

Special
Enlarged
Amateur
Experimenters'
Section.

RADIO IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

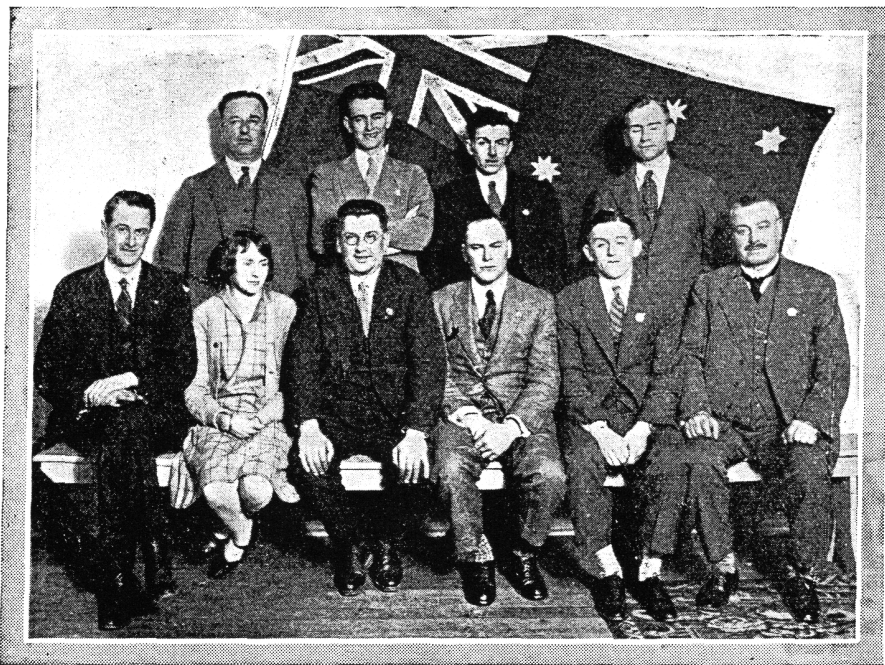
Ham Notes

Notes from
all Districts.
An Effective
Key Thump
Filter.

Vol. 2. No. 6.

OCTOBER 15, 1928

Supplement



Members of the W.I.A. Convention, held at Hobart on August 20. Left to right.—(back row): S. W. Godson, 3SW, Victoria; D. Whitburn, 5BY, S.A.; W. J. Watkins, 7DX, Tasmania; A. Kissich, 3BK, Victoria. Front row: L. J. Crooks, 7BQ, Tasmania; E. Clark, stenographer; C. Scott, 7CS, Tasmania; H. K. Love, 3BM, Victoria; Bruce Hardie, 3YX, Victoria; F. W. Medhurst, 7AH, Tasmania. A full report of the Convention appears inside.



Who would recognise 3SW, Vice-President of the W.I.A., in this get-up? A lighter moment during the Convention.



OA-2HM, one of the most consistent of all N.S.W. transmitters. He has been on the air for many years. See article inside.



This is the charming second operator at 2HM. She is just 18, and is probably the only woman transmitting in Australia at the present time. "I had a job to persuade my daughter to ever learn the code," says 2HM. "She says she can't be bothered with the code." Nevertheless, Miss 2HM punches a good fist.

RADIO IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

Ham Notes

A supplement to RADIO intended for the Australian Section of the International Fraternity of Amateur Radio Experimenters. Hams are invited to contribute short articles embodying the results of experiments, personal pars. (non-libellous), and photographs and descriptions of their transmitters.

A House Divided

ONLY a very short space of time remains before the Australian experimental transmitter learns how the new International regulations will affect his future. We have a sympathetic Government Department, which has done everything possible in the past to encourage the efforts of the experimenter, and we may expect fair treatment whatever way it affects us. But this Department to-day finds itself facing some confusion in the experimenter ranks. It finds that there are two active bodies claiming to represent the private experimenter. Which, then, will it recognise? Which is truly representative? Or need it recognise the private experimenter at all, since they are manifestly divided?

Whatever the Department's attitude, this clash of interests does the experimenter no good. And yet the experimenter has no one else to blame but himself. In the first place, there was only the one representative body of amateur organisation, the Wireless Institute of Australia. But as the Institute grew older, and its once active members found other responsibilities, it declined in several States, notably Queensland, W.A., and N.S.W. Its executive and administration was marked by a general apathy, which aroused the resentment of younger and more enthusiastic members. The formation of the A.R.T.L. was the direct reaction to this attitude. Ham enthusiasm found an outlet in a live, active, youthful organisation.

But in Victoria, Tasmania, and South Australia, the Institute remained strong, and the A.R.T.L. did not rise in those States. As a result, we find two experimenter bodies in oppo-

sition to one another at a time when unity is essential. Yet this opposition is mainly theoretical. A careful review of the interests of the W.I.A. and the A.R.T.L. shows that the objective of each body is identical, although their manner of pursuing it is different. Then why this clash? Is it because the bad feeling against the W.I.A. has not yet died down?

But new blood has entered the W.I.A., and it is doing its best to live down this feeling. It offers the A.R.T.L. the olive branch. The N.S.W. Division of the A.R.T.L. has been awakened to the realisation that some sort of immediate fusion and co-operation, and even incorporation with the W.I.A., is necessary and essential to the future welfare of the Australian experimenter's status.

