

once more the conditions prevalent during October and November, that we may make 1928 a record year.

5BW has been getting rash again, as he was seen paying 3d. for a copy of the local rag for no other reason than that it contained a description of his station. The conceit of these guys knows no bounds. Wow!

5BY wanted to sell his de Forest H tube, but there were no bidders; then someone (5WH, I think) suggested that Doug. ought to raffle it. Thinking that was a good idea, 5BY started then and there to collect 2/- each from all the gang. Ole Reg. of 5CM, who is always there when there's something for nothing going, was first on the list, hi! The draw has not taken place yet, so I don't know who is the lucky one.

5QP and 5BD are still swearing and cursing about the QRM the doctor about 100 yards away makes with his X-ray, violet ray, and lots of other rays, going all day and every day. It is impossible to read any DX through it, and "a worse noise I never did see" (or hear).

5MB has been doing a good DX lately with the UX-210 that he sent soft some time ago. 5WS and 5BY has added Morocco to their list of countries worked, and 5BW's latest is 2NAA in Finland.

I don't know what 5HG has been doing lately, but I've heard him pounding away as usual, while 5JA is conspicuous by his absence. 5DA has been doing a lot of duplex 'phone with 5SR, the former on 33 and the latter on 200 metres.

5LF is threatening to start up with a 300-watt crystal controlled outfit, which he says will be the last word in transmitters when finished. Gang, please note I said "WHEN."

5OM has built a new transmitter, but I haven't heard him yet, even though he is only one street away from me.

5WH has not been doing much lately, but after Christmas I believe he is going to put in either a master oscillator or harness up his two Philips 100 watters. He is spending the Christmas holidays and a few days of January over on the Spec, and will visit all the southern Sevens, more particularly Watty, of 7DX.

5DX is away in a small country town, and is bemoaning his fate, hi!

5CM is starting the New Year well, as he has rebuilt both the receiver and the transmitter, and (5BW, please note) he hopes to get rid of the hay wire. He still manages a few NU, AI, AC and FO QRO's. By the way, he says that antenna of 3BQ's is a dud, hi! Also he is talking darkly of more power. 5WP has built a new H.T. transformer, but is afraid to put the full power on to his rectifiers. But Bill seems to get out on the low power he has at present.

Some new QRA's:—

5FB—Wheeler, H. W., Wilpena Street, Eden Hills.

5MR—M. E. Richards, 5 Trevortan Avenue, Glenunga.

5WR—W. M. Richards, Charlbury Road, Medindie Gardens.

5XW—A. B. Beck, 18 Brook Street, West Micham.

The R.I. tells me that out of 67 candidates for examination by him for their A.O.P.C. since 1924, only three have failed to get it. How's that, gang? Can you other States beat that?

OO-BAM at Papeete makes a lot of noise, and seems to QSO NU easily.

## Seventh District News

OUR delegate of the Fifth District returned safe and sound after having had a good time on the mainland with the hams. The account of his trip to Adelaide made old Phil 7PF wish that he had gone himself, especially when he saw the nice piece of quartz that Watty brought back with him. Watty seems to have left in his wake a series of voltage fed Hertz aerials, as I have heard of several of the mainland gang who are using them after his stay with them. He also brought back with him a five-metre wavemeter, the first of its kind to reach Tassie.

While in Launceston, Watty stayed with old Cork Esses, and had the time of his life with all his gear. They both stayed up one night—I mean early the next morning—making and calibrating another five-metre wavemeter for CS, with the aid of BQ's receiver.

The convention itself was very successful; the new Federal Council of the Institute will be located in Melbourne, and will take up its duties immediately. While I am not yet in a position to say what the personnel of the council will be, it is fairly certain that the Victorian Secretary (Bruce Hardie, of 3YX fame) will also take on the job of Federal Secretary—at least, the Tassie Division hope so.

While staying with 7CS, DX put up another Hertz antenna. Results have been very good with this aerial, except for static, power leaks and other parasites.

There was a meeting of the gang at the shack of CS on the night that DX returned, and some of those present were very late in returning to their homes owing to the story of the trip taking so long to tell, and for various other reasons.

The following are suffering from stiff necks as a result of watching if the lamps in Cork Esses' Hertz aerial were lighting:—7CS, 7BT, 7BQ, 7AB, 7PF and the OW. Some of them are slowly recovering, but I am sure that the others will be some time before they can again look straight ahead instead of anyhow, especially as it was raining on that particular night, and most of the gang had no overcoats.

7PF has been having trouble with his generator, which has given his note a nasty ripple. Phil says the commutator is "mica high," he had it made "mica low," but with no difference to his note. Will some of the gang please come to his rescue? It is bad luck to receive reports of fair R.A.C. sigs. when one is using a perfectly good D.C. generator.

I understand that 7MK is shortly to hit the air on the 299-metre band. This is a big drop in frequency from the 30-metre band where he started up some months ago. This will make four amateurs on the air in Launceston on the 200-metre band, viz., 7BQ, 7UX, 7MK, and 7CS.

I think we will have to adopt the wavemeter scheme that some of the Victorian amateur 'phone experts are adopting, as related by 7DX. I myself consider it a very good idea, and intend to have a look at the metres in use over there during Xmas.

Old 7BQ is still working away very quietly of a night and putting in some good DX work when the rest of the gang have hit the hay.

Understand that 7AS has been busy with exams. this year, and has not had a chance to get on the air, but hopes to do so shortly.

There is no news whatever of the Southern gang. Although we are only 100 miles apart, it is very seldom that their sigs. can be heard up here; even if we do happen to get hold of one of them, the sigs. have a knack of fading right out after a few minutes, and not coming in again for hours at a stretch sometimes.

Was talking to old 4LJ over the air the other day, and he said that he was going to claim the reward that was offered for me by our ham Editor of his "bible." Am afraid you will have to apply to Sydney, old man, as no reward was stated; perhaps it was a Mintie or a pea-nut.

Well, I hope by the time that this appears in print to be having the time of my life amongst the Victorian hams, and, believe me, I intend to try and pick up as many points as a porcupine has. Wishing all the brasspounders in OA a very happy New Year, and may your troubles be only little ones.

## Indian Notes

From LIEUT. F. RODMAN

OCTOBER has produced some very gratifying performances, and some very poor ones; a general summary is "patchy." Although a large number of Australian stations have been logged, only the 5th District can be called consistent in strength. The 2nd District is best just about full and new moon time, Sixes and Sevens very scarce but at good strength when heard, and the Fours usually weak, R4 being the best recorded during the month.

Forty-three Australian QSO's were made during the month. The two best, from my point of view, were with OA-4PM (this being my first contact with Queensland) and with OA-6SA, both on the 20 and 30-metre bands, the former QSA 7CS, 7HL, 7JK, 7LJ.

20-23 Metres: 2NO, 4WS, 5SA.

The Sydney B.C. station on 28.5 metres has been coming through very well, indeed, speech and music a good R6 on an outdoor aerial, and R5 on an indoor aerial.