Argentina Telephones for B.B.C. Programmes.

A telephonic appeal from the Argentine for a development of the shortwave broadcasting service from Britain was made recently when Sir John Keith, director-general of the B.B.C., received a telephone call from Buenos Aires via Berlin. Those engaged in the converation at the Buenos Aires end were Mr. Hirst, of the Marconi Company; Mr. Barbara, manager of the River Plate Telephone Company; and Mr. Brumen, head of the English Speaking Radio Club of Argentina.

Mr. Brumen stated that plans were going forward for a new broadcasting station near Buenos Aires to serve programmes in English to the 100,000 English-speaking people of Argentina. Britishers in the Argentina were keenly interested in 58W, and looked forward anxiously for an extension of its service.

New French Short-wave Transmitter.

"TCI Station Radiophonique Paris Experimental" is the call of a new short-wave transmitter in France. working daily at 9 a.m. on 31.65 metres. Broadcasts are also made on Mondays at 3 a.m. (each New Zealand summer The power is 1 kilowatt.

Regular Schedule from Konigswusterbausen.

THE Konigswusterhausen short-wave transmitter on 31.38 metres has been brought into regular daily opera-This station now relays the tion. lunch hour (1 a.m. to 2 a.m., N.Z.S.T.) concerts from Berlin, as well as the afternoon and evening entertainments. A special transmission is made once weekly between 11.30 and 12.30 p.m. (N.Z.S.T.).

Short-wave Call of KZRM.

IN reply to query about the call of ing the short-wave transmitter, broadcasting the KZRM programmes. This is KIXR, but is seldom used. It has been heard on several occasions at the beginning of the first transmission before changing over to the studio.

International Tests from 2ME.

While listening to VK2ME talking to GBX, the following particulars of tests arranged with other stations were given: With KDKA, every Monday,

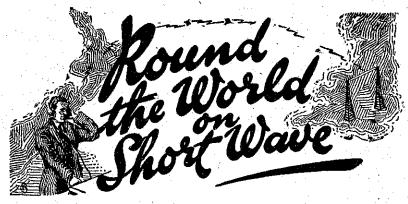
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"HIS page is conducted in the interests of shortwave enthusiasts. A weekly log comprising notes of reception and interesting topical events is contributed by Mr. F. W. Sellens, Northland, Wellington, but all listeners are invited to send in paragraphs of general interest.

11.15 to 11.30 p.m., N.Z.S.T.; with N.Z.S.T.; and Java and Holland on Saturday from 9.30 p.m., N.Z.S.T.

Reception during Week ending January 11, 1930.

RA97. Siberia, 70 Metres, continues to come in strongly from about 9 p.m., with, as a rule, plenty of static.

AFL, Bergedorf, Germany, 52 metres. This stranger was heard first at 7.40 p.m. on Wednesday at R7. Reception, although fair strength, was bad on account of gushing and static. Slow talk was heard at first. From 7.45 till 8 p.m. music was received at R8, with slow fades. After some "schtung," etc., they closed just after 8 p.m.

This German was on again at the same time on Thursday, but not so loud. VLW started soon after I tuned it in, and of course blotted the German station out.

W9XF. Chicago, 49.83 metres, has been very good till 8 o'clock each even-

W3XAL, Boundbrook, New Jersey, 49.7 metres, was only heard on Sunday, closing down then before it reached good readable strength.

W2XAF, Schenectady, 31.4 metres. Late in being audible, reaches R8 by 4.30 p.m. on Sunday. On Saturday they were not heard till nearly 5 p.m., when strength was about R4-5.

PCJ, Holland, 31.4 metres.—On Friday and Saturday their programme commenced just after 6 a.m. at R8, decreasing to R4 by 7.30 a.m. The special N.Z. and Australian transmission on Saturday afternoon was again too weak to be readable; music at times was just audible.

