Radio Round the World

ALABAMA appears to be leading all other American States in its enthusiasm for radio. A receiver is now installed in every courthouse in the State, and the authorities are paying one-third of the cost of all receiving sets installed in schools.

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"HOME recording" is the latest fashion among American listeners. One of the leading manufacturers of that country has marketed a radio-gramophone set capable of recording the broadcast programmes as they are received. Recordings of home performances may also be taken.

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A COMPLETE change will shortly take place in the administration of Norwegian broadcasting, the Government having decided to take over all existing broadcasting stations in order to form a State service. The programmes will be supplied under contract by private companies.

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THE latest story from America concerns a family of woodpeckers who, it is stated, recently succeeded in stopping the transmissions of a Philadelphia broadcasting station for forty-eight hours. This they accomplished by drilling a hole through a 100ft. cedar wireless mast three feet thick. Eventually the mast collapsed.

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THEATRE and concert halls in Uruguay are now legally compelled to allow the broadcasting of their performances. Apparently theatre managers who refuse permission will be fined 100 pesos (£20) for each offence! The radio administration will be supported by listeners' license fees, the annual contribution being about £2. Revenue will also be drawn from radio import duties. New Zealand listeners haven't much to complain about, after all.

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THE second International Radio Exhibition to be held in Rumania took place between September 7 and 28 last. The object of the exhibition was to stimulate greater interest in radio, to reveal to those interested the possibilities of radio transmitting and operating, to collect samples of all the new developments in this branch of science, and to offer occasion to foreign radio industries to show their products to the thousands of people who visited it. Amateur radio is rapidly becoming universally popular in that country, and the recent exhibition must have been of intense interest to many. Specialists in the various branches lectured regularly and questions were invited. An interesting feature was the collection of radio journals from all quarters of the globe. Almost every journal in the world had sample copies distributed.

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THROUGH an ingenious scheme, all difficulties encountered in the arrangements to broadcast the 1930 American open golf tournament were successfully overcome. The announcer was equipped with a portable transmitting outfit, which weighed about 20 pounds. It consisted of a transmitter, strapped to his back, and a microphone which rested at the proper elevation on his chest. An assistant trundled the batteries over the course in a perambulator! The aerial consisted of a 10-foot bamboo pole wound with heavy wire and fastened to the transmitter case. The description was picked up and rebroadcast without delay over two huge networks of stations.

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STATION CNRH, Nova Scotia, the latest link in the Canadian National Railways' broadcasting system, recently broadcast its inaugural programme. The studios are located on the seventh floor of the "Nova Scotian," Halifax's most luxurious hotel, and are the most scientifically designed yet constructed in Canada. The main studio is forty feet long, twenty-five feet wide, and has a seventeen-foot ceiling. Acoustical material covers the walls. Microphone outlets are also provided in various public rooms throughout the hotel, providing additional broadcast space. Efficient lighting is accomplished by indirect floodlights reflecting from the ceiling, giving a weird effect and making the casting of shadows impossible. Temperature is kept constant by thermostatic-controlled ventilation, thus adding to the trueness of instrumen[illegible] voices.

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A RECENT tax imposed on all public loudspeakers in Vienna has placed the Austrian Government in a perplexing position. Until the imposition loudspeakers were everywhere, in the streets, public halls, and cafes—in fact, they were so popular that Vienna was fast earning the name of the "City of Loudspeakers." Hoping to establish a new source of revenue, the Government introduced the tax previously mentioned, to the great joy of professional musicians, but to the intense chagrin of the general public, besides wireless manufacturers and amateurs. A public protest has now been organised, and the Government are wondering which would be more profitable: to keep the musicians "on the dole" or repeal the tax.

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