

THE PIONEER DAYS

by Carroll H. Weyrich
2411 Cider Mill Road, Baltimore, Md. 21234

From the pages of the February 10, 1936 issue in the Members' Reports and Comments, we noted the following:

Louis Hahn, New York City: "I suppose you have been wondering what happened to me and you were already discussing of another DXer. I did not do too much until a few weeks ago due to the pressure of business, but since then I have added a number of new ones. At the close of last season my log total was 769. It is now 789, including 90 2,000 milers. I now have a Philco 116X and it certainly produces. On a recent Sunday afternoon at about 4:45, I heard Poste Parisien and Konigsberg. That doesn't mean however that I have joined the ranks of the 9 o'clock DXers, but I must confess that on several occasions I set the alarm clock for 2, 3 and 4 A. M., and while the clock did its duty, I failed to respond. The high spot of this season thus far is the logging of my 4th continent in CNR Rabat, Morocco, 2 to 2:30 AM on January 8, in spite of strong interference from KFSD. Other new ones this season are KGNC, KXO, CKCV, WKZO, KWBG, XEU, KROC, KIRO, CMOX, WELI, KRLH, CMK, WAIM and Radio Strasbourg. All but the last three are verified."

Paul Sampson, Regina, Sask.: "Our CPC is sure thinkin more of quality than quantity: that Canadian-NNRC frolic was a shining example. I heard all of the participating stations from CJIC Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. right through to the West Coast. Too bad I could not get CKBI. Reception here has been peculiar but mostly good. I have been able to pick up KABR and KSL at 8:30 PM. The latter puts out the best signal of any station with like power. New Verifications are KWLC, KVI, WLBC, XEAQ, CFRB, CMOX, WDGY, CFCO, WCAT and WPTF. Have reports out to CKFC, CJIC, KFBK, KGVO and KVS0. My log is 468, including 27 unverified, deleted calls and 270 veries. If I don't get enough veries for my Super Ace by the end of this season then I'll miss my guess. Glad to know that WELI is going to give us another program."

Jack Schneider, Garwood, N. J.: "Have finally been able to forgo my nightly schnozzle exercise to DX and this is my report. Tuned in for HIX (club program) the first time since that memorable board meeting at Lou Hahn's home in Woodside, L. I., a few years back. It came in with fair volume but bad fading. CJOC came through better and KROC rounded out the new catches. Had previously logged CMJF, Radio Normandie, WPAR, WPAY, XERA, WMPJM WMFO, WMFD, WTAL, KIUL, KABR and CJIC to make my total heard 892. It won't be long now before I report my 900th. Others are WMFR, CJIC and CHNC on the NNRC frolic, KFBK with its inaugural program, WHBB, WMSD, KADA, WFMD, WSWA, WCOF."

In the High Frequencies Section edited by Earl Roberts it was reported that Jack Weller again led with the best 20 meter report. He stated that ZU6P is on Mondays, 2:30-4 PM, and that ON4CSL is also on Mondays 3-4 PM. Both are in Africa. Eric Butcher's new stations are LU5AN and K6TNT.....Nick Hock reports VP3BG at 6:55 PM on 14.108 mcs....Irving Good-eve is back in the running with EA8AF heard January 27 on 14.04 mcs. at 7:39 PM, and states that EA8A0 was also heard.....Walt Damkoehler has a verification from NY2AE for his November 21st reception.

Some phone stations heard were the S. S. Berengaria, GBZW on 8.83 mcs phoning W00.....ZFD St. Georges, Bermuda 10.335 mcs. heard signing at 9:34 AM after broadcasting the funeral of King George V..... DOAI the S. S. Europa was heard testing with GBC at 4:20 PM.....Dave Thomas supplied the following data on lighthouse and forestry stations: WWDD 3.41 mcs., 50 watts Lighthouse Tender "Sundew" WWHI 3.41 mcs., 50 watts, the Lighthouse Depot "Buffalo" ; WWKO, WWKM and WWKL are lighthouse stations in Michigan. PFG50 is a relief or patrol lighthouse stationed at the mouth of the Pigeon River, Michigan. The WFC series of calls is assigned to the forestry division.....WSEF, a forestry station of the Smokey Mountain National Park was received on 3.42 mcs. WWV, the Bureau of Standards Station at Beltsville, Md. tests on 10.00 mcs every Wednesday 1:15 to 2:15 PM for statnard frequency measurements. A high whistle is used during the transmission.

