

THE D.X. CLUB

Views and News.

Identification Wanted

CAN anyone identify a station on about 1240 k.c. (242 metres) that I heard to-night (January 2). They were giving some choral music, followed by a jazz tune. An announcement was made at 9.10 p.m., but this I could not catch. "God Save the King" was then heard, and they closed down. I heard this on a seven-valve all-electric set at good strength, but very distorted.—"Dynamic" (Lower Hutt).

HAS any listener ever heard plain English from Japanese stations? If so, from which stations? Is there any such station as 4ZC? I had a station very faint on December 14, at 7.30 p.m., on 300 metres, playing dance music. The call sign sounded like the above.—Universal Five (Ladbroke).

I HAVE have a crystal set, and for quite a number of evenings after 2YA closes down, I have picked up a voice from somewhere. Last night, January 1, after 2YA had signed off, I heard the following items: 1. At 11.25 p.m., "Roamin' in the Gloamin'" sung by a Scotch voice. 2. 11.30 p.m., "Wedding of the Painted Doll." 3. 11.35 p.m., Band item, "The Whistler." 4. 11.40, Tenor solo, "Lay My Head Beneath a Rose."—D. McLaughlin (Karori).

ABOUT 1 o'clock on the morning of November 18, I tuned in a station on wavelength approximately 230 metres (9 on my dial). I get 2YB,

244 metres on 12. I heard the announcer, a lady, closing down quite plainly, saying: "This is station 3LG, Newport." Have any readers heard this station? On the same evening at the same time, and again on December 23 at the same hour, I heard two stations very weak on speaker, approximately 235 and 240 metres, but could not get the station call, although the lower one of the two sounded like two letters and then 3AC (for instance, ZL-3AC). Would it be possible to get the Christchurch Amateur ZL-3AC on the broadcast band? (No, unless by reflection.—Tech. Ed.) I have heard this station very clearly on a crystal set. I also get a Jap. right on 2LO's wavelength, or rather, a fraction below, going fairly strong at same time as 2LO. Would this be JOCK on 370 metres? There are three other Japs., one 2 degrees below 2BL, one 2 degrees below 2YA, and one 1½ degrees below 4QG. Could anyone tell me the names of these stations? Is there a book with complete list of all foreign stations with operating hours for New Zealand time? If not, could you give me some idea as to when to look for them? I am more or less a novice and have not yet had any American stations. I would also like to know if a moving coil speaker is suitable for DX work? Mine seems to bring in a terrible lot of static, or is this usual for this time of year.—"Westrad," (Woolston).

[Dynamic speakers are quite good for DX work. Static is the order of the day during the summer.—Tech. Ed.]

How to Enjoy Your Holidays

The Railway Holiday Booklet contains glad tidings—it tells of how to reach all the delightful places you have longed to visit, with a maximum of comfort and a minimum of cost. Call, write, or 'phone for a copy—obtainable free at any Railway Station or City Booking Office.

Remember—Cheap Tickets are obtainable from 13th December to 11th January. Return up to 8th February.

Howling Valve Nuisance

DX Listeners Blamed

A MEMBER of the Wellington Radio Society, at their recent meeting, condemned the practice of certain papers in encouraging D.X. work. He affirmed that this was only stimulating the "howling valve" nuisance. He said that this caused the air to be filled with the shrieks of oscillating valves, and one could not listen in peace to even one of the "outside" YA stations without being inflicted with a continual "procession of prowling howlers" passing by in quest of long-distance stations. Another member expressed the opinion that it was not the "prowlers" who were so obnoxious, but it was the "howler" who settled on one station and howled there continuously.

Coming from a member of a society of more or less enlightened listeners we consider the statement very much out of place. In the first place what constitutes D.X. work? According to the speaker it is listening to the outside YA and Australian stations where, through the careless manipulation of their sets they cause annoyance. D.X. work is almost entirely confined to the small Australian and the big Americans to whom not one listener in 10,000 listens to for musical entertainment. Those interested in D.X. work do not remain on the larger stations, consequently they must be exonerated from the blame of causing a menace to the listening public.

D.X. indicates "long-distance" and this means a fairly large receiver which can get the main stations without any difficulty. The howling valve nuisance is created by the owners of one, two and three-valve receivers, particularly the one-valvers. Sets which cannot get Christchurch without constantly oscillating must be very small and as such cannot participate in D.X. work.

Beat Note Frequency

A Reception Incident

A CHRISTCHURCH correspondent records what appeared to him to be a unique happening. The two local stations, 3YA and 3ZC were broadcasting simultaneously, the former on 306 metres (980 k.c.), and the latter on 250 metres (1200 k.c.). Then he began to turn the dial to tune in to 2YA. Just before reaching 2YA mark he again heard what appeared to be a new station. The reception was clear but not overstrong, and the carrier wave was modulated by the transmission of 3YA and 3ZC.

The probable explanation, according to the chief engineer of the Broadcasting Company, to whom the incident was referred, is that the second harmonic of 3YA was causing a 760 k.c. beat with 3ZC's fundamental of 1200. This beat note, therefore, would appear slightly below 2YA's wave.

Radio News from America

Several Stations Identified

THE following letter from an American radio enthusiast contains much useful information concerning American stations, and should prove particularly interesting to short-wave amateurs: "I have just received a copy of the 'Radio Record' (the first I have ever seen) from a friend. I am very much interested in short-wave reception, especially short-wave broadcasting, and I like the short-wave news in the 'Radio Record.' I notice in the issue I have (September 27, 1929) a letter in the D.X. Club column from Mr. J. Riach, of Central Otago, in which he says he received a station 'somewhere in Kentucky, U.S.A.', and the call letters were WCKY. He wishes to learn the address. This station is owned by L. B. Wilson (Incorporated), located at Covington, Kentucky, U.S.A., and uses a power of 10 kilowatts on a wavelength of 1480 kilocycles, or 202 metres. Also a letter from Arthur E. Allen, Avondale, who reports reception of station WOW, Cincinnati, Ohio. He is mistaken about the call letters, as there is no WOW here in Cin. The station he heard was undoubtedly WLW in Cincinnati, owned by the Crosley Radio Corporation, Cincinnati, Ohio. This station uses a power of 50 kilowatts on a wavelength of 428 metres (1480 k.c.)."

"I would like very much to correspond with any readers of the 'Radio Record' desiring to do so. I could perhaps assist any readers in all matters pertaining to U.S. stations. I am very keen on short-wave reception, and for this purpose use a seven-valve short-wave receiver. During the past year I have logged about 40 stations, including Mexico, XDA; in Germany, DHC and DIH; in Costa Rica, NRH; in England, G5SW, GBU and GBS; also the Bridgewater and Bodmin beam stations. I have also heard Nancy, France, 14.43, and Monte Grande, Buenos Aires, on two frequencies. Several U.S. trans-Atlantic phones and VK-2ME, Sydney, and several I have never been able to identify. The weather is cold here now (8° below zero), and short-wave reception is not at its best at the present time. Hoping to hear from some New Zealanders.—I am, etc., Fred Easter, 3353 Cincinnati, Ohio, U.S.A."

Development in Europe

THE scheme for reorganising broadcasting in Switzerland provides for the installation of a special telephone cable system in order to link up all transmitters, to permit of simultaneous transmissions. New studios are also to be built at Montreux and Neuchâtel, as well as at other important centres.

IT is stated in Rome that when the Vatican station is in regular operation, an attempt will be made to relay religious services from St. Peter's (Rome) and from the Sistine Chapel; should this prove successful, broadcasts will be made on important Roman Catholic holidays.