

Short-wave Notes

The "Voice of Holland."

A WEEKLY broadcast, the Voice of Holland, provided by the press agencies of The Hague and Amsterdam, takes place each Sunday at 2.10 a.m., New Zealand time, from PCV, Kootwijk, on a wavelength of 16.85 metres. The "Voice of Holland" is broadcast in Dutch, French, English and German.

French Colonial Shortwaver.

THE new French shortwave station, which is situated at Pontoise, has a power of about 13 kilowatts, three masts, and two transmitters, which are stabilised by crystals and will work either separately or simultaneously. There is a special auditorium for this station at the Colonial Exhibition, and is being announced as "Poste O 12,000."

For the time being there will be a transmission each day from 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. meant for Oceania, followed by a second one for Indo-China. A little later there will be a transmission for Africa, which will last until 9.30 a.m., between which time and 11.30 a.m. America will be the objective. (All times N.Z.) These programmes will consist of news, economic, political, literary and artistic, as well as a concert.

Short Waves from Manila.

IT is officially reported that the Manila stations listed as working on 48.8, 31.4, 26.1 and 24.5 metres are no longer in use. Broadcasting in Manila will be done only on 485 metres, with an aerial power of 50 k.w.

VE9CL, Canada.

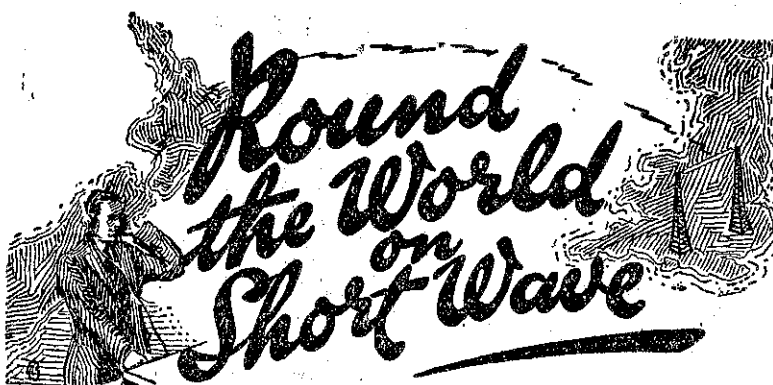
VE9CL, 48.8 metres, are putting on a late programme twice a month for reception in this part of the world. The time to listen is between 5.30 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. on the 15th and 30th of each month.

WSXAL, Cincinnati.

THE Crosley Radio Corporation advises that they intend to carry out 24 tests once each month so that they will be able to determine the variation in short-wave transmission throughout the world. One has just concluded (Sunday morning, August 2), the next starts at 4.30 a.m. on September 1, our time, and continues till the same hour the next morning. The letter arrived too late to include these particulars in last week's notes. Any readers who heard this test are invited to forward as full a report as possible to the Technical Supervisor, Station WSXAL, the Crosley Radio Corporation, Cincinnati, U.S.A.

"Radio Maroc," Rabat.

A LONG letter has just been received from the Inspector-General of the Post Office Telegraph and Telephones of Maroc. The short-wave station is located in the outskirts of Rabat, in the same field as the broadcast station "Radio Maroc." The main aerial is so arranged that the energy radiated is at a maximum in the direction of Paris. Two secondary aerials are constructed to



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.

radiate in all directions. The secondary aerials are used for communication with Paris when the directional aerial during certain hours becomes ineffective, for broadcasting their Sunday programmes, and with a view to the eventual establishment of communication with Tunis and French West Africa.

The stations are crystal controlled. Power on telegraphy is 15 kilowatts and 8 kilowatts on telephony. Every Sunday the programme of "Radio Maroc" is relayed on short waves as follows:—New Zealand time, Sunday, midnight till 1.30 a.m. on 23.38 metres, and Monday, 7 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. on 32.26 metres.

PCJ, Holland.

MR. EDWARD STARTZ, the six-language announcer of PCJ, in a letter just received states that New Zealand is one of the foremost countries in the world in "the short-wave game," in fact, more reports are received from this country, for its size and population, than any other part of the world. Reception of PCJ in the United States has gone backward on account of transmitters in that country working close to PCJ's wavelength, causing interference. In all other countries reception has improved and become fairly reliable. Mr. Startz thinks this is due to the improvement of atmospheric conditions and their new beam aerials, which have given remarkable results.