This just about takes care of this month's page and in closing we wish everyone a Most Happy and Healthful New Year. We are always happy to hear from you with your comments.

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From the Members' Reports and Comments section for February 17, 1936, the following reports were received:

Phil Nichols, E. Hartford, Conn.: "Through some terrible static I received and hour of partial dope on TIPG with their NNRC program of January 19. New veries are WSMD, WHBB, WFMD, KRLH, KSFO, WMFO (return card sent as a follow-up) and last but not least CNR Rabat, Morocco."

Bill Bauer, Baltimore, Md.: "Just to let you know I am still in the game. Had a little luck January 16 when I heard LR1, LR4, LR5 and LS2 with good volume; also CMCG, CMBG, CMCD and CMBY. Have veries from CMHX, CMKM, XEU, WORL, CKSO, CFNB, WTAL, WFMD, WCAM, WSWA and CKNX. The TAs are still uncertain. Have a new 116X Philco and it sure can step out."

Bernard L. Ahman, Jr., Baltimore, Md.: "I am very glad I met Lloyd Hahn and his Baltimoreans; they are excellent types of DXers. I have been DX-ing since 1927 and have a verified log od 547 stations. I do not count those unverified. I am a member of the CDXR and have been since the summer of 1932. Aside from the NNRC, I have not as yet joined any other DX clubs. My set is a new 12-tube, all wave Zenith and my previous one was an old faithful A. K. 60. On the BCB I have recently verified CFRC, WKZO, KGBX, KMJ, WNBZ, WNAX, Fecamp, KTUL, WTAQ, CJLS and WFMD. Amateurs verified are ZE2GD, W9HCR, W1DEO, W5AMZ, WA2PG and W3BBP. Reports are out to 18 other SW stations and to 32 phones in 11 countries including CO2HY, HH5PA, TI2AV, HI7G, XE2CK, YN1OP and K6KKP; all since Christmas. I nearly let Carl Lord send in my application to the club but high pressure, go-get-em, hold-that-line Lloyd Hahn got his grip on me and did the honors."

Ray Everly, Newton, Ill.: "Jack Whitby, our good friend at CJIC, compliments our listening posts. He said: 'NNRC LPs sure can send in some fine reports. He and Kieran Kelty deserve a big hand for their parts in Bill Applegate's frolic. C-arry J-oy I-nto C-ountry send a very fine veri. Two new ones are WPAR and WTAL. Log stands at 924. Latest veries are KSFO, KGNC, WMFG, KRLC, WHBB, KIRO, KROC, KHSL, WMFD, KELD, and CJIC. Letters are out to WMFO, KVSQ, XERA, WSWA, LR1, LR4, LS2, CMCO, WMFR, XEFB, WPAR and WTAL. I understand that Doc Brinkley says XERA won't verify. My 1931, 12-tube Scott will be five years old next July. Has anyone received a veri from WMFO yet?"

Dud Clarke, Montreal, Quebec: "Reports are out to LR1, Radio Normandie, KXL, WCPO and CJIC. The verification from Fecamp was received exactly 21 days after reporting."

Paul Sampson, Regina, Sask.: "Recent veries are from KWLC, KVI, WLBC, XEAQ, CFRB, CMOX, WDGY, CFCO, WCAT and WPTF.. Reports are out to CKFC, CJIC, KFBK, KGVO, and KVSQ. The log total is now 467 including 27 unverified, deleted calls and the verified is 270. Am trying to make the Super Ace class by the end of this season."

In the High Frequencies section edited by Earl Roberts, the following was noted: TYP, 12.25 mcs., Paris was heard phoning the Ille de France from 10:30-11 AM, February 7, using a 3-tone signal with notes G, hohg G sharp and down to D sharp.....WVD, 8.65 mcs., Seattle was heard talking to WXE, 5.97 mcs., Anchorage, Alaska from 11:30 PM to 12:30 AM. on February 8.....W2XAF held quite a lengthy QSO with VLK at 6 AM on February 10 concerning the arranging of future relays from Australia. HAMS? Nick Hock reports VE9EW 14.33 mcs.; HK1AN 14.117, Cartagena at 6:03 PM and a K4 on 10 meters at 7:08 PM.....Eric Butcher has a QSL from XE2N and a report out to TI5JJ. HC1FG, 7.105 mcs. was heard calling in French to FA8GH, Algeria, February 5 at 2:15 AM.....Irving Goodeve has received verifications from VP4TK, VP2CD, K4DDH, KA1AN and VU7FY...

