

Buenos Aires Stations in A Lightweight Radio Trouble

OWING to mutual interference, the twenty-two broadcasting stations in Buenos Aires have been ordered to remove their quarters from the city within nine months. The power used by these transmitters varies from 100 to 5000 watts, several being private telephony stations, but the Government has decided that all must fall under the same ban if peace is to be restored. The Argentine is yet another in the long list of countries which are discovering that broadcasting stations are best situated away from large centres of population.

THE pilots of an American air transport company are now using a combination receiving and sending head set which is made as a part of the helmet. It weighs one pound and enables pilots to communicate with ground stations 200 miles distant or with other planes in flight.

A tightly-fitting piece of sponge rubber in the ear is connected with two wires which are plugged into the cockpit, and over this radio system the pilot receives a weather report of conditions just ahead at intervals of ten minutes.

Stokowski

(Concluded from page 9.)

bass, making the Bach "Fugue" reverberate like a peal of celestial thunder. "Stokowski looks ahead to indescribable changes. In these he perhaps sees his destiny. He prophesies them from intuition. He can not say fully how they will transpire. But he upholds them with zeal and aplomb.

"The conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra may like his place beneath the sun. He may enjoy his gift of grace. He undoubtedly knew what he was doing when he let his hair, once sleekly cropped, flower about his head.

"Undoubtedly, too, he is aware that his experiments make a dramatic display. But his gestures are not mean. His science is no bribe for favour. He plumbs the depths of physical and mental effort. He has a clean, swift passion for his work.

"And however much he relishes glamour or condescends to the fashion for fame, Stokowski is quick with the high fire of his art.

"For years he refused to broadcast. The receivers were as yet too crude. The tutti almost overloaded the wires.

"A man knowing nothing of music, sat by a dial and regulated the accents of sound according to his own whim. If he felt that there was too much noise, he diminished it. If, on the contrary, he longed for bigger and better vibrations, he increased them.

"This did not fall in with Stokowski's plans. He studied the technique of broadcasting. Last October, when he gave his first concert over the radio, he directed both his musicians and the man at the dial with his baton. Hooked up to fifty-two stations, he reached all over the United States, into Canada, and into Mexico.

"At last he approached the fulfilment of his dream. He could diffuse his music among millions, himself and his orchestra unseen, and perhaps a velvet darkness enveloping his hearers in the vast world of sound."

Here and There

TWO-WAY television, in conjunction with ordinary telephones, was demonstrated recently in New York. The conversation was made possible by the use of the "iconophone," and was carried on as though the person at the other end of the wire were in the same room. The speakers were able to see and hear each other as if they were conducting a conversation with someone at an open window 10 or 12 feet away, though the actual separation was about three miles. Dr. Frank Jewett, president of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, explained that the system employed was not yet commercially feasible.

A GLIDER was recently towed across the American Continent by an aeroplane, arriving safely at New York in less than forty hours' flying time. Included in the glider's equipment was a radio transmitter and receiver for maintaining communication with radio air beacons.

ANOTHER interesting stage in wireless picture transmission was reached recently, when a short-wave Californian station successfully transmitted the entire front page of a newspaper to a receiver in Schenectady, New York.

A NEW York motor dealer has hit upon the happy scheme of giving away a wireless set with every second-hand car sold. It is stated that since he instituted the custom, he has never received any complaints about the sets.

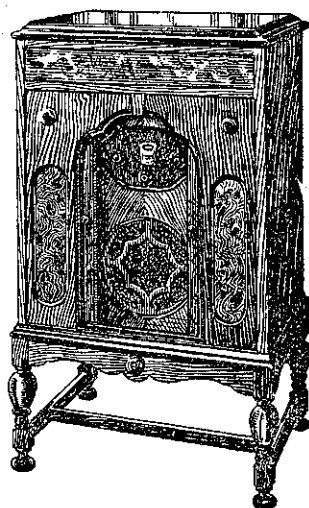
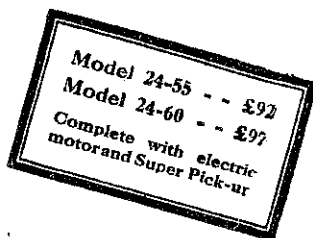
AS an experiment, a Detroit dairy company recently installed modern radio equipment in the cow barns, and found that the milk herd appreciated the music. Since the advent of the radio, dairymen keeping close tabulation found that milk production has increased considerably, the company attributing the increase to the music alone.

RADIO-EQUIPPED balloons that automatically report atmospheric conditions encountered in free flights have recently been tested out in Russia and France. The French device sends out radio signals at regular intervals showing barometric pressure and temperature encountered by the balloon. These are received both as audible signals and by a recording pen. In this instrument a make-and-break device is used to indicate barometer and thermometer readings by the duration of the signals. A radio pilot balloon, developed by the United States Signal Corps, has proved a success when used for indicating the speed and direction of the upper winds. A small radio transmitter is sent aloft attached to three hydrogen-filled balloons. At various ground stations the direction from which signals come is determined by apparatus such as is used with the radio compass, and reported to a central point where the movements are worked out and plotted.

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Radio to the Rescue

SOME interesting experiments in the use of radio for rescue operations in the mountains have recently been concluded in Austria. Two knapsack outfits were used, each weighing about 28lb. and capable of both sending and receiving messages. One was operated from the summit of the Rax Alp, a mountain of approximately 6000 feet in height, and the other from a valley at the base.

The results were reported generally satisfactory, though reduction of weight and other improvements are necessary before such apparatus can come into general use among mountaineers. These sets were literally portable, of course, for the weight was not too great for a normal climber to carry. However, they are much too heavy for inclusion as a single item in a mountaineer's outfit. Thus it is probable that their use will be restricted to large parties, where one man could be detailed to carry the set, the rest of the party sharing his equipment.