

Harry Banks, VK7HB, died in Hobart on 23rd January.

Harry was born in New Zealand in 1911. To get an amateur licence he had to build a transmitter and receiver and demonstrate them at the local club. He and went to sea at 17 as a wireless operator.

He later settled in Tasmania, where he set up the Police radio section and was Council Clerk at Richmond for many years. In the last part of his working life, he returned to maritime radio as the officer in charge of the OTC coast station, VIH, in Hobart.

One day on arriving for work on the Domain, he saw that a substantial pair of ladies bloomers had been attached to the top of the radio mast. Harry attempted their removal by being winched up the mast in a Bosun's chair. But part way up he saw that the mast had rusted through, so he returned to ground level, cursing the perpetrator of the prank as having had the advantage of climbing the mast in darkness and being unable to see it's poor condition.

How was the offending undergarment to be removed? Harry had the answer. He called a friendly gun owner and with three blasts from a shotgun the bloomers descended in shreds.

As you have heard, Harry told some wonderful stories.

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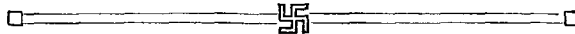
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Certificate No. 258

NEW ZEALAND POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

FIRST-CLASS Certificate in Radio-telegraphy.



Granted by the Minister of Telegraphs under Regulation 17 of the "Wireless Telegraph Regulations for Ship-stations," dated the 7th September, 1914, and issued subject to the observance of the said Regulations and of the Radio-telegraph Convention, 1912, and of any directions or rules which may be prescribed from time to time by the Minister of Telegraphs for the working of ship-stations registered in New Zealand.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that

Mr. Harold Edward William Banks

has been examined in Radio-telegraphy and has passed in:—

- (a) The working and adjustment of apparatus;
- (b) Transmitting and sound-reading at a speed of not less than twenty words a minute;
- (c) Knowledge of the regulations applying to the exchange of radio-telegraphic communications.

The candidate's practical knowledge of adjustment was tested on a

Marconi

set of apparatus.*

His knowledge of other systems is as follows:—

_____ ad

It is also certified that the holder has made a statutory declaration that he will preserve the secrecy of correspondence.

Signature of Examining Officer: _____

The holder of this certificate is therefore authorized to operate wireless-telegraph apparatus as a FIRST-CLASS operator on board a British ship.

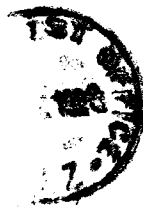
Countersigned: _____

Secretary, Post and Telegraph Department,
Wellington.

Date: 19th Dec 1928

Signature of holder: _____

*It is not intended to limit the employment of the holder to a particular system, but merely to indicate the particular system or systems in which he was tested for adjustment of apparatus.



ATTACH
PHOTOGRAPH
HERE.

DESCRIPTION OF HOLDER.

Age: 17 years 6 months

Place and date of birth: Petone, New Zealand 25th March 1911

Height: 6 feet — inches.

Colour of eyes: Grey

Colour of hair: Brown

Complexion: Light

Any special peculiarities: No



To - Banks

"The wireless wonder"
Success - Health & Happiness,

Always - Horace Mack -

"The Champion cable"
sender -

Sept 3-29

好
彩

Gong

language pass... speed of 25 (twenty-
word... each code group compri
... characters, and each figure or punctua
... counting as two characters, the pas
... plain language averaging five character
the word;

- (e) Detailed knowledge of the regulations applying
the exchange of radio-electric communicat
knowledge of the documents relative to
assessment of the charges for radio-telegra
and knowledge of the radio-telegraph pa
the Regulations for the Safety of Life at S
(f) ... age of the general geography of the
parts of the world and of the principal e
trical connections by wire and wireless.

It is certified that the holder possesses the qua
cations requisite for the radio-telephone operat
certificate.

It is also certified hereby that the holder has m
a declaration that he will preserve the secrecy
correspondence.

Signature of examining officer :

W. E. Whitman

The holder of this Certificate is therefore authori
to operate wireless telegraph apparatus as a first-cl
operator on board a ship registered in New Zealand.

for Secretary, General P
Office, Wellington.

February 7th 1930 (Dat



Signature of holder: *H. B. Banks*

Date of birth: *March 25th 1911.*

Place of birth: *Petone, N.Z.*

DESCRIPTION OF HOLDER.

Age: *18 yrs 11 mths*

Height: *6* feet *—* inches.

Colour of eyes: *Grey*

Colour of hair: *Brown*

Complexion: *Fair*

Any special peculiarities: *No*

No. 2330

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Form WT-A.

Sec. 231.
Reg. 13.

Navigation Act and Regulations.

