

Detecting Icebergs by Radio

PROFESSOR BARNES, an American scientist, has recently invented an apparatus which should effectively remove one of the greatest dangers associated with ocean travel, namely, the possibility of collision with icebergs. It has been discovered that an iceberg is ten per cent. air—air that is thousands of years old, and which was trapped with the snow that fell on the high ice-caps at the North and South Poles. When the iceberg begins to melt in warmer currents, the air comes to the surface with a hissing sound plainly audible at a considerable distance. When there are no ship noises to drown it out.

Professor Barnes hoped that a high-frequency microphone, connected to a sensitive radio-amplifier, would be able to pick up the hiss from under the sea. The initial tests were disappointing, however, for no sound could be heard. A low-pitched microphone, which had been taken with the expedition accidentally, when pressed into commission, developed a loud noise, and it was discovered the source was the constant melting and cracking of the berg below the waterline. At a six-mile range it was found the noise of the melting berg could be clearly separated from all sounds on the ship.

Can you solve a difficult problem?

See

"TRIALS IN TACT"

(On page 27 of this issue.)

News from Across the Tasman

Impending Australian Broadcasts

A REPRESENTATIVE programme of Russian art will be presented from 2FC by Ewart Chapple, on March 13. As an example of Russian literature, Mr. Ireland will present a dramatisation of the climax of Tolstoy's powerful novel "Resurrection." The first musical number will be one by Tchaikowski, perhaps the most famous of all Russian composers. Following an orchestral rendering of his "Marche Slav," the A.B.C. Male Quartet will sing the well-known "Song of the Volga Boatmen." This will be followed by further Russian music, and a talk by Mr. Ewart Chapple on "The Evolution of the Russian Ballet." The entertainment will conclude with an orchestral rendition of a portion of "Scheherazade," by Rimski-Korsakoff.

COMMENCING on March 13, Dr. Harold Norrie will begin a series of interesting talks from 2FC, under the title of "Tales Re-told." On the above date he will retell the story of "Jack and the Beanstalk." Fairy tales, like most legends, are usually based on facts, which, however, have become so distorted in the process of being re-told through the ages that they appear to us fantastic and impossible. Thus, in "Jack and the Beanstalk" we have an instance of considerable mutilation of a story concerning a fortunate accident, and the history of this "fairy tale" will be traced by Dr. Norrie.

THE second of the "League of Nations" series of broadcasts will be given from 2BL on March 13, when Germany will speak through the medium of her

consul in Sydney. Dr. Busing has had wide experience of consular work in all parts of the globe, and his talk will be the official statement concerning Germany's attitude towards those peace problems which vex Europe to-day. The address will be followed by a German musical programme arranged by Madame Emily Marks and Madame Evelyn Greig, and include beside traditional folk songs, the "Verdorgenheit" (Wolf) and "Ich hab ein Kleinerleid erdacht" (Bun-ger). The programme will conclude with a rendering of the first movement of the "Kreisler Reine" (Schumann), and the overture from "Der Rosenkavalier" (Strauss).

A WELCOME addition to 2FC's programme on March 14 will be "The Mascots," a talented little band of performers who never fail in supplying first-class entertainment. May Fouldes, soprano, will present a selection of popular songs, while Mattie Ive, a London comedienne, will appear in character sketches.

A PROGRAMME of organ music from the Pitt Street Congregational Church, arranged by Miss Lilian Frost, will provide a pleasant evening for the music lovers who tune in to station 2FC on March 14. Miss Frost is well-known to the listening public, as she has been associated with 2FC since its inception.

A PROGRAMME of light classical songs, including two by Schuman ("The Two Grenadiers" and "Intermezzo") will be featured by Allan White-

head from 2BL on March 14. Mr. Whitehead, who is one of Dame Nellie Melba's proteges, has been continuing his musical studies abroad, and is in Australia for a few weeks' holiday.

