

Short-wave Notes

German Programmes for America.

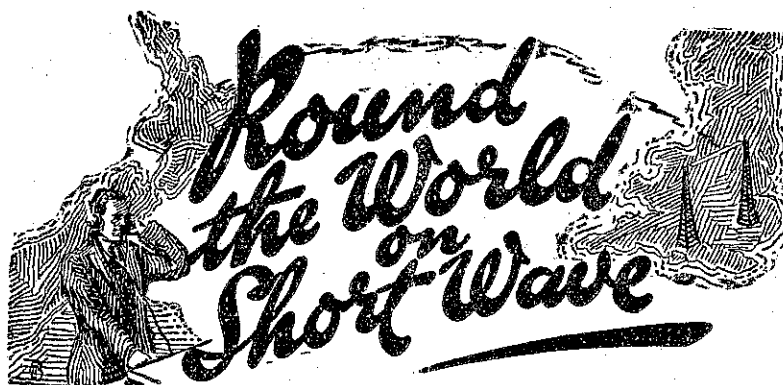
RECENT relays of Berlin concerts specially destined for the United States of America for retransmission over the National Broadcasting network have been carried out by the Zeesen station on 19.72 metres simultaneously with the normal transmission on 31.38 metres.

In this manner the programmes have been perfectly received on the other side of the Atlantic with minimum fading effect.

Zeesen, Germany.

THE following is the translation of a letter recently received from Germany:—

"The German Postal Department thank you for your observations and report on reception of the German world transmitter on a wavelength of 31.38 metres. The sender is at Zeesen, near Berlin. It works daily from 2 to 3 p.m., 4.30 to 7.30 p.m., 8 p.m. to 12.30 a.m., and in some cases until 1.30 a.m., mid-European time (1 a.m. to 2 a.m., 3.30 a.m. to 6.30 a.m., 7 a.m. to 11.30 a.m., New Zealand summer time). He relays mainly the programme offering at the German transmitting station BZW (1634.9 metres), Berlin. The power is 8 kilowatts in the aerial. No special call name is used by the sender. At the present time this short-wave transmitter is the only one sending out entertainment programmes in Germany."



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.

XGO, China.

THE Chinese short-wave station XGO, which transmits a programme of native music on Friday mornings from 1 a.m. to 3.15 a.m., sent the following letter of confirmation in reply to a report sent:—

"We take this opportunity of informing you that XGO is one of our high-powered short-wave stations, 20 to 40 k.w., established for international telegraphic services. No regular broadcasting is made, but tests on phone are only operated now and then with San Francisco and Manila. Its wavelength is 39.53 metres, or 7580 k.c., and is crystal-controlled. The address of the station is: Chinese Government Radio Administration, Central Traffic Office, Sassoon House, Jinkee Road, Shanghai, China."

VSIAB, Singapore.

SHORT-WAVE station VSIAB, Singapore, broadcasts a programme on 41.70 metres every Monday and Thursday between 2.30 a.m. and 4 a.m. The power used is only 30 watts.

Empire Station Testing.

A CORRESPONDENT to an Australian radio journal reports hearing a shortwave station relaying the "regional programme" on about 20.7 or 20.93 metres, while G5SW were transmitting the regular 12.30 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. G.M.T. (12.30 a.m. to 1.30 a.m. N.Z.S.T.) session on their usual wavelength of 25.53 metres. The report states that reception on the lower wave was weak, but much clearer than from G5SW.

Log for Week Ending Jan. 30

ALTHOUGH reception on the whole is below normal, quite a lot is to be heard on the short waves, and surprises often come along when least expected. Zeesen has, to most of us, been a pleasant memory only, but one morning during the week it was possible to hear this station all over the house, so good was reception.

RV15, Siberia, 70.1 metres: Reception good most evenings.

PMY, Java, 58 metres: Tuesday, 11.30 p.m., R7, static very bad.

HVJ, Vatican City, 50.26 metres: Still about R8 at 7 a.m. nearly every morning.

RV59, Moscow, 50 metres: Opens at 7 a.m. each morning with the call, "Hullo, here is Moscow," etc., followed by a band item. Not so strong now as a few weeks ago, but quite fair at R7-8, volume decreasing very rapidly. Heard several times after 11.30 p.m. up to R8; morse interference is very bad at this time.

