

similar to that heard from the short-waver R.F.N. This is probably the station "Screen-grid" mentioned some time back. I have had him on three different occasions, but have not heard him since January 31, when at 2 a.m. he was R7-8. On January 27 at about 2 a.m. I heard a foreigner on 384 metres. Speech sounded like Spanish. Two band items were given, followed by the call sign in the foreign language. An instrumental item followed by a different voice announcing "You are listening to K.T.M." etc. This may clear up one of the mystery stations.—W.E.D. (Picton).

New Australian "B" Testing.

4BC is now permanently on 262 m. (1145 k.c.), with a power of 500 w., and 4BK has moved up to 233 m. (1290 k.c.). 2GN, Goulburn, whose address is c/o Box 88, Goulburn, N.S.W., is now on 215 m. (1390 k.c.). I heard a new Australian on the 24th testing from 11.45 p.m. onward on 262 m. (1145 k.c.). He announced "Amalgamated Wireless testing from Oxley Radio Station, situated eight miles from Brisbane."—"Keijo" (Invercargill).

D.X. News.

A FEW nights ago I picked up 3BA, Ballarat, operating on approximately 1320 k.c. (227 m.). I have always heard them previously on approximately 1410 k.c. (212 m.). Have they changed their frequency permanently? I have noticed a distinct improvement in the strength of 6CL, 3AR, and 7ZL lately since they have increased their wavelengths.—B.W. (Stratford).

A Delayed Verification.

AFTER waiting exactly six months I received a verification card from Station VK3HB, Brighton, Vic., on the 11th. However, Mr. H. L. Byrne, owner of 3HB, stated he was sorry for the delay, as he had been sick in hospital, and so that explained matters. When I sent my report to 3HB I sent it through VK3UX, Mt. Albert, Vic., and this station is also verified on the card. VK3HB operates on 206.8 m. (1455 k.c.), with a power of 25 watts, using a cage antenna 65ft. high. Address, H. L. Byrne, "Turona," 21 Wolseley Grove, Brighton Beach, S.S. I also hold a card from VK3KU, Swan Hill, Vic., on a power of ten watts. Latest loggings are: WJZ, New York City, and KLLX, Oakland, California. Could any DX'er tell me what time the Manila station closes down?—N.J. (Masterton).

Synchronised Transmissions.

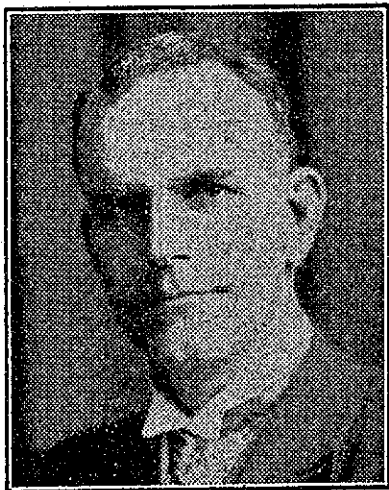
FOLLOWING is a copy of a letter I received to-day from the plant engineer of WTIC, Mr. J. C. Randall. I frequently write them on their transmission, and once at their request sent them a large wall map of New Zealand.—"Taipo" (P.N.).

"Your map arrived to-day and I am very much pleased with it, as it serves admirably in locating places we hear from in your country. So far we have been looking over that district around the quake zone, and we are very anxious for news of Hastings and Napier, as we have several very good radio friends in that locality. It is indeed a very sad and unfortunate circumstance to befall your country, and we hope the newspaper reports are exaggerated. Hope some time to have some direct information on the disaster. Let's talk radio. We are going to operate in synchronisation with WBAF; that is, we will broadcast the exact programme as WBAF on their 660 k.c. frequency. The programmes from their studios will be fed to both their transmitter and ours, both in step electrically, and one will not know, we hope, as to what station they are getting the programme from until the usual 15-minute announcement is made, when each station will identify itself separately. The date of the start of the venture is not as yet decided, but I feel we will be under way with it by the time this letter reaches you. The schedule of operation will be as follows:—

Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. from WBAF, on 660 k.c.
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 4 p.m. to 12 p.m., from WTIC, on 1060 k.c.
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., from WTIC, on 1060 k.c.
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: 4 p.m. to midnight, from WBAF, on 660 k.c.
Sundays as yet not decided. Will you give this as much publicity as possible among your radio acquaintances, and ask them to advise me as to what results are like under these conditions. Interested to know how the 660 k.c. (454 metres), compare with the 1060 k.c. (283 metres).—J. C. Randall, plant manager, Travelers' Broadcasting Station, WTIC, Hartford, Connecticut."

