

"Since they have been testing with 2ZR, Messrs. Bates and Braithwaite have received over one hundred letters from listeners from as far north as North Auckland and as far south as Invercargill, the majority reporting excellent reception. Distant reports are all the more remarkable when it is stated that all tests have been carried out with a make-shift aerial, which stretches from a second floor window-sill to a tree very much lower than the window, and is almost completely shielded by neighbouring houses. It would seem that the best reception area is in Wellington city, where listeners have logged 2ZR at maximum strength.

"A local station is a long felt want in Nelson, and will undoubtedly be a welcome acquisition to this town. It will be located in the heart of the town, and will open up here toward the end of this month. It is the intention of the constructors to complete the testing work in Dunedin, so that when 2ZR is installed in its permanent home it will be ready to commence regular broadcasting without any preliminary tests being carried out.

"The hours of transmission suggested are:—12 to 2 p.m., and 5 to 7 p.m., with two night performances weekly. On one of the nights on which the station will be on the air a children's session will be conducted by Uncle Doug, who has already established himself a firm favourite with Dunedin children with his sessions from 4ZB. It is also hoped that arrangements can be made to relay a church service on Sunday evenings. The programmes will consist of all the best recorded items, while local artists will be given the opportunity of appearing before the microphone. The younger folk will be catered for with special late dance sessions. 2ZR will operate on a frequency of 1360 kilocycles.

#### Particulars of 3AW.

I READ with interest 29W's report in the "Times" of the 1st instant, and I heartily sympathise with him in the way the Coverage Commission crept through the towns, as it were, unannounced.

29W asks for information concerning 3AW. This station is easy to get—comes in at 1440 k.c. on my receiver, which is a 7-valve A.C., at about R4 strength. There is a heterodyne beat with some other station I have not as yet discovered. Name and address of 3AW—Vogue Broadcasting Co. Ltd., His Majesty's Theatre, Melbourne.

The DX badges are certainly far too large—half the size would do easily. As suggested, the change can be made when stocks of the large ones are exhausted.

I am sure that all dxers will agree that the president should be elected by popular vote through the "Times," as suggested by 91W at his meeting in Palmerston North. The president should certainly be a member of the club, but not necessarily a top-notch dxer. He must be very interested, and have plenty of time to work for and encourage and bind together members of the club and keep it in real good-fellowship. — Keith Millman (DX 10GW).

#### Mr. Stafford Supported.

I THINK it most unjust for a member to make a criticism, as Mr. Welsh does, of Mr. Stafford. When getting down to brass tacks, I think we all guess once in a while, and there certainly are stations that one picks up and very seldom hears again; some never again. I have never written to any station by guessing, but on five occasions, when I have mistaken the calls, my letter has been forwarded to the correct destination.

There are no "no-reply" stations as far as I am concerned. Give them a good detailed report, and tell you

## The Interference Problem

### DX Club Active

BRANCHES of the club are taking steps to help overcome interference, which is becoming very acute at the present time. The position obtaining at the present is that, although it appears very little is being done on the problem, the P.W.D. is actually very active, and is in close touch with the radio inspectors and the supply authorities in each district. However, little can be done until the report of the Radio Commission is tabled.

The sources of electric interference are numerous and originate not only in the supply lines and the apparatus directly associated with them, but with flashing signs and other domestic apparatus. In some of the cities this interference is indeed acute, and the only way to effect a real cure is to instal thousands of pounds worth of apparatus throughout the country. Just who is to bear this expense is another question. It is interesting to note that in many countries regulations against the interference of electrical apparatus with radio reception are already in vogue. Germany, Austria and America have regulations on the subject, while Denmark, Belgium, Italy, and Latvia, have regulations in the course of preparation, and it is expected that, when the report of the Coverage Commission is tabled something definite will be done on the subject in this country.

At the present time the Public Works Department is urging upon supply authorities the need for giving the trouble attention, because it has a direct bearing upon the revenue of the supply authorities. Figures compiled in the United States show that over a period the consumption figures of the supply authorities went up nearly 40 per cent., attributed mainly to the number of radio sets installed. The Public Works Department, however, urges that Government regulations to deal with the problem are not wanted in New Zealand unless other means fail. It is suggested that the Post and Telegraph Department, the P.W.D., and supply authorities' association should co-operate with the vendors of electrical equipment in eliminating faults. It proposes that every supply authority in its own interests should take proper

steps to ascertain and eliminate sources of trouble.

Much is being done in this direction, and here the DX Club can be of real service. What is wanted is accurate reports upon each district in New Zealand. Members should, if possible, acquaint themselves with the different types of interference and help to locate them. If the trouble in your district is originating from a street lamp, track it down, and then communicate with your secretary, who will get in touch with the right authority. At the present time the Christchurch branch, under the direction of Mr. Eric Watson, is doing excellent work and compiling a comprehensive report. Listeners would greatly assist the club and themselves if they would send a detailed report as to the date and times of interference, approximate strength, and suggestions as to the source of the trouble to Mr. E. W. Watson, Secretary of the Christchurch Branch of the N.Z. DX Club, 37 Chancellor Street, Shirley, Christchurch.

