

Short-Wave News

News from Java and Siam.

PLE, Java, 15.74 metres, have changed their broadcasting hours to Tuesday, 9 p.m.-11 p.m., middle Java time (Wednesday, 1.10 a.m. to 3.10 a.m. New Zealand mean time). The programmes of the next broadcasts are announced the week before, about two minutes before closing time.

Mr. R. T. Stanton (Christchurch) sent the above, also a letter from Siam, as follows:—"We beg to inform you that our two short-wave transmitters are HS2PJ, working on 29.5 metres, with 500 watts antenna output, and HS4PJ, working on 37 metres with 200 watts antenna output. The former, in addition to working traffic with neighbouring countries, also carries out broadcasting experiments every Sunday from 1500 to 1600 G.M.T. (Mondays, 12.30 a.m. till 3.30 a.m. New Zealand mean time.) The 4PJ station is being overhauled, and will not be on the air for some time."

G5SW'S Good Deed.

SO many unkind things have been said about the Marconi station 5SW, which the B.B.C. uses for its experimental short-wave transmissions, that it is welcome news that it has done at least one good turn.

Some time back when the Marchese Marconi broadcast an epoch-making speech, the trans-Atlantic transmission from Savoy Hall was made via 5SW, and also through the P.O. station at Rugby. This speech was relayed on the American side over a chain of stations, and it was the short-wave 5SW and not the long-wave Rugby station which was used for the transmission.

American Stations on Dual Wavelengths.

STATIONS WGY, KDKA, WENR, KGO, WABC, WRNY, and WLW, relay their programmes on short waves. Other stations will be added to this list shortly.

Marchese Marconi Heard in New Zealand.

About 6.45 p.m. on Friday, March 22, a strange station was tuned in on about 26.6 metres. "Hullo, Australia. Hullo, 2ME," was being called. This proved to be the "Elettra," owned by the Marchese Marconi. The yacht was at Genoa, Italy. After the operator had got in touch with 2ME, a conversation was heard between Marchese Marconi and Mr. Fisk, managing director of AWA. The talk from Genoa was quite clear and steady. At 7 p.m. they closed for half an hour, but when they reopened, reception from Sydney was not nearly so good, so after making arrangements for another test on



the following day at 7 G.M.T., the "Elettra" signed off.

They were heard again on Saturday from 6.30 p.m., but were not so clear or loud as on the previous day. Further tests are to be carried out on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of next week from 6.30 p.m. New Zealand time, on telephony. Tests with Morse were also arranged.

RA97, Siberia, 70 metres. Every evening.

W9XF, Chicago, 49.83 metres. Wednesday.

W3XAL, New Jersey, 49.18 metres. Sunday.

32C, Christchurch, N.Z., 47 metres (about). Friday.

W2XAF, Schenectady, 31.4 metres. Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday.

PCJ, Holland, 31.4 metres. Friday and Saturday.

Zeesen, Germany, 31.38 metres. Every morning.

VK2ME, Sydney, 28.5 metres. Daily, morning and evening.

GBP, England, 27.5 metres. Mornings and evenings.

Yacht Elettra, Genoa, 26.6 metres (about). Friday and Saturday.

KZRM, Manila, 26 metres. Every evening except Monday.

G5SW, Chelmsford, 25.53 metres. Each morning except Sunday and Monday.

KDKA, East Pittsburgh, 48.86 and 25.4 metres. Sunday.

W6XN, California, 23.35 metres. Sunday and Friday.

W2XAD, Schenectady, 19.5 metres. Sunday and Saturday.

POK, Holland, 16.3 metres. Saturday.

Unidentified Stations.

48 metres (about), Wednesday. 46.6 metres (about), Saturday.

44.4 metres (about), Sunday. 44.0 metres (about), Monday.

41.6 metres (about), each morning except Sunday and Friday.

33.7 metres (about), Thursday. 31.5 metres (about), Tuesday, Friday, Saturday.

31. metres (about), Saturday). 28. metres (about), Saturday.

Log for the Week

Sunday, March 16.

ZEESEN was excellent at R9, with orchestral music till 7 a.m., after which volume decreased. W2XAD at 2 p.m. was R4, but gushy; volume increased later, but continued unsteady. W2XAF during their last hour, 3.30 till 4.30 p.m., "put over" a programme of dance music from the Rainbow Room,

New Kenmore Hotel, Albany, which was received at R9.

KDKA on 25.4 metres was R8 at 4 p.m. and about R5 on 48.86 metres. W3XAL were going till 5.30 p.m. with dance music from Hotel New Yorkers, New York. Reception was good at R8.

An American was heard on about 44.4 metres at 5 p.m., strength R7. Modulation being poor, talk was difficult to follow. The call WXD was mentioned, which is a U.S. Army station at Alaska.

RA97 at 9.15 p.m. was R9, static being very bad.

KZRM opened at 9.30 p.m. with the usual chimes, followed by recorded music: R8-9, static bad.

