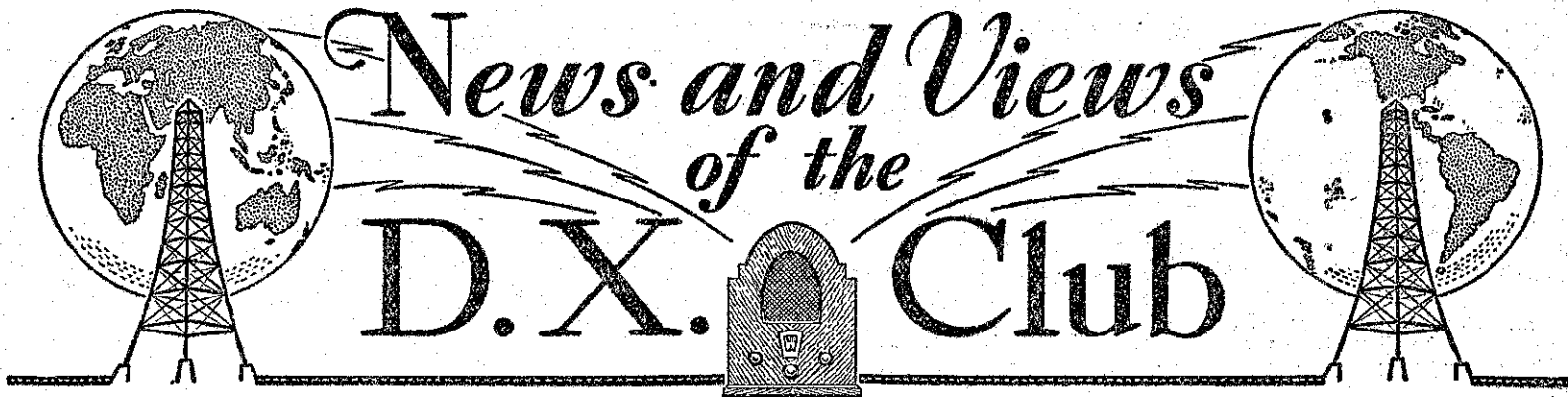




Answers to Correspondents

"Battery" (Stratford): Battery sets, especially if they incorporate one or two stages of screen-grid r.f., are quite good for DX work. In fact, many DXers prefer them to all-electric sets, maintaining that they are quieter in operation.

J.P. (Waikato): The set you mention is excellent for DXing, as is evident by your log.

Miss N.H. (Gisborne): Briefly, the objects of the DX Club are to further radio in any possible way. Addresses of American stations may be obtained either from the 1931 "Radio Guide" or the "Radio Log." The first issue of the latter was published several weeks ago, and a few are still available at our office, Box 1032, Wellington. Your log, especially of American stations, is quite good.

"Marama" (Colae Bay): With a good aerial and earth installation your set should be quite capable of bringing in the Americans. Try listening for KFI, above 4YA, Dunedin, from about 5.0 to 7.30 in the evening. The frequencies (or wavelengths) of unknown stations may be arrived at by two methods. Firstly, according to their relative position in regard to well-known stations, and, secondly, from a graph. In the latter, wavelength is plotted against dial readings for a number of stations whose wavelengths are known. These points

are then connected by a curve. Thus, the wavelength of a station may be determined from the dial reading by referring to the graph.

DX12A (Mangamuka): Comparison of reception conditions in different districts is very difficult because of the difference in aerial and earth installations, presence of screening objects such as trees, houses, etc. We would be pleased, however, to hear of any marked difference.

"Red Bird" (Wellington) and others: Full particulars of station KFI, Los Angeles, were published in last week's issue. Your letters, however, were much appreciated.

E.P. (Christchurch): The number of complete cycles that occur during one second in an alternating current is called the frequency of the current. In the case of radio transmission, the number of waves (cycles) leaving a transmitting aerial during one second is called the frequency of the transmission. One thousand cycles equals one kilocycle. The wavelength is the distance from crest to crest of one of these waves. The speed of radio waves is that of light, that is, 186,000 miles per second, or 300 million metres per second. Now you see if we have the distance from crest to crest of one wave, the frequency of the transmission may be obtained by dividing this into the speed of the wave. Frequency in kilocycles and wavelength in metres of a transmission are connected by the equation $W \times F$ equals 300,000.

Thus, if a station is transmitting on 300 metres we see that its frequency is 1000 kilocycles, and vice versa. For the remainder of your question see the answer to "Marama" above.

"John Bull" (Christchurch): As New Zealand postage stamps are not accepted in other countries, it is usual, when writing for verification, to enclose return postage only when the stations are in this country.

