THE QUATERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE IRISH RADIO MOVEMENT

SPRING 1974

### RADIO EIREANN:

It was revealed last week that when RTE's new 500Kw transmitter at Tullamore is installed in 1975 operating on 560Khz (Athlone's present frequency) RTE's Dublin and Cork outlets will become local stations serving their own districts Athlone is still inaudible in London because of interference from Capital Radio, who are expected to announce a change of frequency soon.

### RADIO ATLANTIS :

Atlantis, who changed frequency to I33IKhz (227 metres) some weeks ago, have now dropped anchor IO miles offthe coast of Knokke in Belgium. The station is expected to raise power output to 50Kws within the next few weeks. At present the ex-Radio 270/Radio Capital IOKw transmitter is being used. Radio Atlantis transmits from the MV Janine, the ex-Radio Condor ship. Their postal address is P.O. Box 385 Oostburg Holland. Steve England and Dave Rogers now onboard.

### RADIO CAROLINE :

Radio Caroline are planning to reintroduce their English pop-music service on 385 metres according to DJ's comments on the air. On March 27th Caroline was 10 years old.

### RADIO VERONICA :

Veronica is rumored to be selling their ship, the MV Nordney in preparation for the Dutch Marine Offences Act coming into force. It seems likely that Veronica together with the Dutch service of RNI will want to be off the air to gain an authorised frequency at the frequency conference at Copenhagen in 1975.

#### RADIO NORDSEE INTERNATIONAL :

RNI's 105Kw RCA transmitter is once again at low power following unsuccessful attempts to raise its output. Ex-RNI and present Caroline engineer Pete Chicago, although offered 200 pounds for a weekend's work servicing the TX, refused the job. Ex-RNI DJ Mike Ross is setting up his own studio in London. New additions to the RNI line-up are Louise (Hello Don, baby )Quirk who tapes RNI's Skyline show in the Manx Radio studios in Douglas and newcomer Roger Kent.

#### RADIO EMPATHY :

Radio Empathy, the local Dublin free radio station is now regularly on the air every Sathurday and Sunday lunchtime on MW 222 metres and FM 98Mhz (approx) despite a recent explosion at the transmitter which caused considerable damage. FM reception is very good in the Dublin city area.

## RADIO RECORDING SERVICES

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290m and 97.4/88.6

RADIO BLACKBURN

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RADIO DERBY

269m,96.5/94.2MH

RADIO LONDON

206m and 94.9MHz

RADIO NEWCASTLE

206m and 95.4MHz

RADIO SOLENT

301/188m and 96.1

RADIO BRIGHTON

202m and 95.3MHz

RADIO HUMBERSIDE

202m and 96.9MHz

RADIO MANCHESTER

206m and 95.IMHz

RADIO NOTTINGHAM

197m and 95.4MHz

RADIO STOKE

200m and 96.IMHz

RADIO BRISTOL

194m and 95.4MHz

RADIO LEEDS

27Im and 92.4MHz

RADIO MEDWAY

290m and 96.7MHz

RADIO OXFORD

202m and 95.2MHz

RADIO TEESIDE

194m and 96.6MHz

THANKS are due to Kenneth Macinnes for the above, Ann and Roger Lloyd and John Meade for printing, Stevie and John for typpingk and layout, and to all who contributed articles, advertisements etc. and Andre for his calls from Holland.

# IRM PUBLICITY 406 Mourne Rd. Dublin 12

RNI CAR STICKERS

3 FOR 5p.

CAROLINE CAR STICKERS

3 FOR 5p.

RNI POSTERS

5p.EACH

COMING SOON IRM PENS.

### RADIO VALERRI :

Radio Valleri inform us that since we received their article they have made several changes in their antenna system resulting in reports being received from as far north as Sweden and as far East as the GDR.

German language programmes to supplement the multi-lingual Mike Anderson show, thus making a good attempt to fill the gap left by the demise of World Music Radio.

The IRM is badly in need of a cheap, old stencilling machine of any description. If you have any ideas, or would like to donate any fitting this description, please get in touch with Ken at the Mourne Road address.

### "SNIPITS"

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ARTICLES LETTERS COMMENTS

FOR MEDIUM 3.

