

I believe 3ZE went off the air several months ago and 2ZE is apparently also off, as he has not been heard for many months. Can any Wakaarapa dxer supply definite information about this? Congratulations to Mr. J. E. Downes on his success in winning the DX Cup. A great performance.—115W (P.N.).

Report to XEP Returned.

SOME time ago I sent a report to XEP, but it was returned through the D.L.O. Is there such a station? It is listed in several call books as being on 780 k.c. XFI is also listed in several call books on 820 k.c., but in last year's "N.Z. Radio Call Book" this station is stated to be off the air for good. Dxing has been out of the question here for nearly a week, owing to bad power interference, which commences when the street lights come on at approximately 4.27 p.m.—1HB (Waipukurau).

Extracts from Verifications.

VERIFICATIONS have been received from the following stations: WGES, Chicago; WRC, Washington, D.C.; WFB, Baltimore; VK5LR, Renmark, S.A.; and HJN, Bogota, Columbia. The last station (which is my first South American verified) sent a card printed in Spanish, but it is undoubtedly a verification. I heard HJN (690 k.c., 2 k.w.) on the evening of February 26, when they were on late with a special dx programme.

A letter was received from XEB, Mexico City, which was also written in Spanish, but I cannot tell yet whether it is a verification or not.

WGES state that "The interest of New Zealand dxers is equally interesting to us, when we consider the time changes, the tremendous distance, etc., involved in transmission and reception." On the nights when I have listened in lately the Americans have been good. This was particularly so on August 6, when WLW was nearly as loud as KFI. However, there are not many new stations about, although I heard WOR for about a minute before he went off the air one Sunday afternoon.

I have also heard the station on about 600 k.c. reported by G.S.P. (Takaka), and was wondering if it was 2ZK, Wanganui back on the air. Congratulations to the new dx champion.—N. Jenkins (Masterton).

Spanish Pronunciation.

STATIC has been troublesome lately, not many new stations having been heard. CFON, on 1030 k.c., has been heard at excellent strength, closing at 5.30 p.m., and sometimes 6 p.m. A. Greening: The Mexican on 980 k.c. is XEAI, not XEAO. In Spanish the "I" is pronounced as "E," and the "O" as in "border."

A Chinese on 1500 k.c. has been heard at very weak strength. Identity unknown. My only recent verification is from JOK, 645 k.c., 300 watts.—"Omsk" (Whakatane).

Eastern Reception Good.

DXING has been very poor of late, and new loggings are very few and far between. Americans and VK's have in the main been very weak. One night was an exception, the following 100-watters being logged: KGFI, KERN, KDB. The last came in splendidly, being R3 at his best.

VK4WI was heard testing one weekend, and was easily the best VK heard that morning. The Japanese stations have been coming in well lately, and during the past month I have logged 14 new ones. Eastern stations have all been

good, but I haven't the faintest idea as to the identity of half of them. XOPP, on 952 k.c., is very easy to log. I have tried for the Europeans on several mornings, but on only one occasions were they worth listening to. On that morning I secured enough data to write to Juans Les Pins, on 1205 k.c.—1HQ (Invercargill).

3KW's Special Programme.

DID anyone hear VK3KW on their special broadcast on August 6? I listened but could not pick him up. Has anyone a verification from NIR, Brussels? I sent a report, but had it returned through the D.L.O. XGOA sent me a photo of their station and aerial, but remarked that they could not verify as the items I sent were not those they had broadcast. They were on a foreign programme when I heard them and I described the programme. 2KY has verified after six months, and TUV when I sent them a daylight reception report.—111A (Tauranga).

103 Stations in Under Three Months.

I AM keenly interested in the DX pages each week, and would like to send in a few notes of my own. I started dxing on May 26 last, and have now logged 103 stations, comprising 31 New Zealand, 43 Australians, 16 American, 9 Japanese, 1 Chinese, and 1 Mexican. The American stations are now coming

"Lone Star" Ladder

A Greening (9T) still retains pride of place on this week's ladder with 27 "Lone Stars." S. Robson (1HQ) being second with 18 stations.

Dxers are reminded that stations operating outside the broadcast band cannot be entered for this competition.

1.—A. Greening (9T).....27
KGEE, KTW, KPKX, KFQW, KFUM, KPSN, WFCJ, WJAZ, WJBX, WOS (U.S.A.), XEQ, XEI (Mexico); LR2, LR5 (Argentina); CX28, EJML, VPD, CMCN, OAX, VUL, VE10BI, VKS, 3CX, 2TW, 3FB, 4EM, 4XE.