Not Quite Correct

REPLYING to a correspondent, the Wellington "Evening Post," recently stated that the reason why the Government refused the application of the Radio Broadcasting Company last year to erect a series of relay stations was that the company required a five years' extension of its license. When this statement was referred to the Broadcasting Company by a "Christchurch Star" reporter, Mr. A. R. Harris, General Manager, said this was the first he had heard that reason advanced for the non-acceptance of the company's recommendation. It was in January, 1929, that the company pointed out that additional relay stations would be required to give more efficient radio coverage. In reply the Postmaster-General, the Hon. J. B. Donald, advised that the whole question of broadcast would be comprehensively reviewed early in 1930. This was over two years ago, and since then the company had had no further communication on the subject.

E.V.W. (Wellington): For a two-valve receiver your log is excellent. Address of VK4LW is as follows: Mr. C. R. Morris, 20 Elizabeth Street, Rosalie, Queensland.

J.H. (Wellington): It is very doubtful if you could receive England on your set, but if you care to try, listen-in in the early morning between 4.30 and 6.30 or 7 a.m.

R.A.E. (Dunedin): The phenomenon you notice is caused by cross-modulation and may be eliminated by the use of a band-pass filter or by incorporating the new multi-mu valves. The effect is greatly increased by your nearness to 4YA.

"Coburg" (Cambridge): For nine weeks' DX-ing your log is excellent. The news item you mention was sent in by a correspondent and published in good faith. It is, however, wrong.

C.F.H. (Hamilton): If you have compiled the log you forward in only six weeks you certainly cannot complain of poor reception, and it is doubtful whether you can improve it much. However, if you heightened your aerial at the house end—you could do this by attaching a pole to the chimney—and increased the length of your aerial to 100

or 120 feet, including lead-in, you would possibly notice some improvement in reception. I expect the insulated supports indicated on your sketch projects far enough from the house to give the lead-in a good three or four feet clearance from the walls and roof.

"Orion" (Blenheim): The mystery station on 330 m. (910 k.c.) was identified last week, and again this week, as XEW, Mexico City. The Mexican on 425 m. (705 k.c.) has not yet been identified.

"Gipsy Moth" (Auckland): Your log, for a two-valve set, is easily the best we have seen. According to the latest list there is no station WBCD operating in America. See "Addresses and Addresses Wanted" column for the information you require. We have often thought of inaugurating a competition similar to that you mention, but have decided that for obvious reasons it would be impracticable.

Addresses & Addresses Wanted

"Night Bird" (Dunedin): 3BY, H. Holst, 27 Bambra Road, Caulfield, Vic.; 3RU, R. A. Durand, 6 Trumper Street, Camberwell, Vic. (For 4LW, see reply to E.V.W. above.)

"Hydro" (Hawke's Bay) would like the address of 3TFO.

"T.D.H." (Napier): 3KR, H. R. Rankin, Boundary Street, Kerang, Victoria. Address of 3TFO also required.

Identification Wanted

AUSTRALIAN on 1100 kc. (273 m.), heard at 1.6 a.m. on August 16 with the following items: (1) "Down the River of Golden Dreams," (2) item by a marimba orchestra. This was followed by "God Save the King" at 1.33 a.m. Strength R4—light fade. "Night Bird" (Dunedin).

STATION heard after 2BL closed down on same frequency (825 kc., 364 m.). Foreign speech, and orchestral and vocal numbers were heard. No call was heard, but a chime was given between items.—DX12HB (Havelock North).

STATION heard about 5.48 p.m. on August 16 on 1YA's old frequency. 5.57 p.m., "Dancing with Tears in My Eyes"; 6.3 p.m., song; 6.6 p.m., duet; 6.9 p.m., quartet. I could not understand speech. Also American heard at about 6.7 p.m. on 17th on 89 (7ZL Hobart 88). 6.9, male voice recording; 6.11, orchestra; 6.14, announcement; 6.15, orchestra. Announcer referred to recordings as "phonograph records."—"Ground" (Wanganui).

STATION on 710 heard from 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. almost every evening (WLW 700, 2YA 720). Announcer referred to the Macmillan station. Also foreign station on 670 kc. (448 m.), heard after 2FC closes down. It usually closes at about 1.30 a.m.—E.J.M. (Oamaru). [Your log compares quite favourably with others we have seen.—Ed.]

Are YOU a Member of the DX Club?

If not, post your application to the DX Editor, Box 1032, Wellington, enclosing 2/6 to cover cost of badge and certificate (post free). Subscription to the "Radio Log"—the DXer's own magazine—is 6/6 per annum, post free. Book your order now and receive the latest in DX news.

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MULLARD VALVES All Radio Dealers.

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COUNTRY TOWNS.

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