

of 780 k.c. (384 metres). Pickwick Broadcasting Corp., Los Angeles, California.—"Cabbage" (Gisborne).

Recent Loggings.

ON 18th I logged the new Australian A station, 2NC, Newcastle. Considering conditions are not good for Australian reception 2NC came in with good volume (R9), and promises to be an excellent station for winter reception. Fading was bad in the early part of their programme, but later conditions improved, when some fine items were heard, played by the Newcastle Steelworks Band and Newcastle Symphony Orchestra. 2FC and 3AR were relaying the concert, and later 2NC relayed 2FC's dance music.

This is probably the station "Jacon-seck" (Christchurch) heard, as dial positions correspond. I also logged 2AY, Albury, N.S.W., the same night. Are the Australian stations as listed in the "Radio Record" recently rated on input or output?

On December 10 at 11.45 p.m. I logged an American station giving call WTAM. On looking up Eastern American time I was surprised to see that it was 6.45 a.m. there. I held them until 12.15 a.m. (when they faded out), just long enough to secure enough items for verification. I again logged them on the 16th at 11.30 p.m., when the announcer stated that they were commencing their day's programme.

I recently received a card from 2ZJ. My report was the first of two hundred which he had received up to December 11. Transmission hours are as "Dynamic" (Lower Hutt) states, with the exception of Sunday and Monday, when they are 12 to 1.30 p.m. (occasionally) and 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. respectively. 2ZJ comes in at tremendous volume here, being my best New Zealand B station. What's the matter with D.X.-ers! Are you all too busy preparing your D.X. cup logs to send in news to the page (beg pardon!) column?—"Jaka" (Wellington).

Indistinct Call Signs.

I PICKED up 1ZR and 2NC a few nights ago, and I logged a new station, 3KZ, Melbourne, in 220m. (1360 k.c.). Some of the items played in rotation from 12.35 a.m. were: "Down the River of Golden Dreams," "Till We Meet Again" ((band item), and "The Toymaker's Dream." All the items came through at good strength, but the call letters were indistinct, and there is a slight chance that I may be wrong in the KZ. When will some of the announcers put a little more emphasis on the call letters? I am sure listeners would greatly appreciate this. Some, I admit, are very good, one in particular being 1Z, Auckland. 2NC, Newcastle, can be picked up any night now, and promises to be one of the best Australian B stations, but it is a pity that this is only a relay station. So far I have found them relaying 2BL, 4QG and 2FC.

I notice 2ZD, Masterton, coming through with good volume lately—quite an improvement—although it is greatly interfered with by 1ZQ, Auckland, who is back on the air again. I also picked up a new station on December 20 and December 22. It was either a Japanese or Chinese on approx. 490m. (610 k.c.). It appeared to be more like a Chinese, and may be found about one degree above 3AR. Has anyone else picked up this station?

It is a pity some of our N.Z. B stations who are broadcasting in frequencies in close proximity to each other, do not endeavour to come on the air on

different nights. I take it they come on the air to be listened to, and anyone enjoying a light programme likes to tune-in to a good B station, on Wednesday nights. In particular, there is just a mass of stations between 1050 and 1850 k.c. I notice the DX Page is slipping badly just now, but I admit there is not the range now that there has been. On December 23 I logged 2AY, Albury, operating on 227m. (1320 k.c.). This is another new station just come on the air, and will be found between 2ZL and 2ZH.—B.W. (Stratford).

2H.D. Comes in Well.

ON December 19, 20 and 21, I received for the first time 2H.D., Newcastle, with wonderful volume, approximately 100 per cent. in advance of 2B.L. and 2F.C. My latest "Radio Handbook" lists this station at 100 watts, operating on a wave-length of 288 metres, and strange to say, I received them on about 242 metres. Can anyone account for such reception, and the change of wavelength? S.B. (Wellington).

Particulars of 2NC.

STATION 2NC, Newcastle, is the first of a series of Australian relay stations to come on the air. It was opened on December 19, and its inaugural programme was relayed by 2FC, Sydney, and 3LO, Melbourne.

Christmas Greetings to DXers.

I LOGGED two more stations on the 20th inst., viz., 1ZR, Auckland, 275 metres (1090 k.c.) and KTHS Hot

Springs, Arkansas 1040 k.c. (288.3 metres). The former station operates on a power of 100 watts, and the 20th instant was the opening night. KTHS came through at great strength, quite fair speaker volume.

VK3ME's Schedule

WE have been notified to the effect that short-wave station VK3ME, Melbourne, will be on the air each Saturday night from 10 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. (N.Z.S.T.) on a wavelength of 31.55 metres.

Later in the same evening I happened on a station on 240 metres rebroadcasting 2BL, Sydney, with great success, reception being a lot better than from 2BL itself. I would be interested to learn the identity of this station. (2NC, Newcastle. See D.X. Topics.—Ed.) May I take this opportunity to wish all fellow "DXERS" the compliments of the season, and the best of loggings in 1931.—Guy C. Holmes (Masterton).

D-Xers!