2.—S. Robson (1HQ).....18
Lyons (France); Berlin (Germany); Sundsvall (Sweden); Gleiwitz (Germany); Florence (Italy); WRDO, WGBC, WAWZ, WJMS, WGBF, WILL, WURL, WNBX, WBYD (U.S.A.); VK's 30Y, 3KW, 3JE, 2FW.

3.—J. E. Downes.....12
WAAT, WEXL, WMBH, WHRC, KFYO, KGDE, KWKC, WRNY, KBPS, WJTL (U.S.A.), CKCD (Canada); 4NW.

4.—"Bulova".....10
KFDY, KIT, WFOF, WESG, WGCP, KUJ, WSMK, WRUX, KALE, WDRC (U.S.A.).

5.—A. Maule (34T).....8
Huizen; VK's 2DS, 2BK, 2WS, 2RJ, 2SS, 2CM, 3CI.

6.—F. Carr (150W).....6
WHA, WPCH (U.S.A.); JOQK (Japan); VK4YG, VK4LP, VK4WJ.

7.—"Omsk" (121A).....6
CHRC, CKFC, CKNC, CKLW (Canada); LS11 (Argentina); HJN, Bogota.

8.—Ken Graham (38HB).....4
WKZO, WLWL (U.S.A.), XEJ (Mexico); Radio Saigon.

9.—N. Jenkins (22W).....4
KFOR (U.S.A.); XEX (Mexico); Paris, 670 k.c. (France); VK3CB (Australia).

10.—"Digger" (Hamilton)....3
WEW (U.S.A.); Vinpuri, Finland; Algiers.

11.—L. G. Hopkins (164A)....1
KGHL (U.S.A.).

in well, and the Japanese exceptionally well, while most of the Australians are like locals.—186W (Wellington).

"Freak" Short-wave Reception.

IN your issue of August 4, 115W inquired for information concerning W6FK, which was reputed to be heard on the broadcast band. W6FK is owned and operated by W. H. Harrington, 7625 Geary Street, San Francisco, California. This station is usually heard on the 7000-7300 k.c. band on code. Referring to reception from this station on the broadcast band brings to mind a similar occurrence in 1929, reported to me by Mr. Eric Treblecock, Moonta, South Australia, who writes thus:—

"Now I have to tell you the most wonderful thing of all in connection with reception of your signals, and it is this: I expect your wavelength is about 41 metres, but your signals were logged here on about 124 metres, approximately three times greater than your true wave. This is not an unusual occurrence, for on the band between 120 and 130 metres I often pick up signals from 40 to 42-metre band stations, and also from the 20-metre band. Stations on the 20-metre band also come in on rare occasions. I first received a 'ham' station in this way just 12 months ago, when I picked up VK5XG, located 10 miles from here. Other stations received similarly were VK5WR, over 100 miles away; VK2RB, 700 miles away; and ZL2AC, about 2300 miles away. Signals from ZL4AE were received on the 120-metre band for many nights running some six months ago. Your station is my thirty-fourth ZL and my 272nd 'ham,' to be logged on overtone. My receiver is a two-valve, 2 coil job.—E.W.T."

This would appear quite possible for W6FK to be heard on the broadcast band, particularly when we remember that there are many things in radio yet undiscovered.—ZLIFT (Auckland).

Australia an Island!

WHILE speaking from KFI on three occasions last week the announcer sent greetings to the Islands in the Pacific—he included Australia in this category!—and he hoped listeners there were still enjoying the station's programme. He also stated that many listeners would no doubt be disappointed at not receiving verification cards, but that when International Reply Coupons were not enclosed no reply could be guaranteed.—J.S. (Wellington).

Experimenting With Earths.

I HAVE been experimenting with different types of earths for some time now. The results with a Pierce earth, in comparison with the ordinary water pipe, were good, but for best results the wires which run from the buried radiator should run underground to the pipes. They should then be soldered at the bottom, run up inside the pipes, and soldered again at the top. All the wires are then taken to a copper plate, and a lead taken to the set. I used this earth for the first time on July 22, and for the first time heard XEPN, XGOA, and CFON (broadcasting the arrival of Wiley Post). Taken on an average, reception has improved 20 per cent. I intend to try a new style of aerial shortly.—W.J.W. (Nelson).

IT is rumoured that the Italian stations propose to replace the women announcers by men, although it is expected that women will be retained for certain services.