

**A French 5SW.**

THE French authorities are determined to have a short-wave broadcasting station to reach their colonies, and the present idea is to convert the Eiffel Tower to that use, a million and a half francs having been reserved. In view of the attitude of the B.B.C. and the Government towards Empire broadcasting, it is worth noting that the French authorities say: "It is absolutely essential that a great French station of this description be established."

**Beam Broadcast to Canada.**

THE Marconi-Mathiew multiple beam service from Bodmin, operating at 16.57 metres, was used for relaying the broadcast of the Cenotaph service on Armistice Day to listeners in Canada, who heard the transmission from the broadcasting stations of the Canadian National Railways. On a previous occasion, when the beam station relayed the Thanksgiving Service in Westminster Abbey, Canadian listeners reported that the quality was equal to a first-class local broadcast.

**Naval Conference Broadcast.**

REPORTS of reception of the opening of this conference are as varied as possible. Some found 5SW with a noisy background, gushy, and most troubles met with on short waves, while others found reception almost perfect from the same station. Several correspondents report PCK, Holland, on 16.3 metres, being the best station heard rebroadcasting the proceedings.

Northland appeared to be the ideal spot for 5SW on this occasion. Just before 11 p.m. they were tuned in, the preliminary announcement being heard direct from Chelmsford before "going over to London." The London announcer gave the order in which the delegates would speak, and then switched over to the House of Lords.

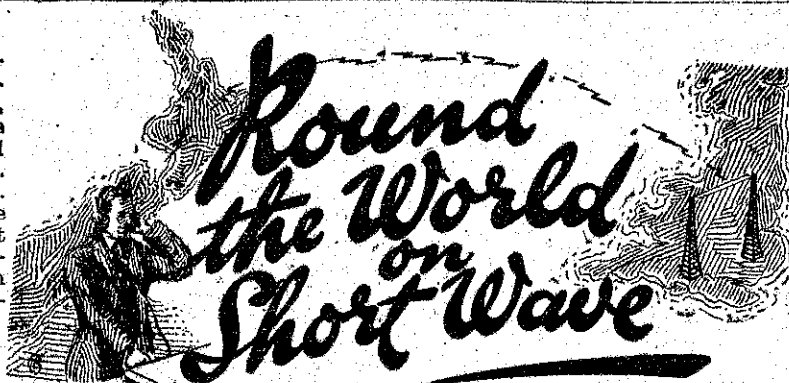
It then appeared that reception was going to be spoilt by a strong background of noises, but this proved to be hum of many voices, which ceased when the King entered the Royal Gallery.

Reception of the King's speech, though not quite 100 per cent. readable, was very clear at good loudspeaker strength. Mr. Ramsay Macdonald was even better, except that he has a habit of dropping his voice at times, several words being missed as a result. Every other speaker was received perfectly till the conclusion at 1.18 a.m. From this time till 1.30 a.m. orchestral music was relayed from the Piccadilly Hotel. I have heard most of the early morning (N.Z. time) programmes from 5SW since they commenced operations, and several of the midnight sessions, but have never experienced such good conditions for reception, which, according to other reports, must have been confined to certain districts.

**Reception during Week Ending January 25, 1930.**

RA97, Siberia, 70 metres, has been very good on most evenings, with the usual static. On Monday at 9.19 p.m. bagpipes or similar music (?) was heard at R9 from Siberia.

W9XF, Chicago, 49.83 metres, is almost as good as a local station, coming in at good volume till 8 p.m. This station has been rebroadcast by 3YA, and a special "Chicago World Fair" programme for New Zealand has been announced during the week for Sunday (January 26) from 2 till 4 a.m.,



THIS 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.

Central Standard Time, which is equal to 8 till 10 p.m. here on the same day.

KZRM, Radio Manila, 48.8 metres. This station has changed its wavelength again back to 48.8 metres. This was noticed first on Tuesday at 10 p.m., when there was no sign of them on 26 metres, but were found, first, on 24.4 metres and then on 48.8 metres. My reception has been better on 24.4 metres, which is probably a harmonic, unless they are broadcasting on three wavelengths, broadcast band and two short waves. Volume is not so good as on 26 metres.

W2XAF, Schenectady, 31.4 metres, is still late in reaching good volume. On Sunday and Saturday they were R8 by 5 p.m., while on Wednesday only R5 was reached at this time. Volume was fair when rebroadcasting the Naval Conference on Tuesday night, but noises were very bad during the few minutes I was listening to them.

PCJ, Holland, 31.4 metres, was not heard either Friday or Saturday during their regular hours. A letter received during the week from Mr. Edward Startz, their five-language announcer, states that improvements are being carried out and that improved reception should be the result early in the New Year.

