

Short-wave News

News from Radio Saigon.

THE following is an extract from a letter recently received from Saigon:—

"We have no call sign, properly speaking. The words of our announcer, 'Hello, hello, here is Radio Saigon,' are preceded by notes obtained by the clashing of a rod on a crystal glass. On the other hand, each item is announced as being played by the orchestra or the 'septuor' (a piece for seven voices or instruments, which probably refers to the Chinese items which are so familiar) of Radio Saigon. Finally, our wave-length is fixed at 49 metres, and stabilised by a quartz crystal. Therefore, having found it once, you should have no difficulty in tuning in again, at the hours which have been indicated by our announcer, which we will repeat in a few days, or when our transmitting hours are changed or 'modified.'"

Reports are requested on the station's transmissions between 10.45 a.m. and 1.45 p.m. (3.30 p.m. till 6.30 p.m., New Zealand summer-time).

The Vatican Short Wave.

ACCORDING to recent information from Europe, this short-wave station will shortly be opened. It is being presented to His Holiness the Pope by the Marconi Company. Two wavelengths will be employed, 19.84 and 50.26 metres. The power of its aerial feeder system will be about 12 kilowatts.

Stations Heard During Week Ending October 18.

RECEPTION conditions have been fairly good except around 50 metres, where static has been very severe.

RV15, Siberia, 70 metres.—Volume excellent every evening with a fair amount of static.

ZLXX, Wellington, 62.8 metres, was testing on Wednesday and Thursday evenings. Quality and volume was very good.

50 metres (about).—At 10.30 p.m. on Tuesday some American talk was just audible through severe static.

49.9 metres (about).—Each morning reaching about R6 and 7 by 6.30 a.m. and then going off again. Static has been too bad to identify. The voice is English. On Thursday morning—the best during the week—figures and prices in sterling were being given.

At 6.37 a.m., "The first item will be —" was heard, followed by music. The fact that prices were being given in £ s. d. appears to prove this to be an English station. Who is it?

W9XF, Chicago, 49.83 metres.—This station is on till 7 p.m. our time, coming in at great volume till closing down.

WSXL, Cincinnati, 49.5 metres.—On Saturday volume was fair, but, as with all stations on this band, static was bad.

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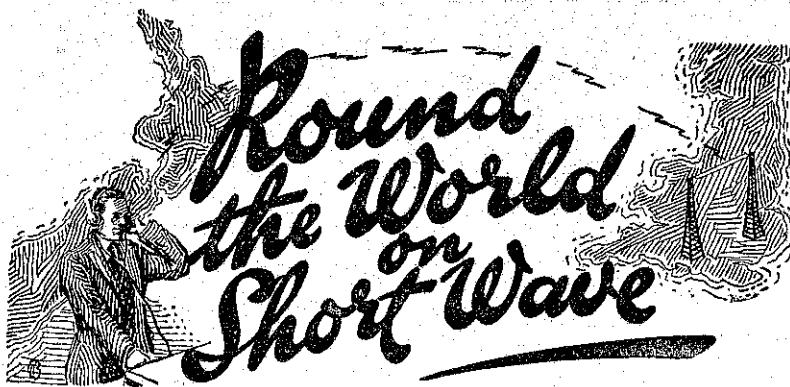
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THIS page is conducted in the interests of shortwave enthusiasts. A weekly log comprising notes of reception and interesting topical events, is contributed by Mr. F. W. Sellens, Northland, Wellington, but all listeners are invited to send in paragraphs of general interest.

W3XAL, Boundbrook, New Jersey, 49.18 metres.—Sunday and Saturday, maximum R7 by 5 p.m.

Radio Saigon, Indo-China, 49 metres.—Were R9 on Sunday at 10.10 p.m. Static very bad.

WSXX, Pittsburgh, 48.86 metres.—Sunday, at 5 p.m., were R8, with messages to the Far North.

W2XAF, Schenectady, 31.4 metres, Sunday and Saturday. Just audible at 1 p.m., with very little increase till about 3 p.m. On Saturday a long foreign talk was put over till 4 p.m. from about 3.15 p.m.

Zeesen, Germany, 31.38 metres.—Every morning; Tuesday was the best, being R9 with one stage of audio at 6.30 a.m., which time is the best just now.

WIXAD, Springfield Mass., 31.35 metres.—Were on till 5.3 p.m. on Saturday. Volume was good. Three calls were given, WIXAD being the last; the others were difficult to copy, as they were given so quickly, with the strong American accent, sounded like WBB and WBA, but not too sure.

