

GERMANY and Britain are running very close in the race for the four-millionth receiving license. Although the population of the former country is considerably larger than that of Britain, the license figures remain remarkably close. On July 1 Germany had 3,719,594 registered listeners, while the British total on the same date was 3,756,331. No wonder the B.B.C. can pay their way.



JUST as "Radio Paris" was about to give a running commentary on a motor race recently, the Post Office authorities, without warning, took possession of the telephone line which had been hired for the occasion, with the result that the commentator poured his lurid story into a "dead" microphone. No reporter was present when he learned the truth.

at his store, and the proprietor amuses the youngsters with a wireless entertainment during the parents' absence.

SHIP letter telegrams at a reduced rate are now accepted aboard ships at sea for transmission by wireless to English post office coast stations and thence by post to the addressees. The service is at present available only in the ship-to-shore direction, and reply telegrams to ships can be sent only as ordinary radiograms. The charge for a ship letter telegram is 3d a word, with a minimum charge of 6/3 for 25 words.

THE Glasgow Municipal Transport Committee recently adopted a scheme which, it is thought, will eliminate all tramway interference with broadcast reception. The scheme involves the scrapping of nearly 1000 trolley wheels at present used for picking up current, and replacing them with Fischer Bow collectors—a type which has passed rigorous tests in Budapest, Vienna, Leipzig, and other Continental

cities, and was the subject of a favourable report by the British Post Office two or three years ago. An English contemporary states that Glasgow's example will shortly be followed by many other municipalities.

"THE Duke of York has completed a two screen-grid receiver, with which he listens to European stations which, when they hear him tuning in, preface their announcements with 'Your Highness, ladies and gentlemen.'" —Australian paper. Comment would be superfluous.

AS a first step toward the establishment of America's international relay broadcasting service, the Federal Radio Commission has just authorised the formation of the Short Wave Broadcasting Corporation with four channels with which to commence operations. The corporation's first object is to furnish programmes to the Latin-Ameri-

can countries during 1931, but arrangements are already in hand for supplying a service to Japan, China, and the Far East, as well as certain countries in Europe. The nucleus of the system will be a new 15 k.w. station located on the eastern seaboard. The wavelengths to be used will be 49.67, 25.42, 19.67, and 13.97 metres.

STUDENTS of the Budapest Technical School recently constructed a short-wave transmitter and receiver for the purpose of broadcasting a running commentary on the Budapest University boat race. The transmitter, which was carried in a boat following the rival crews, operated on 41.5 metres with a power of 10 watts, and the description was picked up on a receiver connected to a public address system.

THE N.B.C. of America recently announced that in the near future it will make a serious of awards amounting to several thousands of dollars for the best orchestral work written by an American composer. In a preliminary announcement of the competition, made by Mr. H. L. Aylesworth, the president of the N.B.C., he stated that the relationship between music and radio must be close and continuing for their mutual advantage. "Music, the only true international language, needs no translation. It has been a leading factor in the tremendous growth of broadcasting," he said, "and as good businessmen, the officials of the N.B.C. have decided that this debt should be acknowledged in some tangible manner."

IT is reported in the London "Times" that Marquis Marconi is devoting much time to the perfecting of some standard commercial short-wave receiving apparatus. He is also said to be preparing tests of the practical value of waves a few centimetres in length, with a view to their application to some special ship-to-ship and shore-to-shore wireless safety device, principally to establish the accurate position of vessels in a fog.

A NOVEL and enterprising business idea is carried out by a South African radio dealer. Mothers desirous of going shopping can leave their children

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