

## Short-wave Notes

### Shortwaver at Bucharest.

THE shortwave transmitter recently installed at Bucharest is reported to have completed tests, and to be working on a regular schedule. Transmissions take place each Thursday and Sunday, from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m., New Zealand summer time, on a wavelength of 21.5 metres.

### Rabat—Radio Maroc.

A NEW shortwave station, working on 23 metres, relays the main station programme. This station is crystal-controlled and is rated at 6 kilowatts. The regular operating times are from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. daily (N.Z. summer time). They have been heard testing at other times.

### W9XAA, Chicago.

A LETTER has just been received from this station. The following extract, regarding its unique location, is of interest: "It is located in the north-east tower of Navy Pier, Chicago, Illinois. The pier is a municipal structure extending 5000 feet from the shore into Lake Michigan. W9XAA and its sister broadcast station, WCFL, are at the extreme eastern end of the pier, a mile out in the lake."

### 3RO, Rome.

ON 25.4 metres, they were quite good at R9 at 7 a.m. on January 2. A stranger was heard at the same time with the same programme on about 24.5 metres. The lady announcer, giving the call "Radio Roma," was distinctly heard on this shorter wavelength, so it must have been a relay or rebroadcast of the Rome station. Volume was about R4 with a slight gushiness.

### PCJ, Holland.

VERY little has been heard of PCJ lately, but on Saturday afternoon (January 3) the special Australian and New Zealand programme came in quite well from 5.18 p.m. till signing off at 6.4 p.m. Volume R8-9, increasing to R9 with slight gush and medium fading.

### American Amateur on 40-Metre Band.

AN American amateur has been heard after 7 p.m. on Sunday, December 28, and Saturday, January 3, working

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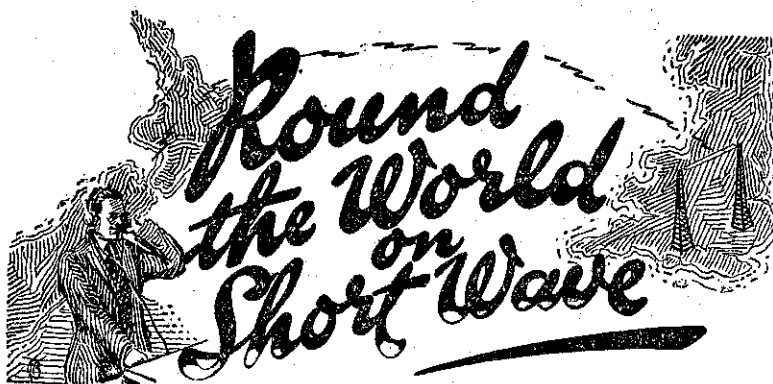
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THIS page is conducted in the interests of shortwave enthusiasts. A weekly log comprising notes of reception and interesting topical events is contributed by Mr. F. W. Sellens, Northland, Wellington, but all listeners are invited to send in paragraphs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

on about 43 metres. His 'phone was quite good at R6 each time, but Morse interference was troublesome.

### New Year Broadcasts.

MR. SELLENS has sent an interesting account of New Year celebrations in England and America. This appears in an earlier section of the paper, following Mr. Levy's account of the N.Z. and Australian broadcasts.

## Short-wave News

STATION 3RO, Rome, has been heard lately making tests on wavelengths of 80 metres and 25.4 metres. On the 80-metre wave they have been heard a little before 5 o'clock in the morning, coming in very strong and clear.

The station heard by Mr. Sellens on 46 metres in the mornings has been identified as a Portuguese station. He gives his call-sign as CT3AG, and has also been heard late at night at different periods. For some time past a station has been heard testing on 58 metres. He generally opens up a little after midnight, and I think he is another Portuguese station, because that country has been mentioned. Also the foreign language seemed similar. Sunday, December 28, was the first time good English was spoken, and I recognised his call as OVJMPT. A word after this sounds like Prague. He sometimes comes up to R8. On looking up one of the latest call-books this station is not listed, but another is listed from there on a wave of 60 metres (no call-sign), located at Bratislava (Czechoslovakia). ZL2AW has also heard this station operating. Another station which works very near to the above station I have also heard and I believe the call-sign is PMY, Java.