We know now that the Department has, unfortunately been approached separately by the two organisations regarding the experimenters' requirements under the new regulations. In some clauses the requests are wholly dissimilar. The already hard-worked authorities most certainly did not view with favour this diversity of request, and unofficially expressed a desire for the amalgamation of the two bodies. We consider this step one of vital necessity, and the solution to all problems.

Recently it has been noticed that an entirely unwarranted feeling of childish spite has existed—even over the air—between some members of the two organisations. Yet the first record-breaking 10-metre communication in Australia took place between a member of the W.I.A. and a member of the A.R.T.L. Excellent work is being done by both organisations, but how much more excellent will it be under one banner?

One important service the Institute has rendered is the awakening of public interest in the experimental transmitter, especially in 200-metre work. An important service the A.R.T.L. has rendered is the enthusiastic development of the lower wavebands. Could not both combine to carry out good work at both ends of the amateur waveband?

The editors of this journal, who from the first supported the formation of the A.R.T.L. as a necessary body, now advocate an amalgamation. They do not wish to see experimental radio injured by a clash of interests, and bad feeling between operators over the air is the antithesis of the ham spirit.

of the ARTL are not of cannibalistic tendencies, to our knowledge, and they do not wish the hand of authority to descend upon them. But it is suggested that discrimination be made by the BCL concerned, between the fuzz of a leaky insulator on a wet night, or the interruption in reception due to a "shot" transformer, and the click of a sparking s/w key. The Traffic Branch is alive to its responsibilities, and the gang are co-operative to the extreme. Here is hoping that the BCL who reads this will refrain from "putting in the boot," and recognise that the s/w transmitter gets as much fun from the use of his set as the domineering BCL.

Overheard a certain OA station asking a few pertinent questions of a Govt. raw-toned outfit on 32, and was highly amused. Perhaps the op. reading this will remember his outburst?

4NW, calling cq on 85, missed a Yank, who called him consistently on 80. Yep, ye 32 fiends, it can be done, and if you want a few tips, here you are. Instead of the three-coil tuner that we all favour, slap up a special detector unit, with a condenser in series with the aerial or earth, and no capacity in parallel with the inductance. Wonder has 2NO a dx list with his screen-grid r.f. on 80?

Hear regularly several Su and Sp stns. on 32. They have good transmitters, but must have punk tuners.

4WA, our Toc Emma, is a very busy man these days, and between whiles raises the ends of the world on 32 and drops a wicked signal into wherever he wishes. Reputed to have the most comprehensive stock of smoothers in Brisbane at the present, and has arranged with 9BMX to send along a 1929 qrh meter.

4GO, rather qrw, getting well after a cold, has been engaged on Toc Beer work, and reports very little doing.

4LJ, busier than ever, in solemn collaboration with JG and MM on ARTL business. The second mentioned of the trio has been up way longa bush, and swears by QUantas. The latter, on annual leave, has been holding high revel with 8 watts on all bands, and, due to excessive use of the key, writes "with a limp."

4CN, on 250 metres, has a wonderfully appreciative audience. He does very little on the shorter waves, owing to great demands upon his time—qrw college—he advises that reports are common from interstate stations and listeners.

4RM, with a device all his own, has a similar report to make, and southern listeners are urged to keep an ear open for

all 250 metre stations, paying particular attention to the call signs.

4BB and 4NW, good pdc tones, are working when the superhets don't hear them, and put over good work.

4WS has a MOPA with rectified 500cy., and reports good work.

Here are a few of the interstate stations logged on 85:—

2NS, 2RB and 2JJ, r5 to 6 pdc.

3WH and 3GR, the former r5 and the latter r max, with MOPA sets.

All New Zealand stations r4 to 6.

NM this time OM's, 85 metre stuff is all there has been to do this month, and if we grow reminiscent, 'tis hard to tell where we will cease.

We are pleased to welcome the arrival of a new transmitter on the air. 4PL is the station of Mr. P. L. Grant, located at Enderley Avenue, Clayfield, Brisbane. 4PL has made a good start by putting over a steady DC signal, which is more than most beginners do. 4PL is at present using a Philips A415 with an input of two watts. As we received him at a strength of R6 during a brief contact, this speaks well for the efficiency.

In announcing the new QRA's in the last issue of RADIO we inadvertently allotted the call sign 2WG to Mr. R. S. Gow, 161a William Street, Darlinghurst. We hasten to correct our error before QSL cards begin arriving at the wrong address. 2GG is Mr. Gow's call sign, and 2WG belongs to Mr. W. D. Graham, 44 Cameron Street, Rockdale. Sorry, O.M.'s.

Fifth Wireless Convention of the Wireless Institute of Australia Held at Hobart on August 20, 1928

The fifth annual Interstate Conference of the Wireless Institute of Australia was opened in the Hobart Radio Research Clubrooms on the 20th of August. The following delegates were present: Messrs. H. K. Love (President, Federal Executive), Bruce Hardie (Vic.), S. W. Gadsden (proxy, N.S.W.), C. Scott and W. T. Watkins (Tas.), D. Whitburn (S.A.), F. W. Medhurst (proxy, W.A.), A. Kissick (proxy, Queensland).



The Federal Secretary, Bruce Hardie, on the sands at Brown's River.

The Conference dealt entirely with matters which affect the wireless amateurs of Australia, and was held in camera. Amongst the numerous matters discussed were: Standard Frequency Stations; The good work done by the Executive Council during the previous twelve months; Assistance to the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research; Army, Navy and Defence Scheme; Prevalence of unlicensed amateur wireless transmitters; International allocation of wavelengths to amateurs; Future of the Institute; The relation of the A.R.R.L. to the W.I.A.; New regulations; The right to relay messages, and also higher power for amateurs; Ten-metre working; Amateur broadcasting and control of badges and certificates.

