

SETTING SAIL ON THE SETH PARKER WORLD CRUISE

APPENDIX B — NEWS OF KNRA, THE SETH PARKER, AS REPORTED IN THE BULLETIN OF THE INTERNATIONAL SHORT WAVE CLUB

KNRA

A short wave station has been installed aboard the schooner "Seth Parker" which is making a trip around the world and from where a regular program will be broadcast each Tuesday night hereafter. KNRA are the call letters assigned the station and it has 1000 watts power. This station will use the same wavelengths as those assigned to Admiral Byrd's station KJTY. It has already been heard working stations at Rocky Point, New York, on 33.9 meters, 45.05 meters and 45.11 meters and has been heard both in the afternoons and evenings. This ship is now down near Miami, Florida. They call W2XBJ, which means any station at Rocky Point, New York. WEJ and WEL have been testing with them. We thank Robert Hoffman, Syracuse, N. Y.; Howard Eck, Lansing, Mich.; Carroll C. Foltz, North Baltimore, Ohio; Henry Herman, Washington, D. C., and Walter Jasiorkowski, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

February 1934

KNRA, The Seth Parker

Another station of unusual interest at present is KNRA on board the schooner "Seth Parker." This station is used to broadcast a program each Tuesday night over the National Chain at 10:00 P. M. This ship will sail down to the West Indies and South America, then to Cape Town and the South Sea Islands. The trip will take nearly a year. They are permitted to use the same waves as KTZ mentioned above, and reports should be sent to the National Broadcasting System, 30 Rockefeller Center, New York City. The exact frequencies and waves used are 6,660 kc. (45.05), 6,670 kc. (44.98), 8,820 kc. (34.01), 8,840 kc. (33.94), 13,200 kc. (22.73), 13,230 kc. (22.68), 17,600 kc. (17.04), and 17,600 kc. (17.02). They have been heard on nearly all of these but at present, due to the location of the ship, they are on 6,600kc. or 45.05 meters most of the time. Nelson Bell, Wellesley, Mass.; Frank Grey, Berwyn, Illinois; Jack Jones, Jr., Tupelo, Miss.; W. A. Fowler, Penacook, New Hampshire; and H. J. Davison of Bayamon, P. R., report it on this wave. Others mentioned the station but failed to give any details of the wavelength used.

March 1934

The Seth Parker

Station KNRA on board the Seth Parker is broadcasting each Tuesday night over a chain of stations. This station operates on the same wavelengths as KFZ, just mentioned. Of late they have been operating near 10:00 a.m. (mornings) and 6:00 p.m. (evenings) besides the regular programs each Tuesday 10:00 p.m. On these tests they have been on 22.68 meters and 33.94 meters (13,230 and 8,840 kc.) Just about one hundred members have written in about these tests. So, we can not mention them all. We suggest that listeners try on 33.94 meters every day at 6:00 p.m. and on 22.68 meters every morning at 10:00 a.m. Reports should be sent to 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City. Newspapers have it that the round-the-world cruise of this ship has been called off and the program will be off the air in ten more weeks. We do not know. L. Birckson of Lansing, Michigan, says that after trying all other waves he located KNRA on 31.22 meters or 9,610 kc.

April 1934

The Seth Parker

KNRA on the schooner Seth Parker has been heard on three new waves recently. Originally they were assigned the same frequencies as KFZ, but now they have been heard on 24.30 meters, 48.7 meters and 31.22 meters. These equal 12,345 kc., 6,160 kc. and 9,160 kc. The regular weekly broadcasts over a chain of stations stopped suddenly and no information was given out. But we are told now that a new contract has been signed by the sponsors and they will again be heard and will make the world tour. We have reports on these waves from Dixon Russell, Baltimore, Md.; Edward C. Lips, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Emmett Riggle, Massillon, Ohio; Thomas Van Meter, Bridgeton, N. J.; August Nickel, Stapleton, N. Y.; Henry Shaw, Cape May, N. J.; Charles O'Brien, Jersey City, N. J.; Clement Van Velsor, Irvington, N. J.; L. Birckson, Lansing, Michigan; Lawrence Sheetz, Uniontown, Pa.; Cyrus Well, Glencoe, Illinois.