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO: >

JOHN DOWLING JR.
BALLYTIGLEA
BORRIS
CO.CARLOW
IRELAND

REWARD : YOUR NAME IN PRINT

As most of you are no doubt aware, the first Annual General Meeting of the Irish Radio Movement was held in Dublin on the 18th January, 1974. During the course of the meeting, which was attended by about eighteen members, our President, Ken Sheehan, delivered the following address:

First, I would like to say how gratifying it is to see that the Irish Radio Movement is now well and truly in existence.

As most of you already know my views, I propose to be as brief as possible and limit myself to a few general remarks.

As you probably know, I was one of those who was caught while visiting the Radio Milinda premises when the famous raid took place just over a year ago. It was a most traumatic experience, I can tell you! It was a folly, but never mind... That's all in the past now and it's futile trying to turn the calender back.

Indeed, that's the reason we were fined - and founded this Movement into the bargain in an effort to fill the vacuum created by that unhappy event.

Now, a primary function of the IRM is to try to cater for the manifold interests in the various aspects of radio. This interest, of course, manifests itself in various ways. There is, for example, the DX-er on one hand and the pirate radio enthusiast on the other.

Then there are those whose main interest lies in the technical sphere or perhaps on the production side - or indeed in both...

As for myself, I have a general sort of interest in all these aspects, though I must confess that I am not particularly in favour of commercial radio. I believe Community Radio is a better concept. But I think that the greatest necessity at the present time is that some form of overseas broadcasting service should be established to serve as the official voice of Ireland abroad - something which is sadly lacking at the moment.

So, with regard to what I've just been saying, I feel we should keep our membership as broadly based as possible.

At this point, I would like to thank those who were involved in the production of the first issue of the Movement's newsletter - namely THE MEDIUM.

And I would also recommend that Mark Story should be encouraged and aided in his capacity as Secretary of YOUR movement.

Finally, what of the year ahead? I can do no better than repeat a famous que tation from Abraham Lincoln, "With malice toward none, and charity for all, let us strive on in the work we are in." And just what is that work? Well, the policy of the IRM, its methods and aims, should be more clearly defined as a result of this evening's meeting. I look forward to hearing your comments and suggestions.

And that's about it from me. Now I hand you back to our Chairman, Brian Kavanagh....thank you.

Now, we have a brief synopsis of what took place at the A.G.M. as seen by the Chairman, Brian Kavanagh:

The first A.G.M. of the Movement was held on the 18th January, 1974, in TCD. The meeting, due to the very good attendence, proved lively and informative. The Chairman, Brian Kavanagh, opened the meeting by outlining the objectives of the Movement since its inception approximately one year ago. Present at the meeting were short wave listeners and DX-ers, off-shore radio supporters, technical enthusiasts and free radio campaigners. The sad lack of an Irish international short wave station was mentioned, and, of course, members reaffirmed the Movement's chief objective - to campaign vigorously for independent radio in Ireland.

The Chairman expressed the thanks of the members for the help and assistance given by our friends at the Brighton Independent Radio Movement and the Southern Independent Radio Association. Thanks were also extended to the many DX organisations and to Benny Hayes of the "Irish Press" for their help and cooperation throughout the year.

Expeditions to view the RTE transmitters and studios were envisaged in 1974. We also heard and very interesting talk and report on a visit to the Dutch off-shore stations by one of the members present.

The Treaturer's and Secretary's reports were read by Mark Story, and it was indicated that the financial position of the Movement was good. A motion to increase the membership fee to 50p per annum was passed unanimously.

Duplication of the magazine was discussed, and stencilling facilities were kindly offered by one of the members present.

It was formally agreed to set up a committee to formulate a comprehensive plan for broadcasting in Ireland.

The Movement's President, Ken Sheehan, spoke of the progress of the organisation over the past year - full text of his speech is reproduced on page three of this magazine.

Our editor, John Dowling, also spoke on the radio hobby and how he saw the Movement. He appealed for support for the magazine with the greatest possible participation on the part of each and every member.

Following the talk on the Dutch off-shore stations, the meeting was thrown open for suggestions.

The meeting finally ended at about 10 p.m. when refreshments were served, amid much informal chat and general conversation.