Amongst the matters decided were: That the branches of the Wireless Institute in each State should operate a standard frequency station to transmit each week a wave which could be used by amateurs for calibrating their instruments.

Correspondence was received from the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, and it was decided that the Institute should co-operate with the Council in any way possible when investigating wireless problems, such as fading and atmospheric. Letters were read from the Defence Department with reference to the scheme brought forward by the Institute that its members who operated amateur wireless transmitting stations

should form up into a network something after the plan of the American Radio Relay League, and assist the Department in the event of war or any other national crisis. The Department stated that the suggestion was receiving very favourable consideration.

Delegates stated that there was a prevalence of illegal amateur transmitters who were becoming a menace, and it was decided that the members should be instructed to report any such offence which came under their notice.

General approval was expressed at the action of the recent International Wireless Conference in recognising the value of wireless amateurs, and in allotting them definite wavelengths upon which to operate. Previously wireless amateurs had only been tolerated by their respective countries, and no provision had been made for them in international agreements.

Many other items of vital importance to members of the Institute were discussed, details of which will be published as soon as matters are finalised. The Conference sat for five and a half days, and put through a tremendous amount of work, which, when completed, will make the Wireless Institute in Australia stronger than ever.



Gentlemen, the President! H. K. Love appeared in a sinister disguise.



S. W. Gadsden, vice-president, looks at things in a large way.

A detailed report of the doings of the delegates will be found in another column under the heading of Seventh District Notes.

A New Key-thump Filter

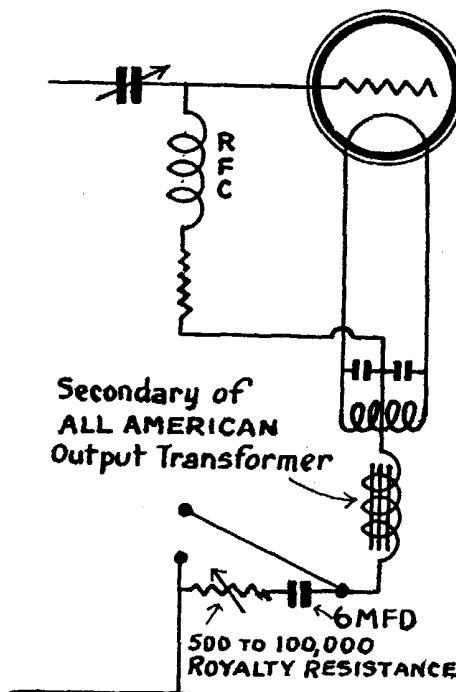
By OA-2NO

KEYING—an eternal question with transmitters—is a subject which has not of late been discussed in any Australian journals devoted to the experimental transmitter. It is quite interesting, and provides food for thought, to switch on the receiver and listen to the variety of notes audible from experimental stations operating on the 32 to 33 metre band of wavelengths. From the beautifully keyed crystal-controlled transmitter to the little battery-keyed "blooper" one may find in an hour's listening sufficient cause to prompt an article like this. I am not attributing this to the experimental station alone, as one has only to listen to some of the world's commercial stations for examples of "buzz saw" notes. Even with a poorly filtered supply to an oscillator, the keying can be so arranged that the resulting note is steady and clean cut.

In these days the uppermost thought in the mind of the experimental operator is whether his transmitter is going to cause local interference or not to broadcast listeners in the vicinity. This is the right sentiment and is the motive behind this article. It is well known that one "sure-fire" method of overcoming this is to key in the primary of the power transformer with a lamp of suitable resistance shunted across the key. This method holds good where rectified alternating current is used, *but with little or no filter.*

If the supply is filtered out, the effect is that, on breaking the key, the filter will follow on with the discharge and the note will be mutilated by a long chirp which is in some cases worse than a directly "chirpy" wave. The operator wants his DC instead of rough RAC, but when his reports tell him that he is difficult to follow because of the filter chirp, he decides to key elsewhere. Probably he tries keying the grid leak "in," and finds that abominable clicks raise a racket with the BCL's in the neighbourhood, in addition to which, when the key is up, an ear-splitting howl accompanies the transmission.

Exasperated, he puts the key in the centre tap lead and the howl disappears. Not so with the clicks. They remain and his telephone tells him that the people next door can't stand listening to Melba singing in syncopated gasps to the accompaniment of thumps and clicks! He decides to close down—if he has no skeds—until broadcasting has finished. In the



meantime, while musing over that little $9\frac{1}{2}$ by $6\frac{1}{2}$ journal which bears the sacred title QST, he runs across sundry articles on "Key Thump Filters."