May 1934

KNRA is heard almost every night from about 10:00 to 11:00 P.M. Mr. Shaw tells us they have worked a station WAD on 67.42 meters and others have reported them working W3XL, Bound Brook, New Jersey. We may as well list the frequencies used by KFZ and KNRA. They are 45.11 (6,650 kc.), 45.05 (6,660 kc.), 44.98 (6,670 kc.), 34.01 (8,820 kc.) 33.94 (8,840 kc.), 31.57 (9,500 kc.), 25.36 (11,830 kc.), 22.75 (13,180 kc.), 22.73 (13,200 kc.), 22.68 (13,230 kc.), 22.65 (13,240 kc.), 22.62 (13,260 kc.), 19.67 (15,250 kc.), 17.04 (17,600 kc.), 17.02 (17,620 kc.), 13.94 (21,600 kc.), 13.89 (21,620 kc.) and 13.87 (21,520 kc.)

KNRA News

Station KNRA on the Seth Parker seems to be in difficulty, since they have no sponsor now. A program is being broadcast once in awhile on Sunday night from about 10:30 to 11:00 P.M. They also were heard making a date with WEF for tests on Thursdays at 8:00 P.M. Nelson Bell of Wellesley, Mass., reports them on 49.92 meters and 33.78 meters (6010 and 8880 kc). W. E. Gibbs reports them on 31.58 meters, a new one to us. He lives in Camden, New Jersey. Carroll Foltz of North Baltimore, Ohio, tells us they have added the following new waves, 48.70 (6,160); 36.45 (8,230), and 24.30 (12,345). They were assigned the same waves and frequencies as those shown above for station KFZ at first. We are told they are now heading for the Panama Canal. We have also received helpful news from L. S. Prettyman, Chicago, Illinois, and J. A. Shanks, Russellville, Tenn., on this station.

James Pickering of Hightstown, N. J., and Robert Woods of Sand Springs, Oklahoma, tell us that the Seth Parker now carries a station W10XG which operates on 62.55 meters or 4,797 kc.

June 1934

The Seth Parker

The "Seth Parker" broadcast a special program from Kingston, Jamaica, last month and this is the only program which we have been notified of. KNRA is assigned almost the same waves and frequencies as KFZ. The broadcast from Jamaica took place from 7:00 to 7:30 P.M. on 12,345 kc. or 24.30 meters and from 8:00 to 9:30 P.M., on 8,840 kc. or 33.94 meters. Reports came from Robert Woods, Sand Springs, Oklahoma and Dr. R. C. Kash, Knoxville, Tennessee.

The Seth Parker also carries another transmitter under the call W10XG and it is on 3,492 kc. (86.00), 6,425 kc. (46.70), 8,655 kc. (34.68), and 12,862 kc. (23.30). This news comes from H. J. Davison, Baymon, P. R., who also tells us KNRA was heard testing with LSX on 6,660 kc.

July 1934

The "Seth Parker"

According to the latest dispatches, the NBC have sent workmen to Jamaica to take the short wave transmitter, KNRA, off the "Seth Parker." Some trouble has come up between Phil Lord, the skipper, and the NBC over some motion pictures which they are making in which Seth Parker plays a part, and over the fact the Seth Parker boosted Jamaica Rum over the air on a recent broadcast. So, if this story is true, we will not be hearing KNRA much more. During July the station was heard several times testing with stations at Rocky Point, N. Y., usually around 8:00 to 10:00 P. M. They used 8.84 mc. and 12.34 mc. or 33.94 and 24.30 meters. They also tested with LSX often. Reports have come from Nelson Bell, Wellesley, Mass.; C. D. Hall, Chillicothe, Ohio; Fred Karpen, Johnstown, Pa.; L. E. Northrup, Orange City, Florida; Robert Woods, Sand Springs, Okla.; Edward Weppler, Dowagiac, Mich.

