

## Television

### THE PUBLIC MUST WAIT

#### SHADOWGRAPH OUTFIT

Press dispatches, published in the United States, from London announce that Selfridge's (the big London company) is selling Baird television outfits at a price of thirty-two dollars (about £6 5s.) per set. Investigation reveals, however, that this equipment consists only of the parts for building a shadowgraph transmitting outfit. The amateur transmitting enthusiast can send, at his home, a moving hand or a shadow made by a cardboard figure held before the outfit. The cost of the receiver parts, to be marked later, will be approximately the same. The shadowgraph offers a field for entertaining home experiments and it should promote interest in the problems of television.


#### Five Years, Yet.

As to the commercialization of television in the United States, a statement made by David Sarnoff of the Radio Corporation of America, before the New York Electrical League, is significant. He is quoted in the Press as saying: "We will hear much more about these developments within the next year. My guess is that, within five years, they (television receivers) will be as much a part of our life as sound broadcasting is now."

#### Only Experimental.

An unnamed representative of the R.C.A. is quoted in the New York "Times," when questioned as to how soon the Alexanderson still picture transmission apparatus will be placed on the market, as follows: "Oh, it will be a long time. Look at the apparatus. It is too cumbersome. It is only in experimental form."


Considering the great number of years that photo transmission has been the subject of experiment, both in U.S.A. and elsewhere, and the success obtained by such pioneers as Korn, Jenkins and Baird, and the recent successes of the Bell Laboratories and Alexanderson, it is surprising that picture broadcasting is so slow in becoming a supplement to tone broadcasting.



**NO ENERGY!**

Down and out. The old dry batteries run down. Only had them three months. Can't hear a thing. Set no good. Really must get one of those Emeco Battery Eliminators right away. Things will liven up then. **EMECO ELIMINATORS. FROM £10/10/- UP**

N.Z. Distributors:  
Abel Smeaton, Auckland; Thomas Balingier, Wellington; L. B. Scott, Christchurch.



## The Radio Patrol

### SYDNEY POLICE SYSTEM

#### RAPID ACTION

ACCORDING to the New South Wales Commissioner of Police, Mr. James Mitchell, radio has increased the efficiency of the force by a hundred per cent.

"I could not do without it now," says Mr. Mitchell.

In the detection of crime everything depends on speed. And, with the widespread use of radio by the New South Wales police, their speed in getting immediately to the scene of a crime has resulted, times without number, in the arrest of an offender himself staggered by such efficiency.

Take this instance, in which, though there was no arrest, it will be seen that had burglars been at work they would have had no chance. At 10.10 p.m. two of the wireless patrol cars received word over the air that the burglar alarm was ringing at a big departmental store in Oxford Street, Sydney.

At 10.12 p.m. the crews of both patrols had surrounded the building, while a third was on its way to the home of the proprietor to bring him to the scene.

Before he got there the place had been searched from cellar to roof, and there was no sign of burglars. It was ascertained that an accident to the wiring had set off the alarm.

Wireless patrol reports, supplied each morning to the executive officials of the police, are eloquent witnesses to the efficiency of the scheme.

At least 12 calls are attended each night, and on these rare occasions when there is "nothing doing" test calls are sent out regularly from the headquarters installation to ascertain that reception is O.K.

#### Caught in the Act.

At 1.15 o'clock on a recent morning the alarm was given that a suspicious character had gone into the yard of a shop at Daceyville.

Tapped out to the police patrol, the message reached one car at Rose Bay. Within 10 minutes the police were on the spot and had arrested a young man in the act of breaking into the store.

Before the use of radio it might have been half an hour ere a patrol was informed, since they telephoned only at half-hourly intervals. Scores of criminals caught on the job—and every criminal hates to be apprehended—thus, since he can offer no defence—will testify, not politely, to the swiftness of action which characterises the use of radio by police.

And with the proposed establishment of transmitting sets in each Australian capital city capable of interchanging criminal information on a special wavelength, the life of a criminal will be more hazardous than ever. As in all things, there is a humorous side to the work of the wireless patrol.

At 12.30 on a morning of last week the police received a hurry call to a place in Darlinghurst, a woman having complained that two men were prowling about her backyard. Investigation showed that actually the noise which had frightened her was caused by a marauding cat's efforts to reach the canary cage left hanging on the wall of a shed. With scores of meritorious captures to their credit, their wonderful efficiency through the use of radio and their powerful influence on criminals contemplating night crime, little wonder that the Commissioner says he wouldn't be without his wireless patrols.

A REUTER message states that a wireless telephone company has just been formed for the purpose of installing receiving sets on the trains of the Hungarian State railways and also in the waiting rooms at the big stations.

It has been officially computed that the world contains no less than 18,000,000 radio receiving sets.

## Controversy

### B.B.C.'S NEW POLICY

#### THREE PARTIES IN TURN.

THE British Broadcasting Corporation has issued the following announcement with regard to the removal of the ban on controversial subjects:—

"Careful consideration has been given by the Governors to the situation consequent on the removal of the ban on controversy.