Now, we have pleasure in presenting an article spotlighting Ireland's only free radio station now operating exclusively on short wave and aiming its programmes at listeners in Britain and on the continent:

The name "Valleri" was first heard over the airwaves in Dublin City in late July, 1972. Those were good days for Irish free radio, with Radio Caroline (Dublin) and Radio Dublin going strong. Radio Valleri, at that time, was broadcasting on 1525 kHz (196.7 metres) in the medium wave band with a power output of approximately 30 watts. Broadcasting for three hours each Sunday we managed to keep going for just over two months.

Perhaps a justified criticism in those days of our efforts was, that it was just another station with nothing new, contributing very little to free radio, and not being very different from the other stations. This was confirmed by the very poor response from the apathetic Dublin radio listeners.

Discillusioned, and with the increasing uncertainty over the future of R.N.I., Caroline, etc., and the whole concept of free radio being called into question, we decided to re-launch Valleri on short wave to cater for a wider audience, and to show, albeit in our own small way, that free radio is here to stay.

Consequently, on October 21st 1973, almost exactly a year after the old "Valleri" had closed down, we launched Ireland's first short wave free radio station operating with a regular schedule of programmes. The frequency choses was 6317 kHz.

With limited resources financially, and rather more taunted technical ability, we can only hope to reach a rather specialized clientele. However, we feel we are keeping the flag flying for Irish free radio, being, as we have said, the only regular short wave station in Ireland. We broadcast every Sunday from 11.30 to 13.30 hours G.M.T. Two shows are presented - "The Mike Anderson Pop Explosion" and "The Derek Jones Beatle Backtrack".

Now almost alone in the field of short wave pirates, with the passing of WMR, Gemini and Jackie, we feel we are filling the gap left by the disappearance of these fine stations.

To judge by listener reaction, Valleri has become a success. To date, over ninety reports have been received from Britain, Sweden, France, Holland and Germany. Reports have also been received from Denmark and a few have been received from Irish listeners! We think we are justified in claiming to be a truly international station.

We are a strictly non-commercial entity - in fact, Radio Valleri is run at a whopping loss. Our aim is simply to provide a service to free radio enthusiasts, believing strongly as we do, and being dedicated to the whole concept of Independent free radio.

Since we are a Free radio station, the station is yours, the listeners, so please make use of it (at no charge!) by simply listening or by sending in your request, or by reporting on reception if you wish to receive one of

our QSL cards. All letters are answered.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking those people who have al ready written and all who have helped Radio Valleri. Of course, a special word of gratitude must go to Bill, our engineer, who has toiled tirelessly on our behalf.

Remember Radio Valleri - "The Action Station" - Independent International Radio.....every Sunday afternoon.

All correspondence for Radio Valleri should be sent to the following mail-

Dept. D4, B.I.R.M., 63 Gleton Avenue, Hove, Sussex

DATELINE: 13th March, 1974 During the past week, Radio Atlantis has been heard broadcasting from the M.V. Jeanine (the former Radio Condor ship) on the new frequency of 1331 kHz (227 metres announced). The station appears to be on a 24 hour schedule with programmes in English from 1800 to 0600 hours G.M.T. The station is very strong, and, because of the choice of frequency, there is practically no interference. The address of Radio Atlantis is: P.O. Box 385, Oostburg, The Netherlands.

The Irish country and western free radio station, Caroline North, has announced that test transmissions will go out on a wavelength "between 260 and 270 metres" on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights from around 2200 hours local time.

RADIO CAROLINE ... . TEN YEARS ON ....

BY MARK STORY

At noon on Easter Saturday, 28th March, 1964, a new station was heard on 199 metres. An unknown Irish-American, Chris Moore, took over and introduced the first record "Cant Buy me Love" by the Beatles... CAROLINE was born!

Now, almost exactly ten years later, Caroline is back, broadcasting from the good ship, Mi Amigo, anchored in International Waters off the Dutch coast, "with love, peace and good music". When Caroline, "The Sound of the Nation", first commenced broadcasting back in 1964, she introduced a completely new style of programming to the British Isles, that of Top 40 radio, with its fast-talking friendly good-guy deejays.

In the first ten days of broadcasting, Caroline received 20,000 letters proving conclusively that she was wanted and needed.