FCC ITEMS: Aeronautical Radio: KINU Rainy Pass, Alaska, 2922, 2946, 25 watts; WAQA, Chicago 3485 and 5682 kcs., 50 watts; WAJD, Jackson, Miss. 2834, 3485, 5682 and 5707 kcs., 400 watts and 2608 kcs. with 1000 watts.

This just about does it for this issue and we wish everyone a good season of DX on all bands. Your comments will be appreciated.

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From the pages of Vol. 1, No. 22 dated February 24, 1936, the following were noted in the Members' Reports and Comments:

Birely Ross, Dallas, Texas: " We haven't had much cold weather down here so DXing is done with plenty of static. My latest veries are XEX, XEFW, WHEB, KPPC, CHAB, CHAB, XETF, WCAX, KRSC, KALB, WMFN, WFBR, KRLH, CKPR, KSFO, CJCA, CMBD, CMOA, WEMP, 2GZ, #GI, JOPK, Bordeaux and Marseilles. Those two TAs are prized for they are rare out this way. Veries now total 806. Now for one in Africa! I am still waiting for the CPC to line up some of the Eastern daytime stations on specials. The new schedule of FCC tests is better as I get a chance at the stations that come on around 7 AM EST. New catches on the checks are WMFJ, WMFO, KRNR, WEBR, KFIO, KNET, KFJI and WSMD. My best DX feat was logging CKNX through the jumble on 1200 kcs."

Ed Hill, Toronto, Ont., reports CB62 (formerly CE62), PRB4, LR6, YV1RC, LS10 and WEMP.

Joe Brauner, Williamsville, N. Y.: "While DX has been good it has consisted of the regular run of stations. The few good specials seemed to have run into unfavorable conditions and the best ones on Bill Applegate's frolic, CKCW, CFRN, CKBI, and CKFC were a total loss. KFXM and KGY were complete failures; in fact, mighty few of the 100 watt West Coasters have come through this season which has been the poorest for results in that direction since 1930."

Roy Utter, Succasunna, N. J.: "Here it is to date, log 800, verified 684. How about a special from HJN? They have two of my international reply coupons down there and with the exception of three Argentinians received January 30, HJN is my most distant 2000 miler not verified."

Andy Hill, Red Bank, N. J.: "Another month and another DX report from 'The Night Owl'. Dxing was fair in January and 20 new ones were added to my log--LR1, LR4, CKNX, HIX, WKAR, CJIC, WTAL, CMCO, TIPG, WOL, CFCN, CJGX, CMBY, CMCQ, CMCF and CMGH. I want to thank the many who answered my S.O.S. some time ago. It makes one feel good to belong to a great club like the NNRC whose members co-operate so excellently."

In the High Frequencies section edited by Earl Roberts, the following reports were received:

Jack Weller listed a new station on 11.99 mcs., FZSR, believed to be in Saigon, Indo-China on the air Saturdays 5:30-6:30 AM.

RIO, Baku 10.17 mcs. was received by Stuart Walmsley on the West Coast quite regularly at midnight EST. Also OPM, 10.143 Leopoldville, Belgian Congo was heard February 16 at 2:20 AM talking in French.

HAMS: John Weller reports EA8AF, Canary Islands on 20 meter phone with a good signal Fridays 3-4 PM and ZS1L, 3.75 mcs, Cape Town, South Africa 2:30 AM Sundays.

Vane Jones is quite proud of his reception of VE5GT, Prince Rupert, B.C. on 75 meters on Sunday morning.

Earl Roberts reported that several South Americans had been heard on 20 meters lately. The first is YN1ID, 14.05, Managua, Nicaragua on February 10 at 5:11 PM in QSO with HK1ABM, 14.05, Cartagena, Colombia. HJ1ABM 14.12 also in Cartagena was heard February 12 at 5:50 PM talking to a W1AGW. HH5PA, 14.14 at 7 PM; LU5CZ, 14.08 at 7:26 PM and on 40 meters XE3AG at Merida received near 7.20 mcs.

Nick Hock has these hams to report: HH2B, 14.125 at 4:52; CO5RY, 7.058 at 10:30 PM; TI2EA, 14.132 at 8:06 AM; TI2FG, 14.132 at 10:40 AM and XE1AI, 14.058 at 9:10 PM.

