

Short-wave News

VK2ME, New Schedule.

LAST Sunday, during their regular transmission, VK2ME, Sydney, announced a new schedule to commence on July 3 as follows: Sundays, 4.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m., 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; and Mondays, 6 a.m. to 8 a.m., all New Zealand time.

Chicago Convention.

QUITE a lot of the Democratic Convention being held in Chicago has been broadcast on short waves during the past week. On Friday night W2XAB were on the air till 10.16 relaying the proceedings of the convention. W1XAZ were still on at 10.30 p.m. (5 a.m., standard time, in Chicago); also W8XK on 48.86 metres. All stations, including KKW relaying to KGU, Honolulu, were again broadcasting convention business on Saturday afternoon. Political meetings in New Zealand are tame affairs compared with what was heard from Chicago.

Eucharistic Congress.

THE special broadcast from Dublin last Sunday was a failure as far as Wellington was concerned. G5SW was just audible at times, but nothing more than a carrier, while HVJ, the Vatican City station was inaudible. The American, also Australian stations, were also tried, in case they were relaying, but without any luck.

ZL2ZX "Off the Air."

ZL2ZX, Wellington, has not been heard since last Saturday. Let's hope that the "Voice of Action" will soon be heard again.

All Blacks—First Test.

RECEPTION of VK2ME, relaying the first Test match of the All Blacks v. Australia, on Saturday, was much better than the relay of the previous Saturday. Although the description was 100 per cent. readable, all through, the quality was not the best. The line between 2ME and 2BL or to the ground appeared to be the trouble, as the announcements and music before "going over" and signing off by VK2ME were all clear, without that mushiness noticed in the description of the game. We heard the game: that is the chief consideration.

EAQ, New Schedule.

EAQ, Madrid, have started on the new schedule we mentioned recently. The time now is from 11 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Wavelength, 30.4 metres. Power, 20 kilowatts. Announcements in Spanish and English.

Log for Week Ending July 2

12RQ, Rome, 80 metres: Heard on this wavelength on Wednesday and Saturday mornings.

RV15, Siberia, 70.1 metres: About R8.9 each evening. Static has been bad.

HVJ, Vatican City, 50.26 metres: This station was going till after 8 a.m. on Thursday at R9.

RV59, Moscow, 50 metres: Still good each morning till 8.30 a.m., or later.

W9XF, Chicago, 49.83 metres: Monday, R6 at 4 p.m. to R8 by 4.30 p.m. About the same on Wednesday, but gushy.

W3XAL, Boundbrook, 49.18 metres: Sunday only, R9, but noisy till 4.30 p.m.

W8XK, Pittsburgh, 48.86 metres: Sunday and Wednesday, closing at 4 p.m. with good volume. Were on till after 10.30 p.m. on Friday, with the Democratic Convention relay.

REN, Moscow, 45.38 metres: About R5 on Tuesday and Wednesday at 8 a.m.

WND, New Jersey, 44.4 metres: Friday, from 8.15 p.m., testing with VK2ME, Sydney. Musical recordings were good

at R9, but speech was distorted. They closed at about 8.53 p.m.

Radio Maroc, Rabat, 32.26 metres: This station was good on Monday morning, being very clear and steady at R8.9.

VK3ME, Melbourne, 31.55 metres: Wednesday and Saturday, good volume, with severe fading and distortion at times.

OXY, Denmark, 31.51 metres: Seldom heard now. Monday was the best for the week, being R5 at 8 a.m. with a choir.

W2XAF, Schenectady, 31.48 metres: Quite good each day till 3.30 p.m. They were on the air on Monday night after 11 p.m., testing with another station. Static was too bad to hear much. Signals were R8.9. Friday was also a late night for W2XAF; they closed at 10.16 p.m. after an all-night transmission.

Zeese, Germany, 31.38 metres: Very good each morning except Wednesday, when I could not find them.

W1XAZ, Springfield, 31.35 metres: This station was only going late on Friday with the Democratic Convention; they were still on at 10.30 p.m., when I closed down. They are quite good every afternoon.

VK2ME, Sydney, 31.28 metres: Sunday, excellent from about 5.30 p.m. at good volume. The description of the first All Black Test on Saturday was transmitted on 30.75 metres.