The Canterbury branch is not alone in this systematic tracking of the trouble. Other branches are active. It is urged that dxers get in touch with their local secretary, who will probably be able to do something. When secretaries have their reports made out, headquarters will be able to collate them and see that they are taken to the right quarters.

However, it is not a question of national policy—that should be left to the P.W.D. What is wanted is help in the individual districts, and members should be of more use in locating actual sources of trouble than in making recommendations for a national solution of the problem. Incidentally, it is interesting to note that the Christchurch Tramway Board, having heard that apparatus for dealing with electrical interference of radio reception has been perfected in England, is now making inquiries with a view to ascertaining whether it can be used in any way in Christchurch.

The branch of the club at Hastings and the dealers in Napier are getting to work on the problem in a businesslike manner, and attempting to track the sources of interference there.

would be honoured to receive a card and the results are well worth while. Don't skip your report paper, and include enough postage. This is essential if you want results. I am glad to see we have a secretary in our district, and I hope to see this quarter become very lively with members soon.—Ron. McLeod (118A).

#### The R Signals.

I NOTICE that many dxers do not appear to know how loud the "R" signals are. I notice that most stations are logged at R9, which is very great volume. I receive 2YA at R9 on my "Outspan," and have to cut it down to half. KFI comes in at R5, and is quite audible through the house.

I have just received a verification from KMOX, and he states that most

reports are very exaggerated. He wants true signal strength of the station and the amount of fading.

I do not agree with 2HB with regard to construction notes in the "Radio Times," for I, like many other dxers, like to read the technical notes, and I find they are of great interest to many enthusiasts. The notes also teach dxers the ins and outs of their radio. Everyone who needs to get the best out of his set must know this. Do any dxers notice that, with an aerial using a tree as a pole, they get better results? I have mine on to a tree, and get great results, and when shifted to a mast of the same height did not get anything like as good. "Digger" has his on a tree, and he brings in some great dx. Is it because the earthed objects draw waves nearer ground?—DX14A.

#### In the Manawatu.

WHAT months of the year are defined as summer and what winter for daylight reception purposes? [Summer, September to February, inclusive, the rest winter.—Ed.]

Reception has been poor here during the last fortnight. Static has been unusually bad, and the Americans weak. During the past week matters have been made worse by a persistent howler, and if I was certain of his identity I would take great pleasure in cutting his aerial down. It is a remarkable thing that, although I believe there are two radio inspectors attached to the local post office, I have never heard of a howler being prosecuted in the Manawatu district.

At the meeting of our branch in Palmerston North, I mentioned that perhaps a little humour of the school-boy howler class might be incorporated in the "Times." By this I mean strange and impossible loggings by new chums at equally strange times. For instance, as below:

An acquaintance of mine recently bought a midget set, and several mornings later the news was around that Mr. So-and-so had logged Mexico at 12 noon on broadcast. Another person, last Sunday, was trying out a standard radio set and believes that he logged Berlin on broadcast. I can see old dxers smiling at these two howlers, and I am sure that dxers through New Zealand could send other items of the class that would certainly raise a smile on most hard-bitten dxers.

I have received "daylight" cards from 2NC, 2UB, 2CH, and 2GB, but as 2GB just verified, I sent it back with three daylight reports and asked them to add "daylight" to the verification.

This morning I received KTM's card, and I have also received XRR, but I enclosed a reply coupon with the report. The only Americans on my "non-reply list" are KRLD and WFAA. I have written these again enclosing a coupon.—DX90W.

#### Send a Reasonable Report.

THERE has been a lot of talk about non-replying stations, but my experience has been that if you send them a reasonable report that is of some use they will verify, and are pleased to do so. There are odd stations that fail, possibly some of them because of financial reasons.

I think Mr. Morley Stafford is a real dxer, and deserves all he gets. He must have had untold patience to have the number of stations verified that he has, let alone the cost both in writing material and stamps.—DX11NW (Blackball).

#### Correspondent Wanted.

CHAS. A. HOLLOWAY, 80 Collingwood Street, Hamilton, would like to hear from dxers using an all-electric Crosley "Gembox."

#### Neutron IV.

I HAVE constructed the "Neutron Four," and am delighted with my success. This is my first attempt at a valve set, and I liked the circuit because I could use the parts from a six-valve neutrodyne which was not giving me satisfaction. I liked the way the set was described, and although I had never attempted valve set construction, and knew nothing about radio, I took the bull by the horns. It was the case of spoil a horn or make a comb. (Concluded on page 29.)