

Short-wave Club

The Secretary Writes

A VERY large number of short-wavers ask for times of operation of the special slow Morse stations, which are as follows:—

ZL2BI: 11 to 11.30 a.m., Sunday, at three speeds—first, very slow copy from card; second, speed five words per minute average; and third, eight words per minute average. Also occasional 10 to 12 words per minute.

ZL2BA: Sundays, 7 to 7.30 p.m., and irregular.

Johnson's Wireless School: Fridays, 6.45 to 7.30 p.m.

The official telephony stations are:—ZL2AW, Wellington, Sundays, 10 p.m., and irregular. ZL1BC, Auckland, Mondays, 7 to 8 p.m., and irregular.

A member of the club who was called in to see why a "Night Hawk" set would not function got it going and tells me that, provided the set is built exactly to specifications, it is a very good circuit. The club would like to point out that sets must be built exactly to plan. This would save a great deal of trouble, as, although Bill or Tom says to do it this way or that, the designers of the circuit are practical men who know their business and submit only the best.

A complaint reaches me from a transmitter over reports being sent in. We have published all instructions on filling in a report, and have also given lectures over the air, so short-wave listeners who do not receive a card or a reply will know that either their report has been incomplete or that they have forgotten to enclose return postage.

Very interesting letters reach me, particularly from Messrs. Hewat-Smith, Waihou; A. Colyer, Taneatua; George E. Briggs, Moreere; and F. Gee, Otangihaka. From these we get many items of interest which, owing to local interferences, we would otherwise miss.

The next Wellington lecture will be held in Messrs. Nimmos concert hall on Thursday, June 25 next, at 7.30 p.m., which will consist of a members' question night. In order to deal with the large number of queries received I would like members to write out their questions and let me have them as early as possible. This course will considerably assist the lecturers by giving them time to deal with them.

Membership is well on into the second century and considerably more inquiries are rolling in. Address me, A. B. McDonagh, secretary New Zealand Short-wave Club, 274 Cuba Street, Wellington. —Yours fraternally, Mac.

Short-wave News from America

FOLLOWING are some shortwave notes contributed by Mr. Fred Easter, 3353 Southside Av., Cincinnati, Ohio:—

"I recently received a verification and some data on the shortwave broadcasting station at Riobamba, Ecuador, which operates on 39.8 metres, from 9 to 11 p.m. E.S.T. (75th meridian time, 5 hours behind Greenwich Mean Time), on Thursdays. This station is anxious for reports and suggestions from short-wave listeners. The power used is 50 watts and the address is Fabrica de Tejidos de 'El Prado,' Apartado 98, Riobamba, Ecuador, South America. 'El Prado' is heard remarkably well here considering the power used.

"Another station heard very well here is HKF at Bogota, Colombia. This station comes in at fine strength when

conditions are good. I have no data on their power as I have not yet received a reply to my report. They change their wavelength frequently and at present are on about 39.9 metres. Another station heard very well here is X26A, at Nuevo Laredo, Mexico. This station is operating on 7300 k.c., relaying XEP on 1400 k.c. The power used by X26A is 500 watts. According to information received from them they are on the air daily and heard here from 7 p.m. until after midnight. There is some very bad interference from amateurs at times as this

station is right on the edge of the 7 megacycle band. The address of X26A and XEP is Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, Mexico, Apartado, Postal 31. The announcements mention XEP only. The station is at Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, while the studio is in the Hamilton Hotel at Laredo, Texas, U.S.A.

"I have received a letter from the Societe Francaise Radio-Electrique, 79 Boulevard Hausmann, Paris (VIII), France, in which they state that the new telephony station on 18.9 metres working Saigon on 24.9 metres is FTK. This station recently replaced

FTN on 24.46 metres, which formerly worked Saigon. The telephony with Saigon is conducted between 14.00 and 15.00 G.M.T.

"Reception on the shorter wavelengths (20 metres and under) has fallen off badly now. The best period of reception on this band is from October until the following March. Then reception diminishes greatly until the summer is over. The only months of the year when the Java phones, PLE, PLF, etc., can be heard here are February, March and April. I have heard PLE during the three above months, in 1931, after an absence of 10 months. They were heard at the same time in 1930, but faded out in April. Reception of VK3ME is very good here. They are up to R9 on the speaker. Saigon, on 49 metres, has faded out now. They have never been above R5 here at any time. PCV was formerly very loud here until they installed a directional aerial. PCK comes in at excellent strength from October until April. G5SW and Rome vie with each other for volume here. At times Rome is the loudest and again G5SW has the lead in this respect. The difference in volume is caused by the difference in latitude of the two stations rather than the distance from here.

"I like to correspond with radio enthusiasts and will be pleased to exchange notes on reception with anyone who cares to write me. I would like to know what has become of KA1XR. I have not heard this station since May, 1930, when I heard them on one wavelength only, namely, 26.3 metres. I heard a station on almost exactly 30 metres, April 25th, at 11.30 G.M.T., calling Bandoeng, and the operator kept saying, 'Hello, Bandoeng, this is Sydney calling.' This is the first occasion that I have heard an Australian telephony station on that wavelength. I would like very much to get any information regarding it. I heard W2-XG testing with telephony on 26.7 metres lately."

Short-wave Club Meeting

A MEETING of the Wellington members of the N.Z. Short-wave Club, held on the 28th, was well attended.

Mr. Sellens, president of the club, gave an interesting address, the text of which appeared in last week's issue.

After Mr. Sellens had concluded ZL2AW, Mr. Roy Clarke, N.Z.18W, was called upon to describe a wave-trap, and delivered a very interesting account of how a wave-trap is easily made and used in conjunction with the calibration chart shown by Mr. Sellens. Mr. Clarke further enlightened members by answering a few questions.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the lecturers, also stations 2AW and 2BC, and the station director of 2ZW, Mr. Strachan, for his invitation to members to look over the station.

The suggestion that next meeting be a members' question night met with unanimous approval. The idea of the meetings is to deliver instruction in simple non-technical language, all formality is purposely waived so that members and visitors will feel at home. The purpose of the club is instructional and fraternal, and an invitation is extended to visitors to attend the meetings.



*But the rain is gone by, and the day's dying out in a splendour,
There is flight as of many gold wings in the heart of the sky;*

*God's birds, it may be, who return from their ministry tender;
Flying home from the earth, like the earth-birds when darkness is nigh.*

Gold plumes and gold feathers, the wings hide the roseate faces,

*But a glimmer of roseate feet breaks the massing of gold;
There's gold hair blowing back—and a drifting of one in clear spaces,*

A little child-angel whose flight is less sure and less bold.

They are gone, they are flown, but their footprints have left the sky ruddy.

And the night's coming on with a moon in a tender green sea,

And my heart is fled home, with a flight that is certain and steady,

To her home, to her nest, to the place where her treasure shall be.

—Katherine Tynan.