

DX Competition

Conditions of Entry

OUR DX competition, fully announced in the issue of August 8, is meeting with general approval, and quite a number of DX enthusiasts have expressed intention to compete. It is pleasing to note that many of these are newcomers to DX work and are already showing presentable logs. For the benefit of new readers, and for those who have only recently discovered the fascination of long-distance reception, we repeat the rules governing the competition.

1. The listener who can, within six months, collect the greatest log of stations and comply with the conditions set forthwith, will have his name

Do you want to get Australian stations? This set will increase your rage.—Advt. in a country paper.

We have a set like that already, thanks.

inscribed on the "Radio Record" Cup. This will remain the property of the "Radio Record," but the winner will be presented with an inscribed miniature. The original cup will, if possible, be on view at the Radio Exhibitions.

2. The stations counting for the competition must have frequencies not exceeding 1500 kilocycles nor less than 545 kilocycles per second (200-550 metres).

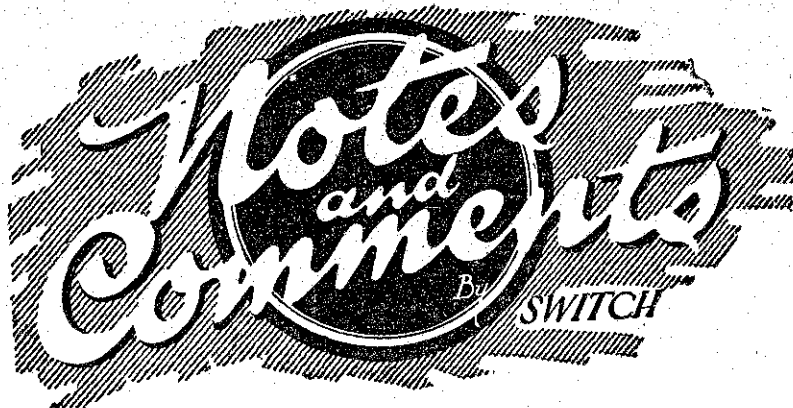
3. All stations must be verified. The enthusiast should listen to the items and note sufficient of them so that the station officials can recognise the broadcast. A letter or card to this effect must be in the possession of the listener before he can claim credit for a station. The winner must be prepared to send his verifications to the "Record" for checking. They will be returned. Overseas stations appreciate notes from listeners stating how their transmissions came, through—were they fading, strong, weak, variable, mushy, distorted, pure, etc.? It is really not good enough to say "I heard your station; please give me a card for the competition." You never know; under these circumstances they might refuse. Help them and they will help you.

4. Stations received during one period of six months can count for the ensuing one, providing their frequencies remain the same (unless they are recognised experimental stations). In other words, the station verified must have operated on the frequency shown on the verification cards on or after the first day of the period. In this case, July 1. This arrangement should place old and newcomers on a more even basis. All logs for the first period must be in our possession by January 1, 1931. (The period here is slightly less to establish regularity.)

5. The following stations are not included in the competition:—All New Zealand and the following Australian stations: 2FC, 2BL, 4QG, 3LO, 3AR, 2GB, 2UE, 5CL, 6WF, 7ZL. This is to prevent possible interference with the programmes that are enjoyed by non-DX-ers.

6. The right is reserved to add further conditions or alter existing ones as unforeseen circumstances demand.

7. The decision of the judge will be final.



THE amazing strides in the popularity of broadcast listening in New Zealand since the inauguration of the service provided by the "YA" stations can be realised best by those who were listeners six or seven years ago. To own a wireless set in those days was generally regarded as a highly scientific departure, and the operation of a set was considered as quite an expert achievement. "Switch" recalls the fact, too, that in those days tuning a set did call for not a little tuition and practice. Radio salesmen had to

Reception Table for Australian Stations

FOR the guidance of those who wish to check their reception of the Australian stations, "Switch" prepares weekly a table showing the average relative strength with which he has obtained reception at 11.30 p.m. during the past week:—

