

Replies

191A: I have received a card from TUV, Olvera, Mexico. **67MC:** I am using a 1931 model Rogers Radio A.C. 133MC: XER, Villa Acuna, Mexico.—164A.

Identification Wanted

American station playing organ records heard at 11.45 p.m. on Saturday, November 5, heterodyning 2KY.—164A.

Foreigner on 1105 kc. on October 25. I held him from 4.45 a.m. to 5.31 a.m., the strength of the signals being R4. Musical programme, man announcer. Could it be RV10, Minsk?—DX130W.

At 12.25 a.m. on the 6th instant I picked up an Australian on 250 metres putting over a song entitled "In the Bushes at the Bottom of the Garden." Music, fox-trot, followed by "God Save the King."—W.B. (Wanganui).

Station heard Sunday, November 6, on 680 kc., stronger than first. I listened to him about three times between 1 a.m. and 1.40 a.m., and there was only the one man talking in four or five word sentences in some foreign (not U.S.A. or Japanese). Neither did it sound like a Mexican, which I have heard occasionally. The transmission finished with apparently the station call, "ABOO."—E.M. (Hawera).

DX Topics

The Authenticity of News

WHEN writing in the "Radio Record" of November 4 I had no intention of starting a controversy. I ventilated my opinion in the interests of the club and have been the recipient of many congratulations, but one member chooses to call it an attack on the truthfulness of news sent in by members. I gave no hint or word of untruthfulness, and evidently my letter has been accepted in a wrong spirit by that member. Further, he says he cannot see much in it, but I repeat the words that too much logging is done from books; I am still of the same opinion re London and KDKA, and when I see verifications published in the "R.R." London at any time and KDKA at midday I will be the first to congratulate the lucky party. I have an American magazine that tells me Jack Denny's orchestra plays from KDKA once a week. I have forgotten nothing as to the influence of the sun on radio, and I repeat that in September in England the sun is as strong at 5 o'clock p.m. as it is at midday. I lived there 29 years, so I should know. I again reiterate my appeal that the remarks be accepted in the spirit they were written, and as far as I am concerned the subject is closed. Many thanks to all those who supported me.—J.P.C.

[We agree with the sentiments expressed by J.P.C. and those who supported him. Not only is greater space taken by publishing "wild goose chases" but dxers are, perhaps unintentionally, misled. In future requests for verification that do not mention items will not be published, and the same applies for identifications that are merely suggestions, such as those stating "probably" or "perhaps."—Ed.]

CONGRATULATIONS, J.P.C. I was very pleased to see an abler pen than mine join issue with some of our dx news reporters. I was very surprised though to read the letter in the last issue by one of our prominent dxers. He admits that some of the statements that have appeared are ridiculous, and straightaway puts forward one that must appear to all serious dxers as the absolute gem of some of the latest "super dx." I refer to KDKA at midday. I hold a verification from KDKA, and on my set he comes in just the faintest hair line off 3YA, although both are tested at 980 k.c. I do not think there is any doubt about the station he heard at midday. It would be quite impossible to hold any station other than 3YA on that frequency "all

afternoon as proof," but we never hear anything about verifications being mentioned. Now, OM, you have contributed quite a wealth of interesting notes re dx stations, and I'm sure every reader looks forward to, and appreciates, them, but don't spoil them all at this juncture.

American reception on the average has gone off here considerably, with bright patches occasionally. I find they are coming in very well on their early morning sessions now, and at 12 o'clock mid-night Saturday XER was R3, the loudest I have ever heard him. The announcer asked for reports on reception, and mentioned there was a very heavy frost on the ground. It was raining hard here at that time, yet he was very steady and clear. Verifications, which have been coming along much slower lately, include the following:—WOWO, KMBC, KLRA, WSAI, WGY and KFJP. The last-named reports that having been off the air for some time installing their new transmitter. The new equipment is costing 750,000 dollars, and it is hoped to have the station on the air about the beginning of November. The new call is KOMA, frequency the same, 1480 k.c. Reports from New Zealand are welcomed. The new transmitter is a 5 k.w. Western Electric of the most up-to-date design. There is a special broadcast for the Transcontinental DX Club from KGFV, 1310 k.c., on November 25 from 4 to 5 a.m., EST, and KOH, Reno, 1380 k.c. on December 3, KPCB, Seattle, 850 k.c. the first Monday in every month, from 3 a.m. to 5 a.m. EST and WTBO is giving a cash prize of 250 dollars for the most distant listener. Its frequency is 1420 k.c., and it is on the air with a special dx programme every Sunday till 5 a.m.—EST. 23A.

