

## Short-Wave News

## French Stations Working Duplex Telephony.

MR. I. MELTZER (Auckland) and "Schnell" (Wanganui) were inquiring about identity and call signs of two French short-wave stations heard on Thursday, March 13. There is a station with the call FSL, St. Assie, France, which works on 11,985 kilocycles (25.03 metres). This is probably one of the stations referred. I heard a station at 9.15 p.m. on that date on about 25 metres, calling "Allo, Ici Paree," and counting quite a lot.

After a while "I am getting you all right now," etc., was heard. The other station was on about 24.5 metres. Both were good volume and very clear. We had a visitor that evening who speaks French. It appears that these stations were testing, as it was mostly counting and reporting on each other's signals. Call signs or localities were not mentioned while we were listening. Another language as well as French was heard from the 24.5 metre station.

## Special N.Z. Programme from WTAM.

ADVICE has been received that the WTAM station at Cleveland, Ohio, U.S.A., will broadcast a special programme for reception in New Zealand from 8 p.m. till 9.30 p.m. on April 11.

The wavelength is given as 66 metres. The latest radio call book gives WTAM as a broadcast station on 1070 kilocycles (280.2 metres), no mention being made of a short-wave station under that call.

## G5SW to Broadcast Oxford v. Cambridge Boat Race.

SPECIAL transmissions from G5SW were announced during the week as follows:—

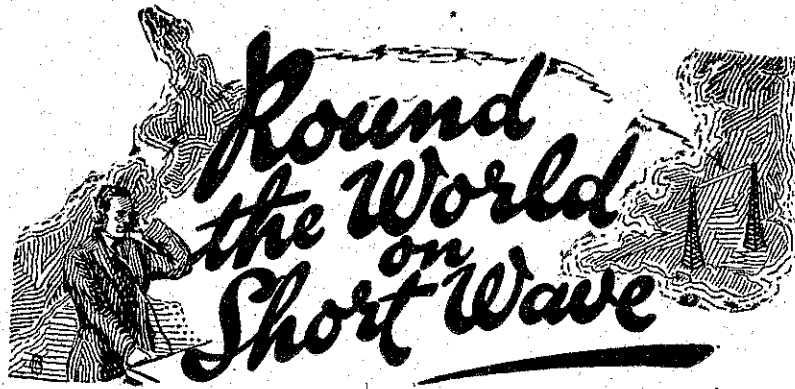
Saturday, April 12, from 12.20 G.M.T. (11.50 p.m. same day, N.Z. time): The Oxford and Cambridge boat race.

Saturday, April 26: "The Cup final." Further particulars of this event are to be given later.

G5SW will not be transmitting on Good Friday or Easter Monday. They will resume at 12.30 G.M.T. on Tuesday, April 22.

## Explorer in New Guinea with Short-wave Receiver.

IN the heart of New Guinea, three hundred miles from the nearest white man, an explorer is forcing his way through the bush. He is taking with him a special short-wave receiver with which he tunes in the principal short-wavers. At night time natives creep within hearing distance to listen with wonderment to the "magic" music.



## FL (Paris) to Try Again.

DISAPPOINTMENT has been expressed in France over the comparative failure of the preliminary short-wave tests from the Eiffel Tower in preparation for the proposed colonial service. Different types of aerials have been employed, and more encouraging results are now being obtained with a short aerial placed at the summit of the tower. A more powerful transmitter is to be installed.

## American Prisoner Reports Reception of PCJ.

A PRISONER in the Missouri State Penitentiary, giving his identity as No. 32,500, has reported to the station director of PCJ that he regularly listens

to their programmes with a four-valve receiver, which he designed and built himself.