You will probably by now, dear reader, realise that this is an autobiography! Those who have been QSO Australian 2NO lately will notice the variety of notes which have emanated from the various transmitters used. Every form of keying filter has been tried with little or no success until quite by accident the OP rigged up the arrangement shown in the diagram. The result was almost unbelievable, and it means the 2NO may now make use of the bunch of filter condensers he has hitherto been unable to use. *It is impossible to bear a semblance of a click from the transmitter with 150 watts input with a broadcast receiver using two stages of screen grid RF amplification almost on the same table as the transmitter four feet away.*

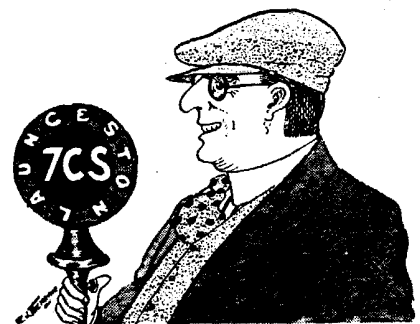
While playing around with a lot of flex wire and a few old G.P.O. 2mfd condensers plus a 30 Henry B eliminator choke, the following arrangement was hit upon. Instead of using the eliminator choke in the centre tap lead, an old All-American push-pull output transformer secondary was substituted. Shunted across the key are three 2mfd condensers in parallel—thus 6mfd—and a Royalty variable resistance with a value

of 0 to 100,000 ohms. Listening on the fundamental, the transmitter was keyed and the resistance varied until the thumps disappeared entirely. By rotating the resistance the thumps were heard to come in and go out, the setting where they disappear being at a value of 400 to 500 ohms.

Listening on the "growler oscillator" showed that the note was perfectly steady and clean cut DC. A variable resistance with a value of 0 to 1,000 ohms would be probably more suitable and one may be fortunate enough to hit upon a fixed resistance of the exact required value. The variable resistance is really more suitable for the purpose as it will serve to counteract any changes in the RF circuits due to different tuning adjustments.

There is the information, simplicity itself, and now let us have a wholesale spring-cleaning of those click-producing notes and help to put the Australian transmitter in the front of the picture for the new regulations.

Letters which appear from time to time in the columns of *The Wireless World* give eloquent testimony to the reception of 5SW, the Chelmsford shortwave station, in distant corners of the world. But the station is still experimental, and it is therefore rather surprising that the B.B.C. is at present making no systematic attempt to collate reports. When 5SW first opened, we were told that expert observers in different parts of the world were to render carefully considered reports on 5SW's signal strength at different times of the day. On enquiry it was found that this part of the scheme appears to have fallen in abeyance. Are we to take it, then, that 5SW has now passed the experimental stage and is now the fully fledged Empire broadcasting station of Great Britain?



Cork Esses, who comments on the W.I.A. Convention on page 63.

Will W.I.A. and A.R.T.L. Fuse Without Losing Identities?

By SHARPE and CLOSE.

MOST Australian amateurs are wondering what the results of the 1927 Convention, which comes into force in three months' time, will be. It is difficult to forecast what changes will be made, but it is quite safe to say that the full terms of the Convention will be put into effect if co-operation on the part of the different amateur wireless bodies is not brought about. In making this statement we should like to point out to our readers that at the present time we have two separate bodies claiming to represent the amateur transmitter, who are not working together in drafting necessary requirements of the amateur experimenter. The two bodies in question are the W.I.A., which embraces nearly all the amateurs of Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania and the A.R.T.L., with headquarters in Queensland, including practically every amateur in N.S.W., Queensland and Western Australia. Although these two bodies do not see quite eye to eye in respect to the rules of their respective associations, their aims in regard to greater concessions for the transmitting experimenter are the same. This being the case, cannot the two bodies in question co-operate without losing their identities, in formulating or drafting out the new requirements of the amateurs? Most of us know the incongruity of one body asking a certain concession and the other party asking for another opposed to it. We know that this is occurring, and everybody must know what the ultimate result will be. On reliable information we know that the W.I.A. have approached the A.R.T.L. in the matter of co-operation, and as it is not too late yet, we trust that such a conference will take place swiftly.

Second District Notes.

THE activity amongst the experimenters still continues, as they have plenty of scope to carry out tests. The second district hams are divided with regard to the different experiments carried out. There are quite a number who are still working the 80 band in spite of the QRN which is now in evidence. 2KL, 2LJ, 2RF, 2SA, 2HC, 2JQ, and 2EK are amongst those who can be heard working this band, but it is mostly after DX work has quietened off, and then it is only to carry out tests on 'phone transmission. The usual number of DX hunters on the 32 metres are still to be heard; in fact, most of the hams are taking advantage of this band to work QSO's with the NU's before the end of the year, as it is practically a certainty that this channel will be lost to the OA's.

Now that the warm weather has arrived here and the reverse conditions prevail on the European Continent, QSO's with EG, EB, EF and others will be possible on the 32 band, which naturally will live the interest of the DX hunter.

Speaking about DX, those who have been operating on the 20 metres have been able to keep constant schedules throughout the winter with the EG's and others, and are still doing so. 2DY, 2YI, 2NO, 2LJ, 2SA, 2RX, 2UI, 2SH and 2JY are the most consistent workers of this band, and they have some very fine QSO's to their credit.

The 10-metre band is interesting quite a number of the local hams at the present moment by

all accounts. 2NO and 2RX are the pioneers in this district, and they have quite a number of converts to the possibilities of this band. 2HC, 2DY, and 2UI are also carrying out tests. For the past three week-ends tests on the 10-metre band have been carried out by the different States, and the results will be given separately in this issue. A little advice to those who have already listened with very little success on this band will not be out of place. In tuning the signals on this band you will find that it is different to the higher bands, and the spacing of the signals are much farther apart; hence the necessity of making sure that your receiver is built to operate on this band. If the coils are wound correctly you will find that your dialings will only carry you from 8 metres to about 14, which will naturally space the stations well apart, if not on exactly the same frequency.

2EK is still continuing his QSO's with the NU's, with only a 201A and 140-volt dry batteries. Seven in one week is very good, O.M.! Why lament the loss of City Council juice?

