

100-watters KMJ, KGFJ, Cal., and KGBY, South Dakota. Also 250-watters in Vancouver, British Columbia, namely, CJOR and CKMO, and two Mexican stations, one on 1140 k.c. (263 metres), giving a call that sounded like XAH. It was probably XEA. The other was on 1020 k.c. (294 metres), but the call was too difficult to catch. B.W. (Stratford): I heard the Melbourne station and also assumed the call to be 8KZ. I am still using a four-valve regenerative set of popular make and have identified over 130 American stations. Many thanks to Guy C. Holmes for his good wishes to fellow DX-ers.—C. V. Blucher (N. Auckland).

Another New Australian B.

R. J.R. (P.N.): I have not logged the new Canberra station yet, but you appear to have heard it fairly definitely. From information I have received, their call should be 2CA, Canberra, operating on 480 metres (625 k.c.), but until the station was officially opened they would be broadcasting from VK2LE on 1050 k.c. (286 metres). I have heard a station interfering with 2ZF lately and I think it is KNX. J.P.C. (P.N.): Reception has been very noisy during the last week and consequently I have had no trace of the station on 610 k.c. (492 metres). The last time I heard them I listened for half an hour, but no call sign was given. I think you will find the Moss Vale station's call is 2MV. Your locality appears to be ideal for American reception. "Ray Dio" (Shannon): Probably a printer's error. "N.Z." at the conclusion of 3KZ's address is certainly wrong.—B.W. (Stratford).

[3KZ's address is: Industrial Printing and Publishing Coy., 24-30 Victoria Street, Carlton, N.S.—Ed.]

An Often-Hard American.

I NOTICE that "Kia Ora" (Frankton) has been receiving KFKB, Milford, Kansas, very well of late. I received this station very clear on my loudspeaker one night about 11 p.m. On looking up the time on the DX clock I made it out about 4.30 a.m. there, so I came to the conclu-

sion that someone was "pulling my leg." Are these American stations on the air all night?—"New Chum" (Napier).

[Not as a general rule, though quite often certain stations will stay on the air all night either for testing purposes or for broadcasting special programmes for overseas listeners.—Ed.]

News From Siam.

THE following is an extract from a letter received from short-wave station HS4PJ, Siam:—"On the evening in question we were testing our telephony communication with Berlin from our HSJ station on a wavelength of 18.7 metres, power being 20kw. I may also mention that we rarely use HS4PJ now, and we use HS2PJ as our broadcasting station or short-wave. The transmission from this latter station is carried out every Monday evening from 13.00 to 16.00 G.M.T., on a wavelength of 29.5 metres. Power 500 watts. Reports on reception would be greatly appreciated. Telegraphic address: "Telepost," Bangkok, Siam.—J.O. (New Plymouth).

A Suggestion for the Competition.

COULD the DX competition rules be amended to exclude the Australian B class stations? With the advent of all the new B's across the Tasman, much unnecessary correspondence will be occasioned as the majority of them are receivable by any valve set in a fair location. The V.K. experimental stations also entail a lot of late hours, which I think is a contributing factor toward a falling-off of the enthusiasm which we all feel at the start of a competition. It is really a heart-breaking proposition when one looks forward to all the Aussies one will have to write to for the next competition.—V. Cuncliffe (Tasman).

[Your suggestion is not without merit, though some of the lower-powered B class Australians are not easy to log. What do other DX-ers think?—Ed.]

On Short-waves.

THE station heard by Mr. Sellens on approximately 47m. and identified

Laboratory Jottings

Gulbransen Radio

MESSRS. H. W. CLARKE, LTD., have sent for test their two new Gulbransen models, the Champion Highboy and the Champion, Lowboy. These have been in use for quite a few weeks, and we have consequently been able to make a thorough examination of these new models. Both use screen-grid radio frequency valves, but the large model, the Highboy, has one stage more r.f. than the Lowboy, and uses a 227 as power detector. Other than this the circuits are the same. In the Lowboy is a screen-grid detector which feeds into two 245 valves in push-pull through a stage of 227.

The Lowboy is much smaller than the Highboy, but is very neat and efficient, and we were rather surprised

by another listener as CT8AG, is correct. It is situated at Funchal, Madeira Is., and is on the air Fridays and Sundays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. New Zealand summer time. In January 2 issue Mr. Sellens heard a station on 49.9m. in the morning. According to information received this is VQYLO, Nairobi. It broadcasts on 50m. now daily, 4-7 a.m. N.Z.S.T. The Rome station known as I3RO has now changed its call to I2RO and transmits on 80m. (?), 4-6 a.m. and 7.30-10 a.m. The address is: "Via Maria Cristina, 5, Rome, Italy." Station HS1PJ is experimenting irregularly on 87.6m., with a power of 60 kw. The address of Morocco stations is. "Director de Office de Postes, Des Telegraphies et Telephones, Rabat, Morocco."—"ZLDX" (Palmerston N.).

The DX Competition

SOME excellent logs were received for the above, and the winner has been chosen. As soon as the latter's verifications have been received and checked, a further announcement will be made.

at its distance-getting abilities. Although at the present season the Australian stations are well below normal, it was able to bring them in at quite comfortable strength.

We heard the Japs. regularly, and when making comparisons with our standard, we found that it lost very little through having only two stages of screen-grid radio frequency. So far as New Zealand stations are concerned, it brought in the main YA stations in addition to Wanganui and an occasional Dunedin station in the daytime. At night the B stations came in very well.

We liked very much the tone of the Lowboy. If anything it was slightly deeper than that of the Highboy though it lost nothing in the higher frequencies.

Incorporated in the Highboy and the Lowboy is one of the new features for the 1931 season, that is, a tone control. This comprises a resistance, and a condenser shunted across the grids of the push-pull valves. By varying this a good percentage of the high frequency notes can be eliminated, giving the bass greater prominence than it would otherwise have. Tone controls are interesting features and no doubt many people will welcome them so that they may obtain whatever balance of bass and treble they require.

Faithful reproductions, however, cannot be had when the higher frequencies are cut out, and for this reason we did not use the tone control when operating on the local station or for gramophone records. What we did find the control useful for was to cut out during bad conditions a great deal of static and other interference on outside stations.

Stations that could not be listened to with the set in the normal state could be brought in quite well when the tone control was turned round to the bass side.

The volume control of both sets operates in a dual capacity. It varies the coupling between the aerial and earth and also decreases the voltages on the screen-grids of the high-frequency valves. This system, which, by the way, is another feature of this year's models, enables the volume to be turned down considerably without interfering with the quality; in fact, we found that the local station could be heard without removing the aerial, and this is asking a good deal for a modern set.

On the Highboy there is a local and a distance switch which cuts out part of the aerial inductance, so that the set may be used on the local station without overloading.

The selectivity of both sets was such that we could bring in 2FC and 4QG. These, of course, were received with 2YA operating fairly late at night. There was a background to both stations. We consider it is a very selective set that will do this.

Both models are adapted for a gramophone pick-up, and our measured frequency range showed that both brought in all the frequencies, high and low, which go to make up good reproduction. The tone control operates as quickly and efficiently on gramophone as on wireless.

The sensitivity of the Highboy is, as is to be expected, slightly greater than that of the Lowboy. Both receivers should be capable of bringing in the American stations when operated in reasonably favourable localities.

The Highboy consumes 110 watts and the Lowboy 90.

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