GRADE CERTIFICATE—WIRELESS OPERATOR.

Name of Ship.	Port of Registry.	Name of Operator.	CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY.	
			Class.	No.
—	—	H. E. W. Banks	Wash. 1st	N.S. 271

This is to Certify that I have inspected the Certificate of Proficiency of the above-named Wireless Operator, and the Certificate of Discharge or other official evidence of service held by him. His period of service as a Wireless Operator, as proved by the documents produced, and including his service to date in the above-mentioned ship, amounts to over three years — months, and he is accordingly deemed, for the purposes of the Navigation Act and Regulations, to hold a

* Strike out the classes
that do not apply.

* FIRST
* SECOND GRADE CERTIFICATE.
* THIRD

DATED at the Port of Sydney this Seven day of March 1933

J. Brown Radio Inspector.

NOTE.—This Certificate has a currency, unless previously cancelled by notice in writing, of Twelve months from date of issue, and is valid within the Commonwealth only. It must be surrendered before a further certificate is issued, whether for the same or any higher grade.

N.26/1737.

By Authority: H. J. GREEN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

C.6538.

Signature of Operator
H. E. W. Banks

No 271



DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.

Postmaster-General's Certificate of Proficiency in Radio-telegraphy.

FIRST CLASS.

THIS is to certify that, under the provisions of the
Radio-telegraph Convention, 1927,

Mr. Harold Edward William Banks

has been examined in Radio-telegraphy and has passed
in—

- (a) Knowledge of the general principles of electricity, of the theory of radio-telegraphy and radio-telephony, and of the practical working of all apparatus used in the mobile service;
- (b) ~~Theoretical and~~ practical knowledge of the working of the accessory apparatus, such as motor generator sets, accumulators, &c., used in the operation and adjustment of the apparatus specified in (a);
- (c) Practical knowledge necessary to effect, with the means available on board, the repair of damage which may occur to the apparatus during the voyage;
- (d) Correct transmission and correct reception by ear of code groups (mixed letters, figures, and punctuation marks) at a speed of 20 (twenty) groups per minute and of a plain English

NEW ZEALAND POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

This certificate, issued under the provisions of the Washington (1927) Radio-telegraph Convention, remains in full force and effect under the International Tele-communication Convention of Madrid, 1932.

Director-General,
General Post Office,
Wellington, C. I.

21st August, 1934.

EX
MARKY MARKS

1954 copy

1930

RADIO TELEGRAPH
OPERATOR'S CERTIFICATE
Issued by the Minister of Telegraphs
FIRST CLASS

WIRELESS OPERATOR'S
CERTIFICATE

- (c) Practical knowledge necessary to effect, with the means available on the station, the repair of damage which may occur to the apparatus during operation.
- (d) Ability to send correctly and to receive correctly by ear, code groups at a speed of 20 groups a minute, and a plain English language text at a speed of 25 words a minute.
- (e) Ability to send correctly and to receive correctly by telephone.
- (f) Detailed knowledge of the regulations applying to radiocommunications, knowledge of the documents relating to charges for radiocommunications, and knowledge of the provisions of the Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea which relate to radio.
- (g) Knowledge of the general geography of the world, especially the principal maritime navigation routes and the most important telecommunication routes.

It is also certified that the above-named person has made a declaration that he will preserve the secrecy of correspondence.

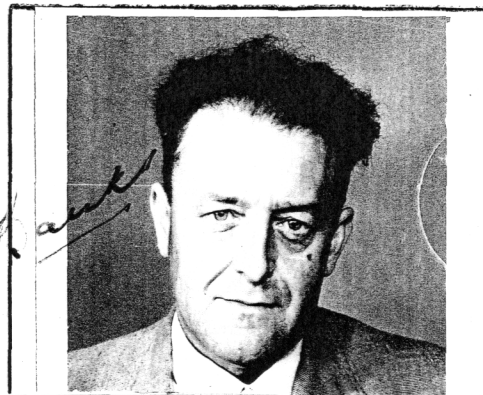
The person referred to herein is competent to perform the duties of a first-class radio-operator in accordance with the requirements of the International Radio Regulations, Atlantic City, 1947.

By authority of the Minister of Telegraphs,

J. E. E. E. E. E.

for Director-General, General Post Office,
Wellington, New Zealand.

Date: *25th November, 1954.*



Signature of holder: *H. A. H. A. H.*

Date of birth: *25th March, 1911*

Place of birth: *Petone, N.Z.*

DESCRIPTION OF HOLDER

Height: *6* feet *—* inches.

Colour of eyes: *Grey*

Colour of hair: *Brown*

Complexion: *Light*

Remarks: _____