Transatlantic Sending Tests

ANY of our readers have no doubt read in Everyday Engineering Magazine of the transatlantic sending tests arranged by that magazine to take place the first week in February, with numerous English amateurs preparing to listen in on the other side. Everyday Engineering very unfortunately has been obliged to suspend publication, and its radio department editor, Mr. M. B. Sleeper, has asked the A.R.R.L. to take over the tests and see them thru.

Our Operating Department has been glad to do this, for the good of Amateur Radio and in order that Mr. Sleeper's excellent idea for the first transatlantic tests may not be wasted. Arrangements have not been completed fully at this writing and it is impossible to give schedules, etc., but the plans of Mr. Sleeper will be followed with as little change as possible, the American entrants probably transmitting on schedule on the nights of Feb.

Ist, 3d, and 5th.

It is regretted that many of our A#1 eastern spark stations have been unable to enter the contest and at this late date it is probably impossible to secure any more entrants. It would have been extremely interesting to see what success these stations would have, as we believe their chances would have, as we believe their chances would have been better than those of the majority of the entrants who contemplated the building of special tube sets for the tests. While we are very hopeful that at least one of the entrants will be heard overseas, the British amateurs have not had the practical experience in short wave reception that we have benefitted by over the past ten years, and so

they are working under more or less of a handicap. Fortunately, however, the average British experimenter is more of an engineer than an amateur, and they have a way over there of going into such things in a most painstaking fashion, so that we may expect that a number of them will have built sets and multi-stage amplifiers especially for these tests. We are pleased to note that the general trend of design in amplifiers for this purpose seems to be the use of tuned inter-stage circuits for amplifying the radio-frequency, and except by the use of the Armstrong superautodyne, we do not see how the amplifying arrangement could be improved. The tests are to be 200 meters, and as they have QRM from a British navy wave length of 214 meters, their amplifiers will be sharply tuned at 200 meters, so that our transmitting stations will have to be tuned to within a meter or two of this wave length. Altho a hard job, it will give some excellent practice in the absolute obedience of the radio law, and it will have to be done if our signals are to be heard by the British stations.

The arrangements in England are in the hands of Mr. Philip R. Coursey, Assistant Editor of "The Radio Review", London. We expect to have a report on the outcome of the tests from Mr. Coursey in our next number. If they are successful, we hope that arrangements can be made for the relaying of amateur traffic to England on schedule, and at the very least they should have inspired the British amateurs with the ambition to persist until finally they succeed in copying the American amateurs.



Miss Ham gives permission, via radio, for a nearby amateur to call on her. She has never seen him and now it looks as if others had been listening in also.