In the DX Tips, Phil Nichols reported that CMCF, Havana, Cuba was DXing every month, the 11th and 21st, 1-2 AM and that he had received veries from WFMD, CMKM, XEFL and WATL

This just about does it for this month and we wish everyone good DXing and many verifications.

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From the pages of Vol. 1, No. 24 dated March 2, 1936, the National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C. conducted European and Buenos Aires tests for the purpose of determining the relative absorption of radio waves at broadcast frequencies over the North Atlantic at widely different latitudes. The Bureau's tests showed that the Argentines were received with many times the signal strength of the Europeans. Test receptions were conducted in Europe at the same time. The tests for the European stations concluded January 15, 1936 and the South Americans on January 30, 1936.

In the High Frequencies edited by Earl Roberts, the following Hams were reported:

Vane Jones reported the best ham DX from ZU6P heard February 21 at 2:35 PM while working a New York Ham.

Nick Hock ran a close second with HK1RN, 14.108 mcs., at 6:30 PM; CO2FB 14.110 mcs. and NX2Z, the Greenland station, 14.395 mcs. at 4:45 PM.

Mort Meehan also heard NX2Z on February 14 stating that he had been off the air for 3 weeks for repairs caused when a high voltage line was used in error. Also heard were VP2CD, LU5CZ, XE2FM, HI7G, HI5X, HI60, TI2AV and K4DDH, lately, and says that W2BSD has a schedule with F8DR and G5ML at 2 PM daily. W2BSD was heard telling another ham that F8DR uses 1500 watts, G5ML, 200 watts and VO1I averaging about 175 watts.

Phones: YVR, 9.168 mcs. was heard 6:35 PM calling in Spanish...Vane Jones reported YVQ the same day at 2:28 AM working with WNC. The S. S. New York whose call was understood to be DJNY was heard at 8 PM February 23 and the Queen of Bermuda, VQJP, was received at 2:42 PM February 24 working with W00.....Mort Meehan states that FZS3, LSY3 and HJY can be heard around 10 AM irregularly. Mort also heard WCG and WQP testing with EAQ between 3 and 4 PM in preparation for a program to be rebroadcast at 1930 GMT on February 23. WQP and WQD were testing with EAQ, HBO and PPU on the same day at 2:30 PM, while WMF was calling GBW and LSN at the same time.

In the Members' Reports and Comments section for March 2, 1936, the following reports were received:

Earl Roberts, Indianapolis, Ind.: "Heard Bordeaux and Fecamp on February 8 at 2:10 AM; 1YA the 10th, and one I believe to be 4YA on 790 kcs. at 4AM. The one on 790 with a dance orchestra was the loudest. New stations include KALB, KIUN, KNEL, KIUP, KSEI, KVSO and KRLC. WLNH dedicated their February frequency check to the club and gave us a fine program."

Phil Nichols, E. Hartford, Conn.: "DX has picked up some. Logged CMKW Santiago, Cuba on 1190 weakly 2:55-3:30 AM February 2. Also caught WATL in Atlanta and then KNET on 1420 very weakly at 4AM. WSFA is back with a fine letter. KFBK is at present sending out pamphlets describing their new station but I am in hopes they will send verifications later."

Ray Everly, Newton, Ill.: "New veries are from XEFB, WPAR, CMCO, CKIC, and KELD. The total log is now 929 of which 900 are verified."

Bill Applegate, Chicago, Ill.: "Because of the intense cold here I haven't had the will power to get up much to DX confining it mostly to Saturday nights. I did go for the South Americans though and was much pleased in landing LS2, LR1 and LR4 which is something for me. Other additions since January 1 are XEAQ, KDON, WMFG, KIUP, WMFR, WHBB, WMSD and WTAL."

Floyd Biss, Brittmount, Minn.: "Returned from a trip to Crookston, Minn. a short time ago where I visited my brother Raleigh for a week. We used to DX together and it was like old times to be at it again. CMBX was heard on 1400 kcs. February 9; WSMK has not been on lately with their Night Watchman program and KTM has signed off at 3 AM occasionally, but to offset these, XEAW and WIND are on nearly all night again."

This just about does it for this time and we invite comments regarding this page. They are always welcome and we hope you enjoy reading about the 1930's when we really had great times DXing.