"As already announced, the new material made available will be introduced gradually and experimentally, and no fundamental change in programme policy is intended in the immediate future.

"Controversy, political, and economic, will be admitted on clearly defined occasions, with adequate safeguards for impartiality and equality of treatment, the subject being dealt with in such a way that the main opposing views can be presented on occasions clearly contrasted and linked as closely as possible.

"Debates and discussions will be the normal procedure, and the removal of the restrictions is not to be interpreted to mean the immediate introduction of indiscriminate controversy in Talks and Outside Broadcasts.

"Each of the three political parties has been offered a Talk in the near future, and it is hoped to arrange debates on subjects such as 'Payment of wages according to need or ability,' 'Road versus railway transport,' 'The surtax,' and 'Economic versus political functions of trade unions.'"

#### "Debates" and "Discussions."

It is understood (writes a correspondent) that "controversial occasions" are to be created for this new material, and that both speakers and listeners will be informed that there is to be a full and frank expression of view.

The wording of the resolution for each debate will be very carefully considered, and is to be so arranged that each main point of view on the subject may be clearly presented. The speakers as far as possible will be equally matched, not only as authorities on the subject, but also as debaters, and—what is equally important—as effective broadcasters.

#### "Speakers from all Europe."

THE "controversial occasions" will be divided into two classes: Debates and Discussion. The debates will be between two or three speakers, and there will be the usual opportunities for reply and rejoinder.

The discussions, on the other hand, will be a series of positive contributions to a given subject, in which, perhaps, as many as half a dozen persons speaking if necessary from different parts of the country will take part, each contributing a statement of the case from his particular point of view. Here there will be no opportunity of reply. One speaker may be in Glasgow, a second in Manchester, a third in London, a fourth in Plymouth, and so on. And, later on, when the various links in the European connections have been definitely established, there may be, for example, a discussion on the art of music, in which speakers in Paris and Vienna, as well as those in Edinburgh, London, and other centres will take part. The contributions to these discussions will, if they are not given immediately one after the other, follow each other as closely as possible.

#### Only Once a Week.

THE removal of the ban on controversy will not make any change in the character of the vast majority of talks or broadcasts of after-dinner speeches, and so on. These will not be controversial occasions, and therefore there will be no equality of opportunity for the various points of view to be put forward; they will be continued very much on the same lines as before. It may be emphasised, too, that the change will be experimental and gradual, and that for the present the new material will not be extended to religion. And, at any rate, at the outset, "controversial occasions" will probably not appear in the programmes more than once a week.

Although the subject of controversy has aroused keen interest in some quarters, the B.B.C., I understand, do not find that this interest is reflected as yet among the vast majority of listeners, whose chief concern, they say, is entertainment.

#### A BROADCASTING CLUB.

Montreal can boast, as far as it is possible to ascertain, of having the only "broadcasting club" in existence. The members hold monthly luncheon meetings, have a speaker who discusses a well-known radio topic of the day, and questions are asked, the whole resulting in a closer co-operation between local radio stations. The membership is composed of station directors, announcers, technicians, newspaper radio editors, and all and sundry who are in direct contact with radio matters. It is the endeavour of the club to raise broadcast programmes to a higher level, and educate the public to a greater appreciation of good music.

It is stated that, owing to the increasing popularity of broadcasting in Iceland there is a possibility of the present 1kw station at Reykjavik being replaced by a 5kw installation.

## Bells, Bells, Bells

### MAGIC OF THE CARILLON

#### POPULAR B.B.C. ACTION.

ALL within range of 2YA will one day rejoice to hear Wellington's carillon broadcast. It will be a feature of the city's life, and a splendid memorial. A taste of carillon music was given last week from 2YA through a fine gramophone record (which was played in the children's hour), and will be repeated again during an evening session, probably this week.

One of the best things the B.B.C. engineers have done this year was to take their microphone and equipment to the Carillon Tower at Loughborough, England, and link up this collection of bells, the largest in the country, with the Birmingham station.

The beautiful music which rises and falls in this heart of the green wolds of Leicestershire may now be heard throughout the country, and indeed over half the world.

This carillon was built by Loughborough as a memorial to Loughborough men who fell in the war. Now that the recitals are broadcast listeners everywhere may know how beautiful carillon music can be.

#### How the Carillon is Played.

The broadcasting is a triumph for the B.B.C. engineers, for the music of bells is very difficult to broadcast satisfactorily. The note of each bell is rich in what are called harmonics and overtones, and these impose a strain on the microphone. Actually each bell emits five notes when struck, and in the perfectly tuned bell these are all in tune with each other and are therefore not noticed. At Loughborough there are 48 bells, the largest big enough to cover several children and the smallest no bigger than a small flower-pot. They are played from a clavier, in which the keys are very much like those of the organ keyboard, but they are made of wood and the carillonneur strikes them with the underpart of his half-closed hands, which are protected by gloves. The work is hard, but he is able to cover a wide range of musical expression.