2NO is quite satisfied that it is very much less nervewracking to handle a 150-watt valve than T-250's, as he blew two of them. While we think of it, boys, Don is building a new shack, and he intends to furnish it with easier chairs and lounges and we don't know what else to entertain his visitors. Who is going to receive the first invitation, Don—the YL?

2WH has broken out again after a fair absence with a very nice DC note, which last Sunday came in a good R8 on the screen-grid receiver.

2LG, of Goulburn, has again been putting out some very good 'phone work. We heard him make a schedule for a test with 2HC on the 10-metre band, but were unable to hear the results. Hope you had success, O.M.; if any, please let us know.

2YI is working as consistently as ever with that beautiful, even keying of his. We are told that the NU's report that his signals are the first and last to be received by them. It must be very nice to know that, YI.

2RF, when not punching the little brass key, is kept busy pushing the keys of his typewriter, as he is a busy man nowadays sending out letters relative to the business of the A.R.T.L. Such is the life of a divisional director.

The third district hams have livened up a lot lately; in fact, there seems to be more of them on the air than any other districts. The most consistent heard here are 3BQ, 3EW, 3AJ, 3AL, 3BY, 3JJ, 3KR, 3OD, 3OT, and 3WH.

4PN, 4NW, 4BD, 4AW, 4LJ, 4GO, 4WA, and 4MM are the most consistent heard from the fourth district, especially 4PN, who is putting out a very good R.A.C. note, which booms in here.

The fifth district are not heard so much lately, excepting 5BY, 5CM, 5DX, and 5AW, who seem to spend all their spare time at the key.

Most of the sevens are working the 20 and 10-metre band. It is a long time since we have heard 7CW on the 32-metres with his 'phone. 7DX was heard last week-end working 3BQ on 'phone, and he came in splendidly with a good 70 per cent. modulated carrier.

Without doubt the OZ's are the most consistent experimenters south of the Line. At any time of the day or night their signals are being received here, and some of them have a punch behind them. Those heard here regularly are OZ-2BE, 1FB, 2AJ, 2AR, 2AT, 2BD, 3AJ, 3AU and 2GD.

2HM Described

(See Cover Pictures)

MR. H. A. MARSHALL, whose call sign is 2HM, is one of the oldest and best-known amateur experimental radio transmitters in Australia. There is hardly a country in the world where his signals have not been received, and he has worked practically every country where there is an amateur radio station. His experiments with radio transmissions date as far back as 1910, when he was connected with the Electricity Department at the School of Mines at Port Pirie, South Australia. It was as far back as this that he first came before the public as an amateur transmitter. It is on record that 2HM exhibited and worked successfully a spark transmitter and receiver at the Port Pirie Agricultural Show, 1910, which he wholly and solely made himself. The exhibition was such a success that he offered to build for the Broken Hill Proprietary a transmitter which would keep the company in communication with their head office and the mines at Iron Knob, but through the uncertainty of radio in those days the offer was not accepted. We all know that while the Great War was in progress from 1914 till 1918, that amateur transmitting stations were closed from operating, which naturally impeded the activities of the experimenter, but not so the ardour of HM, as he kept himself fully in touch with the advancement of radio. After the war Mr. Marshall, who is an electrical engineer, moved from Port Pirie to Armidale, N.S.W., and he again erected his station, but not a spark transmitter this time, as valves had come into commission then in place of the old spark coils. His activities in experiments at Armidale were mainly with 'phone on the 200-metre band, and his transmissions were of the best, as reports from all over Australia were received by him.

While in Armidale he also carried out experiments on the lower wave bands, but the best of his DX work has been carried out at his present QRA, 94 Francis Street, Bondi.

Since 1910 Mr. Marshall has seen and participated in many changes in radio transmission. His station to-day is vastly different from the old days, when he first used the spark coil. Now he is using a T.G.T.P circuit with a T-250. His experiments now are mostly with 'phone transmissions on the 32-metre band. The success of his 'phone experiments he attributes to the use of a UX-199 as a grid leak to the T-250. His system of modulation is the Telefunken. On 'phone he has had quite a number of QSO with NU's, who have reported his signals a good R4-5. As stated before, 2HM has carried out some very fine DX. He was the first Australian to QSO with RAO3, and some excellent tests have been carried out between them. Mr. Marshall is in the happy position of having an assistant to help him in his experiments. This is his daughter, Miss Marshall. Although she has not a ticket yet, she intends to sit for it shortly. There are many amateurs who would be pleased to have some of the QSO's Miss Marshall has carried out. The QSO's she had to her credit included most countries the other side of the world. We would like to mention that 2HM extends a hearty welcome to any fellow amateur who wishes to visit his station, but before doing so give him a ring on the 'phone, as he is a very busy man.

10, 20, 30 Metre Work in Seventh District

By TASSIE

THE annual meeting of the Hobart Radio Research Club was held at the Club Room on September 19. Mr. F. W. Medhurst (7AH) was re-elected President, and Mr. H. G. Fraser Hon. Secretary for the ensuing year. The Club's transmitter may often be heard on the air now, and would be glad of QSO's with mainland "hams." No difficulty should be experienced in locating this station on the 32-metre band, owing to its "unique" note, usually reported as pure AC.

A local B.C.L. has been very successful in receiving the transmission of VZGY during the flight to New Zealand, and is said to have obtained remarkable results, even where the transmitter was out of action. It is rumoured that he is using a new type of receiver employing two stages of imagination and one of impertinence. So well do these stages function that many amateur transmitters were heard operating on the same wave as the 'plane.