During the summer months of Europe the 1.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Saturday afternoon transmissions will only take place fortnightly instead of weekly. Reports are invited on their Saturday afternoon 14.18 G.M.T. programme (Sunday, 1.30 a.m. to 5.30 a.m., New Zealand time), as they would like to know if PCJ can be heard in this country during this period.

Notes on Reception During
Week Ending August 1

MORNING reception has been spoilt in the writer's locality by an electrical interference. This has limited listening at this period.

HVJ, Vatican City, Moscow and REN continue to come in well at 6 a.m. onward. Zeesen, 12RO and 5SW are weak till after 7 a.m.

GBP, the English P. and T. phone station, came in well on Thursday, Friday and Saturday with the New Zealand cricket scores. They were weak at 6 a.m. each day, about R4, but by 7.30 a.m. volume was up to R8-9.

Radio Maroc on Monday was R8-9 from 7.30 a.m. The Colonial French station comes in well after 8.30 p.m.

W2XAF and W1XAZ close by the time they reach good volume during the afternoon. W2XE, W9XF and W8XAL on the higher wavelengths reach about R8 by 4 p.m. The latter station comes on

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again at 10.30 p.m. or 11 p.m. with music and early morning exercises.

The 24-hour test from WSXAL was interesting as far as I heard it. At 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. they were just audible—say R1-2—and had disappeared at 8 a.m. They were heard again about 2.30 p.m., increasing slowly to R9 by 4.30 p.m., at which volume they remained constant till 11 p.m.; after this they went off to R8 at 11.30 p.m. and were inaudible before midnight.

RV15 has come back again to its old volume, Wednesday and Thursday nights being R9 as usual.

VK2ME, on their new international programmes on Sunday evening and Monday morning, came in at R9 as usual. VK3ME, on Wednesday evening, was very poor, being only R7 at its best, fading right out at times.

Radio Saigon is now as good as ever from 11 p.m. PK3AN and PMY, Java, commenced about midnight on Saturday, but were spoilt by static. PLW was excellent at R9 on Saturday from 10.30 p.m. with children singing.

Short-Wave Club

The Secretary Writes

A CORRESPONDENT raises an important point concerning my last notes re home-built receivers. I must agree with him when he says that home-made sets do not always compare favourably with the factory product. I really meant the paragraph for those who are economising, that is why I recommend a small set for a start. But in case there is a misconception, I may state that many of our members are getting good results with commercial sets. I quite agree with my correspondent that a short-wave set is a "tickly" instrument, and more delicate to build than the h.c.

Several letters agree that, with the advent of the DX Club, matters radio should hum in New Zealand. (The editor will no doubt agree with me that the "hum" will be difficult to eliminate.)

With the extended schedules of 2ME and 3ME, night listening is becoming more interesting, and the 80-metre band is livening up. Many of the ham phone stations are reaching a very high standard.

Membership is again on the up-grade. A large number appear to be under the impression that, to become a member, it is necessary to own a set or be a fully qualified technician. The only qualification necessary to join is an interest in radio. The club is open to all, and, by means of unity, we hope to learn the latest and assist each other.

Several enthusiasts from overseas have inquired if they can join up. As a writer points out, short-wave has yet to become popular—there are many things to understand, hence the foundation of the club. Many people imagine that the short-wave set can be used just the same way as a broadcast one. One peculiarity that is noticeable, in a broadcast set many things can be modernised with advantage, whereas, with a short-wave set, there appear to be certain old principles that we must retain, but one of the greatest factors that cannot be too strongly impressed is the art of tuning.

I meet many people who, although they do not go in for DX work, regularly read the short-wave and DX club notes. Unconsciously they are gaining an education as regards wavelengths and conditions, so it tends to show that the reports from listeners are appreciated.

I have again to thank the many people who have written in with information. I am still at the same address: A. B. McDonagh, Secretary N.Z. Short-Wave Club, 274 Cuba Street, Wellington.

A HIGH magnification factor for a valve is nearly always associated with high impedance, and a low magnification factor with low impedance.

THERE is no need to build a special set for shortwave reception as most sets can easily be adapted for this, either by special coils or by a short-wave adapter.

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