I READ J.P.C.'s (P.N.) article, "Where Are We Heading?" with very great interest. My views on this matter are identical with his. I could finish the quotation "Where Are We Heading?" by adding "To the Rocks." It seems to me that the DX Club is becoming a mass of smaller clubs with very little idea of co-ordination. It is becoming unwieldy. It is increasingly difficult to describe the DX Club to an intending member. I am the Wairarapa secretary and profess to know something about the club, but even I admit myself hopeless fogged by the maze of sub-sections, clauses and sub-clauses. No, Mr. Editor, if the club is to prosper I think it high time that the reins of control are firmly grasped and a brand new prospectus set out stating clearly and conclusively the aims, rules, and work of the New Zealand DX Club. At the present time these would cover several dozen pages. If the worst comes to the worst we old-timers—S. Ellis, "Kauspanker," "Amazon," "B.W." (Stratford), "D.N.A." (Timaru), "Cromdale" (Otago) and J.P.C. (P.N.)—will have to add more difficulty to the DX Club by forming an Old-Timers' Club! The rest of J.P.C.'s letter is, of course, a matter of opinion. If a listener can hear a carrier and get it confirmed by letter or card, good luck to him; he is very clever. I hold verifications from six or seven European stations, and in each case the station manager has enclosed a newspaper cutting of the programme I heard. I have yet to log England on the broadcast band. I have talked to several members of the New Zealand DX Club over my shortwave station ZLZMM, and they have all seconded by views on the above matter. Now, dxers, are we to be a united club with one common aim or

News and Views of the DX Club

several branches squabbling among ourselves?—H. F. Adcock (H.F.A.).

[There is much to be said for Mr. Adcock's point of view. The club is becoming unwieldy and unless branches take up the attitude that they are part only of an organisation whose object is the furtherance of interest in long-distance listening the club is, to use Mr. Adcock's phrase, "heading for the rocks." There is too much quibbling and not enough dx.—Ed.]

Manawatu

THE next meeting of the Palmerston North and District Branch will be held on Thursday, November 17, at 8 p.m. at the residence of 12W, 157 Bryant Street. Business important.

Conditions Improving.

RECEPTION with me lately has been bad, as static has ruled everything for the last fortnight. Signals are much stronger now, however, from the American stations; in fact to-night (2/11/32), they have been excellent. A Canadian has been heard during the last few nights on 690 k.c., but so far his call has eluded me. It is too weak for CFB, so is most likely either CFAC or CJCJ. 113A, says that no VK's are allowed to broadcast outside of 1200 k.c., but I think he is wrong, as 3BY, Melbourne, has been heard on 1120 k.c. any Monday morning lately, while I have just received a card from VK2BK, and his frequency is 1160 k.c. VPB, Colombo (700 k.c.) always seem to appreciate reports from N.Z. dxers. It published my name together with DX21W.D.'s in the "Times of Ceylon," as having been successful in picking up the station. Besides sending a copy of the "Times of Ceylon," the station sent the August issue of the "Ceylon Radio Times," which contains each month's programmes in advance for VPB.

Another station which seems to appreciate reports is KQW, San Jose, Calif. An excerpt from a verification from that station reads: "We were pleasantly surprised to receive your letter of September 6, and very much interested in the statements it contained. It will interest you to know that in the same mail with your letter came one from a listener in Dunedin, who reported excellent reception of KQW. We are going to ask that you try and tune in on our 'You never can tell' programme of November 29 at 8 p.m. P.S.T. (8.30 p.m. Nov. 30. N.Z.S.T.). The programme will continue for two or three hours, and there will be a surprise for you as well as the dxer who tuned in from Dunedin." Who is the Dunedin dxer who sent the other report to KQW?

