

Notes on Reception

EXCEPT for some very severe static, conditions have improved recently. There is plenty of variety "on the air" from all continents, and twenty countries. Most of the latter were heard on Saturday.

The countries heard during the week were: England, France, Germany, Holland, Morocco, Russia, Philippine Islands, Indo-China, Siam, Java, Australia, Suva, Canada, United States, Honduras, Costa Rica, Argentine, Mexico, and New Zealand.

Log for Week Ending

January 17.

RV15, Siberia, 70.1 metres.—Every evening at good volume, but plenty of static.

59 metres (about).—Saturday midnight, music and talk R8. Static too bad to be readable.

WX9F, Chicago, 49.83 metres.—Good volume after 5 p.m.

PK3AN, Java, 49.70 metres.—After midnight Saturday R8. Static very bad.

49.4 metres (about).—This station starts at 6 a.m. each morning, at varying volume, but I have not been able to identify it. It has either been too weak or, if loud enough, static has spoilt reception. Each morning at 6.30 a.m. a time-signal is heard similar to Greenwich, that is, six dots. This station may be W9XAA, but the speech is not the typical American.

WSXAL, Boundbrook, N.J., 49.18 metres.—Splendid volume and quality till 6 p.m. each evening.

W2XE, New York, 49.02 metres.—Sunday and Saturday very weak at 5 p.m.

Saigon, Indo-China, 49 metres.—Was heard on Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 11.30 p.m. Very good volume. Their native music is very weird.

WSXX, Pittsburgh, 48.86 metres.—Sunday R5 at 5 p.m. with a background of noise.

KIXR, Manila, 48.80 metres.—Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 p.m. Volume good, but too much static for good reception. There was not any sign of KIXR on other evenings.

HRB, Honduras, 48.62 metres.—Saturday, from just audible at 4.30 p.m. increased to R5 at 5 p.m., but was very distorted.

45.4 metres (about).—Good volume each morning, going off to just audible by 7.30 a.m.

2ZJ, Gisborne, 45 metres (about).—At 4 p.m. Saturday records at R8, quite good.

1ZK, Auckland, 44.8 metres (about).—A harmonic of this station, but heard on Sunday morning till 10.25 a.m. at R8 broadcasting a church service, and again during the afternoon.

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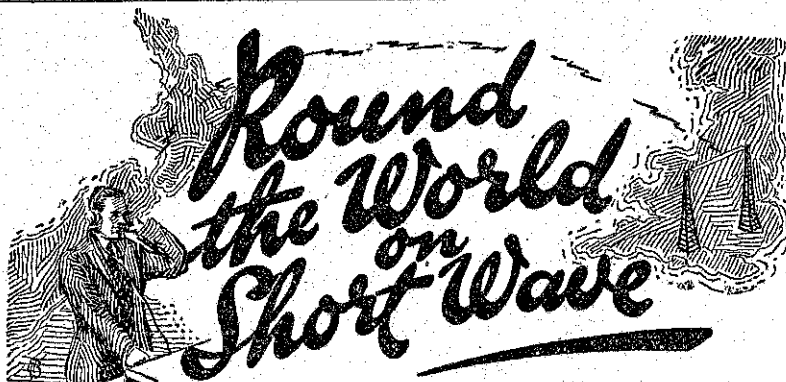
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WND, America, 44.4 metres.—Saturday, 4.50 p.m., R8. Duplex with England.

43.4 metres (about).—English station, also R8 talking to WND.

3ME, Melbourne, 31.55 metres.—Saturday from 10 p.m. Maximum volume with one stage audio.

W2XAF, Schenectady, 31.48 metres.—Sunday and Saturday afternoons. The Radio Keith Orpheans were good on the latter day till 4 p.m. Also Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, records at R8, static bad.

Zeesen, Germany, 31.38 metres.—Each morning, but very weak except on Friday, when they were R8 at 6 a.m., soon reducing to very weak.

WIXAZ, Springfield, Mass., 31.35 metres.—Saturday, reaching R7-8 by 4.30 p.m., when they signed off.

PCJ, Holland, 31.28 metres.—Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings, volume poor, except Saturday, when R8 was reached at 7.30 a.m., spoilt by rapid fade. On Saturday afternoon PCJ did not get above R3.

NRH, Costa Rica, 30.5 metres.—Saturday, 2.45 p.m., R5, very gushy, a trifle better at 3 p.m.

LSX, Buenos Aires, 28.9 metres.—Saturday, very gushy at R7 at 1 p.m.

G5SW, Chelmsford, 25.53 metres.—Each morning, except Sunday and Monday, weak with rapid fade.

12RO, Rome, 25.40 metres.—This station has been wandering on its wavelength the last few days. Tuesday and Saturday they were on 25.4 metres, Monday about 26 metres, and Thursday down to 25.2 metres—just below WSXX instead of just above.