Conditions generally seem to be improving down here, especially on the 32 and 20-metre band, although QRM on these bands appears to be increasing. The alleged interference by local amateurs to KHAB-VZGY's signals seems to be due to these stations (commercials).

10-Metre Notes.

Great activity has been shown on this band by Southern Tasmania, Launceston and good local work has been done. 7CW, 7DX and 7LJ have been regularly working on this band. So far only local contacts have been made, but reports from local listeners have been received up to 4 miles. 7HR was also transmitting on 10.37 metres for a short time during the W.I.A. Convention. All these stations would much appreciate reports on their transmissions. 7CW has managed to copy 6SA, but failed to click after arranging a sked.

A very successful U.S.A. station on this band is NU-9EF. He has been QSO east and west coast of U.S.A. regularly, and is keeping a lookout for Aussie signals. QRH of the station is 10 metres. EF-8CT also reports, via OA-7CH, that he is attempting to reach Australia on this band, but gives no details of QRH, etc.

Of the local signals on this band, 7CW and 7DX are the strongest, and are usually R8 or 9 in the suburbs of Hobart. 7LJ's signals are slightly weaker, usually about R7.

20-Metre Notes.

Conditions have been prevalent on this band during the last few weeks, although at times the U.S.A. and European stations are QSA. There seems to have been great activity among the Englishmen, owing to the fact that they have to QSY down here from the 32-metre band. Of these stations EG-2NH, EG-5MS and EG-5YX are very constantly received here. September 2 was particularly favourable for EG contacts, as 16 Englishmen were received here at good strength—EG-2XV, EG-5YX, EG-2NH, EG-5YK, EG-5QV, EG-5MS, EG-6RW, and EG-5ML were all R5 or R6, and the remainder all over R4 at their best. A few QSO's with NU stations have been made by local hams, but these stations have been very unreliable on this band. EP-4YT and EM-SMZP have been QSO Tasmanians recently, and are fairly constant here, especially the German. Other good European signals heard here include those from EF-8CT, EF-8FD, and EL-LAIG. SC-1AM and SC-1AI have been very constant in the early afternoons on approximately 21 metres.

The local stations 7HL, 7LJ and 7CH have been doing most of the work on this band, and during the last month the latter station has been QSO stations in EG, EF, EM, OH, NU and EB. 7HL has been heard working EG-5QV and 7LJ, EG-6BD. It is of interest to note that 6BD has been through Hobart and knows the district well.

Our old friend the Norwegian whaler, ARCX, has installed a 20-metre transmitter, and is to be heard on approximately 21 metres with a good 1CW note. I believe that he intends to handle most of the traffic from the Wilkins Expedition, and is expected at Hobart early next month. OA-5HG, OA-3AR, and OH-EH7 have been QSA here on this band, the former stations being particularly good. OA-2BB pounds in at good strength, but his note is rather rough and unsteady.

30-Metre Notes.

This month has seen the re-appearance of many African stations—FM-8DOT, FM-75Y, FM-AIN, FG-OCYA, and FG-8HPG. All have been heard at good signal strength here, although no contacts have been made with them. Several local stations have called them, but ND. Hard luck, O.M.'s! Some of these stations appear to be old French stations now resident in the colonies.

South American stations also are now being heard here after a long spell, the best of the bunch being SC-3AC (who has been QSO 7CH), SC-2AB, SC-1AI, and SC-3BF. Of the remainder of the DX, the best signals heard here were from EG-5NJ, EC-1RY, EP-4YT, ARCX and AJ-4ZZ. Later in the evenings the Javanese and Philippine signals have been exceptionally good. All the above-mentioned stations have been QSO the Tassie's during the last fortnight.

The South Australian stations, notably 5WR, 5BY, 5JA, and 5RJ, have been very good here, especially in the early evenings and in the morning about 8 a.m. 3DX, with his low power outfit, whines in with a good kick here, his signals often reaching audibility of R8.

The 'phone from 2LG and 3GT continues to be FB here, especially from the latter station, who is employing C.C. His signals ('phone) have also reached R7 here. 6SA is QSA here on all bands, including 80-metre and 10-metre bands, and is frequently QSO local hams.

The NU and NC signals have been patchy during the month, QRN and QRM also preventing reliable working with them. NU-9EF is very consistent here, and has been QSO several locals.

7AH (Hobart) continues to be as keen as ever, and is often heard on the air during the evenings and on Sunday mornings. His good note and QSC make him well worth QSO'ing at any time. He is soon to increase power, and is installing Raytheon rectifiers.

7CS (Launceston).—CC has been installed at this northern station; the signal strength has increased wonderfully here. On Sunday (23rd) his QRK was easily R8 to R9 here in the morning, whilst the signals from 7BQ were nearly R8 here.

7CH (Bellerive) has been very active on all bands.

7CW (Hobart).—Everybody here was very pleased to learn that Crosby has won the A.R.T.L. test for Australia, FB, O.M.! Recently most of his time has been occupied with his 10-metre transmissions, although at times he is heard put-

ting out FB 'phone and CW on 32.075 metres. We are sorry to say that he is often QRW for tennis and other matters during the week-ends now. A UX-852 has recently been installed in the 10-metre transmitter, and seems to perk well.

7DX (West Hobart).—As usual, "Watty" is on the air day and night when he finds time. His "giant" power transmitter continues to raise numerous Yanks, who always give him an FB report. This station also has been on 'phone a good deal recently, and is putting out the real stuff. Modulation and clarity are excellent. Among recent QSO's at this station is AJ-4ZZ, the old Japanese station, who is being nicely received here.