## Stations Heard

RA97, Siberia, 70 metres, every evening. W9XF, Chicago, 49.83 metres, Friday. W3XAL, New Jersey, 49.18 metres, Sunday, Friday and Saturday. 3ZC, Christchurch, 46 metres (about), Friday. W2XAF, Schenectady, 31.4 metres, Sunday, Tuesday, Saturday. PCJ, Holland, 31.4 metres, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. Zeesen, Germany, 31.33 metres, every morning. VK2ME, Sydney, 28.5 metres, twice daily. GBX, England, 27.5 metres, twice daily. KZRM, Manila, 26 metres, each day except Monday. G5SW, Chelmsford, 25.53 metres, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. KDKA, Pittsburgh, 25.4 metres, Sunday. W6XN, Oakland, 23.35 metres, Tuesday and Friday. W2XAD, Schenectady, 19.5 metres, Sunday and Saturday. PCK, Holland, 16.3 metres, Tuesday and Friday. PLE, Java, 15.74 metres, Tuesday and Friday.

## Unidentified Stations.

51.4 metres (about), Sunday. 47.4 metres (about), Monday. 46.4 metres (about), Thursday. 41.6 metres (about), Thursday and Friday. 31.5 metres (about), Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday. 31.4 metres (about), Tuesday. 31 metres (about), Sunday. 30.2 metres (about), Friday and Saturday. 25.5 metres (about), Saturday. 25 metres (about), Wednesday. 24.5 metres (about), Wednesday and Thursday. 23.5 metres (about), Wednesday and Thursday.

Nearly as many unidentified as known. Several are, I believe, trans-Atlantic telephony stations.

## Log For Week

Sunday, March 30.

STATION W2XAD was first tuned in at 1.30 p.m., when the "Adventures in Science" series of talks were on, the day's subject being "Liquid Air." R5 with

light gush. Strength increased to R6 and remained at that. W2XAF were only R1 at 1.45 p.m., but during the last hour were excellent at R9.

KDKA at 4 p.m. were R8 with a special "welcome home" programme for Admiral Byrd and his party.

On about 31 metres, singing was heard at R7, modulation was very poor. This station went off the air at 4.10 p.m. without any announcement. W3XAL with dance music from New York city till 5.30 p.m. were excellent at R8. In closing they announced that they were transmitting every day except Sunday from 11 p.m. Eastern standard time (3.30 p.m. N.Z. time).

On 51.4 metres (about), at 5.30 p.m., an American voice was just audible. KZRM from 9.30 p.m. transmitted a programme by the Philippine Constabulary Band. RA97 at 9.30 was R8 with bad static.

## Monday, March 31.

STATIC was very bad, both morning and evening, on most stations heard. Zeesen, R8-9, musical items, and 47.4 metres with talk at R3 about 6.20 a.m., were spoilt by static. 2ME, R9, and GBX, R4, were on duplex at 8 p.m. RA97, orchestral music, and talks. Static, although bad, was not quite as severe as usual.

## Tuesday, April 1.

ZEESSEN was tuned in, just in time to hear them close at 6 a.m. Strength R8-9. 2ME, R8, and GBX, R7, were both gushy at 6 a.m., clearing up considerably by 6.30 a.m. The 31.5-metre German was R2-3, with talk, at 6.10 a.m. 5SW opened at 6.27 a.m. with announcement re holidays at Easter.

After Big Ben, Miss Rebecca West gave her fortnightly talk on new novels. R8, 100 per cent. readable. Music at R3 was heard on about 31.4 metres at 6.30 p.m. W6XN was R8 from 6.30 p.m. Static was bad at first, but improved later. GBX at 6.40 p.m., at R8, was much more clear than usual, when on duplex tests with 2ME. RA97, at R8, was impossible because of very severe static. KZRM was weaker than usual, being about R5 at 9.30 p.m.

PCK at 10.15 p.m. were excellent, although weak (R3), with records. At the same time, PLE were R5 with records, also very clear. W2XAF from 10.30 p.m. were R9 with recorded music. Static was bad.

## Wednesday, April 2.

ZEESSEN were excellent at 6 a.m., being R9. Volume went down slightly by 7 a.m. PCJ were tuned in at 6.10 a.m., being R9. This was apparently a special transmission, only one foreign language (Spanish, I believe) was heard. They signed off at 6.37 a.m., still at R9. 2ME and GBX on duplex at 6.15 a.m. were both very good at R8. At 6.20 a.m. duplex telephony was heard in Dutch on about 24.5 and 23.5 metres. Both about R3. G5SW after the usual announcements "went over to London." Big Ben was very clear at R8.

