

Radio Round the World

THE great increase in the traffic over the present long-wave channels, has made it necessary for new short wave transoceanic radio-telephony stations to be erected by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, and engineers are already at work at the station which is being erected under this scheme in New Jersey.

THE Chinese Minister of Communications at Shanghai has issued instructions that all Chinese ocean-going vessels of 500 tons and upwards must in future be equipped with a wireless installation.

THE benefits of radio communication have been extended to the fishing fleets off Nova Scotia by the setting up of a new wireless station at Louisberg, from which daily reports are sent out to the fleets as to quantities of bait available, weather, ice conditions, and so on.

A GERMAN wireless company has secured a contract from the National Government of Nanking for the erection of high-power radio stations in Canton, Tientsin, Shanghai, and Hankow.

FOLLOWING the successful experiments which have been carried out during the past six months with a Danish system of picture transmission, a company has now been formed in Amsterdam to develop this system still further and to exploit it commercially.

A NEW station has been set up at Middelkerke, near Ostend, in Belgium, for aircraft traffic across the English Channel, and using both telegraphy and telephony. Signals from this station can be received on three wavelengths: 900, 1400 and 1680.

THE Radio Peredacha, which is the original Russian Broadcasting Company, has been done away with, and the Posts and Telegraphs Department of the Union of Russian Soviets, has announced its intention of taking over the entire control of the radio services of Russia for the purpose of reorganising them completely.

WHAT may be the highest structure ever erected is the contemplated "Radio Tower" at Balona. It is planned to put up a 400-metre radio tower for the forthcoming exhibition. This tower would thus be about 1312 ft. in height, rising some several hundred feet above the Eiffel Tower. According to the present design, the tower will have a circumference of 6 ft. and will include hotel, theatre, museum and library as well as the radio transmitters for broadcast telephony and radio telegraphy.

HERE is an interesting example of how wireless pictures can assist commerce. Whilst the "Silver Maple" was making for Bermuda, the Kerr Steamship Company, Ltd., the owners' London ship-brokers, made good use of the wireless picture transmission service. The company's New York office was anxious to have a new rudder

ready for the "Silver Maple" when she arrived at Bermuda, and they cabled to London for specifications. The London office at once got out drawings and plans and dispatched them direct by wireless, thus saving a delay of eight days.

THERE is a probability of an important merger between wireless and cable interests in France. Radio France, which has a system of radio communications between France and Great Britain, Norway, Spain, Austria, Rumania and Czechoslovakia, is reported to be negotiating with the French Cable Company which has cables from Europe to North and South America and Australia. The amalgamation, if it comes into being, is regarded as following upon British and American schemes for uniting world communications under single control.

BELIEVING that a man who had embarked at San Francisco for Honolulu was a certain alleged confidence trickster who had cut his bail while awaiting trial at New York, the police wirelessly a photograph of the man to Honolulu, five thousand miles away. When the ship put into port, the suspected man was recognised and arrested. Indeed, the criminal does not seem to stand much chance these days, especially since the development of wireless photographs.

ACCORDING to the "Sunday Dispatch" (England), the war against wireless pirates has been reduced now to a system, based on the idea of a series of raids carried out locally by the postal authorities, reinforced by the detective vans. However, there were well over one thousand prosecutions of people working unlicensed sets last year, which represents over three prosecutions a day all the year round!

AN interesting controversy has been going on in the "Leeds Mercury" concerning the origin of the linen diaphragm loudspeaker. Judging from the evidence given in the "Mercury," there is no doubt that the development of this loudspeaker is entirely due to Mr. Mark Potter, the well-known wireless correspondent of that journal.

IT is understood that the Fultograph picture receiving apparatus is now undergoing tests by the Air Ministry, and the Meteorological Office is considering its adoption for sending complete weather charts by wireless. Apparatus is also being placed at the disposal of the War Office for tests.

PROFESSOR ESAU, head of the Technico-Physical Institute of the University of Jena, Germany, has been working for some years on what he calls the ultra-short wireless waves, and it is reported that he has achieved very great success with some of his latest experiments. Only about 100 broadcasting stations can work on wavelengths between 200 and 600 metres, while theoretically 10,000 stations could broadcast on waves be-

tween 20 and 60 metres. Professor Esau has obtained satisfactory results with wireless waves about 3 metres long and established telephonic communication up to a distance of 60 miles.

THE extraordinary rapidity of radio communications was demonstrated in a remarkable way at a dinner of the Foreign Commerce Club of New York. The New York transmitter of the Radio Corporation of America was used and a message was sent to this from the meeting by means of an ordinary telegraph line. A message was wirelessly to London and a reply received within one minute, whilst a reply was also received within one minute from Honolulu, and in less than 90 seconds from Paris.

GERMANY has adopted the Fultograph still-picture broadcasting system. After a good deal of investigation and examination of some rival systems, Captain Fulton passed with flying colours in a recent test. No definite programme details are yet to

hand, but I understand that very shortly from ten to twelve pictures will be broadcast every day from a main German broadcasting station.

IN July, 1928, British export figures for radio trade were not too bad. The "Wireless Trader" gives the following figures:—Total value, £75,910 (including valves, £14,738). Australia was the best buyer, her share amounting to £16,992, of which sum £7288 was spent on valves.

WITHIN two days of the Olympic Exhibition opening, one firm received an order from Holland, in face of German competition, for 25,000 variable condensers, and orders from Japan, India and many Continental countries poured in. Australian markets are made very difficult for British goods by a heavy import tax. And that means that a component costing 30s. in England costs 57s. in Australia. But, despite this great drawback, business in Australia has been brisk as regards British wireless goods.

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