On three nights last week after midnight a station was heard on 50 metres, on each occasion coming at good strength. Very few announcements were given. The language used was Italian, so it is probably the new Vatican station. Station on 60 metres has been heard, call W3XK, and is owned by the Jenkins Experimental Laboratories of America. The Canadian station WGECL, 48.5 metres, was heard broadcasting a church service from Winnipeg on Christmas Night a little after 7 p.m. WIXAZ (?), operated by the Western Electric Co., is also heard after 12 p.m., on an early morning programme. I am inclined to

think this company operates two short-wave stations, because on listening to his midnight transmissions his call is WIXAD, relaying from WDD and WDDL. W9XAA has been heard between 6 a.m. and 6.30 a.m. on 49-metre wave. Also an American with call W9XEC. I have failed to get his location.

The American amateur phone stations on the 80-metre band are coming in quite well just now. The best time to tune for them is 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. (our time). Some of these stations reach the strength of R1 to 8. NRH is still heard at good strength at times.—A. P. Morrison (Wellington).

In his last letter he mentions that he is still using  $7\frac{1}{2}$  watts and sends a photo. (See page 6.—Ed.)

## Short-wave Station NRH

### World-wide Reputation

MR. R. L. JONES (Wellington) writes: The "wonder" station of the world is NRH, located about 4000 feet above sea level at Heredia, in Costa Rica, Central America. The operator, Mr. Amando Cespedes Marin, is a photographer by profession. With his little  $7\frac{1}{2}$ -watt station using 550 volts, he has demonstrated to the world that the wonders of radio are by no means exhausted. There is hardly a place in the world where NRH has not been heard on short-wave phone work, judging by the extensive list of places from which reception has been reported to Heredia.

The diploma issued to listeners by Mr. Cespedes Marin is very interesting and attractive, and certainly worth keeping. This diploma is forwarded to listeners who send in reports to NRH. Mr. Marin is publishing a 250-page book containing his experiences, etc., and extracts from world reports on reception. NRH is run "purely for the fun of the game"—in the director's own words. The Government has granted him free postal facilities.

The diploma measures about  $14 \times 10\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and is lithographed in four-colour work. It contains a photo. of Mr. Cespedes Marin, one of the transmitter, another of his apartments, also a certificate in Spanish and English, and bears an official number, with the date of issue and signature of the station director. Incidentally, NRH

stated that 10 reports had been received from Australia. Following is the text of the certificate:—

"Certifica que Mr. R. Leslie Jones, Wellington, does hear in far off New Zealand our wonder  $7\frac{1}{2}$  watts like in France, Australia, Venezuela, Trinidad, etc." Then follows the commemoration in both Spanish and English; also the following list of places from which reception has been reported: England, Espana, Canada, U.S.A., Mexico, Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti, Bahamas, Republica Dominicana, Guatemala, Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, Panama, Canal Zone, Colombia, Equador, Peru, Brazil.

Several specimen pages of the book "Me and Little Radio NRH" were also forwarded, and proved very interesting indeed. The antenna and counterpoise are 72ft. long, inverted L type. The leg of the L is 48ft. long, and both antenna and counterpoise three feet apart. The western mast is 72ft. high and the eastern mast 42 feet, and therefore the antenna has an obtuse angle and the counterpoise is acute.

The antenna itself is a single cable wire. The high frequency on the antenna is almost half-ampere, sometimes more, and oscillator plate shows exactly 60 milliamperes. The modulation plate shows 20-25 milliamperes. The circuit T.P.T.G., as the old stand-by, but laid out by the owner. Situation, 3820ft. above sea level, amid a plateau between mountain ranges.

## Radio Research

THE National Research Council of Canada has established a Radio Research Committee, modelled on similar boards functioning in Great Britain, Australia, and other countries, and will work in close co-operation with the radio division of the Department of Marine. Study of the frequency standard problem will be one of the first to be undertaken by the committee. Others will be refraction over water, impediments to long distance transmission, and effect of both the aurora and meteorological conditions on wave propagation.

The good New Year will reduce prices of Radio and most electric products. You will like advice and ready service. Both are given whether you select at my shop or send your orders by mail. Every thing electrical stocked at the lowest ruling prices.

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