August 1934

The Seth Parker

Seth Parker has straightened things out with NBC now, and instead of dismantling the station, they are now progressing on their round-the-world tour. As we go to press they are now in the Pacific Ocean. They broadcast programs on Mondays and have been on 33.94 meters (8.84 mc.) and 44.98 meters (6.67 mc.). They have been testing quite often with WQO and WET, New York. Edward Weppler, Dowagiac, Michigan, tells us these are their numbers: Number 2 is 45.05 meters; Number 5 is 33.94 meters; Number 6 is 31.58 meters; Number 7 is 24.30 meters; Number 9 is 22.68 meters and Number 10 is 17.04 meters. They will soon start testing with the phone stations at Dixon and Bolinas. The call-sign is KNRA. They have on board a smaller transmitter called W10XG and it is on 8.65 mc., or 34.68 meters. Fred Karpen, Johnstown, Pa., tells us they will be heard each Thursday now. Other helpful reports came from Albert Emerson, Cleveland; C. D. Hall, Chillicothe; Lewis Prettyman, Twin Lakes, Michigan; Dixon Russell, Baltimore, H. J. Davison, Bayamon, P. R.; Charles Nabours, Cameron, Texas; Robert Woods, Sand Springs, Oklahoma; Wm. Neal, Southington, Conn.; Robert Base, Baltimore, and Robert Rossi, Philadelphia.

September 1934

SETTING SAIL ON THE SETH PARKER WORLD CRUISE

KNRA, The Seth Parker

The Seth Parker continues on her way around the world after all. This is the official news. Programs have been relayed recently on Thursdays at 8:30 P.M. but we are told they will be Mondays around 6:30 P.M. hereafter. Maybe this will be one hour later, now that daylight time is gone. One member tells us it will be 11:15 P.M. on Mondays now. Reports have come from Albert Emerson, Cleveland; A. B. Baadsgaard, Ponoka, Alberta; William Mitzner, Philadelphia; R. Bartlett, St. Pierre Island; Dr. R. C. Kash, Sevierville, Tenn.; Robert Woods, Sand Springs, Oklahoma; F. A. Beane, Ridgewell, England, and H. J. Davison, Bayamon, Puerto Rico.

Although KNRA signs off each time with a warning to listeners about the secrecy of such stations, Ed Lips of Pittsburgh, has received an actual verification from the National Broadcasting Company of Rockefeller Centre, New York City.

October 1934

KNRA, on the "Seth Parker" has been heard on two frequencies this past month, called number 6 on 31.51 meters, 9.52 mc., and number 3 on 33.94 meters, 8.84 mc. This ship is now somewhere in the Pacific Ocean and they send a program to an American chain each Monday from 8:45 to 9:00 P.M. but may be heard before and after that time testing with stations at Rocky Point, N. Y. Helpful reports have come from Ralph Williams, Garden City, N. Y.; Max Horlick, Youngstown, Ohio; Albert Emerson, Cleveland, Ohio; George Van Honk, Erie, Pa.; F. L. Stitzinger, Erie, Pa.; James Pickering, Hightown, N. J.; W. D. Martin, Honolulu, Hawaii; Robert Woods, Sand Springs, Oklahoma; Wm. Neal, Southington, Conn.; H. J. Davison, Bayamon, P. R.; Robert Rossi, Philadelphia, Pa.; WQO on 44.67 meters is usually used to work NKRA.