Caroline's effect on British broadcasting has been acknowledged by both Radio Luxembourg and Radio One. One has only to look at the present Luxembourg and BBC Radio One deejays to see this. More than half the Radio One deejays formerly worked on Caroline, and the present Radio Luxembourg deejays, Tony Prince, Bob Steward and Mark Wesley also once had their own shows on the "Sound of the Nation" Radio Caroline.

In 1974, Caroline has returned, despite Irish, British, Swiss and German anti-pirate legislation, and once again she is filling a void in European radio with contemporary or progressive music emanating from the 470 ton ex sailing ship, Mi Amigo.

The main difference is that Caroline is now serving the European continent. It seems that the Caroline Renaissance is just as desirable in 1974 as it was ten years ago...

Recently, an IRM member visited Caroline's office in Dan Haag where he was made very welcome by one of the deejays, "Mick the Poet", who comes from Carlingford Lough in Northern Ireland. He was told that the Dutch Marine Broadcasting Offences Act would not affect Caroline if it comes into force. It seems possible that Caroline will move to the English coast if this happens. Caroline is determined that this time she will continue, and indeed there seems a very good chance that she will.

The Caroline deejays operate on a very informal basis. When the Mi Amigo was smuggled out of Holland last year, defying court orders, she was a floating heap of junk. Now the 54 years old radio-ship has been completed renovated by the deejays and crew, who don't act like stars, are not paid "star" wages and, in fact, do not expect them!

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The financial backing for Caroline comes from Radio Mi Amigo, a Top 40 station using the Radio Caroline transmitter during the daytime, and broadcasting to Belgium in Flemish. Radio Mi Amigo, which is run by a Waffles Factory owner, has proved so successful in Belgium that it is unlikely that the new, weak Belgian government will be able to pressurise it into ceasing operations from the Mi Amigo radio-ship.

And so with a fairly strong financial backing and an enthusiastic team, Caroline continues.....

Radio Caroline's address is:

Radio Caroline, 16 Van Hogendorpstraat, THE HAGUE, Holland.

Radio Empathy, one of the best-known Dublin free radio stations, has been logged in London with a good signal on approximately 1351 kHz. This station is on the air on Friday nights and Saturday afternoons with relatively high power. This enables the station to be heard over a very wide area your editor has even logged it during the daytime while listening down in the south of Co. Carlow with quite a good signal. The station has been heard here with a very strong signal at night.

If you have not yet logged Radio Empathy, now is the time to tune in and if you wish to have a request played, or if you wish to send in a reception report and receive back the station QSL card, they will be very pleased to hear from you.

Ex Radio Caroline deejays, Steve and Debbie England, and Chris St. John, now on Radio Atlantis on 227 metres - MT .... Andy Anderson and Dave Owen heard on Atlantis, the former with rebound sounds from the 1960's every night between 11 and 12 midnight - JD ..... Norman Barrington heard with an English language programme on Radio Mi Amigo between 6 and 8 p.m. (G.M.T.) - JD ... ... RNI's Dutch language deejay, Ferry Maat's voice now heard on Caroline, Mi Amigo, Hilversum 111 and Luxembourg on the K-Tels 20 Power Hits ad..... Tony Allen has been fired from Caroline again following the introduction of his "Gay Liberation" programme...pity, I wonder how they would have done it ... MT .... On March 2nd Radio Canada Shortwave Club started a new series to help DX-ers distinguish between different languages - over 50 different languages will be featured in the series - MT .... SCDX reports that itfirst radio station ever is now operating from the Himalayan country of Bhutan. It is operated by the National Youth Association of Bhutan, and is on the air on Sundays only from 0730 to 0930 hours GMT on 7050 kHz, though another report states that the station, Radio N.Y.A.B., is on the air for three hours commencing at 0830 hours. English is one of the languages used by the station - JD ..... In a recent programme in its "Story of Pop" series, BBC Radio One had an interview with Ronan O'Rahilly in an otherwise boring programme - MT ..... Irish free radio station, Radio Valleri, continues to receive mail by the sackful from all sorts of exotic places on the continent! - MT ..... Radio Paradise (P.O. Box 423, Basseterre, St. Kitts) has verified a report for your editor in ELEVEN days. This station operates on 1265 kHz, but it is often heard despite the fact that it is very close to Deutschlandfunk on a frequency of 1268 kHz..... St. Kitts recently became the world's 139th country - JD ..... Our good friend, John Campbell in Cambridge, reports reception of Radio Sixty Nine on 6275 kHz, also United Radio Europe on 6255 kHz with programmes in German - address of the latter is D-563 Remscheid, Essenstrasse 2, West Germany ... two IRC's are required for a verification .... . Radio Tiffany International has been heard on a recent Saturday at 1100 hours on 6235 kHz approximately - address is c/o SIRA in Horsham. This station is located in Sweden and will verify reports if 3 IRC's are enclosed with the report - JD ..... Radio Burma heard for several hours one Sunday afternoon on 5040 kHz with an excellent signal - programmes were in English - JD ..... Other 60 metre band stations heard around 1600 hours include Radio Singapore on 5010 kHz and Radio Malaysia on 4985 kHz - JD ..... John Campbell also reports hearing Radio Republik Indonesia at Ujung Pandang on 4719 kHz to sign-off between 1515 and 1530 hours... ... Your editor had a tentative on a few Indonesian stations around this frequency - can anyone tell me if they close-down with Hawaiian-type music? - J \* this should read "medium wave country" - JD