7LJ (Newtown).—Another of our CC stations who is usually to be heard pounding brass later in the evenings. He has been QRW work lately, and QRM from teaching is rather heavy. He has done more useful work on all bands, including QSO with EG-6BD, and seems to be one of the favourite stations here for rag chewing, owing to his good fist.

7HL (West Hobart).—HL is now a Bible and bedtime story slinger at our local B.C. station, 7ZL. During his spare time some good work has been done at this station, including QSO's with EG-5NJ and EK-4YT, also some five re-broadcasts have been carried out for 7ZL.

7JK (Hobart) has been QRN work to a great extent. JK has been considering the installation of CC, but the YL says ND! Hard luck, O.M.! He still manages to put good signals across to U.S.A. during his spare time.

7OM (Bellerive).—Bad QRM here from the YL's. He has only been on the air a couple of times lately. How about your CC outfit, O.M.?

Stop Press News

A.R.T.L.—N.S.W. Division

THE last monthly meeting of the A.R.T.L. was well attended by members, despite the fact of the holiday on the Monday following. Special interest was added to the meeting by the visit from 3SW, who took the opportunity of placing before the meeting the little differences which had arisen between the W.I.A. and the A.R.T.L. Some very interesting facts were brought to light by 3SW pointing out that the present situation was not in the interest of a higher status for the amateur. He made an appeal to the N.S.W. Division to use their influence in persuading the other divisions of the A.R.T.L. to co-operate with the W.I.A. in formulating a consolidated front to be presented to authorities in the matter of asking for better concessions for the amateurs. The general business of the meeting was set aside to allow discussion on 3SW's appeal, which naturally, being of a serious nature, took up practically the whole evening.

The next meeting of the division is the annual meeting, when the election of officers for the ensuing year will take place. A full attendance of members is anticipated.

Cork Esses Views W.I.A. Convention at Hobart

ON Sunday, the 19th August, ole Cork Esses and 7AB proceeded to the Pier at Launceston in Arthur's Rolls-Royce Ford to meet the delegates to the Fifth Annual Convention, who were arriving by the "Loongana." As soon as the steamer pulled up alongside the pier familiar call signs could be heard whistled from all parts of the boat, and very soon afterwards old acquaintances had been renewed. All aboard Arthur's car and one of the service cars, we proceeded up the City to get some inside lining before we left per road for Hobart, the scene of the Convention.

After Bruce Hardie, and Stan, 3SW, and our worthy President, H. K. Love, and the rest of the boys had filled to their hearts' content, and the Tasmanian Secretary Cork-esses had paid the bill, we all made a move for the cars for Hobart. H. K. Love and Bruce and Cork Esses occupied a sedan car, and A. Kissick, Stan Gadsden, and D. Whitburn went with 7AB in his Henry. Half way to Hobart the car pulled up for refreshments, and 3BM, 3YX, escorted by 7CS, went in to sample some of the Tasmanian Lager. Bruce decided that it was O.K., and had several. Anyhow, we reached Hobart safely at about 6.20 p.m. After a good tea at Hadley's Hotel we all proceeded to the Hobart Radio Research Club's room, where all the delegates and visitors were introduced to the Hobart hams. Ole 7BQ was also there from Launceston to give us a greeting. We all went to bed very quietly that night at about 11 p.m. very tired.

Next morning, Monday, the 20th August, Bruce was up first and had his usual cold shower before breakfast, and didn't forget to let everyone know it either. At 10 a.m. delegates met at the club room, and after the President of the Federal Executive had delivered his report on the work of the Council for the preceding twelve months, work was commenced in earnest. The day's sitting concluded at 6 p.m., and after dinner all the amateur stations in Hobart were visited by the delegates, with the exception of the two fat members 3SW and 7CS, who decided that they would visit the Civic Club and test out a new transmitter and receiver that was installed there. Hi! Next morning, the 21st August, all the delegates proceeded at 9.30 a.m. to Tattersall's to view the drawing of a sweep, and again the two fat members were called into commission. 3SW, assisted by Cork Esses, had the honor of drawing 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes in Tatt's—hi!—but it was not for themselves. After the drawing of the sweep we were entertained with champagne by the management, who gave us an official welcome, to which 3SW, assisted by the apple juice, made a very able speech on various matters, nothing whatever to do with wireless—hi!

After this was over we proceeded to the Town Hall, where we were officially welcomed by the Lord Mayor of Hobart, and had morning tea with him. More speeches, and again our President showed up, also 3SW, who spoke on concrete roads and whatnot; also our little Bruce made a very nice little speech, with one hand resting on the back of a chair and a book in the other. This attitude is usually known as the Secretary's secret sign. At 2.30 p.m. we were motored to Brown's River through beautiful scenery, and at about 5 p.m. arrived at the home of "Pop" 7AH, who, with the assistance of his wife and daughter, entertained the hungry mob with afternoon tea. By the way, Pop has some pineapples growing in his garden, and Bruce was very interested in them. During the stop at

Brown's River some snaps were taken. I have sent some to the editor, and hope that he will publish same. After a good dinner that night we were entertained at the Fire Brigade Station, the by the members of the Hobart Listeners' League and the Hobart Research Club. We were shown over the very compact little station, the efficiency of which is marvellous. A false alarm was given while we were there, and it surprised all present the quickness the men can turn out when wanted.

