

Identification Wanted

ON May 12—a station broadcasting a boxing match.—Approx. wave-length 250 metres (1200 kilocycles). Time received 8.30 p.m. Station disappeared when I tuned in again at 9.15 p.m. There seemed to be a drone or purr accompanying transmission. Signal strength R5—C. Acute fading.—“Sonora” (Wellington).

I HAVE often heard two men talking just below 2YB, New Plymouth. They hold an ordinary conversation, discussing their progress in sending and receiving morse, etc. They then go on to morse. I used to hear them frequently after 10 p.m., and most of the evening on Sunday. I have not heard any call sign from them. “Oh, well, I must get off to bed now,” is the nearest I have had. Has any DX member identified this pair? I have derived much pleasure from the programmes of 2ZR, Wanganui. He is very handy from 10.30 a.m. till 3 p.m. I get him at R8 here.

Re mushiness on 2YA. I have seven radio friends round here. They all experience the same trouble. I have also heard new sets being demonstrated by dealers here, and the mushiness is just as pronounced in them. Now, is it the set? My thanks to S. Ellis, Okato, for his letter describing earth and aerial system. I am adopting it, and will report in due course.—“Amazon” (Palmerston North.)

COULD you identify the following station for me? I have heard it faintly several times now, but have never been able to get its call letters. The following are the particulars:—Frequency, 830 kilocycles; metres, 361. Also, can you tell me the reason for this? I find it fairly hard to tune in to 2BL, Sydney, as there seems to be a dead spot.—“Not Too Sure” (Motueka.) [This is probably a dead spot. Try placing a midjet variable condenser in series with the aerial.—Ed.]

About 10.30 p.m. Friday, May 9, two stations on about 240 metres (1250 k.c.), one an American with a call —, the last letter like X. The other kept going off the air for two or three seconds. The announcer's voice sounded English—call sounded like “CJMW testing.” Two others, one like an Australian on 325 metres (920 kilo.) and the other either Japanese or Chinese, on 333 metres (900 kilo.) heard after 1YA closed down.—“M.B.S.” (Palmerston North.)

THE D.X. CLUB

Views and News.

Stations Identified

THE station “Sonora” heard on a wave-length round about 2YB, New Plymouth, was probably 2ZH, Napier, 238 metres, 15 watts. Wednesday, 6.30—10.30; Sunday, 2.30—4.30, and 7.0—9.30.—“Amazon” (Palmerston North.)

IN the “Radio Record” of 16/5/30 “Incubu” (Waitaka) asks about a station which was broadcasting on Friday, May 2. This was 4ZO, Dunedin, and ZL4ZM, operated by Chas. Begg and Co., Dunedin. These stations were transmitting on relay from the Otago Radio Exhibition.—(Unsigned.)

DX Topics

An Error Acknowledged.

I AM indebted to Mr. Rodgers for his correction of my report concerning station KPO, California, on 23.35 metres. Until reading his report I had not noticed the error. On referring to my log I find that station received was KGO.—M.W. (Wellington).

KFOX on Special Programme.

DID any DX reader pick up KFOX, Longbeach, California, on Thursday, May 15, at 9.30 p.m., when they were on the air with a special Australian and New Zealand programme. Wave-length was 239.9 metres (1250 k.c.). Items heard were “Throwing Kisses at Me” and “My Mother's Arms.” Strength was R6 on ‘phones using a two-valve all-wave set.

On Wednesday, May 14, at 10 p.m. I picked up three Japs, and they all had what was evidently an English lesson on, interspersed with Japanese talk, “I, she he, it, you your yours,” was heard. 2ZE, Eketahuna was testing on the same day at 5 p.m. on 1210 kc. (246 metres, approx.), at R 7-8. Reception here is improving,

but static is bad. Short-wave reception is not worth bothering about.—H.F.A. (Masterton.)

A Freak Reception.