The difficulty for the engineers was to find a position for the microphone where it would respond evenly to the whole range of tones and be free from the vibrations of the tower during the recital. Uncle Mike, as they call the carillonneur, was not easily pleased. It was tried in and out of the tower, in many positions, but all were disappointing. At last the right position was found by suspending the microphone over a rung in a ladder near the top of the tower, directly above the bell chamber.

#### An English Standard.

It served splendidly here, and received the silvery notes of the little bells just as well as the booming notes of the large ones. So it was left, and the leads were taken down the outside of the tower to a room half-way down, where the amplifier, connecting with the landline to 5 I T, was installed. The carillonneur at Loughborough, Mr. W. E. Jordan, is quite a young man, but he is doing much to establish an English standard of carillon playing distinct from that of Belgium, the home of the carillon. They love the carillon in Belgium. At Malines, Antwerp, Bruges, and Ghent, crowds gather in the evenings, when the bustle of the day has died down, to listen to the music coming softly from the lofty towers.

#### 3LO SHORT-WAVE

#### RECEPTION IN BRITAIN.

ALL doubts as to the probable outcome of the short-wave experiments which have been carried out by 3LO, Melbourne, during the last three months, were set at rest when the last English mail was opened in the 3LO studio. More than 150 letters were received from England and Scotland, in addition to a few from the Irish Free State and some from Belfast and Londonderry in North Ireland. In many cases scarcely any preparations had been made for the attempt to listen to the Antipodes, but the results obtained were little short of remarkable. One listener in Bath was able to name all of the items on the programme with one exception, and the set he was using was a two-valve receiver made by himself. What made the reception the more remarkable was the fact that Bath is surrounded by a fringe of hills which make the reception of the London and other English stations generally very difficult. Many of the letters referred to the fact that the enthusiastic British amateur, Mr. Marcuse, was broadcasting at the same time as 3LO, and as he was using a wave length of 32.5 metres, and 3LO was working on 32 metres, many listeners found it extremely difficult to cut him out. Mr. Marcuse was using a power of 1000 watts. Morse signals from the Continent and from the Welsh side of Bath also caused some interference. However, despite such interferences, every letter was full of enthusiasm, and 3LO is gradually gaining an army of listeners, not only in Britain, but in many other countries throughout the world.

## 2ZF Palmerston North

### DETAILS OF THE STATION

#### A POPULAR CENTRE

PALMERSTON NORTH people are rightly proud of 2ZF, their local radio station, and the Borough Council recently indicated its appreciation by increasing its annual payment to £50. The following particulars will interest listeners who have heard this station:—

The station was officially opened early in March. The whole of the station was built by the members under the direction of the president, Mr. Waters. The transmitter is housed on the roof of Collinson and Cunningham's buildings, Broadway, Palmerston North, and consists of a 5-watt speech amplifier, two 50-watt modulators, and one 50-watt oscillator, all wired according to the diagrams of a well-known type of transmitter. The plate and filament voltages are supplied from an Esco motor generator supplying 1000 volts through a suitable switchboard with automatic cut-outs to protect the valves, etc. The transmitter is built in a wooden frame and enclosed in plate glass. There are 10 meters on the transmitter to show the operators exactly what is taking place in any of the circuits. The aerial is a 5-wire cage 40 feet above the roof, which is about 60 feet above the pavement.

The studio, which has been refurnished and draped, is situated on the second floor, and connection between the transmitter and the studio is obtained by means of a signalling arrangement of lights. The amplifier cabinets are in oak and there are two of them. No. 1 is used for the Weston electric microphone, and the other is used for relay work, electric pick-up on the gramophone, and the emergency mike. All the work on these was done by members, and gifts of money and material have been received from firms in Christchurch, Wellington, Feilding, and Palmerston North.


Since the station was put on the air again the membership has increased from 50 to 230, and more are enrolling every day. The station is financed by means of members' subscriptions, donations, etc., and receives nothing from the annual license fees paid by listeners, although there seems to be that impression among listeners. The operators and announcers give their services free, and so do the artists also.

The schedule is: Wednesdays, 6.15 to 9 p.m. Sundays, 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.; 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Wavelength, 285 metres. Power, 50 watts.

Those operating the station set out with the ideal of perfection, and have received many congratulatory messages on this score. The station has been heard in Australia.

THE London "Wireless Export Trader" reports: "The B.B.C.'s short-wave transmitting station, 5SW, is becoming increasingly popular among the outlying parts of the world, while reports of good reception are coming in every day. A number of overseas stations have rebroadcast the home programmes, and the latest of these is C.F.C.A. of Canada. This station is owned by the "Toronto Daily Star," and, we hear, gave a two hours' rebroadcast of the 5SW programme."



**ATWATER KENT RADIO**

COME IN and see what you think of the Atwater Kent Receiving Sets and Radio Speakers you have heard so much about. They welcome, just as we do, any test you care to make.

**C. & A. ODLIN & CO., LTD.,**  
New Zealand Distributors,  
WELLINGTON.

## GOODS sent by Rail continue to be goods

Long experience and the best equipment enable the Railway Department to give safe, expeditious and cheap freight service. The people's railways give the most reliable transport for the people's goods.

Communicate with the nearest Stationmaster, District Manager or Business Agent for full particulars.