In a recent link-up with Radio Caroline, the Dutch equivalent of Radio One, Hilversum 111 surprised all of its listeners - and even Caroline deejays with its language! - MT ..... Pity about the raid on Radio Gemini on the 9th December last - they were a really good station - MT ..... The Radio Nigeria regional station at Enugu, in the East Central State, is often audible from around 2245 hours G.M.T. to close-down at 2305. The station verifies by letter - and it can be heard on 1320 kHz - that's right beside Radio Atlantis - JD ..... Mike Ross, who has now left R.N.I. to start his own studio in London, is, however, still heard on the station with some old recorded programmes - MT ..... In response to his "Miss Wide and Wonderful" competition, Daffy Don Allen has received photos from such places as U.S.S.R Rumania, Sweden.... Graham Gill refused job as chief deejay on Atlantis - M ····· Stevi Merike (ex Radio Scotland, Caroline and R.N.I.) is now music programme director of Birmingham's new local commercial station, Radio Piccadilly - MT .... Once again it is reported that Radio Free Europe is in financial trouble, and it may have to close down shortly unless more funds are made available - JD ..... Transwave magazine reports that the first-ever super high-powered commercial\*in Southern France has been given the go-ahead from the French government. It will be operated by the same company which operates Radio Monte Carlo - JD .... Radio Caroline transmissions on 389 metres are expected to start soon.... Don't forget to tune into Valleri on 6317 kHz every Sunday for a two hour music power spectacular with Mike Anderson and Derek Jones - MT .... And when you're there on short wave, don't forget to keep a lookout for Radio Dublin on 6340 kHz - JD .... see you all again soon! Cheers from Mark Tee and John Dee ... \* SPOTLIGHT ON RADIO SWEDEN ... ... BY MARK STORY

Although financed and controlled by the Swedish government, Radio Sweden is a somewhat unusual station, being the nearest thing to government controlled free radio in Europe - or indeed anywhere in the world. Although basicly intended to be a propaganda station extolling the virtues of the Swedish way of life and urging people to visit Sweden, in fact Radio Sweden has very few such programmes, and, apart from the mandatary Swedish tourist programmes, projects an objective assessment of the news. This approach is possible because Sweden is neutral and not involved in any major international conflict. Nevertheless, Swedish broadcasters are often very critical of their government and people.

The main forum for expression and discussion is the Saturday Show which is broadcast throughout Saturday on short wave and on 254 metres (1187 kHz) medium wave from 2300 to 0030 hours GMT. Hosted by ex-pirate, Big Bad Roger Wallance and Kangaroo Kim, the show provides effective free radio which discusses international affairs and encourages listener participation. Radio Sweden is a working example of how government financed free radio can

Radio Sweden is a working example of how government financed free radio can exist - at least in a neutral country. The station's address is:

Radio Sweden, S-105 10, Stockholm, Sweden.

This is a very reasonable, strictly no profit offer @ p each. Send P.O. stating quantity required to 406, Mourne Road, Dublin, 12.

DX AND QSL NOTES ... ... ... ... BY JOHN DOWLING

Radio Algeria can be heard with a broadcast in English on 890 and 1142 kHz medium wave at 1900 hours GMT. The station verifies reports by card, and your scribe received one by air in 42 days.

