present winner, who is secretary of the Marton Branch of the Club, is one of the best-known dxers in New Zealand, and for several years has been a regular entrant in the six-monthly

J. R. BAIN WINS "RADIO RECORD" DX CHALLENGE CUP AND ESTABLISHES NEW RECORD FOR DX LISTENING.

DX Competitions conducted by the "Radio Times." While operating a 4-valve Ultimate battery set he won the Fraser Battery Cup, the "Radio Times" Battery Cup twice, and the Taranaki District Certificate for the December, 1932, competition. He is now using a six-valve Ultimate super-het. In the following, Mr. Bain relates his experiences in dxing since he first took up the hobby, over four years ago.

"I started dxing when the New Zealand DX Club was first formed, my number then being 13T, as I was stationed in Taranaki. The receiver I was then using was a 4-valve commercial battery set.

"In 1932 I first gained honours by winning the Taranaki District Certificate, and also the Fraser Battery Cup, with a verified log of 213 stations. Since then I have twice won the "Radio Times" Battery Cup and now the "Radio Record" DX Challenge Cup.

"As most dxers are aware, I am now using a 6-valve receiver of the same make but in the A.C. class. A comparison between the two sets may be of interest. In my opinion, the battery set is slightly more suited for dxing, as it is much quieter in operation, and 'phones can be used at all times, except when static is too severe. The receiver can be operated on the border of oscillation, and maximum results thus obtained. A battery set is certainly more expensive to run, especially when one has to use dry batteries, as these only used to last me approximately six months.

"On the other hand, the electric set is far more convenient, as one does not have batteries to consider and therefore the running cost is much cheaper. I also found that signals at R2 on the battery set would be practically inaudible on the A.C. set, but that stations at R5 on the battery set would increase to about R9 on the A.C.

"It is pleasing to note that recently there have been very few complaints re blacklisted stations. I was never in favour of this as I have always found that if a comprehensive and detailed report is sent to a station, a reply is always forthcoming. When the amount of mail some of the stations receive is considered, is it any wonder that one or two letters are mislaid or go astray? On occasions I have had to send a second or even third report to certain stations, but have always finished up with the desired result.

"With the Australian stations I always enclosed return postage, but apart from them I have never enclosed postage to any country, except on very rare occasions. With so many distant stations seeking information on our country, I have found it a good idea to enclose a small booklet giving news and views of New Zealand. These are obtainable at Tourist Offices free of

charge and do not, as a rule, cost anything extra for postage. Incidentally, a little publicity like this very often ensures a prompt reply, beside helping in a small way to advertise our tourist resorts.

"I would also like to remark on the growth of our club. The fact that the membership is now approaching 1500 proves what an interesting hobby dxing is. Widespread interest in the club has been stimulated recently by the formation of many new branches throughout the country, and judging by the notes which appear regularly in the "Times," some very lively times are witnessed at the meetings. Everybody seems eager to win one of the many trophies that have been donated to various branches. In conclusion, I might add that I owe my success to, first of all, a good receiver and a good locality, and, secondly, a patient and peaceful family! I would offer my congratulations to the various other winners in this competition."

DX in South Australia

(By DX 460.)

CONDITIONS here in VK5 have been very patchy lately. Static is still very prevalent, but, for all that, some very good loggings have been made. The best stations received here at present are the Europeans. Those outstanding are:—Rome (420.8), Breslau (315.8), Milan (368.6), Toulouse (328.6), Paris (412.8), Hamburg (331.9), Odessa (309.9), Strasbourg (349.2), Falkirk (371.3), Moscow IV (360.6), Brno (324.5), Madona (271.7), Bari (283.3) and Bucharest (364.5). At night the Orientals come through at good volume. Very little has been heard of our members this last month. I guess they are just getting over the holidays.

500 is busy re-building his all-wave super.

510 is also rebuilding; Pete is on a B.C. set.

520 is anxious to get his ticket. Best of luck, Ron.

530 has just come back from a six weeks' holiday. How were the fish biting, Jack?

580 is also anxious to get his ticket. Neil hopes to be a "full blown ham" after the April exam.

Ron Caldwell, over at Edithburgh, is a very ardent dxer. Ron is going to break into shortwaves soon; then for all that big DX on 20 metres!

460 is kept very QRL with VK5FR and work.

The 200 metre fone band is crowded with stations on Sundays, all jamming one and another. The W.I.A. has allotted each station different sessions, and all frequencies have been changed here in VK5. Those on 200 metres here at present are:—VK's 5WS, 5WH, 5DX, 5RP, 5LE, 5SL, 5IV, 5NR, 5MW, 5MD, 5BA, 5DC, 5BY, 5JC, 5KH, 5AT, 5DR, 5BP and 5MH. Four others are waiting on permits to operate up here. J. M. Moody.