Zeesen, Germany, 31.38 metres, has been R4-5 each morning when starting at 6 a.m. Friday was an exception: they were on before 6 a.m. with orchestral music at R6. They closed at 6 a.m. after an announcement, reopening at 6.30 a.m. with more music, but much weaker. At 11.30 p.m. on Saturday night I tuned them in, just in time to hear the "sign off." Strength

7LO, Nairobi, 31 metres, was very weak each morning except Friday. when strength was R4-5, but very gushy.

Bangkok, Siam, 29.5 metres, started about 11.30 p.m. on Saturday at R7. Static was medium. Orchestral records were played. The talk was not readable; it was as though the speaker were a distance from the microphone compared with the music volume.

VK2ME, Sydney, 28.5 metres, is W2XAF, Tuesday, 14th inst., 11.30 p.m., again testing with GBX, England, Strength is nearly every evening. always R9.

A most interesting test was heard on Saturday night between 2ME and PCK, Holland. Sydney was first talking to Java, who were transmitting simultaneously through PLE (15.74 metres) and PMB (14.5 metres). Later PLE were rebroadcasting Amsterdam-PCK for Sydney, while the signals from 2ME were being relayed by PMB to Holland. The Java and Dutch transmissions were well received here, while 2ME was easily R9.

GBX, England, 27.5 metres (about), comes through at better strength and clarity now when on duplex with 2ME.

KZRM, Manila, 26 metres (about), can be depended upon for a good programme of music after 10 p.m. They can now be heard from 8 p.m., strength is rather weak, but readable They close at 9 p.m. most evenings. till 10 p.m.

G5SW, England, 25.53 metres.—This station has not been heard at more than R3 since last writing, from 7 a.m. A Greymouth correspondent says that, although weak, they are readable with him. They need to be strong here to be intelligible through the usual rapid fade and gushiness.

KDKA, Pittsburgh, 25.4 metres.--On Sunday this station was not readable to after 3 p.m., increasing to R7-8 by 4 p.m. Not a sign was heard on Saturday.

W6XN, California, 23.35 metres, was heard for a time on Sunday, but were too weak to bother with.

W2XAD, Schnectady, 195 metres. R2 was the best I could manage from this station on Sunday. They were transmitting on Saturday, as when 2XAF closed down both station calls were given, but 2XAD was not audible

PLG, Bandoeng, Java, 16.88 metres, was heard on Tuesday evening duplex with PCK.

PCK, Holland, 16.3 metres, were heard several times with records at R7-8, while waiting to commence duplex with Java.

PLE, Java, 15.74 metres, were calling Amsterdam on Wednesday evening, and on Saturday were broadcasting records at R8. simultaneously with PMB, Java, 14.5 metres, which was also R8.

Monte Grande, Chile, 15.02 metres, came in splendidly with records on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday

evenings from about 8.30. The weakest heard was R8.

DGW, Nauen, 14.83 metres, . W28 heard on Friday evening with records at 10.30. Strength R7, with slight

Unidentified Stations.

On 72 metres (about), at 9.5 p.m. on Sunday, a "John Henry and Blossom" record was heard without any call sign, probably a harmonic.

24.3 metres (about), reported last week as 6H1 or 6X1, was heard again at 6 a.m. on Tuesday, but was too weak to hear much.

41.3 metres (about). Very faint music on this wave-length was heard on Tuesday morning.

Moving Coil Speaker

EXPERIMENTERS who use movingcoil loudspeakers in which the field is energised from an accumulator often find, to their annoyance, that although they switched off the set on the previous occasion they had not switched off the energising current, with the result that the accumulator has run down. Troubles of this kind can be largely avoided by using a filament jack mounted on the baffle board or cabinet and so wired that the insertion of this plug, connected to the output terminals of the set, will both connect the speaker and simultaneously switch on the field current. The use of the plug in this way is rather a reversal of the usual practice; for generally the speaker is connected to the "free ends" of the lead and the jack inserted in the set. Such a device shows clearly whether speaker is connected or not, and saves running down the accumulator needlessly. Of course, in a case where a plug has to be inserted in a jack in the set, the loudspeaker leads will have two plugs. A glance shows whether the plug is in the speaker or not, while the position of a switch is not easily seen from a distance.

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