50 Metres (about): Wednesday morning before RV59 came on the air a station was audible at R4 with talk—foreign—which was smothered when the Russian started.

W0XF, Chicago, 49.33 metres: Has been weak most afternoons. Tuesday and Thursday were best, when volume reached R8 by 6 p.m., but with a noisy background.

ZLZX, Wellington, 49.5 metres: Heard on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday from 7 p.m. at excellent volume.

WSXAL, Cincinnati, 49.5 metres: Every afternoon from about 5 p.m. at R1 or 2, showing increase to about R8 by 6 p.m. From 11.30 p.m., with their early morning session, reception is very good now, being R8-9 most evenings.

W3XAL, Roundbrook, 49.18 metres: Tuesday and Thursday, from R6 at 5 p.m. to R8-9 at 6 p.m., spoilt by background noises.

FBICD, Saigon, 49 metres: Still good volume from about 11.15 p.m. every evening, with quaint native music.

W3XL, Roundbrook, 46.69 metres: Only heard on Sunday this week, when they were very gushy and weaker than usual.

39.3 metres (about): On Thursday, about midnight, talk and music was heard, at R5, but a morse station spoilt reception.

Radic Maroc, Rabat, 32.26 metres: Monday from 8 a.m. at R3, gushy with medium static.

32 metres (about): On Tuesday at 5.50 p.m. a stranger was tuned in, when a man was singing. Reception was excellent at R9. There was a slight, slow, irregular fade. After a short interval, "Believe Me if All Those Endearing Young Charms," was sung, and, after a brief pause, the same record was put on again. About 6.5 p.m. this station went off the air without having made any announcement during the whole period.

PLW, Java, 31.86 metres: Heard several times at good volume, late in the evening.

31.6 metres (about): On Sunday at 4.20 p.m. I found an American on this wavelength at R8, apparently testing. At intervals items were broadcast from the National Broadcast network, but after the gong, when the call is always given, this station remained silent. Volume reached R9 by 4.45 p.m., but a morse station spoilt reception at this time, so did not continue listening.

VK3ME, Melbourne, 31.55 metres: Saturday from 10 p.m., excellent at R9, with some very severe fading.

W2XAF, Schenectady, 31.48 metres: This station is very weak until just before they sign off at 4 p.m., and then about R4 has been the best during the week.

31.4 metres (about): Thursday, midnight, records at R9. Distortion was so bad that talk was quite unreadable.

Zeesen, Germany, 31.38 metres: Monday, from 6.45 a.m. to 8 a.m. at R8. Good at first, but noisy later. Wednesday, same period, only R5-6, noisy all the time. Thursday, best for several months, R9 at 7 a.m. to R8 at 8 a.m. Perfect at first, but noisy later. Saturday only just audible.

W1XAZ, Springfield, 31.35 metres: Sunday, R3 at 4 p.m. to R5 at 4.30 p.m. Saturday reaches R8-9 by 5 p.m., but is very gushy.

VK2ME, Sydney, 31.28 metres: R9 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday and good again from 10 p.m. the same day.

G5SW, Chalmersford, 25.53 metres: This is rarely audible during the morning now, perhaps a weak carrier, but nothing more. Conditions better at 12.30 a.m. Wednesday at midnight, their carrier was R8, but nothing else was heard till 12.29 a.m., when the tuning note was put on. Big Ben was R6. Talk that followed was spoilt by rapid fading. The next night we had better luck. They have a better way of opening now—"This is the B.B.C. broadcasting for the British Empire," etc., followed by the call and wavelength. That evening's programme was given in detail; also that for the next day. This was about 50 per cent. readable at R8-9, a slight rapid fade spoiling readability. The news session was spoilt as not enough was understood to be any use.

12R0, Rome, 25.4 metres: Wednesday only, R3 at 7.45 a.m. for a short time.

W8XK, Pittsburgh, 25.25 metres: Sunday, 4.30 p.m., R7 with music and messages for the Far North. Thursday, 7 a.m., R4, with rapid fade, inaudible by 7.30 a.m.

FYA, Paris, 25.2 metres: Saturday was the only morning that reception was more than a whisper, when strength was R7, but very bad, rapid fading.



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