There was one handle on the switch board that Bruce was dying to pull out to see what it would do, but the Deputy Superintendent, Mr. Skinner, had his eye on him, and YX was a very disappointed man—hi! Wednesday, the 22nd of August, we again sat on convention business at 10 a.m., and adjourned at 1 p.m. to a luncheon which was tendered to us by the Hobart Development League. More speeches by our President, who this time got on to the matter of telephone and the air. Howard got on to his pet subject, "Flying," and also complimented Hobart on "our 'arbours." Stan got on to his pet subject also—concrete roads. At 3 p.m. we arrived at the House of Assembly to view the opening of Parliament by the Governor of Tasmania. At 4 p.m. we again adjourned to the club room and sat in conference till 6 p.m.

Wednesday night was free, and members were scattered at various places of amusement. I think Bruce, Kissick and Doug., from S.A., went to the Skating Rink and had an A1 time—at least, YX did, as he was talking about R10 C.C. in his sleep all night—hi!

Thursday, the 23rd of August, we again sat in conference till 1 p.m., and at 2.30 p.m. all started to climb to the top of Mount Wellington, which was covered with snow. Ole 3SW and 7CS got up half way, and the view being splendid, decided that they would not go to the top because the view might be spoiled—hi! Ole Pop headed the rest of the gang right to the pinnacle. When they arrived back at the Springs Hotel, from whence we started, they were frozen stiff. At the hotel they found ole Cork Esses and SW sitting in front of a huge fire looking quite snug. Thursday night at 8 p.m. was the Official Dinner given by the Tasmanian Branch of the W.I.A., which was a great success, all the toasts and speeches being broadcast by Station 7ZL. The following is a short account of same:—Mr. F. W. Medhurst occupied the chair of honour, and proposed the loyal toast, and after this had been honoured, "The Institute." He pointed out the close connection between wireless and aviation.

Mr. H. K. Love, responding, said that when the Great War came many of the amateurs who were experimenting joined up. In the early days Tasmania had been one of the first States with which the mainland experimenters were able to get in touch. The Tasmanian Division of the Institute had always been loyal to the Federal Executive, and had always helped them where they could. Mr. W. T. Watkins, on being requested to speak, said that the Tasmanian amateurs had always been in favour of action rather than talk.

Proposing the toast of the Postmaster-General's Department, Mr. S. W. Gadsden explained how the department had always helped the experimenters where it could. He explained how the International Conference at Washington had at last recognised the amateur and had given him certain wave bands on which to transmit. It was the intention of the amateurs to fight until they

were permitted to transmit at any time on these bands. Mr. E. J. Bowden, Deputy Inspector for Wireless in Tasmania, on behalf of the Department, outlined in humorous vein some of the early experiments which had been conducted in Tasmania.

The State Engineer, Mr. G. J. Braithwaite, also responded on behalf of the Department. When ole Cork Esses went to bed after this dinner he found a wonderful sight in his bedroom—a whole pluck was hanging from his electric light, a green snake was in his bed, his pyjamas were all sewn up, and when he got into bed fell out immediately. After having a look for the cause of this he found a chair under the bed. After he had straightened up his room and got rid of the puck and various other things, a horrible noise was heard to be coming from one of the rooms, and on investigation it was traced to the room of 3SW. The door was opened quietly, and there he was snoring away to his heart's content, and nothing on the part of any of the boys could arouse him; so we left him alone in peace. But next morning, when he woke up he found the green snake gazing at him from the dressing-room table, and for a minute or two Stan could not make out where he was—hi!

Friday morning, the 24th of August, was again occupied in conference, and in the afternoon the delegates were shown over the Cascade Brewery and entertained there. Ask Bruce; he will tell you all about this trip. At 8 p.m. we visited the studio of 7ZL, and then to Watty's CDX.

Saturday morning 3BM left for Melbourne, and in the afternoon the rest of the delegates visited amateur stations. After tea we all went to an assembly dance by special invitation, led by our noble Bruce in full dress suit—hi! At the dance Alf got QSO, and after having taken his station home three miles and a half, found that the last tram had gone and had to ring a taxi to get home. Alf will tell you all about it.

On Sunday, the 27th August, ole Cork Esses left the party for Launceston, the rest staying in Hobart until Tuesday morning, when they left for Launceston per car. They were met in Launceston by CS and BQ, and during the afternoon and evening visited the shacks of 7PF, CS and BQ. The next morning, Wednesday, the 29th, escorted by CS, the visitors were shown over "our Gorge" and also the power station. At 1 p.m. the visitors left per car for Burnie to catch the "Oonak" for Melbourne. Thus ended a very happy ten days. During their stay in Launceston the visitors had the opportunity of tasting Tasmanian Cider. Ole Cork Esses said there were four hours' sleep in every glad; Bruce said there was not, but I think he has now changed his mind—hi! During the whole of the Convention the delegates were in touch with Victoria from the club room's transmitter, 7HR. Ole 3BQ was on the air every day, receiving and sending messages in connection with the conference. The Institute in Tasmania is stronger than ever, and will always remain an Institute State, the same as Victoria and South Australia. In future all members of the Institute will call CQ, and then their call sign and then WIA. It was decided that members of the Institute only work fellow members in Australia and not communicate with members of other bodies who have tried to down the Institute. Shortly all Tasmanian transmitters will be crystal controlled, and will be heard working on the 30, 80, 20 and 10-metre bands.

Say, Mr. Editor, I think I have been working overtime this month, so will QRT for the present.