November 1934

KNRA on the Seth Parker is now away out in the Pacific. They send a program each Monday starting to test around 8:30 P.M. They have been using 33.94 meters, 8.84 mc, all these weeks. Of course they may change as they get further away from the United States and conditions change. They work WQO, Rocky Point, usually. Recently they added that WIOXF, the small-powered station they carry aboard would be back in operation soon, but that means little to most fans. The NBC are now offering a "left handed" verification now, saying "We are not allowed to give formal verifications of KNRA, but we hope you hear them AGAIN." We thank the following for their reports: John Russell, Dayton, Ohio; W. C. Motz, Amherst, Va.; George Van Honk, Erie, Pa.; G. C. Gallagher, San Francisco, California; H. S. Saylor, Altoona, Pa.; Nelson S. Bell, Wellesley, Mass.; Robert Rossi, Philadelphia, Pa.; Ralph Williams, Garden City, N. Y.; J. Arnold Klein, Felts Mills, N. Y.; H. J. Davison, Bayamon, P. R.; Mario Cassina, Corona, N. Y.; O. Ingmar Oleson, Ambrose, N. D.; Carl Anderson, Biggsville, Illinois; W. D. Martin, Honolulu, Hawaii; C. Fred Heller, Jr., Philadelphia, Pa., and James Spalding, Louisville, Ky.

December 1934

KNRA on the Seth Parker is no longer broadcasting a regular Monday program. However, they are still testing with stations in Rocky Point, New York, and Bolinas, California, and are heard mostly on 33.94 meters, 8.84 mc. They may use the same waves as shown for KFZ.

January 1935

KNRA, on the Seth Parker, is now way off almost to nowhere. The last heard it was somewhere near the Fiji Islands. They are not broadcasting regular Monday programs now, but are heard on Tuesdays near 11:00 P.M. They have been using 33.94 meters, 8.84 mc., most of the time, testing with station KKH, Hawaii. A great many members reported KKH for KNRA. They test on Mondays, as a rule, with KKH (7.52 mc.); KEE (7.71 mc.); KEQ (7.37 mc.); WET (9.47 mc.); and WCG (10.38 mc.) taking part in the tests. Reports have come from L. R. Prettyman, Chicago, Illinois; Orion Myrup, Oakley, Utah; George Van Honk, Erie, Pa.; C. E. Wilks, Huntington, W. Va.; E. A. Burlison, Urbana, Illinois; W. D. Martin, Honolulu, Hawaii; Max Horlick, Youngstown, Ohio; H. J. Davison, Bayamon, P. R.; Hal Thompson, San Francisco; R. D. Cox, Long Beach, Calif.; W. Jasiorkowski, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. A last minute flash from Hal Thompson says they will test Wednesdays from 10:30 to 11:45 P.M. and broadcast Thursdays from 11:15 to 11:30 P.M.

February 1935

SETTING SAIL ON THE SETH PARKER WORLD CRUISE

KNRA on the "Seth Parker." This station met with trouble last month and may not be heard again for a while. The boat ran into a typhoon and had to be towed to port. They had been testing most every night with stations KKH, Hawaii (7.52 mc.); KIO, Hawaii (11.71); KEE, California (7.71) and WET, New York, and WCG, New York (9.47 and 10.38 mc.). KNRA was heard on 24.31 meters, 12.34 mc. most of the time, but was also on 33.94 meters, 8.84 mc., 45.11 meters, 6.65 mc. and 22.62 meters, 13.26 mc. according to other reports. They are scheduled to broadcast each Thursday at 11:15 P.M., but test on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:00 P.M. on. We thank the following for reports: W. D. Martin, Honolulu, Hawaii; W. T. R. Morris, Jr., Richmond, Va.; Carl Weber, Camden, N. J.; Capt. McMullen, San Pedro, Cal.; Orion Myrup, Oakley, Utah; Fred Karpen, Johnstown, Pa.; G. C. Gallagher, San Francisco, Cal.; Robt. Woods, Sand Springs, Okla., and James Keith, Northport, Wash.

March 1935

SPECIAL STATIONS

Just about everyone knows now that KFZ is gone. KNRA on the "Seth Parker" hasn't been active this past month either. No one has reported reception of this station since February. One member reports KJTY on the Jacob Ruppert on 25.36 meters working LSX at 9:00 to 10:00 P.M., but this may have been in February, also, as the report is from J. Alexander, Auckland, New Zealand.

April 1935

The "Seth Parker" will be sold, according to newspaper reports sent to us from Hawaii by W. D. Martin. American papers say that KNRA has been dismantled and taken from the boat.

May 1935