Monday, March 17.

ON 41.6 metres (about) at 6 a.m. talk was just audible. Zeesen started at 6 a.m. with choral items; very good at R8-9. What I took to be HS2PJ on 29.5 metres was heard at 6 a.m. with a strong carrier with noises similar to tuning of violins at times. No talk or music was heard, only stray noises at times as though the "mike" was open.

On about 44 metres at 6.30 p.m. an American woman was heard calling London; R6, plenty of static. RA97, R9 at 9 p.m. VK2ME R9, duplex with a station that could not be located.

Tuesday, March 18.

ZEESEN started at 5.3 a.m. with orchestral items at R8-9, increasing to R9 by 6.30 a.m. On 31.5 metres (about) a German was speaking at R2 at 5.45 a.m.

A very weak voice was heard on about 41.6 metres at 5.45 a.m. 5SW opened just before 6.30 a.m., when the Chelmsford announcer was 100 per cent. readable at R5. After Big Ben struck, a lady spoke, but gushiness spoilt reception. Was not listening during evening till after 11 p.m., when W2XAF was R8 with records, and KZRM R5.

Wednesday, March 19.

ALL signals were very weak during the early morning except Zeesen, which opened at 6.30 a.m. at R8-9.

5SW and strangers on 41.6 metres and 48 metres were audible but not readable. W9XF at 6.30 p.m. were R3 with morse interference. GBP was calling 2ME at 7 p.m. This appears to be the same transmitter as GBX, as the wavelength and speaker were as usual, with the different call. 2ME were R9 and very gushy.

KZRM at 8.15 p.m. were reading news items, R3-4. Musical items from 9.30 p.m. were R8, morse interference was bad. RA97, speech and music, R9, static very bad.

Thursday, March 20.

THE 41.6 stranger was just audible at 6 a.m. On about 33.7 metres, an American was talking to England about reception, circuits, weather, etc., at R5, at 6 a.m. Arrangements were made to "put a call through for Commander to his home." By the nature of the talk it appears as if this station was a ship on the Atlantic.

THE operator spoke of "waiting to go back on the Majestic," etc. Zeesen started at 6.15 a.m. with vocal items at R8-9. 5SW was very gushy at R5. Strong carriers from 2ME and GBP were heard, without talk, when I tried them. KZRM at 10.30 p.m. was R5 and gushy. RA97 at R9 was spoilt by static.

Friday, March 21.

STATION PCJ was quite good from 5.30 a.m. till 7.30 a.m. R8-9 at first, decreasing to R7-8. The 31.5 metre German at 5.30 a.m. was R4, with talk as usual. Zeesen started at 6 a.m. with a choir, which was excellent at R8. 5SW would have been better this morning if static was less troublesome. 2ME R8 and QBP R6 at 7 a.m. were on duplex. W6XN were R5 at 6.30 p.m. with slow fading.

The yacht Elettra at Genoa was heard from 6.45 till 7 p.m. at R7, and again from 7.30 p.m. for a few minutes; details given earlier in these notes. 2ME R9 duplex with yacht "Elettra" and England. GBP duplex with 2ME R7, very clear and steady.

32C came in at R8 with records, but was spoilt by a strong ripple. KZRM and RA97 were both spoilt by static.

Saturday, March 22.

STATION PCJ was again good from 5.30 a.m., R8-9, till 7.30 a.m., R6-7. Zeesen was excellent at 6 a.m., R9. The German on 31.5 metres was R4 with talk, about 6 a.m. A private conversation between a woman through GBP and a man through 2ME was clearly heard at 5.50 a.m. The 41.6 metre station was a little louder this morning with band items and talks. An orchestra was heard clearly, but weak, on 46.6 metres, just after 6 a.m.

5SW at 6.30 a.m. was R7, with Big Ben. A talk followed, "Careers For Boys and Girls." W2XAD was R3 at its best during the afternoon. W2XAF at 2 p.m. was R4, but increased to R9 by 4 p.m. A negro opera company was heard during the afternoon. PCJ was first heard at 2 p.m. at R1-2, increasing to R7 by 5.30 p.m., when they closed down.

On 31 metres, about, a voice was heard at R8. Modulation was very bad. This was heard several times during the afternoon.

The "Elettra" called Sydney at 6.30 p.m., interference by a morse station being troublesome. 2ME also noticed this and commented on it to M. Matheu, the operator on the "Elettra." Marconi spoke for awhile about 7.45 p.m. At 6.45 p.m. on about 28 metres a foreign voice was heard at R6. Static very bad.

2ME was on duplex with GBP before and after talking with the yacht "Elettra." RA97 was smothered by static at 9.15 p.m., and was just as bad at 11 p.m. POK at 9.25 p.m. was on duplex with Java at R4 and gushy. KZRM were R5 at 9.30 p.m. when commencing a programme of recorded music.

"TRIALS IN TACT"
(See page 27.)

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