YOUR competition closes on January 1st, and all entries must reach this office by that date. In the case of lack of support the right is reserved to withhold any award.

Ultra-short Waves

Aid to Navigation

WAVES as low as 8 metres are conducted by the Heaviside layer, and can be received at places thousands of miles away, but all long-distance reception abruptly ceases below 8 metres. It is also found that the wireless waves no longer come back from space, but spread in a similar way to those of light.

A German experimenter, Werner Ludenro, has set himself the task of investigating extremely short waves of less than a metre in length, and experimenting in their transmission to distances of 10 kilometres and more.

A transmitter of very high radiating power, and a highly sensitive receiver, were specially designed for the experiment. Reflectors of dimensions depending upon the wavelength were used both at the transmitting and receiving ends.

Radiation through space alone seems to be responsible for the spreading of these very short waves. Trees, houses, and hills, located on a straight line between the transmitter and receiver, are perfect absorbers.

No atmospheric disturbance due to thunderstorms or fading has been noted, but the beams were found to be absorbed in bright sunlight to some extent, particularly above water or snow. Dense fog, rain, and snowstorms are traversed by the beams without any reduction in intensity.

Inasmuch as atmospheric influences have no effect upon these waves, they are admirably suited for navigation purposes, both in mid-air and on the ocean. They would enable a plane or ship safely to steer its course through even the densest fog.

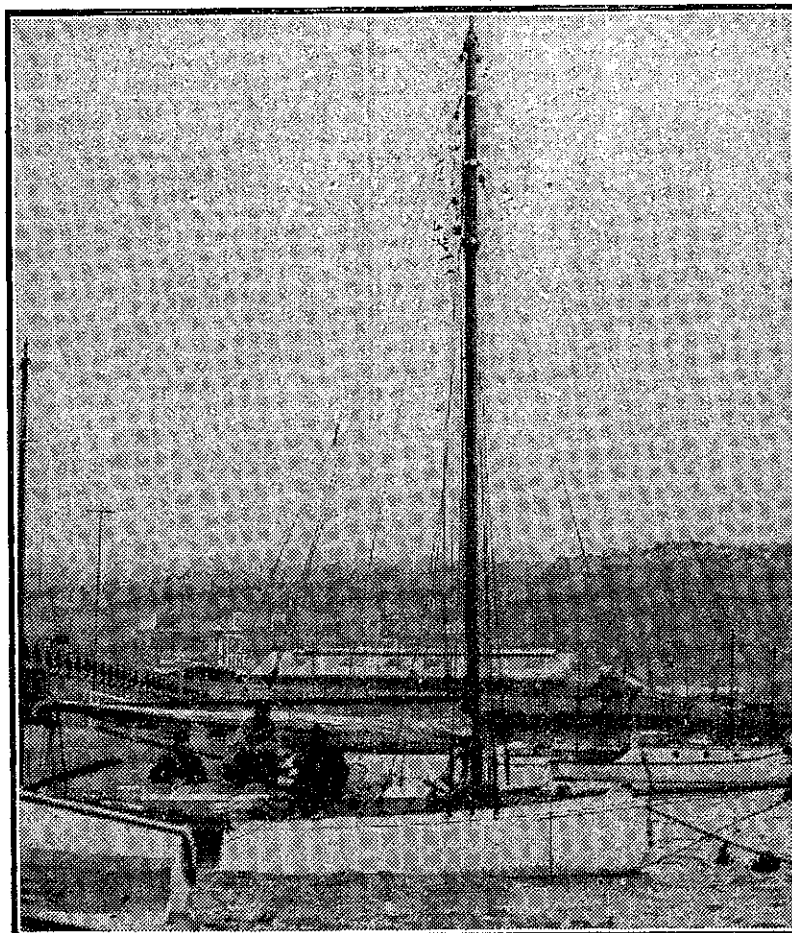
Both marine and aerial navigation will thus be able to fight the worst foe of safety, eliminating the most frequent cause of accidents.

Of Topical Interest

THE extended daytime sessions of the "YA" stations has proved most useful to the radio trade for demonstration purposes. A Wellington trader informed "Switch" that it was "just the thing" for the Christmas purchasing period, and it had proved most satisfactory. Country visitors, he reported, had bought well, despite the financial stringency. Of many scores who had been in to inspect sets, not one had inquired for a battery-operated model.

IT is the little things that count, even in radio salesmanship. A beginner who had a costly a.c. set home on trial from a Wellington company telephoned "Switch" for the list of the principal Australian stations and their wavelengths in kilocycles. A thoughtful salesman would see to it that a prospective buyer was supplied with the necessary list of stations. This neglect creates an unfavourable impression.

KNOW the time all over the world with a
DX Clock.
9d. Each, Posted.
"Radio Record," Box 1032, Wellington.



The yacht "Windward," which, with a crew of four, sailed from Wellington for the Chatham Islands on Christmas Day. She carries a special ship's receiver, tuning from 10—2000 metres, for the purpose of obtaining weather reports and time signals. The set was loaned by Philips Lamps, N.Z. Ltd. —Photo, courtesy "The Dominion."