2FC, Sydney	10
2LB, Sydney	9
4QG, Brisbane	8
3LO, Melbourne	7
3AR, Melbourne	7
2GB, Sydney	6
2UE, Sydney	5
3DB, Melbourne	4½
3UZ, Melbourne	3½
7ZL, Hobart	3½
5CL, Adelaide	2
6WF, Perth	2
2KY, Sydney	1½

The above figures are the points assessed, with 10 as the maximum.

devote a good deal of time in instructing purchasers in the art of tuning. How fortunate now are both the salesman and the purchaser in having the modern A.C. set with its simple single-dial control at their disposal. And yet only recently the writer met a beginner who had genuinely held aloof from radio as he understood that expert knowledge was necessary to operate a set.

ONLY recently a gentleman approached "Switch" for information as to what he believed to be the difficulty in installing an A.C. set. He had visions of a multiplicity of meters, switches, chokes, variable condensers, etc., but it transpired that he had been reading a radio technical paper as an introduction to his embarkation on the sea of radio. He resided out of town, and seldom came into the city. A visit to various radio shops, at the suggestion of the writer, proved a revelation.

AN announcement has been made to the effect that in December the Melbourne yacht Oimara will engage in a challenge race across the Tasman with a New Zealand yacht. The Oimara won the yacht race across Bass Strait (between Victoria and Tasmania) last season. Her skipper, Mr. F. J. Bennell, recently spoke from 3LO, Melbourne, of the difficulties which attend the running of a yacht in such a race. The proposed race across the Tasman Sea would prove an incomparably more difficult problem both for the yachtsmen and the yacht, and would establish a world's record race for that type of yacht.

REG. HAWTHORNE, the vaudeville performer, who is reported to have made his initial broadcast appearance at 4YA, Dunedin, about the time of that station's inception, was heard from 2FC, Sydney, on a recent Saturday night. He will be remembered as a regular performer on the New Zealand vaudeville circuit in association with that popular comedian, Jim Gerald.

THE Western Australian A class station, 6WF, Perth, has been steadily increasing in volume lately. On almost any evening 6WF can be received with sufficient loudspeaker strength to afford entertainment from 11.30 p.m. onward. The distance that separates Perth from Wellington will be better appreciated when it is realised that Perth is 3½ hours behind Wellington. Therefore at 11.30 p.m., N.Z. time, 6WF, Perth, is just commencing its 8 o'clock evening session. The actual straight-line distance between Perth and Wellington is 3300 miles, approximately.

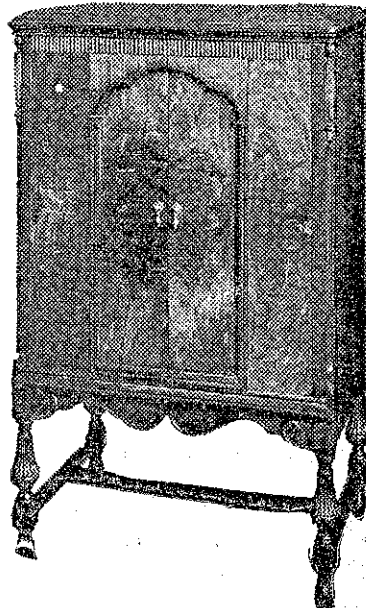
A WELLINGTON listener, who has several years' radio experience, expressed the opinion to "Switch" recently that the extraneous electrical noises which infest the air in and around the city of Wellington are frequently due to cheap household electric lighting switches. He stated that he has inspected some of these switches in domestic use, and has found that when not turned on properly they emit electrical interference with broadcast listening. The switches are just making sufficient contact to light the electric bulb in the rooms, but when examined carefully there is found to be a minute sizzling which can be heard on a radio set a fair distance away.

An Open Invitation

is extended to those who require a radio set to view

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