

THE LISTENER IN, November 11, 1933

AMATEUR NOTES

5-Point Relay Contest

Forty-metre Band Activities—Five-metre Field Days — Instructional Classes for Budding Operators.

By MAX HOWDEN, VK3BQ

AFTER a week in which the forty-metre band was never quiet while the Five-point Relay contest was being held, things seem to have settled down again, and now most of the stations that are heard there are testing phone. It is too early to be sure of the result of the contest, but it is rumored that VK7CH is leading with well over 1000 points. Other rumors are that VK3DZ, VK3HQ, and VK3WL all passed the 500 mark before the second week-end of the test started. VK2BP and VK5MK at that time had about 300 and 200 points respectively. In South Australia, VK5JA is considered to be the most likely winner, while from Queensland and Western Australia no reports have come to hand at all. The outstanding feature of the contest from an observer's point of view was the scarcity of messages from the more active States. After the first couple of days, three out of every four contacts seemed to consist of "sorry qru here," showing that much more work could have been done had more messages been allowed to be originated at each station. In this respect the contest did not approach the recent Victorian Reserve Relay Contest when the only stipulation was that messages were not allowed to be handled twice by one station.

VK4DR got a new crystal for the test, and was on the air every minute that he could spare, so he should have done well. VK4RV also played an active part. A few stations used the eighty-metre band for some of their traffic, but the relative quietness of this band was surprising.



CLACKSHAW
MILITARY CAMP MOUNT VINE
C. HARRISON
HUT
MILITARY SECTION 12(M) BDF SIFs

mate 129

A close up of the short wave transmitter. Crystal controlled on 7250Kc ± 7250Kc (In case you don't know that's 41.38 & 41.97 metres)

MR. C. HARRISSON is at present on furlough from the Bank of Australasia. He has decided not to holiday away from Shepparton and his mother is visiting him from Tasmania. Mr. Harrisson, who is a keen radio student, operates a short wave station—VK.3C.N., and as a result receives correspondence from various parts of the world. At the time of the American submarine disaster, six weeks ago, Mr. Harrisson chanced to be one night to get into conversation with an amateur operator in the United States. This resulted in a copy of the newspaper, "Boston Evening Globe," being posted to him in which is featured an authentic story of the Squalus sinking and the rescue of the 33 survivors. The Squalus disaster which shocked the world when they all occurred within a period of 25 days. Mr. Harrisson is head master of the