

Short-wave News

Christmas Eve Broadcast.

THE Christmas Eve broadcast to the Empire, which had been so carefully planned for last year, and which had to be abandoned owing to trouble with an American-controlled telephone company in Canada, is being revived.

It is understood that the cause of the trouble last year has been removed. Moreover, Mr. Cecil Graves, the newly-appointed director of the Empire station, is determined to carry through this project as the first great effort of his new service.

The plan last year was to extend the old B.B.C. idea of a "round the stations" programme to a "round the Empire" programme. There were to be contributions from Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and several parts of Canada. This year the plan will be still more comprehensive, and, if the programme is successful, it should occasion many thrills throughout the length and breadth of the British Commonwealth of Nations. An interesting point is that there is already an express desire for the relaying of this programme in the United States.

W4XD, Florida.

REPORTS are coming to hand of good reception of this new American short-wave station from several readers. The frequency of W4XD is given as 6040 kilocycles (49.6 metres). This station, and WIOD, where the programmes broadcast originate, are owned by the Isle of Dreams Broadcasting Co., Miami, Florida. Their schedule is not yet to hand, but they usually sign off at 6 p.m., or they announce "1 a.m. Eastern standard time."

Those who have not yet heard W4XD should tune in just above W8XAL soon after 4 p.m., when the new station first becomes audible, increasing in volume till closing time.

Reception in Canterbury.

MR. F. V. SHANN (Christchurch), new at shortwave radio, but very keen, reports DJA, Zeesen, as coming in there at good volume and quality till about 7.30 a.m. W4XD has been brought in at good strength. An American was heard recently till 8 p.m. on about 25 metres with the same programme as KGO. Static and surging made it impossible to hear the call, except the prefix "W." Mr. Shann has found static very bad recently on shortwaves. Well, he has not got that on his own.

League of Nations Broadcasts.

THE interesting notice in last week's "Record" about the League of Nations' weekly broadcasts by Mr. T. Todd, secretary of the League of Nations Union here, gave the hours in several countries, but not our time, and as some may have trouble in converting, I am taking the liberty of translating to New Zealand summer time. The first session will be from 1.30 a.m. on Monday morning and the second session from 11.30 a.m. the same morning, on either 20.74, 30.3 or 40.3 metres.

Log for Week Ending October 29

THERE has been quite a lot of static during the past week on all except the very short waves.

FOR SALE or EXCHANGE

The rate for small advertisements under this heading is 1/6 cash for 20 words, and twopenny for every other word thereafter.

WHY run the risk of contravening the regulations by running your radio from the light? Get a licensed electrician (unemployed) to give you a quotation. Write "Radio," c/o "Radio Record," Wellington.

Round the World on
SHORTWAVE

Conducted by F. W SELLENS

RV15, Khabarovsk, 70.1 metres.—Not heard every night recently; volume good when on the air. On Tuesday at 10.15 p.m. it was R9 with one stage of audio with orchestral music.

HVJ, Vatican City, 50.26 metres.—About R8 during the early morning session.

RV59, Moscow, 50 metres.—Friday was the only day I received this station at all well. At 6.45 a.m. it was very good at R8.

W4XD, Miami, 49.6 metres.—Most evenings till 6 p.m., varying from R5-8. On Wednesday it was going after 6 p.m., but static and gushiness spoilt reception.

W8XAL, Boundbrook, 49.18 metres.—Sunday only as usual, but not up to the volume we expect.

W8XX, Pittsburg, 48.86 metres: A regular station now, every day till about 5.30 p.m., by which time volume reaches

R8-9. On Tuesday, several accordion items were heard by "The Accordion Man."

REN, Moscow, 75.38 metres: Thursday and Friday between 6.30 a.m. and 7 a.m. at R7 with talk.

VK3ME, Melbourne, 31.55 metres: Wednesday and Saturday from 10 p.m. at R9 with the usual severe fading.

W2XAF, Schenectady, 31.48 metres: R5 is the best I can receive this station now, which is at closing time, 4 p.m.

DJA, Zeesen, 31.38 metres: To hear this German transmitter at its best, one must be up early. It is excellent at R9 till about 6.45 a.m., after which volume goes off gradually to very weak by 8.30 a.m.

WIXAZ, Springfield, 31.35 metres: Coming back again slowly, being audible now for a short time each afternoon.

VK2ME, Sydney, 31.28 metres: Ex-

cellent on Sunday at maximum volume on the international week-end transmission.