I WONDER if any other listener noticed the unusual wireless conditions this afternoon (May 14). Usually the only stations I hear in daylight are 2YA and 1YA. To-day about 4 p.m., which is now about one hour before sunset, I tuned in to 3YA, and to my surprise it was as loud as Wellington. Thereupon I tried 4YA, and found

To DX Club Members

OWING to the heavy demands made on our space, and to the increasing amount of correspondence received from DX enthusiasts, we have found it necessary to request the following courtesies:

(1) Address letters to: The Editor, DX Club, Box 1032, Wellington. Nom de plumes may be used, but all letters to be signed. Write in ink, and on one side of the paper only.

(2) Be brief, but do not omit interesting or essential details. (At present almost every letter has to be re-written and condensed.)

(3) When stating the wave-length of a station, if possible give the corresponding frequency. This may be calculated from the formula:

$$200,000$$

$$K = \frac{M}{\text{metres}}$$

where M = wavelength in metres, and K the frequency in kilocycles.

(4) When inquiring about the identity of stations, give the following particulars: Date and time of reception, approx. wave-length and frequency (see Rule 3), and items heard (not more than three). If unable to state wavelength, give dial readings and proximity to well-known stations.

Distance Tests

Interesting Revelations

MR. T. C. BRYANT, the operator in charge of the wireless on the s.s. Cumberland, has forwarded to 3YA a report covering several nights when he listened-in to the New Zealand stations. He used a two-valve set. Mr. Bryant's letter reads as follows:—

“While testing my instruments for distant signals on all wave lengths, the broadcasting programme from 3YA was heard at midnight on March 20, 1930 (ship's time and date) very distinctly, clearly and quite loudly. The signals were strength 8 (British Post Office standard) and our approximate distance from Wellington was 2000 miles.

“The following night at about the same ship time, 3YA station was again heard, and at almost the same strength, but the fading was greater, and the atmospherics louder. Our approximate distance was then 2300 miles. No other YA stations were heard. On the next night, March 22, at the same time (ship's time and date), 3YA was again heard at about strength 6, atmospherics bad but fading only slight. Our approximate distance from Wellington was then 2600 miles. Items heard was the relay of a church service, presumably from Christchurch. No other YA stations were received, but one or two distant American (Californian) broadcast stations were weak.

“On March 24, at about 11 p.m. (ship's time and date), broadcasting was heard from assumed New Zealand YA stations (on 3YA tuning). The signals were weak, the maximum strength being 4. Atmospherics were also bad, and fading was very bad. At times the signals disappeared altogether, the carrier wave only being heard as a whistle when reaction was increased. One item heard was a “musical switch” played by a band, our distance being nearly 3000 miles, i.e., almost in the same longitude as Pitcairn Island.

“On March 25 (same time) nothing was heard on 3YA tuning, except for a carrier wave whistle when reaction was increased, but on another tuning an American broadcasting station, WGAM, came in strength 4. Atmospherics bad, but fading slight.”

A Noble Sacrifice

A CHARMING radio story which has captured the imagination of English newspapers was recorded recently. A Gloucester girl betrothed to a wealthy young business man had the choice of rich furs or jewels as a present. She declined the gift, said she would be happy if every blind man, woman, and child in Gloucestershire could be provided with a wireless set.

This was revealed when a young man walked into the National Institute for the Blind and asked the cost of providing the sets and maintaining them for ever. The staggered officials worked out the cost and told him it would be £10,000. “Very well, they will have it,” he said. He declined to give his name. “It isn't my gift,” he said, “but a present from my future wife,” and handed over a cheque.

it almost as loud. As I had never picked up these two so early in the afternoon before, I tried the Australians, and found 2BL and 3LO quite audible, also 2FC, 4QG, and (I think) 2GB, just audible. My set is a four-valve S.G. set, home-built. My B batteries are almost exhausted, which makes these freak conditions more surprising.—J.B. (Hokiangia.)

[The reception of the principal southern stations in broad daylight is quite an ordinary performance, for a set such as yours.—Ed.]

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