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When Your Set Fails !

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Questions and Answers

"T.R.F." (Nelson): Probably the best way to run the eliminator from 32 volts would be to tap off three cells of the battery. This would obviate the trouble due to sparking at the contacts that would otherwise be encountered if the primary were wound to run from the 32 volt direct.

"L.W." (Aramoho): Possibly the type 30 valve followed by the 33 would be as good as any other combination. It is usually necessary to use a type 33 directly after the detector, but in a quiet locality it would be possible to use the two stages without too much background noise being apparent. A good addition is to use a volume control associated with the first stage, the 30 valve in this case.

"W.A." (c/o J.W.R., Southland): Your query about your set is difficult to answer without some description of the set itself; write again, giving more detail. The use of a six-volt battery in the way you describe is liable to be dangerous to the filaments and, although the filaments may be intact, we are inclined to think that they have been flashed and hence now useless. A new set of valves seems indicated.

"DX94A" (Pokeno): The trouble with that set seems, from the symptoms you give, to lie in a faulty condenser. One of the by-pass ones has evidently opened; this allows the set to oscillate a little. Try placing a good condenser temporarily from the various B positives to chassis, etc. The transformer does not sound as though it were at fault.

"R.L.S." (Duddingston, North Taieri): Even if your set is correctly aligned there may be weak responses to the harmonics of any powerful local station. In your case they seem to be in the normal position on the dials, and, in that case, can be neglected unless they interfere with the reception of other stations, in which case have the set realigned by the agents.

"ELIMINATOR" (Inglewood): The eliminator you have will give a whole series of voltages from the various tappings depending on the current drawn from each tap. The makers used to issue with them a pamphlet where a chart enabled one to calculate the approximate voltage for any tap, and we suggest that you write them for one.

The second row are for C bias tapping, the values for which are marked over the "little holes."

The aerial you suggest does not seem to offer any advantage, and the addition of a condenser where shown would cause the aerial to act more as a loop aerial with its directional properties. Actually the higher pole should be the furthest from the set and the lead-in taken from the "home" end.

DX Topics

(Continued from previous page).

The following is a copy of a reply received from ORCX: "We regret to advise you that as it is against the policy of the Commission to give verifications, we are unable to fulfil your request. Thanking you for your letter and interest in our station." It is signed by the chief engineer.—"Airfan" (Palmerston North).

Good Conditions on Shortwave.

IN contrast to the broadcast band, which has been exceptionally poor this winter, stations on the short waves have been generally good. Davenport is now operating on the 31, 17 and 15-metre bands during their morning transmissions here. Japan, besides being heard on 28 metres, on Wednesday and Saturdays is also on 19 metres. 2RO divides their transmissions between the 31 and 25 metre bands, and at present is coming through with great volume.

On Friday at 10.35 a.m., 2RO was heard on an English session with an interesting talk on the political aspect of Europe, followed by news of world events. At the same time the following stations were heard: DJN (R7), DJA (R3), FYA (R5), W2XAF (R3), W1XK (R3), WSXK (R3), EAQ (R5), HJU (R4).

DJN, 31.45, is the best station on any band during the day, and is the best and most consistent I have heard it. DJC, 49.83 m., is also coming in well, and is better than DJD, 25.49 m., when closing down at 9 a.m.

A New Zealand teacher was heard speaking from RNE at 9 a.m. on June 27. This English session is well worth listening to, as, besides speakers from various countries, answers to correspondence are most instructive.

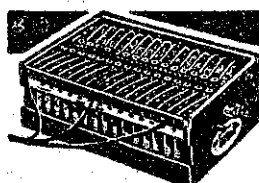
On 26 m., approx., a new station has been heard around 9 p.m., signals being R5. No call in English has been heard. Records and native music are generally heard about the above hour.

On 53.8 metres, an Australian station has been heard from an early hour in the morning, but owing to the noisy nature of the band reading has been extremely difficult, but I believe it to be a harmonic of 2UW, Sydney.

CTIAA, 31.25 m., is improving, and has been heard at R5 at 8.45 a.m., giving out their programme in English.

A station on the 31 m. band, not heard before, was picked up on Wednesday, July 1, at 8.55 a.m. It is between GSB and DJN, and with both these stations coming in at R6, reading was difficult. A talk was being given in a slow foreign language, after which "Hello listeners, this is —," was heard, but I failed to catch the call sign. Signals were about R4, QSA2.

HJ1ABP, 31.25 m., was at R5 on July 1, at 2.30 p.m. I was listening to a German station, with a lady announcer, on the same wavelength, and immediately following the German National Anthem, the interval signal at MJ1ABP, consisting of three notes, followed, and the call sign in English, was given. This station closes round about 3.15 p.m., and reports are asked for. I suggest this is the station heard as "Radio Cartagena," as the same box number was given out by the announcer.—"Dual Wave" (Auckland).



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