J1AA, Japan, 30.5 metres: Every evening, but later now before it reaches good volume, which does not exceed R8 just now.

Java, 29 metres (about): On Friday evening at 10.20 p.m., music was heard at R4, followed by "Hullo, Sydney, here is Bandoeng calling." The talk was much clearer and louder than the music.

VK2ME, Sydney, 28.5 metres: 2ME were testing on this wavelength on Friday between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. with records. The only announcements were: "This is VK2ME testing on 28.5 metres."

Radio Colonial, Paris, 25.6 metres.—Only heard on Monday at 11 a.m., being R3 then.

G5SW, Chelmsford 25.53 metres.—Thursday was the only morning that 5SW was more than "just audible." At 7 a.m. it was R7 with rapid fade, but announcement were just readable. Volume soon went off. I tried it one night only, Saturday, well after midnight, 12.45 a.m., when it was really good, R9 and 100 per cent. readable, every word of the programme announcements for that evening and Monday, together with the news for the day, which included the result and details of the cricket match, Combined Australia v. England, played that day, was easily readable. An organ recital followed from a cinema.

12RO, Rome, 24.4 metres.—This station does not follow the rule of being strong early and going off later, like the others on this band. Some mornings this is the case, but others, when it is weak at 7 a.m., they are up to R8 at 8 a.m. It is always worth listening to when volume is good, as they broadcast some very fine music.

Radio Colonial, Paris, 25.2 metres.—Only heard on Thursday on this wavelength, being R7 at 7 a.m., with rapid fading.

Radio Colonial, Paris, 19.68 metres.—Sunday morning, open at 1 a.m., only just audible.

Miami Station

Many Good Things for
Shortwavers

The November Radio Times

THIS month's "Radio Times" has set a very high standard in New Zealand technical publications. With a total of fifty-two pages, excluding the cover, the journal is the largest yet, and contains a wealth of information that no radio enthusiast can afford to miss. The number is a special short-wave one, but in addition has some other very interesting information. The circuits represented are a modern two valve shortwaver—the "N.Z. Shortwave Club Two," the "Cathode Special Five"—a five valve a.c. all-wave set, and the Teisen Triple Three, and small wave set. These two circuits have been very carefully worked out, and the descriptions are such that anyone can follow. There are also skeleton details of the "Radio Times" wonder set, the "A.B.C. Seven."

There is an article on automatic volume control, which has been written so that anyone with but the faintest knowledge of radio can understand, whilst students of radio will find the explanations of reactance and impedance of considerable value. The general and dx reader are well catered for by several articles, particularly one on radio in Japan—a well illustrated and brightly written article.

To create interest in shortwave are several well-written articles, one by Mr. F. W. Sellens, who is easily the best-known shortwave listener in New Zealand. In his article Mr. Sellens takes his listeners through twelve hours of listening, telling them what stations they can find, the different times, and the type of music these stations put over.

"A Beginner Visits the Secretary" is the intriguing title given to an article by Mr. A. B. McDonagh, the secretary of the Shortwave Club. It comprises chatty notes on how to set about listening on shortwave, and tells you a little of the technique necessary to bring in the stations on the other side of the world successfully.

There is a page of shortwave tips and hints, while there is a very representative showing of general short, informative matter.

Dxers are well catered for by the bright Secretaries' Notes, and the usual Mail Bag. They, however, will be very pleased to see a list of approximately half the American broadcasting stations, being the first section of a complete list of all stations in America to be given in two issues. This list gives all pertinent details, address, chain, method of verifying, and other facts which are so necessary to dxers.

Altogether the "Radio Times" is a very creditable production, and as this magazine always meets with a very ready sale, readers are advised to secure their copy early.

THE new American short-wave station, W4XE, at Miami, Florida, was logged on 6,040kcs (49.6 metres) between 5.45 p.m. and 6.0 p.m. on October, 29, at R8. It was heard on a NBC programme of Vincent Lopez and his orchestra which also came through WIOD, the Isle of Dreams Broadcasting Co. owners of W4XE.

W2AF was well received on October 30, at 8.30 a.m. at R7-8, giving a description of a ball game between Notre Dame and Pittsburgh, which was easily readable except when W8KAF went into occasional fading. It has now been heard each Sunday morning for three weeks in succession.—NZ16 W (Wellington).

A Generous Gift

FOR some time past the German broadcasting authorities have been concentrating on the task of reducing nearly seventy operas to versions suitable for broadcasting. This work is now completed and the whole library has been generously placed at the disposal of the B.B.C.

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MULLARD VALVES

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