"London in the Nineties" was the subject of a talk in the "Looking Backward" series. This was given by a lady whose name I missed. The talk was 100 per cent. readable at R8.

2ME and GBX were on as usual during the evening. KZRM, at 7.55 p.m. were

R8, while, from 9.30 p.m. signal strength was R8, with slight static. On about 23 metres at 7.45 p.m., what appeared to be frequency tests were being carried out. First they went up and down the scale something like a fire siren. Later various frequency notes were put on for a few seconds each. No talk was heard, but on tuning in again at 10 p.m. a piano was just audible; speech was not readable.

## Thursday, April 3.

ZEESSEN from 5.40 a.m. were R8-9 with orchestral items. The 31.5-metre German was R5 with talk at 5.45 a.m. Voices were just audible at 6 a.m. on about 41.6 metres, and on 46.4 metres. On 23.7 metres an American voice on duplex at R4. Modulation was poor. Strong carriers only were heard from 2ME and GBX during the early morning. 5SW, after Big Ben, a talk was given by Dr. Butler under the auspices of the Minister of Health. 100 per cent. readable at R8.

At 7.25 a.m. an orchestra was receivable at R4. KZRM were R5 at 8 p.m., with records, and R8 after 9.30 p.m. Static and morse interference was very bad. 2ME and GBX were R9 and R6 respectively at 8.30 p.m. RA97 was again spoilt by static.

## Friday, April 4.

STATIONS 2ME and GBX were both excellent at R9. Both sides of the conversation was readable from the English station at 5.30 a.m. The 31.5-metre German at 5.30 a.m. was R5 with bad static. PCJ was impossible. Signals were weak with rapid fading. Static also was bad.

On about 41.6 metres at 5.50 a.m. speech was just audible. Zeesen started at 6 a.m. with an announcement, followed by choral singing, which was excellent at full speaker strength. There was just a sign of static. Excellent reception from Zeesen when PCJ is poor is unusual, as both stations as a rule are about the same volume. PCK and PLE were on duplex at 6.15 a.m. at R4 and R8 respectively.

5SW. Big Ben at 6.30 a.m. was R9. The talk that followed, although loud enough, was not clear enough to follow. W6XN were R9 from 6.45 p.m. with dance music from the Hotel St. Francis, San Francisco. A strong morse station spoilt reception. 2ME and GBX were on as usual.

On about 30.2 metres at 6.50 p.m., talk just concluded as I tuned them in. Volume R8. KZRM at 7.45 p.m. were R4 with sizzling static. At 9.30 p.m. signals were R8 with less static. 3ZC, Christchurch, were R7-8 with intense fading. Modulation was quite good. RA97, R8, with the usual static. PCK were transmitting records at 10.30 p.m. R6. W3XAL were tuned in at 10.30 p.m. with a test programme consisting mostly of reading. Reception was excellent at R8, except that a morse station kept butting in and smothered signals from 3XAL, who signed off at 10.45 p.m. W9XF was then heard, also testing. The calls WENR and W9XF were given. Strength was R8-9, but not so clear as W3XAL.

## Saturday, April 5.

STATION PCJ was excellent at R9 from 5.30 a.m. till 7.30 a.m. Zeesen were the same volume and quality. On 31.5 metres at 5.45 a.m. the usual German talk was heard at R7. 2ME and GBX were R9 and R8 at 5.50 a.m. on duplex.

The yacht Elettra at Genoa was calling "Hullo, New York," and counting at R4 about 6.20 a.m. Rapid fading spoilt readability. 5SW made a long announcement re Oxford and Cambridge boat race, etc., mentioned earlier in these notes. Big Ben R8. Talk one of a series of "Careers for Boys and Girls." Subject, "Teaching."

PCJ was R3-4 at 1.30 p.m., increasing to R9 by 4.30 p.m., and remaining at that till closing at 5.30 p.m. W2XAF at 1.30 p.m. was R4, reaching R9 by

(Concluded on previous page.)

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