JIAA, Japan, 30.5 metres (about): This Jap is coming in well every evening just now. On Wednesday they had a lesson in English till 9.30 p.m. Talk session followed till 10 p.m. Then music and more talk, all at R9. I did not get a call at any time, but Mr. McDonagh (Short-wave Club) heard it given very quickly.

EAQ, Madrid, 30.4 metres: Quite good each day from 11 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Usually about R8.9.

DAQ or DIQ, Germany, 29.1 metres (about): Wednesday, 8.20 a.m., music at R9, after which a few words were heard in German, then nothing else but a high-frequency note for a long time. Just before 11 a.m. they were tried again, and the conclusion of a talk on music for reception in America was heard. This was R7.8.

28.7 metres (about): Sunday at 11.30 p.m. (while hunting for a station doing the Eucharist Conference), a piano item at R4, but no call heard. On Tuesday a foreigner was heard on the same wavelength with music at R5. A call was given, but could not understand it, also "Radio —."

Radio Colonial, Paris, 25.6 metres: Still good each morning till 10.30 a.m.; one of the best received now.

G5SW, Chelmsford, 25.53 metres: Sometimes fair till 10.30 a.m. at about R5. Only just audible at their best at 11 p.m.

12RQ, Rome, 25.4 metres: Every morning except Wednesday and Saturday, when they were on 80 metres. Volume is good, but very often gushy.

W8XK, Pittsburgh, 25.25 metres: Monday and Tuesday till about 1.30 p.m., reaching R8, but gushy.

25 metres (about): Tuesday, 1.40 p.m. till 2 p.m., a lady speaking in a foreign language at R8.9. Again on Wednesday at 8 a.m. a foreign talk was heard at R5.

W2XAD, Schenectady, 19.56 metres: Best on Saturday morning; R5 at 8.30 a.m., increasing to R8 by 10 a.m., but gushy.

Round the World on
SHORTWAVE

Conducted by F. W SELLENS

N.Z. Shortwave Club

From the Secretary's Pen

ALTHOUGH we are supposed to be in the midst of a slump, it does not look it as far as the N.Z.S.W.C. is concerned. Often I have to accept a sub. or a deposit in the street.

The postal authorities are hard people to trick. A letter arrived addressed to "Official Receiving Station NZ16W, Wellington East," and this, with one addressed to the "Short Wave Club, Wellington," were delivered on time. Not long ago one came for the "Secretary of the Night Owl Club."

Unfortunately I was unable to notify a meeting of the Wellington branch to be held on Thursday, July 7, in Nimmo's concert hall, but, at this meeting a sort of "What-are-we-going-to-do" confab. is to be arranged with a view to holding a conference early in August.

A Taranaki housewife has found out why her husband disappears when his club circular and "Record" arrive; in the peace and quietness of the woodshed he eagerly devours the latest radio news.

I suppose I should supply statistics, but I haven't attempted to count the pile of envelopes lying in a corner. Some day I will see how many letters I have received. In June I posted about one hundred letters, and since the start six typewriter ribbons have given out. For a four-page circular about 1200 sheets of paper are used, and the time spent on this often runs to five hours a night, so I will not envy my successor.

Well, cheerio everybody. You should know my address by now. It is: A. B. McDonagh, Secretary N.Z. Short-wave Club, 4 Queen Street, Wellington. Yours fraternally,—MAC.

Choke Coils

RADIO-FREQUENCY choke coils, and similar units that must be kept dry, may be coated with a good grade of shellac. This may be slow in drying and in no case should it be used with high voltage until it is thoroughly dry. The drying process may be speeded up by suspending the coil in an oven in such a manner that it will not become scorched. Close the oven door but open it frequently to observe the condition of the coil. When it is thoroughly heated, and the smell of alcohol from the shellac is strong, remove the coil and allow it to cool. The heat drives out the alcohol and any moisture present. Dampness will often cause trouble and possible breakdown in radio receivers that have stood in a damp place for any length of time. The set may be quickly dried out by placing a lighted 75-watt bulb inside the cabinet near the chassis and closing the back and top temporarily.

REMEMBER that the point of the soldering iron should be kept clean, and must not touch an ebonite or any similar surface, or it will immediately require re-cleaning.

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