

## AROUND AND BEHIND THE DIALS.

## Items of Interest to Listeners

## Answers To Correspondents

**R.M. (Auckland):** Allow me to correct your notes of March 11 regarding "Radio Sool." The consul for Panama gave me the correct "dope" and translated reports of programmes heard. I have received card, map and booklet of "Radio Sool 1190," which is 500 miles south of your CB1170, owned by Otto Becker. The latter station took over OB615, which no longer exists. Otto Becker's station is at Santiago, "Radio Sool," or "SUR," to be exact, is in Valdivia and can be heard any afternoon now. I have a card from Otto Becker also, recently.—"Savaii" (Auckland).

## Stations Identified

**266M.C.:** WCG is on 10,380 k.c., and is situated at Rocky Point, N.Y., U.S.A. It is an experimental telephony station using a power of 40 k.w.—"Savaii" (Auckland).

## Identification Wanted

**Station on 10.96 m.c. (approx.),** which can be heard every morning. On July 2 they seemed to be relaying a concert, as clapping was heard after each item. At 9.15 a.m. a lady spoke, and then the station closed down. All announcements previous to this were made by a man; they (the announcements) were all made in a foreign language. I believe this to be the station listed in the call book on 10.96 m.c. and located at Tananarive, Madagascar, as I have also heard them between 2.30 a.m. and 3.30 a.m., but I would like to make certain. Also station on 14.5 m.c. This is evidently a Spanish rebel station, as I have heard the words "Franco" and "Espana" several times. They close down any time around 11.30 a.m. with a march. Most of the time a man speaks in Spanish. They have a gong as an identification signal. On June 22 they played "Who's Afraid

of the Big, Bad Wolf" at 11.17 a.m. and again at 11.21 a.m. At 11.24 a.m. a gong was struck, the announcer gave the call (in Spanish), and all I heard was "Radio . . ." At 11.25 a.m. they said, or rather, shouted, "Franco! Franco! Franco! . . . a re Espana! They then played a march and signed off at 11.26½ a.m.—551A. (Frankton).

## DX Topics

## A New One.

**WHEN** listening to station 2RO on June 8, I heard the following announcement: "You are listening to the 'American Hour' broadcast through Stations 2RO, 25.40 metres, and IRF 30.5 metres." Evidently IRF is a fairly new station.

My latest verifications are from:—S.w.: DJA, DJL, W2XAD and W2XAF (one card for the two stations), LZA, OLR4A, COBO, CT1AA, JZK, PCJ, HC1JB, TGWA, K6NZQ, VLR, VK2CD, VK2XU, VK2AGU, VK3ME, VK3WD, VK4AW, ZMBJ; B.C.: 3AR, 2BL, 2NZ, 2HD, 2ZH, 3ZM, 3ZB, 4YA.—554W. (Wellington).

## "A Soft Spot For ZL"

**MY** latest reports are out to VK2QR, XE21Y, TG2, OLR3A, and RAN. TG2 operates on 47.52m. (6.13m.c.). They announce in English every half-hour. In this announcement they state that they appreciate reports, and that they are relaying TG1. OLR3A was also asking for reports.

My latest QSL's are from ON4BG, VLR, PCJ (19.7m.), G2MIV, G6EJ, G6DT, ON4VK, F3GR, and VE5BF.

G2MIV says:—"Frank, I want to thank you very much for your letter to me, and the very fine QSL card. We have a soft spot here for ZL, and always enjoy a contact with the Anaacs. It also fits nicely, as am testing frequently trying to get good phone over to ZL. The aerial was three half waves in phase, and the input about 30 watts to final RK25's . . ." So if you hear this station don't forget to report him. His QRA is Stan Martingell, "Haycott," Homefield Road, Old Coulsdon, Surrey, England.

All the other amateurs mentioned also state that they appreciate reports.—551A. (Frankton).

## No Time to Waste!

**RECENT** verifications are from F3GR, F3KH, VE5VO, YU1AP, HC1JB, VK4MI, F3OO, K4SA, UK4CG, G2TR, VE9BW, G2XV, PK4JD, W6MLG, VK3DH, VK4HR, W8XK, 4BK, and 2HR. Loggings are: CN8AV, G6WX, G8MA, G6KL, G2MF, XE1AX, F8XT, PK6XX.

VK4CG sent my card back and stated that he had no time to waste on shortwave listeners!—507W. (Wanganui).

## Questions and Answers

**"DX160W"** (Palmerston North): Possibly the best, and simplest type, of coil to use in the preselector you have, would be one where the aerial is fed to the grid coil by a small preset condenser. The design of an aerial coil for your requirements is not easy, as the maximum results obtained require that the coil be designed for the aerial with which it will be used.

The type of condenser we recommend for coupling is one of the small trimmers mounted on a bakelite strip, and a little smaller than a postage stamp. This can be adjusted for best results with your aerial, and then the results will be about the same as for a coil specially designed.

For ease in tuning, a low capacity tuning condenser is advisable, but the smaller this capacity the greater the number of coils required to cover a given range of wavelengths. With a 0.0001 mfd. condenser, and a five-turn coil on a 1½-inch former, the tuning range will be 15.5 to 27 metres. A second coil with 10 turns on same diameter former will then go from 26 metres to 47 metres. A third, of 30 turns, will then span from 46.6 to 93.5 metres. Use about 26-gauge wire and space one diameter apart.

With this set of coils the tuning will not be too sharp, but, as already said, there are three coils. For the broadcast band, two coils would be necessary—one of 300 turns on a 1½-inch former, three-inch length of winding, covering 550 metres to 350. Use 36-gauge enamelled wire, close wound. Another, with 180 turns of 30-gauge enamelled wire, close wound on a 1½-inch former. This will cover from 200 metres to just over the 350 metres of the former coil.

For your work, these coils should give a good gain and be easy for tuning.

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## N.Z. DX Club Meetings.

## HAWKE'S BAY

In the Club Room, above Wood's Tearooms, Waipukurau, at 7.45 p.m., on Wednesday, July 27.

V. L. KING (119H.B.),  
Branch Secretary.

## NORTHLAND.

At 21 Anzac Road, Whangarei, at 7.30 p.m., on Monday, August 1.

R. A. ROYCROFT (2HQ),  
Branch Secretary.

## AUCKLAND.

In the Society of Arts Hall, Kitchener Street, at 8 p.m., on Wednesday, July 27.

F. NEWING (316A),  
Branch Secretary.

## WELLINGTON.

In the Club Rooms of the 1st Wellington City Rover Crew, 3rd floor, "Times" Building, Kelburn Avenue, at 8 p.m. on Monday, July 25.

A. BAILEY (444W.),  
Branch Secretary.

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