PCJ, Eindhoven, Holland, 31.28 metres.—Thursday morning R7 at 6.30 a.m., decreasing to R5 by 7.30 a.m. Friday, about the same. Reception was very poor on Saturday, afternoon.

30.3 Metres (about).—Saturday, at 2.30 p.m., duplex in English, only odd words readable.

LSH, Buenos Aires, 29 metres.—Sunday and Saturday, at excellent volume. Closed at 3.4 p.m. on Sunday, and after 3.30 p.m. on Saturday.

28.5 Metres (about).—Saturday at 3 p.m., foreign talk at R5.

VK2ME, Sydney, 28.5 metres.—Telephone service with London twice daily, except Sunday.

GBP, Rugby, 27.7 metres.—Telephone service with Sydney.

ZLW, Wellington, 27.3 metres.—Testing with VK2ME several evenings—too much volume; can hear several metres either side of wavelength.

G5SW, Chelmsford, 25.3 metres.—Still no good in the mornings; volume all right, but rapid fade every time.

3RO, Rome, 25.4 metres.—Monday was the only morning that this station was not up to its best; it was gushy at R4 at 7.30 a.m. Other mornings, excellent at R9.

Radio Saigon, Indo-China, 25 metres (about).—At 11.10 p.m. on Saturday at R9, with one stage of audio, "Hullo—here is Saigon," with musical item. This appeared to be a test, as the music was interrupted several times to call.

Concert From Europe

I AM indebted to Mr. W. Pen-seler, German Consul for New Zealand, for the following information:—

On the nights of November 7 and 8, from 0.30 to 1.30 (middle European time), an orchestral concert by the Dresden State Orchestra will be relayed from Leipzig and broadcast by the Königswusterhausen (Zeesen) broadcasting station, on a wavelength of 31.38 metres.

The programme comprises: Overture "Oberon" (K. M. von Weber). Siegfried Idyll (Richard Wagner) 2nd Symphony (L. van Beethoven).

The time in New Zealand will be from 11.30 a.m. till 12.30 p.m. on November 8.

KIXR, Manila, 48.86 metres.—Each evening except Monday from 10 p.m. Volume is better now, but static bad most evenings.

48.5 metres (about).—Sunday at 5 p.m. music at R6; generator hum spoils chance of hearing call.

43.4 metres (about).—7 p.m. on Wednesday, duplex at R8; static bad.

VK2ME, Sydney, 37.6 metres, duplex with ZLW, Wellington several evenings. R9.

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League of Nations
Transmitter
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THE importance and reliability of short-wave communication is still further emphasised by the decision to install a short-wave transmitter as a permanent part of the equipment of the League of Nations Broadcasting Station.

The question of the establishment of this station has been under discussion for some two or three years past, and the matter has been delayed owing to Swiss fears that, in the event of a European war, the neutrality of Switzerland might be involved. It is understood that the Radio Suisse Company has actually commenced work in connection with this new station, and that both a short-wave and a medium-wave transmitter will be employed.

In this way it will be possible to transmit communications to all parts of the world. The actual power of the station is still under consideration, but it will probably be in the region of 50 k.w.

The normal purpose of the station will be to transmit its communications to countries which are members of the League, but as this will not occupy a great deal of its time, it will be used for the relaying of various European broadcasts. In this way the station will make certain European broadcast programmes available to British listeners, while on the other hand, certain British programmes will be made through this station available to Europe and other parts of the world.

An Ambitious Project

IT is reported that a group of American financiers, headed by John D. Rockefeller, jun., and the leading wireless companies, propose to erect in New York a "Radio City." The objects of this venture are to co-ordinate the arts embraced in the electrical entertainment industry, and to combine with them a theatre, a concert hall, and a cinema. The scheme will cost approximately fifty million pounds, and take three years to complete. Besides theatres and cinemas, there will be broadcasting studios, several of them three storeys high, and large enough to accommodate a full-sized orchestra and audience.

They closed at 11.30 p.m. "As we are going to dine," and he "wished you a good appetite" to the person he was talking to. Closed till 15 past 12, GMT. 24.4 Metres (about).—After 11 p.m. Wednesday, an American was giving a lot of figures, etc. Call not heard. 24.5 and 23.6 Metres (about).—Dutch duplex every evening, some times up to R8 and 9.