

RECENTLY Austrian listeners have been protected against interference caused by electrical apparatus by a new Austrian Electricity Act.

THE United States Noise Settlement Commission is introducing a Bill to restrict the use of shop loudspeakers to special occasions of national importance.

THE installation of wireless in all the hospitals of Ceylon is the object of the Hospital Wireless Fund created by the Radio Club of Ceylon. Several institutions are already equipped.

A WELL-KNOWN English sportsman recently bought a Supermarine flying boat which is fitted with sleeping berths, dressing tables, a bathroom, and a cook's galley. He has also had a powerful transmitter and receiver, a direction finder, and a broadcast receiver installed. It is expected that the equipment will provide reliable communication between the air-yacht and land stations up to 400 miles, either on telegraphy or telephony.

FORTY telephone calls were made between ship and shore during the recent outward and homeward trips of the White Star liner Majestic, when the new ocean telephone service was in use for the first time.

A LIFEBOAT, reported to be the fastest in the world, was recently launched at Dover. It was specially designed to rescue aeroplanes which have been forced down at sea. A further innovation was the fitting of a special telephone transmitter for communication with coastguard stations.

IN considering the phenomenal growth of broadcasting during the last seven years it is interesting to note that there are already about 20,000,000 sets in use, of which nearly one-half are in the United States. The number of broadcast receiving sets has thus reached in seven years a total of nearly half that attained by the ordinary telephone, which started on its career over fifty years ago.

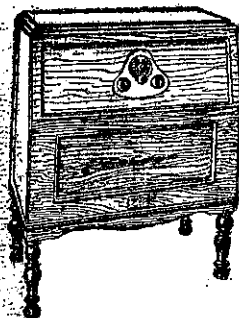
THE Swiss Government is now completing the erection and installation of a 60,000-watt shortwave broadcast station. The Government hope shortly to broadcast international programmes, and invites Australia (and no doubt New Zealand) to pick up these programmes and re-broadcast them. More will, no doubt, shortly be heard of the Swiss "giant" station.

THE National Broadcasting Company of America recently opened a new studio built on the roof of a New York theatre. This studio really consists of a specially arranged stage at one end of a large auditorium to which the public are admitted. While broadcasting is in progress a huge glass screen weighing six tons is lowered across the front of the stage to prevent noises from the audience reaching the microphone, but at the same time permitting the audience to watch the performers and hear them by means of loudspeakers distributed throughout the auditorium.

FOLLOWING the introduction a few months ago of all-electric radio gramophones on the main trains in Canada, the Canadian National Railways are now engaged in the installation in 12 new observation lounge cars of a new system of wiring which will permit the reception of broadcast programmes not only in the car in which the receiving set is located, but also in other cars of the same train. This is the first time that the new system of wiring, known as "train-lining," has been tried by any railway, and the experiment is being followed with interest. Wireless entertainment is now provided on eight of the principal express trains of the Canadian National Railways system, and receiving apparatus is standard equipment on 75 of the company's observation and library cars. The sets are in charge at all times of a uniformed and experienced operator who also acts as a guide.

SOME years ago, long before sound films had been introduced into New Zealand, Mr. Edward Courbray, of Auckland, had been experimenting with cinematograph apparatus, his ultimate ambition being to produce a film which could be broadcast over the air. For some time he was held up in his work by the fact that even the best amplifiers and microphones which the world could produce had many faults. When these gradually became so improved that they were very nearly perfect, Mr. Courbray patented his own Courbraytone system of recording sound pictures, and a company was formed to work the apparatus. Initial attempts were very promising, and the Courbraytone is now being used to take an epic Maori film at Taupo. This is under American supervision, and Mr. Alfred Hill is composing a special musical score for it.

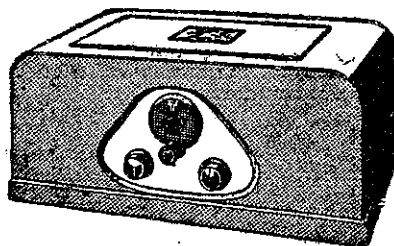
IT is expected that South America will experience a genuine radio boom this year as a result of the action of the Argentine Government in taking over control of broadcasting (writes a correspondent in "World-Radio"). There are twenty-two stations within the city limits of Buenos Aires, and these stations have been deviating from their assigned wavelengths. The result was that broadcast reception was extremely poor, owing to interference. The Government, since taking control, has ordered all broadcasting stations to move their transmitters out of the city limits during the next nine months. The Secretary of Communications in the Argentine Cabinet will enforce this regulation. The belief is expressed that with reception conditions improved as a result of Government intervention, the use of receiving sets will increase considerably. In spite of poor reception conditions and the fact that little attention has so far been given to the production of programmes, the demand for receivers has been quite brisk. The twenty-two broadcasting stations in Buenos Aires have been presenting extremely sketchy entertainments made up almost entirely of gramophone records.



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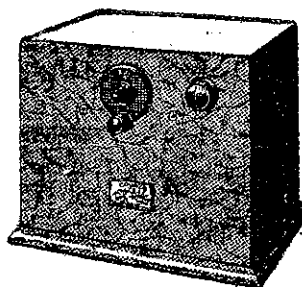
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