Here's a tip! (it might prove useful to some dxers): VK7CW, Hobart, Tasmania, can be heard any Monday morning after midnight and up to 2 a.m. On the 31st this station was the loudest VK to be heard. His frequency is 1370 k.c.—191A.

TUV still owes me a reply, and it is now just on 2 months since a report was sent. KFSG states that it receives many reports from N.Z. Its schedule has recently been changed, and it is now on from 7.30 p.m. to midnight, nightly, except

Monday (their silent day). KRKD is on when KFSG is off. Can anyone tell me the location of KOMA, which closed down at 6.40 p.m. on a recent night, on approx. 1480 k.c.—N. Jenkins (Master-ton).

Japanese Call.

IN the "Radio Record" of November 4 DX48A inquires how far north 4ZR has been heard. I hold a verification from this station for daylight reception. I heard JOAK on 590 k.c. give his call at 9.25 p.m. (our time) on 2/11/32; he repeated it three times in English, very quickly and distinctly. I had not heard a Jap. give his call before. To hear some fast talking, tune in to KNX on Saturday nights between 6 and 7 p.m.; the man who gives a ringside description of the boxing tournament held there weekly is the fastest speaker I have heard. Last evening, November 5, he asked for reports from distant listeners. The same evening KTM was heard giving his call at 9.30 p.m. (our time).—130W.

Was it Heard?

AN interesting letter has reached 2ZW from a listener in Berkeley, California. It reads:—"I picked up your station on Saturday, Sept. 10, and I would greatly appreciate if you would verify the following report:

"I first picked you up at 12.30 a.m. P.S.T. (8.00 p.m. your time), and following your station announcement you gave the weather forecast and a few brief news or sporting events. This was followed by weak dance music which apparently was Mr. Frank Crowther's orchestra from the Majestic Hotel. I am not positive of this because announcements were weak, but I think the above is correct. At about 3.50 (11.20 your time), interference became so great that I was forced to give up. Your frequency was apparently 1120 or 1125 k.c., judging from my dial readings.

Reception of your station here was rather weak, but with surprisingly little fading. Dx usually isn't very good at this time of year, so I expect you will come in better later in the winter. Modulation and tone quality were excellent.

"I would appreciate very much if you would check the above report with your station log and send me some kind of a verification if it is correct.

"Thanking you for your trouble, and hoping to hear from you in the near future.—J. Clark, Berkeley, California."

[We note with interest the letter is dated Sept. 12, almost two months ago, and has just reached 2ZW.—Ed.]

Eastern Stations Weak.

RECEPTION has not been good here for the past fortnight, and the Chinese and Indian stations have gone off considerably in volume, but JOAK still comes in at R3 at 8.40 p.m., while later JOAK is at good volume, KDYL, Salt Lake City, was heard at R4 on its early morning session at 1 a.m. recently, also a few other stations, but static was too bad to identify them.

The Europeans can be heard from 4 a.m. in this district, and Breslau (or Goteburg) is early R5 each morning, with Leipzig and Muhlacker and about half a dozen others R4; all the rest come in at R2-3. Altogether I have heard 30, at different times. Latest logging is KPNE, Shenandoah. And as regards the non-reply list, the only Australian that has not replied is 2KY. 3HA and 2KO took 9 months to reply, but 3RG replied within a fortnight (very good). Extract from 3RG's card:—

"Was pleased to receive by same mail a copy of "N.Z. Radio Times," kindly forwarded to me by an Invercargill resident. Was very interested in the matters dealing with activities of your club. Through medium of the club I have been supplied with many interesting reports; about 20 have come to hand during the last few weeks."

My Americans on the non-reply list are KFWB, KNX, KGMB, WLW, and WFAA, all of which are 10 months overdue.—DX15A. (Matamata).