

THE editor of the "Times," Berlin, has received a visit from a young German who displayed a miniature wireless receiver constructed from material smuggled to him while serving a term of several months' imprisonment. The receiver could be held completely in the hollow of his hand and, in spite of the warders' vigilance, he heard concerts, reports of meetings, and theatrical items in his cell each evening. During the day the ingenious wireless enthusiast easily concealed the whole of his apparatus in the breast

of his tunic. His secret was never discovered.

THE Germans have evolved an idea to prevent broadcast artists introducing distortion through being the wrong distance from the microphone. The carpet is of a draughtboard pattern

and most of the squares bear numbers. When rehearsing the artists are allotted numbers and must keep to these during the actual performance.

THE Italian Government, to encourage home production of radio receivers, is instituting an annual competition among manufacturers. The firm which produces the most suitable set for public use, will be granted a one-year contract for a supply of sets and instruments. These are to be made available to the public on the instalment plan.

TO commemorate the tenth anniversary of the invasion of Poland by the Bolshevik army, a representation of the battle was recently staged ten miles from Warsaw. Microphones were taken to the battle-ground, and with the aid of artillery, rifles, and bombs lent by the military authorities, listeners were entertained with all the thrills of the engagement.

THE successful introduction of broadcast receivers on German and French trains has attracted the attention of Italian railway officials, and experiments are shortly to be conducted on the Milan-Turin route. The receiver will be in the care of the guard, who will issue headphones to passengers on payment of a small fee.

A LEADING London daily publishes an interesting statement made by Marconi in reply to the question, "What do you want most out of life?" in which the following passage occurs:—"I do not demand wireless communication with Mars, wireless-controlled machinery, or even television. These things will not successfully operate in a perfect manner for many years to come. But I do think that I have time and the knowledge for making wireless transmission better than it is."

A NEW type of accumulator is on the point of completion by an Irishman, Dr. Drumm. It is an alkaline battery, having a voltage of less than half that of an ordinary accumulator. It is very light and charges up at eight-minute intervals instead of 8 to 10 hours, as is the case with the lead and Edison types. The installation of this accumulator in a 65-ton electric train was contemplated, but, one of the electrodes being made of silver, the equipment of one engine would have cost over two millions.

WIRELESS is becoming increasingly popular among the native population of North America, owing, in great measure, to the excellent propaganda work which has been accomplished by "The Giant's Voice," a travelling wireless installation and loudspeaker. The

wireless installation consists of two motor-vehicles, one for the actual broadcasting and the other containing the power unit. The plant has a modulated output of more than 600 watts, derived from an overall input of 2 kilowatts. The large valves are specially mounted to avoid vibration. There is a studio with two microphones, one for announcements and lectures, the other for items of music. Items are also relayed from other stations. The huge multi-cone loudspeakers have a wide range—in certain circumstances, up to six miles.

A NEW use for wireless telephony has been discovered by the Canadian National Railways. The train ferries operating between the mainland at Tormentine, New Brunswick, and Borden, Prince Edward Island, convey passenger coaches and freight cars. Although the distance covered is not great, weather conditions frequently lengthen the time required for the passage. To maintain communication with the ferries at all times, the company has installed two small 100-watt wireless telephone transmitters and associated receivers. The ship sets are operated by remote control from the captain's cabin.

YOU are at this moment in the central cage of the Pezon Menagerie? was the announcement which recently thrilled listeners to the broadcasting station at Lille, France. For three-quarters of an hour the programme consisted of the snarls, grunts, and other vocal efforts of a company of lions, tigers, leopards, wolves, hyenas and bears.

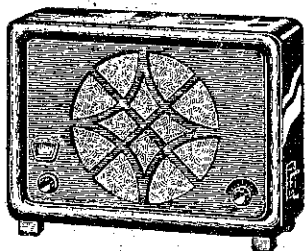
THE most powerful broadcasting installation in Europe recently underwent its final trials at the Marconi works at Chelmsford. This is a long wave 158 k.w. transmitter which is shortly to be erected near Warsaw for the Polish Broadcasting Company. The two aerial masts, 600 feet high and 750 feet apart, will be the highest in use at any European broadcasting station. It will be interesting to see if any of New Zealand's d.x. enthusiasts succeed in logging this giant.

ALL attendance records for previous wireless exhibitions have been smashed this year at Olympia. In the first six days more than 170,000 visitors passed through the turnstiles. The daily average exceeded that of 1929 by nearly 6,000. This year's Show has conclusively proved that the radio industry is one of the most prosperous in England at the present time (states a contemporary). Orders were taken which will keep quite a number of firms busy for four or five months.

THE opening of the first course in broadcast salesmanship is announced by the College of the City of New York. The instructor, it is stated, has travelled 10,000 miles studying "listener reaction" and is an expert in making the programme suit the product.

Club Story of an Explorer made wild

Pensive looking! Yes, Bill, and all through buying a Blue Spot Radio Set . . . Tuned in last night to a voice speaking on *Lost in the Bush* . . . good voice, too . . . might have come from the local station or, mayhap, further away. Started me musing of the trip to the interior of Borneo. It failed . . . the dangers . . . the heat . . . tame, beautiful birds, strangers to man . . . must go back to Borneo again. Switched off to stroll and think. Yes, I'll be off in a week. No. Won't sell the set. I like it. If you want to listen in, too, you can easily buy a new Blue Spot Radio.



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Special Terminals enable you to attach an Electric Pick-Up to Electrically Play Gramophone Records.

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