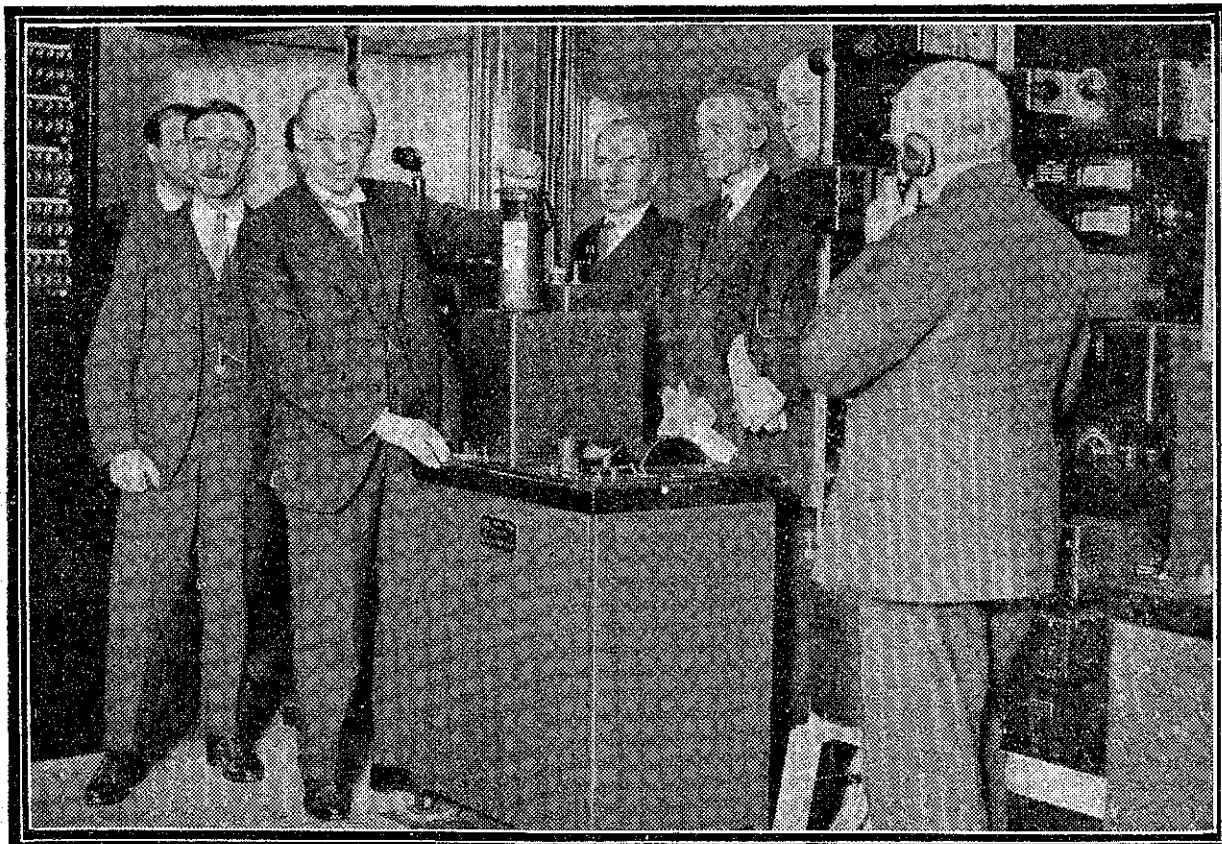
ON March 14, from station 2BL, Captain F. Aarons will narrate the history of the "Great Ice Age" in the light of investigations by Lyell, Lubbock, and other accredited authorities. He will discuss its causes, effects on life and topography, its relationship to prehistoric man, and its final recession.

MR. H. Fleming, who has commenced a series of talks on that famous American humorist, Mark Twain, will deliver his second talk from 2BL on March 14. Mark Twain, who was Samuel Clemens in private life, drifted into journalism after the American Civil War, making himself famous as a humorist in 1869 by his "Innocents Abroad," the result of a trip to Europe. From that time he was actively employed in editing and in producing more works of humour. Among his more popular books may be mentioned "A Tramp Abroad," "Tom Sawyer," "Huckleberry Finn," and "Puddenhed Wilson."

A MOST interesting talk will be given from 3AR, on March 15, by Mr. A. A. Downs, who will speak on "Elephant Catching and Taming." Mr. Downs has had many years' experience as a big game hunter, and will relate many exciting personal experiences.

ON March 15 Cyril Sainte will broadcast banjo novelties from 2BL. He is a clever exponent of this instrument, and his recently formed string quartet is already very popular.

HAVE you obtained your "Listener's Guide"? 2/6 from booksellers and radio dealers, or 2/9 posted from the publishers, Box 1032, Wellington.



Inauguration of British-German Picture Wire Service.—The British Postmaster-General (Mr. Lees Smith) and the German Minister of Posts last month inaugurated the new telegraph service for pictures or any kind of document between London and Berlin. The picture shows Mr. Lees-Smith (second from left) at the transmitting apparatus at London.

—Central Press photo.