

THE present financial unrest has led to so many telephone calls between England and the United States that the American Telephone and Telegraph Company recently had to obtain leave from the Federal Radio Commission to use its South African telephone wavelength for the European service for a period of ten days.

LEADING Continental radio and electrical authorities were assembled recently at Paris for the National Anti-static Congress, when all forms of interference with radio reception were analysed and discussed. One of the most practical suggestions was that electrical apparatus should bear a mark indicating that it had been tested and approved as a non-radiator of electrical waves.

AN anti-loudspeaker "war" in France has brought about a reactionary movement in favour of loudness. "Don't complain of noise," writes a pro-loudspeaker correspondent, in a French contemporary, "a city without noise would be dead, differing in no way from a cemetery. We are all living, so long live noise!" This is hardly complimentary to the loudspeaker, but the writer means well.

WIRELESS experts, working in co-operation with the Imperial Airways, are now organising a wireless network on the all-red route from England to the Cape. The undertaking is in the hands of Flight-Lieutenant R. E. Durrant, A.F.C., who was the wireless operator on the airship R34 when she accomplished her first flight west across the Atlantic and the first double crossing in July, 1919.

THE British Postmaster-General, in replying recently to a question in the House of Commons concerning the substitution of quarterly for annual licenses, stated that there were now 3,750,000 wireless licenses in force, and that the cost of collecting the fees and securing the renewals was already considerable. The proposed substitution would practically quadruple the work, and the additional expense would, he thought be out of proportion to the benefit derived by the public.

IN the marine arsenal at Toulon trumpet calls are recorded on discs and transmitted through a power loudspeaker to all ships in the roadstead, thereby reducing the required number of ships' trumpeters. It has been suggested that this economy scheme should be carried still farther and records kept of ceremonial gunfire, which could be transmitted through super-loudspeakers when required for formal salutes.

MR. K. E. YLANDER, of Osterson, Sweden, claims to have invented a device which completely eliminates fading. The apparatus, which he describes as a "fading compensator," is of simple construction and can be attached to any receiver.

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THE moulding of women's "colour consciousness" is one of the future roles of television, according to Mr. Edward H. Symonds, president of the British Fashions and Fabrics Bureau. With the fertility of imagination which comes more naturally to the prophet than to the technician, Mr. Symonds told the Halifax Textile Society recently that "the perfection of colour photography, which was well on its way, will be brought within the scope of television. This particular feature of this new invention will increase the fashion educational power of television because by reproduction of exact colours of the materials employed and the styles, season by season, women's colour consciousness will be regulated and moulded." Meanwhile we are told that a new cinema at Waterloo, Huddersfield, has been provided with accommodation for housing television apparatus in readiness for the possible arrival of this refinement.

PROFESSOR MOLTHANOV, of the Soviet Arctic Institute, has designed a radio transmitter which will automatically broadcast meteorological data when cast adrift on a buoy. The first test is to be made shortly in the Behring Straits.

A NEW German high-power station situated in the neighbourhood of Pagan, to the south of Leipzig, and destined to serve that city, will be formally opened in March, 1932. Its ultimate energy will be 150 kilowatts, thus making it the most powerful transmitter of the German broadcast system.

A NEW means of communication, utilising a narrow beam of neon light as a carrier, was demonstrated recently in New York. The experiment was conducted between the main central Pennsylvania Pier and a liner in dock. The programme consisted of speech, gramophone records and radio broadcasts from nearby stations, and was received and made audible through an ordinary loudspeaker. Only a small red light on the pier, more than half a mile away, was visible from the ship. This was from the powerful neon tube, which changed the electrical impulses of the microphone into light waves. This light, centred in a 30in. mirror, similar to those used in searchlights, was then projected in a beam which was picked up by a similar mirror in the ship. In the centre of the receiving mirror was a photo-electric tube. The flickers of the projected neon light as they reached the mirror were concentrated on the photo-electric tube and changed by it from light waves to electrical impulses, which were fed to the amplifiers and then to the speaker.

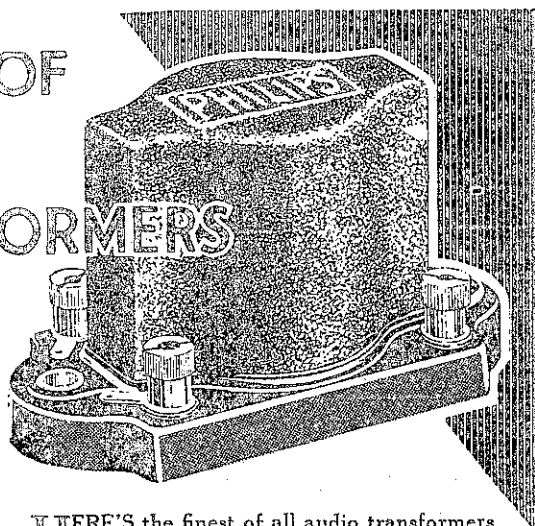
A LITTLE simple instruction in the working of Ohm's Law, taken from the Bombay "Radio Bulletin":—"To find out watt, multiply together with the number of volts and number of amperes. For example, 100 volts  $\times$   $\frac{1}{2}$  ampere = 50 watts." Is it not very simple? I am sure you must have already said, 'Yes, it is so very simple. I thank you for that.' Yes, thanks! Finally, we take Ohm's Law: 4 volts divided by 2 amps, the result is 2 ohms."

FIGURES are now available in connection with the British Radio Exhibition, held recently at Olympia, and show that the number of wireless sets ordered is approximately 1,000,000, the value being roughly £10,000,000. Compared with last year the figures show a decided increase. Last year there were 650,000 sets sold, at a value of £7,000,000. Apart from sets, orders for 8,000,000 valves were placed at the Exhibition, representing a value of £3,500,000, as compared with 5,300,000 last year, worth £2,600,000. Batteries also sold better this year. Orders were taken for 10,000,000, representing a value of about £4,000,000.

A RATHER mysterious attitude toward the broadcasting of religious services has been taken up by the Roman Catholic authorities in Northern Ireland. Application was recently made by the B.B.C. for broadcast facilities, and it was turned down without explanation. Consequently Belfast is broadcasting regularly from a number of Protestant churches, but no Roman Catholic services are relayed. In the Irish Free State no services of any kind are broadcast.

THE race between Britain and Germany for the four millionth broadcast receiving license has ended in a victory for Britain. Thanks partly to the Post Office "ghost van" campaign, the British figures went up with a rush toward the end of October, and the four million mark was reached with Germany nearly 200,000 behind. And now for the ten millionth, which the more optimistic statisticians regard as the saturation point for the British Isles. The German saturation point, on the basis of four heads per license, should be in the region of 15,000,000.

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