Zeesen, Germany, 31.38 metres, has been extra weak except on Thursday. Gushiness and static spoilt reception on that morning.

7LO, Nairobi, 31 metres, is not troubled much with static just now, but is more or less gushy. Thursday morning was the best, when their musical programme was received at R6 with slight surge.

VK2ME, Sydney, 28.5 metres, has been heard twice daily on most days. On Wednesday evening they were telling GBX all about reception of the Naval Conference. PCK and PHH, both of Holland, were received in Sydney much better than 5SW. The speaker did not know which station New Zealand rebroadcast, but presumed it was either W2XAF or Montreal (taking it for granted, apparently, that 5SW was not well received in this country).

GBX, England, 27.5 metres, testing with 2ME as above. Good reception.

GLY, Dorchester, England, 26.27 metres. This is a beam station, it was on the air on Tuesday evening to transmit to Japan the speeches from the Naval Conference. Heard first about 10 p.m. calling "Hullo, Japan, here is GLY," etc. About 10.20 p.m. a religious service was broadcast, commenc-

ing with "O God Our Help in Ages Past." A Prayer for the success of the Conference followed. A passage of Scripture was read, the Lord's Prayer repeated, another hymn sung; the service then concluded with the Benediction.

During the next fifteen minutes, the weather forecast for various parts of the British Isles was given, followed by musical numbers till 11 p.m., when the Conference speeches were relayed. At intervals during this period GLY called Japan, giving their call. Reception was R3 at 10 p.m., increasing to R6 by 11 p.m. Readability was excellent all through.

G5SW, Chelmsford, 25.53 metres, has had a busy week. Besides the special transmission on Tuesday night reported earlier, they were on the air again on Wednesday morning at 5.45, when Mr. Stimson, American delegate, spoke to listeners in America. On Thursday morning at 6 a.m. Mr. Stimson introduced Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, who spoke for about fifteen minutes to "his American friends." Again, on Friday morning, the French Premier was introduced by Mr. Stimson and spoke to America. The Japanese delegate is to speak on Tuesday morning at the same time (6 a.m.) These talks were received at about R7, but readability was poor in each instance on account of gushiness. The sessions commencing at 7 a.m. still continue to come in very weak.

KDKA, Pittsburg, 25.4 metres, is still weak at 5 p.m., when signing off strength has not been better than R5.

W6XN, California, 23.35 metres, was only heard once since last writing. On Sunday they were best at 4.30 p.m., when volume was R8.

W2XAD, Schenectady, 19.5 metres, was rebroadcasting all Ramsay Macdonald's speech from 5SW on Thursday morning. The talk was not readable, being too weak, but his voice was recognised.

PCK, Holland, 16.3 metres, and PLE, Java, 15.74 metres, were on duplex telephony at 9.15 p.m. on Friday. The Dutch station was R7, while the Java station was R4 at this time.

DGW, Nauen, 14.83 metres. At 9.20 p.m. on Monday records were heard at R3-9. Between items, "Hullo, Bandung, here is Berlin" was called.

**Unidentified Stations.**

ON 46 metres (about), a very weak voice was heard on Tuesday morning.

44.4 metres (about) on Wednesday morning at 6.45 some figures were being read out, with "Hullo, London," in an American voice at intervals. A conversation started later, but a howler commenced at this time and spoilt reception. Strength R4.

32 metres (about) was tuned in on Sunday at 8.29 p.m., first time to hear the speaker say that he was coming on again at 10 o'clock. No call was given. Volume R5.

**A Special Broadcast from America**

WHILE listening to W9XF, Chicago, to-night (Sunday, January 19), the announcer stated that instead of closing down next Saturday night, or rather next Sunday morning, at 2 a.m., they would put over a special New Zealand and Australian programme till 4 a.m. (8 p.m. to 12 midnight, Sunday, in New Zealand), from their station W9XF, on 49.83 metres, or 6020 k.c. The announcer evidently thought that no one would know where New Zealand was, as he said that it was off the S.E. coast of Australia (evidently Australia's locality is known).—H. F. Adcock (Masterton.)

**News Items**

A CURIOUS case was reported in the "Daily Express" recently of a bat seeking refuge from the sunlight by crawling between two condenser plates at the broadcasting station WEAJ. This refuge might have suited the bat, but it put the broadcasting station out of operation for about eight hours. The chief engineer noticed that the station began to lose power shortly before 10 a.m. The bat, of course, caused a short-circuit and eventually its fused body was found between the vanes.

A POLICE superintendent at Newcastle holds the opinion that wireless encourages drinking. For this reason he opposed the granting of a music license to a publican who wanted to install a loudspeaker in the bar. Luckily the Bench disagreed with the police superintendent and granted the necessary license. This is almost as bad as some people suggesting that wireless waves interfere with birds and

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