CANADA: Several Canadian medium wave stations have been audible throughout the winter months at night, with CJON in St. John's, Newfoundland, coming in as early as 1935 hours GMT on 930 kHz. Prompt replies were received from CBN (640 kHz), CHNS (960 kHz) and VOCM (590 kHz). VOCM verified by letter, stating that they had not received a report from Ireland for quite a long time. Most of these stations also send a large amount of literature about themselves..... Watch out for CBI in Sydney, Nova Scotia, which was heard very recently at 0030 hours causing severe interference to AFN on 1142 kHz - CBI itself is on 1140 kHz.

\* this should read "commercial station" - serry! - JD

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GREAT BRITAIN: Capital Radio in London verified a reception report by card in 64 days. They also sent booklet and stickers. Your scribe has noted reception of this station even during the daytime recently, but, of course, with a rather weak signal... BBC Radio Teesside is now verifying reports with a very detailed QSL card - I had to wait 16 months for mine! Previously, now appears to be paying dividends at last! By writing to the BBC Plymouth transmitter at Barnstaple on 683 kHz (not to be confused with the main transmitter on the adjacent frequency of 692 kHz). Barnstaple radiates 2 kW and local programmes may be heard in the morning time.

Radio Rag in Manchester was heard on several nights at the end of February on 1320 kHz (225 metres announced). The station was operated to promote the Manchester and Salford Students' Rag Week. Reports were verified very promptly.

Radio Clyde in Glasgow commenced broadcasting on 31/12/1973 at 2230 hours GMT on 1151 kHz (261 metres). A report to the station was answered with a letter which stated that a QSL card would follow when they came from the printers. However, the new WRTH states that this station does not want reports...

BRMB, Birmingham's local commercial station, has been heard on 1151 kHz - it can be separated from Radio Clyde with a loop antenna. The address of the station is Box 555, Birmingham, B6 4BX.

GREENLAND: This country has been logged several times on the medium wave frequencies of 570 and 650 kHz - with the former giving the best reception. Programmes are in Danish and Greenlandic.

HONDURAS: Radio Belize in BRITISH Honduras may sometimes be heard on 834 kHz reports are verified by a QSL card. Your scribe received one in 28 days.

NETHERLAND ANTILLES: Radio Victoria has been heard consistantly to close-down at 0200 hours on 925 kHz. The station verifies promptly by QSL card.

NICERIA: Here now is some further information on the Enugu transmitter of the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation: The station is on the air from 0500 to 2305 hours GMT, but the station is off the air for a two-hour period on Thursday morning for maintenance. The medium wave transmitter (on 1320 kHz) is a Gates (American Make) BC-10E type with a rated power of 10 kW. The mast is 300 feet high. This station also operates on the 49 metre band frequency of 6035 kHz with a Marconi BD 268A transmitter of British manufacture. The rated output is again 10 kW. The address of this station is: Broadcasting House, Onitsha Road, Enugu, Nigeria.

OMAN (Sultanate of): This country may be added to your list rather easily - the BBC Eastern Relay Station is located there, and it is often heard with the normal World Service programmes at midnight on 1410 kHz medium wave.

SINGAPORE: Radio Singapore has been heard in English on their test frequency of 5010 kHz in the 60 metre band with programmes in English. The station signs off at 1630 hours GMT. Verification is by QSL card which is sent by airmail. The card shows an interesting - and colourful - picture of 'Singapore by Night'.

U.S.A. During the winter months, dozens of U.S. stations were audible in the medium wave band from as early as 2200 hours - earlier in a few cases: One interesting logging was that of WWOK in Miami, Florida, which was heard in December at 0020 hours on 1260 kHz. A reception report was verified by letter and the President of the Mission Broadcasting Company, San Antonio, Texas, stated that as far as he was aware this was the furthest point of reception noted by WWOK. WWOK is part of the Mission Broadcasting Co. group of stations

Many of you will agree that the above section is rather heavily loaded in favour of the medium wave band, but this is the band in which I have the most interest. I shall be very pleased to hear from members whose main interest is in the short wave broadcast bands. We could then try to strike a balance between our coverage of news from all bands...

Best 73's and Gud DX until we meet again nexttime!

JOHN