

sonal investigation where necessary. After discovery of the actual facts pertaining to different localities, it will be for the engineering skill and scientific knowledge of the commission to offer solutions that will most effectively meet the majority of the problems at an expense within the means of the Board over the next few years. This task is a most important one, and it is satisfactory that it is under way. We look forward with deep interest to the presentation of the report in due course, for its reactions upon the whole situation will be very far-reaching.

## Coverage Commission

### Representations Made

WHEN the committee of experts was appointed to investigate the question of radio coverage, an invitation was extended to radio societies and persons to make representations to the committee concerning those areas where reception is not satisfactory. This invitation has been largely availed of. Requests to visit various localities have been received and each one will be considered on its merits by the commission. A number of the complaints received are of a trivial nature and others refer to grievances which are beyond the powers of the commission. Matters are well in train for the commission to begin its work, and the members realise that they are tackling a difficult problem, or a whole series of difficult problems, theoretical as well as practical.

### Talks on Russia

EXTRACT from a letter of a listener at Waihopo, in the far north of New Zealand:—We in this household and visiting friends desire to express our greatest appreciation and interest in the Saturday evening lectures by Major-General B. S. Merlin. Although speaking with the accent of his country, his command of English is excellent and well delivered, understood, and enjoyed.

### RADIO IS BROADCASTING For Trained Men!

A man must possess the latest scientific knowledge before he can enter or succeed in Radio. Radio is changing constantly. In the few years it has been a reality to the general public many revolutionary things have happened—to-morrow will bring new revelations. The International Correspondence Schools, through courses prepared by leading radio authorities, have proved that they can give men the TRAINING to succeed in Radio. Write for important information and illustrated literature. DO IT NOW!

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# Keen Interest Aroused in Music Lovers' Competition

BY the time this is in circulation the first stages of the Music-Lovers' Competition will be under way. From 1YA on Tuesday the first section was launched, followed by 2YA on Wednesday, 3YA on Thursday, while 4YA will release its section on Monday.

The preliminary announcement that we made last week has excited a good deal of interest, and there has been much scanning of the special list of numbers from which the excerpts are to be chosen, which appeared in last week's issue. From week to week during the currency of the Competition these lists will appear, so that competitors will be able to refresh their memories of the actual titles of the numbers that are used. Everyone has had the experience of being quite familiar with a tune, but just not able on the spur of the moment to name it. The publication of the list is designed to remedy that position, and act as a refresher to memories otherwise excellent.

In addition to the special prizes awarded by the Wellington radio dealers and the Auckland radio dealers to supplement the cash prizes awarded in connection with the Competition itself, we are now able to announce that the Dunedin Radio Dealers' Association has donated the sum of £5, to be awarded in the form of orders on members of the association for radio goods. This donation will permit the allocation of special prizes in connection with the 4YA Competition as follows: First, special order for radio goods for £3; second, special order for radio goods for £1 10s.; third, special order for radio goods for 10s.

The Competition, as already announced, is to extend over a period of ten weeks, and, judging by the preliminary interest shown, will prove a very welcome innovation in the test it will apply of listeners' familiarity with well-known melodies and tunes.

This week's list of words appears on the inside front cover, and a specimen entrance sheet on this page.

## Radio Cross-Communication

AN interesting radio cross-communication was effected on October 23 last, when Captain H. E. Webb, on board the Australian freight ship Canadian Constructor spoke to the Canadian Prime Minister, who was sitting in his office at Ottawa with the telephone on his desk.

This radio cross-communication was broadcast over the entire territory of Eastern Canada, and also to Australia, where it was relayed. The conversation was about the cargo of the Canadian Constructor, and about the commercial relations between Canada and Australia.

## Exchange of Announcers

### 1YA and 2YA Affected

MANY listeners to 1YA and 2YA in the past week were intrigued by hearing "new voices" from each station. As Mr. Culford Bell, announcer at 1YA, was required in Wellington on business connected with the Broadcasting Board, the opportunity was taken to fill his place temporarily with Mr. Olive Drummond, from 2YA. The change-over was unannounced, and the reaction upon listeners was looked for with some little interest. At both stations telephone rings were prompt on the part of listeners, who were interested to inquire why the change was made. Evidently in these days of de-

pression the immediate thought on any change being detected, is whether "the sack" has been handed out! Those concerned in this were speedily reassured.

At 1YA cases were reported of bers being made between husband and wife and other listeners as to whether the receiver was tuned on to Wellington or Auckland, and in not a few instances the telephone was called upon to settle the issue.

The change will obtain altogether for about a fortnight, after which the respective announcers will return to their home stations.

## Drugs by Wireless Surgery and Short-wave

Will surgeons shortly be able to administer a general anaesthetic by directing, painlessly, ultra-short waves on the brain?

Baron von Ardenne, a German scientist of 26, famous for his discoveries in connection with the Cathode ray oscillograph, which enables the course of magnetic storms to be traced and the position of an aeroplane in flight to be determined, is now experimenting in his Berlin laboratory with ultra-short waves and their use in medicine, says the London "News-Chronicle."

Baron von Ardenne has already demonstrated that he can stimulate any particular part of the brain, and can produce, if required, the same effect of insensibility as that of chloroform or ether and oxygen.

The correction of imbecility or mental weakness, it is understood, is another possibility to which the scientist is directing attention.

Dr. William Beaumont, medical officer in charge of St. Pancras Municipal Clinic, has stated that there may come a time when a doctor will be able to write out a prescription substituting wave lengths for drugs.

In 1929, Professor Esau, of Jena, claimed to have perfected a new death ray in the form of ultra short waves, which could be transmitted 250 miles without an aerial and by means of ordinary wireless valves. Germs in bacterial cultures, it was claimed, were killed instantly, and also animals of small size.

Only a few days ago the Marchese Marconi said that the ultra-short waves with which he was experimenting might be developed into a death ray. "Engineers tell me," he said, "that such short waves can kill mice and birds. I have not experimented with them as a death ray, but if you get in their path, your whole body begins to warm up."

THE transmitting station, Radio Saigon, is now effecting experimental transmissions with a new transmitter of 12 k.w., on a wavelength of 25.465 metres.

MUSIC LOVERS' COMPETITION. (For this week's list see inside front cover.)

## Specimen Entrance Sheet

(Use plain paper).

Name: William Whizzbang.

Address: 123 Marine Parade,  
Raetihi.

1YA MUSIC-LOVERS' COMPETITION.

(Alter name of Station as required.)

Item

- 1.....Annie Laurie.
- 2.....Schubert's "Wanderer."
- 3.....Gounod's Serenade.
- 4.....The "1812" Overture.
- 5 and so on.

Keep careful note of items for each competition entered until the end of the series, when the competitor's entry should be finally prepared and posted before a date to be announced, to the Editor, "Radio Record," P.O. Box 1032, Wellington, the envelope being marked "Competition."