

QUINTE Q.R.M.
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QUINTE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 13th, 1954.

Place & Time: R.C.E.M.E., Pinnacle St., Belleville. - 7.30 p.m. SHARP

P R O G R A M M E

Speaker: Capt. R. J. Brule, Signals Officer of the Hastings & Prince Edward Regt., will give a half hour talk on army communication systems in the field.

Film: A film, dealing with the importance of security in the transmission of military radio messages.

Lunch: A light lunch will be served.

President's Corner

This is a good time to make a New Year's resolution to give all the interest and support you possibly can to our Club.

We have lost several valuable members during the past year, and this means that each may have to work a little harder at making this year a successful one. Not being a Ham myself, I shall have to call on various members to give substantial assistance in carrying out the annual programme.

The plan, at present, is to put a member in charge of a Programme Committee and a member in charge of Field Day. This will give the Executive an opportunity to devote on deciding how to get new members - which is a problem with priority - and how to make the most of the members we have - which is just as important.

Let's see you at the meeting on January 13th! Come, and bring a friend or two!

President Alex.

LISTENING AROUND THE BANDS

21 mc.-From 1 to 3 p.m. is best time, with Cuba, Puerto Rico, Kansas and Minnesota stns. coming in. When the sunspot cycle is favourable, contacts with longer skip should be good. On this frequency the sigs. are clear and solid, without the static crashes and deep fading of the lower bands.

14 mc.-The openings have been much earlier in the morning than usual. Finland, Sweden and Poland stns. have been good. From 8 to 11 a.m. all European Districts are coming through, but are right out of business later in the afternoon, at which time Veo's and Ve7's show up, with Central and South America stns. also putting in very good sigs. The occasional opening around midday show East Africa, Egypt and India stns. for short periods, but the skip is confined to localized areas with a long narrow path, and nothing else breaking through.

7 mc.-There have been some very good openings about 6 to 7 p.m., with German, Holland and Switzerland amateurs putting through good sigs. Later, about 8 to 9 p.m., the skip is right for Brazil, with occasional Mexico and Manitoba stns. on the band. These two districts are not too frequently heard, but do come through good at certain times of the year. The New Zealand stns. are irregular in the morning hours, skip is apparently following a different pattern. I think that they are under the local W's QRM about 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. The drift of conditions point to that effect.

3.5 mc.-General conditions of deep fading have made hard work for the short haul traffic men. The skip is more favourable for 700 to 1500 miles hop, with Ve6's and W5's coming through very well. I hear W6's calling New Zealand, and Vel's calling England, but noise level was a little too heavy to make out sigs. in reply.

The broadcast band 550 to 1500 kc has also shown some long skip. The local transmitters in Houston, Texas; New Orleans, La; Nassau, Bahamas; Fargo, N. Dakota; Winnipeg, Manitoba; and Charlottetown, P.E.I.; have all been heard on several occasions.

73's Ve3BND

THE LATEST ON A.R.E.C.

Way back last year, in December, we sent in the annual E.C. report, which consisted mainly of an account of our S.E.T. activities of last October. That little test was a lot of fun, and I feel we should try a similar test quarterly at least. More on that later.

Our present A.R.E.C. group consists of nine stations and some six completely portable or mobile units. Al, our assistant E.C. and I hope to get together soon and draw up a plan to use the equipment at hand to best advantage. Anyone wishing to join A.R.E.C. should contact me, and I will give them the necessary forms. See you at the meeting fellows!

73 Ross

Meet your New Executive

President: Dr. Alex. M. Breuls.

Secretary: Joe Overtvelt.

Vice President: Ross Dryden.

Treasurer: Dick Charlton.

Bulletin Editor: Al. Smith.

A NEW YEAR WARNING

The new year will be an opportunity for you, an active ham, to enthruse that other ham you know, who has been active in everything but ham radio, to get a rig on the air. Activation of our ham bands is essential to our retaining our privileges over the years to come. Too many fellows have calls, some for years, tinker occasionally with an antenna, test a rig, clean the shack methodically, and call it a day. TV has been a bugaboo to many, and has been responsible for chasing active hams from the air. TV is simply a challenge that must be overcome, and can be overcome in 99 & 99/100% of cases, as records show.

If you have had a visit from the RI, as I have recently, you will be surprised at how many inactive hams there really are. Why these fellows continue to hold calls and stay off the air is beyond me, and it isn't doing our cause the least bit of good. There is an avid hunger today for frequencies, on the part of people that even ten years ago would have laughed at the necessity of needing radio frequencies for their business. Today, however, these people, many of them large and powerful organizations, are scanning the frequencies, especially the lower frequencies, looking for space in the spectrum. In an ever expanding economy such as we live in today, we are going to see more and more of this demand, not less and less. This is indeed no time to sit on your fanny and say to yourself, "Our bands are safe - the Ham bands will always be there to use when I feel good and ready to operate my rig". -- Not so, dreamer! The day is rapidly approaching when you may get some bad news, shocking news, that larger portions of the amateur bands have been expropriated for other uses.

An active 80 and 40 meter band, tho' it creates new QRM difficulties for us all, is a healthy state for the amateur low frequency bands. Keep it active yourself. Be on the air part of every possible day in 1954! But most of all - wake up those fellows you know, who think that the band will always be there for them to test that pair of 1943 807s as they did once before in 1949 and again in 1950. Get your fellow ham interested in traffic, rag chewing, DX, anything -- but get him interested in the use of that rig, or get him enthused to the point of getting a rig on the air if he has a call -- there may yet be time to save the lower frequencies -- there may yet be time to keep us from gradually being shoved up and up into the uncertain frequencies, from which there may be no return.

... Walt VE3BUR Secy Beaver Radiotelegraph Club, OSN.

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