

IN America the amateur transmitter is considered a national asset. He is given every encouragement in the matter of studying, experimenting and even of handling harmless messages providing he adheres to the amateur waveband and does not accept a fee for his messages. The United States Government treats the amateur as a scientific enthusiast. The amateurs return this interest whenever they can, and thus during the Florida flood, three years ago, and the San Diego storm of two years ago, they were of great use.

IN a recent editorial, "Radio News" discusses whether radio is a necessity or a luxury, the query being prompted by the decision of an English magistrate. A broadcast listener who appeared in Court charged with having operated a radio receiving set without a license, pleaded as an extenuating circumstance that radio was necessary to his livelihood. His plea was that he was a casual piece-work labourer depending on broadcast news and reports for possible employment. The magistrate, however, would not accept the definition of the offender. On the contrary, he ruled that radio was a luxury—to be classified under the category of motor-cars, expensive furs and diamonds. Consequently, under the existing law this radio pirate met with the appropriate penalty.

THE Siam Government has banned radio. This sounds like tyranny, but this is not so. The Government does not believe that its people should be the butt of unscrupulous traders and purchase apparatus unsuited to the conditions and which will later have to be scrapped. About £12,500 has already been spent on experiments on this subject.

AN American company has been formed in Malaya with the object of providing broadcast service for all parts of the Malayan Peninsula. The Singapore town clock is to provide signals for the hour of noon. The proposed tax is £2 for one to four-valve sets and £3 for all above four valves.

THERE seems to be no advance at all in Indian broadcasting. The value of an efficient wireless organisation in India could not be exaggerated. Had wireless telegraphy been in use a hundred years ago, it can safely be said that the Indian Mutiny would have been but a flash in the pan, and most of the whites that were murdered would have been saved.

FOR the Radio Exhibition to be held this year in Barcelona, a tower, 1300 odd feet in height has been planned. The base is to be 600 feet round and will accommodate a broadcasting station and a radio telegraph station, besides a hotel, theatre, library, and museum.

THE new station in Frankfurt, Germany, has introduced a new scheme in its construction. The walls of the studio converge to a point, and this is done as an aid to tone. The innovation is merely experimental and the effect seems to be to make the tone mellow and rich. The result is so satisfactory that other German studios consider adopting the device.

RADIO is regarded with contempt, if not worse, in the Argentine. Broadcasting stations seem to be classed

with nuisances, and come under the same category as dust-destructors, cemeteries, soap factories, and the like, and before the end of the year they are to remove beyond the city limits. Under such a regime the development of radio will indeed be slow.

FROM Pole to Pole! It is learnt from a Copenhagen paper that a message sent from the wireless operator of the American Antarctic Expedi-

symptoms of the disease and the mode of treatment and stressed the importance of having the disease treated even in the mildest form.

THE General Electric Company of America is at present carrying out experiments in order to transform radio waves into heat, in other words the broadcasting of heat. The company reports that they consider that very soon the housewife will be able

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SEPTEMBER 20, 1929.

tion was heard at the North Pole by Mr. Hobbs, wireless operator with the Byrd Expedition in the South Pole.

HUNGARY is very enthusiastic about wireless and the hobby has become almost incredibly popular. Even the most humble home is equipped with a receiver of a kind, and the lowly road-mender listens to the strains of the world's best orchestras, and even the thatched cottages are filled with the strains of Beethoven and Wagner.

THE wireless programmes of Moscow are very interesting. All tastes are catered for, but special efforts are made to try and make listeners appreciate the classical and beautiful. A novel orchestra has been formed in one of the studios capable of broadcasting 200 different sounds. These sounds range from the bells of the carillon to the roar of the lion.

IN the United States trains wireless has been installed not only for the amusements of passengers, but also as a means of communication between the driver of the conveyance and the other officials on the train. When it is remembered that some American trains contain 115 carriages and are nearly a mile in length, it can be understood that some such mode of communication is necessary for safety and efficiency.

AT Station WRNY (New York) famous doctors met together to discuss what means could be employed to combat the dreadful disease of cancer. The conference was broadcast, the first discussion of its kind ever to have been made public. They described the

the directors decided to make no change in the broadcasting hours.

ITALY desires to cultivate the tastes of her people. To further this, travelling kinema men journey to the outlandish places, taking with them portable kinema apparatus. They also carry a wireless installation capable of receiving the music from the nearest station, and this music acts as the incidental music to the picture, which is usually of an educational nature.

THE latest name in America for a wireless listener is a "shut-in," says "Popular Wireless." A little extension to this new name and we shall have a night's listening-in described as being shut-in till shut-up at shut-down.

IN a recent air pageant in America, Mr. C. J. de Bever, a well-known instructor parachutist carried what was claimed to be the smallest transmitting set in the world. He described his sensations while falling 10,000 feet from a moving plane, and this broadcast was picked up and relayed with a fair measure of success by station 5XX.

ONE of the new studios in the Columbia Broadcasting Company occupies two storeys and has a glass-encased gallery which enables visitors to see what takes place in the studio and at the same time loudspeakers placed in different places in the gallery convey to the audience the broadcast music or words.

THE United States Signal Corps is organising an amateur radio system with the object of providing extra communication channels during a national disaster, the idea being to augment or replace landlines which may be brought down by flood, fire or tornados.

VERY elaborate regulations governing radio have recently been enacted in the Argentine. Besides giving stations notice to quit the city, the power used has been limited by the authorities to between 500 watts and 10 k.w. (antenna). Further, there are to be no tests or experiments between 10 a.m. and midnight. The violation of any of these rules will result in a very serious fine.

A FRENCH newspaper recently introduced a "questionnaire" in which they invited their readers to state what type of amusement they most enjoyed. The answers resulted as follow: The kinema 111,828 votes, football 104,399 votes, wireless was third with 60,489 votes, and finally dancing with 56,736 votes.

A CONTINENTAL station recently gave notice of their intention to decrease the transmitting hours by some two hours per day. No sooner was this intention given publicity than over 500,000 letters of protest was received by the management. In the face of such overwhelming disfavour

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