WSXX, Pittsburgh, 25.25 metres.—Each morning, but very weak.

FTN, Paris, 24.46 metres.—Duplex each evening with Rabot after 10 p.m. Always good volume.

PLM, Java, 24.46 metres.—Saturday from 11 p.m. till 11.30 p.m., Children singing. These items were very enjoyable, received at R9. Kootwijk was called and spoken to at 11.30 p.m., after which the children were heard again. Later they were talking to Amsterdam.

Rabat, Morocco, 23.86 metres.—Each evening duplex with FTN. On Friday at 10.45 p.m. the "Radio Maroc" short-wave broadcast station, was heard from 10.45 p.m. Music was R7, but talk much weaker. The word "Rabat" was heard in the call. At 10.50 p.m., after an item, a whistle was heard, followed by the call and talk. The wavelength is just below the duplex station and is scheduled as daily from 9 p.m. till 1 a.m., N.Z. summer time.

CJA, Drummondville, Canada, 23.7 metres.—Saturday, 10.20 p.m., R8, talking to London.

XDA, Mexico, 20.5 metres.—Mornings, starts soon after 7.30 a.m. All talk, strength varies.

VPD, Suva, 20.3 metres (about).—Sunday morning from 10.15 p.m., calling "Hullo" and continuing. 2ME called Suva a number of times, but could not get a reply.

W2XAD, Schenectady, 19.5 metres.—Each morning, but not above R4.

PMC, Java, 16.5 metres.—Friday, after 11 p.m. duplex with Holland. R8.

PCK, Holland, 16.3 metres.—Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Re-

ords and duplex with Java, from about 10.30 p.m.

PMB, Java, 14.55 metres.—Wednesday and Thursday from 10.20 p.m. Records and duplex with Holland at R8.

Short-wave Club

Nucleus of N.Z. Organisation

SHORT-WAVE listeners throughout New Zealand will be interested to learn that the nucleus of a short-wave club has been formed in Wellington. This organisation is to embrace the whole of the country—to take in town and country listener alike. Its aims, as outlined at a preliminary meeting of well-known short-wave radio authorities, are briefly to afford opportunity to experimenters and listeners of meeting or corresponding, and to assist beginners in short-wave listening by showing them how to set about obtaining the best results. It is hoped to place before listeners talks and articles by leading authorities on the subject, to endeavour to educate them as to what is required in the way of reports on reception, and to arrange programmes for test. Such were the ideas of the convenor of the meeting, Mr. A. B. McDonagh, a well-known short-wave listener.

At the preliminary meeting it was definitely decided to proceed with the club, and at the suggestion of Mr. Sellens, it will be known, at least for the present, as the New Zealand Short Wave Listeners' Club. It was strongly emphasised by several present that the activities of the

club be given full publicity to listeners through the Radio Press.

The meeting was only a "private" one. Nothing definite, other than to proceed with the project, was decided, but arrangements were made for an inaugural meeting to be held in the near future. In the intervening period the club was to be made known to all interested, and suggestions would be received which at the next meeting would receive attention.

Commenting on this topic, Mr. G. R. McCarthy remarked on the popularity of the "Radio Record's" DX columns, and suggested that something of the same nature might be put into operation for the short-wave listeners. Furthermore, the "Questions and Answers" showed clearly that listeners were becoming interested in short-wave work, and desired help. This must be the chief aim of the club. This resolution was wholeheartedly agreed to.

Furthermore the club members should be taught to make out reliable reports on reception. Perhaps the amateur transmitters would co-operate in the way of special broadcasts. Two members were deputised to raise the question at the next meeting of the N.Z.A.R.T.

Discussing the age limit, it was decided for the present to leave the question open. There might be suggestions forthcoming from listeners remote from Wellington. Due to the interest that ladies were showing in radio generally they should be welcomed into the club.

Until the general meeting, the date of which could not be fixed, was held, it would be necessary to elect a temporary chairman and secretary. The meeting agreed that the former position should be held by Mr. Sellens, whose fame as a short-wave listener was known all over the country, and that the latter position should be left in the capable hands of Mr. McDonagh, whose enthusiasm was largely instrumental in bringing the club into existence. It is to these two gentlemen that suggestions should be made. The co-operation of listeners outside Wellington is particularly sought, and all ideas will be discussed at the forthcoming meeting.

Letters should be addressed to Mr. F. W. Sellens, 7 Randwick Road, Northland, Wellington, or to Mr. A. B. McDonagh, 274 Cuba Street, Wellington. They should be sent in as soon as possible, as it is hoped to settle the constitution of the club.

Among those present were Mr. Donald and Mr. L. Saunders, who were associated with Mr. McDonagh in the preliminary work.

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