formerly technical editor of Mr. Pocock's publication, had resigned to become chief engineer of the British Broadcasting Corporation, Ltd. We wrote him and received a much more complete picture of the myriad applications which may be made of what apparently is the most startling invention of this decade.

We invited Mr. Harris and his associates to utilise the facilities of "Radio News" laboratory on their contemplated visit to this country, and are happy to announce their acceptance. Within a few weeks we expect to be able to demonstrate some of the simpler applications of Dr. James Robinson's extremely interesting invention.

Incidentally, many demonstrations have been made before the leading European scientific bodies, and many

governments are now investigating its operation. Among other things, the London "Daily Mail," which publishes in Manchester and in London, simultaneously, is now using the Stenode principle on a wire telegraph line between the two cities, with the result that the communication capacity of the lines has been increased many times.

So much has been said, and so much purposely left unsaid about television, that any reference to it usually compels attention.

Perhaps it is well, then, to say that in the opinion of the inventor, the Stenode Radiostat is the key to the broadcast television problem, because it will permit, within the limiting factors which other portions of the television problem bring about, the establishing of many television broadcast channels without in any way limiting present broadcasting facilities.

Not the least interesting is the possible application of the Stenode application to amateur or "ham" activities. It is common knowledge that there is not sufficient room for these ardent investigators in the portions of the frequency spectrum assigned them by international agreement, through our own Department of Commerce. The section now allotted to the amateurs for radio telephone communication is particularly narrow, and radio telephones require a wider band for each station than is necessary for radio telegraphy. Without in any way altering inter-national agreements on frequency allocation the Stenode, it is claimed, will allow the amateurs to increase the number of existing stations and enable them to improve the character of transmission and reception as well.

The Stenode applied to telephone and telegraph lines will, by increasing the number of conversations possible over each line, result in tremendous saving in equipment, and a great increase in telephone and telegraph facilities along with great reduction in the cost of these rapidly expanding services.

We have called the Stenode a "Million Dollar Idea." After learning of its multiplicity of applications, we feel sure that our estimate is conservative in the extreme. Perhaps we would be nearer the correct figure if we made it a billion. In any event, it is with keen gratification that "Radio News" will place all the authorised information by the inventor of the Stenode Radiostat at the disposal of the communications services of the world each month.

## Another N.Z. Factory

A MATTER of general interest to radio dealers and listeners throughout the Dominion is the news that Messrs. Abel, Smeeton, Ltd., the well-known Auckland radio dealers, are to open a manufacturing department. Large and well-equipped premises have been secured for a factory, and it is apparent that some very interesting models can be looked for. It is reported that an all-electric, allwave, all-British receiver will be one of the chief products of the new factory.

Messrs. Abel, Smeeton will commence their manufacturing activities under very favourable circumstances, as they have been fortunate enough to obtain the services of the engineering and technical staff of the manufacturing department of Messrs. J. Wiseman and Sons, Ltd., who are now in liquidation. The more valuable parts of the latter concern's factory, plant and machinery have also been secured.

The chief radio engineer will be Mr. H. E. Parsons, who was the originator and patentee of the now widely used wave-changing system by which the reception of short-wave broadcast is effected on an ordinary receiver without the necessity for changing coils.

The new factory is expected to be operating before the end of this month, and in the meantime we take the opportunity to wish the directors every success in their progressive enterprise.

## Improving Carborundum Detectors

QUITE a number of the cartridge type carborundum detectors fail to operate satisfactorily after having been in use for some time. The cartridge contains a compressed steel spring which ensures a high pressure contact between the steel plates and the crystal. By tapping the end of the detector with some force it is often possible to improve the sensitivity of the detector considerably. This suggestion must not be taken as infallible, since, in some instances, tapping will have no effect upon the operation of the detector. A stabilising voltage must be used in conjunction with the cartridge if results are to be experted.

AN unfortunate mistake in specifications occurred in the published description of the chokes for "A" eliminator. It was stated that if a lower resistance than .91 valves is required 10 s.w.g wire could be used. This should read 16 s.w.g. wire.

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