Race Meeting from 6WF.

AT 12.30 a.m. on March 15 I heard the station mentioned by "Novice" (Hamilton) in your issue of March 20. The announcer described a horse race, which could be followed quite clearly. After giving the names of the placed



FRANK SUTHERLAND,
who will sing several numbers from
IYA on April 5.
—S. P. Andrew, photo.

horses and dividends, a musical record was broadcast from the studio. Static prevented my hearing the station call. Dial reading, 690 k.c. (436 metres), which is approximately the same as the reading on "Novice's" set. Is not this the frequency on which 6WF, Perth broadcasts, although do not expect them to relay the results of a race meeting between 8 and 10 p.m. Perhaps "Novice" would get into touch with me if he picks up this stranger again.—"Apex," G.P.O. Box 1691, Auckland.

6WF, Perth, broadcasts on 435 metres (690 k.c.) with a power of 5 k.w. Another correspondent identifies the station heard by "Novice" as 6WF.—Ed.]

D.X. Correspondents Wanted.

RECENTLY we received an order for a DX clock from a Mr. Ralph Schiller, of New Jersey. Surely our most-distant customer! He also requested us to publish the following letter to New Zealand D-Xers:—

"Ralph H. Schiller, of 4 Vincent St., Hawthorne, New Jersey, U.S.A., would like to have all radio enthusiasts write to him. Can send latest hook-ups, and when possible, will send logs of the radio stations in U.S.A. All letters will be promptly answered."

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interesting information.
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Abuse of Radio

Developments in America

SPECIAL problems are developing in America owing to the use being made of the air by radio stations operated for private gain. An extraordinary development is the maintenance of special hours and even stations by scheming fortune-tellers, astrologers, quack weather prophets, and medical hysters of one sort or another. According to a report published in "Editor and Publisher" there are about 20 psychic persons in New York and its vicinity advertising on the air, and about a dozen in the city proper. Evidence was obtained recently by a New York newspaper that one dispenser of horoscopes, with a large trade drawn from radio broadcast activities, took care of about 2000 customers without the slight formality of reading their letters. A staff of secretaries merely slipped a prepared card for the victim's natal month into an envelope and mailed it in return for one dollar.

Much publicity has recently been given in the States to a decision by the Radio Commission refusing renewal of the license of a station operated by Dr. John R. Brinkley, on the ground that the character of its programme was inimical to the public health and safety, and for that reason not in the public interest. Through a "Medical Question Box" Brinkley, over the air, invited letters describing symptoms of ailments. In reply, Brinkley would broadcast to such sufferers instructions to purchase at designated drug stores prescriptions obtainable by number only. He organised the "Brinkley Pharmaceutical Association," consisting of druggists handling his prescriptions, and these druggists paid a fixed percentage to him on all prescriptions sold through his broadcasting.

In appealing against the commission's decision, Brinkley contended that its action was tantamount to illegal cen-

sorship. In hearing the case, Mr. Justice Robb, however, ruled that this contention was without merit, and the commission merely exercised its undoubted right to take note of appellant's past conduct, and that was not censorship.

This decision will, it is hoped, help broadcasting authorities in effecting control of the numerous radio fortune-tellers, mind-readers, and sellers of magic blood-magnetisers, nostrums, and medicines supposed to cure all sorts of diseases.

Radio in Soviet Prisons

THE Soviet has come to the conclusion that the study of radio is one of the best means of improving a prisoner's morals. It has been found that courses in electricity and wireless tend to develop a new mentality among prisoners, many of whom, it is said, have turned over a new leaf on returning to civil life by taking up wireless as a profession.

Every facility is given the prisoners to study wireless. They are allowed a certain number of components; circuit diagrams are supplied them; and text books on the subject are loaned from the prison library. Many of the receivers produced by the prisoners are fine examples of what can be done with limited facilities, and reflect great credit on the constructors.

Loudspeakers Control Railway Traffic

SEVERAL railway stations in the British Isles have installed loudspeakers for speedy communication of traffic news to passengers. Usually one microphone is installed in the main signal box, with another in the station-master's office. Loudspeakers are installed at platform entrances and in the booking hall.



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