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The
Radio Record
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RADIO Round the World

THE International Broadcast Union has decided to install at Brussels a new instrument for recording on paper the tendency of any particular broadcast station to over-modulation. This is resultant upon many complaints of interference arising from over-modulation, laid before the union's recent annual meeting held at Montreux.

FOR the nineteenth successive year Mr. Hiram Percy Maxim, the well-known inventor, has been elected president of the American Radio Relay League, which he founded in 1914.

THE youngest amateur transmitter in America is not yet 10 years old. He operates a 5-watt station in California, which he built from information supplied by the American Radio Relay League. His father was an amateur in 1910.

A RECENT visitor to Leningrad states that it is difficult to escape propaganda in that city. The task will be still more difficult in future, as the authorities have ordered an additional 32,000 loudspeakers to be installed in factories, clubs, and in the streets.

IF the plans of the British Post Office materialise there will be a chain of small wireless phone stations installed in fishing craft, yachts, and other small craft around the coasts of Great Britain and Ireland. A British company is offering two types of transmitters, one of 300 watts and one of 60 watts. Messages from the craft will be received at special receiving stations and telegraphed to their destinations.

THERE is a proposal afoot in Great Britain to install a powerful broadcasting station on board an old ship which will be anchored outside British waters. The station will be used for advertising propaganda intended for British listeners.

AT the end of last year there were 31,859 amateur transmitters registered in the U.S.A. The increase of 40 per cent. upon the previous year's total which this represents is ascribed to "freedom from discouraging regulations."

THE radio equipment of the famous Sing Sing Prison was made and installed by a convict of the gaol. There are 2300 radio head phones and 21 loud-speakers distributed throughout every cell and building of the prison. The new and old buildings cover several square miles, but all are connected to a central radio receiving set controlled by an official.

THERE are more than 20 million houses in the U.S.A. wired for electricity, and it is estimated that 15 millions of these have radio receivers installed. This information has been supplied to the Manufacturers' Association, which intends making an effort to supply the remainder with radio. The fact that many electricity

supply firms have increased profits during the depression encouraged the manufacturers to expect large sales during the coming winter.

THE National Advisory Council of Radio in education in the U.S.A. has reported that while not defending in the slightest degree the method by which American broadcasters obtain their revenue, the council is of the opinion that a license fee collected by the postal administrations in other countries is not ideal. It is further reported that in this comparatively young art or industry, this is to be expected, and the ideal method is still to be sought.

WHEN Sir Charles Kingsford Smith flies the Tasman next month his plane will be equipped with a radio telephone housed in a sound-proof cabin. The whole apparatus will weigh under 200lb. and through a land relay station listeners throughout the world will be kept in constant touch with the plane. In a recent interview Sir Charles stated "It will be a thrill for us, thousands of feet above the sea and miles from anywhere, to sit in comfort and talk to thousands of unseen people."

IT is estimated that it will cost the Grimsby Town Council £25,000 to convert D.C. radio sets to A.C., in their proposed change over to A.C. current supply. As half the listeners do not use mains sets, it was proposed to charge radio users a fee of four shillings per year for the privilege. This proposition, however, met much opposition and was discarded.

THE radio station of the League of Nations, like the League itself, is international in character. The short-wave transmitter, aerial, and telephone terminal gear are of British manufacture. A French company supplied another transmitter, Germany is responsible for the receivers and their aerials, and most of the power gear comes from Switzerland.

THE U.S.A. Department of Justice is making a concerted raid on broadcasting and morse transmitters who have been aiding bootleggers. Any cryptic messages are copied over a period of several weeks, and submitted to the Radio Division of the Department of Commerce. This has resulted in the discovery that several stations are co-operating with liquor interests.

FROM the fifth annual report of the B.B.C., it is learned that the aggregate transmitting time was 63,466 hours 38 minutes, and the percentage of breakdown was 0.028, which represented a total for all stations for the year of only 17 hours 46 minutes.

THE House Owners' Association of Austria has made a formal protest to Parliament respecting the recent introduction of a weekly "Gymnastic

Hour" from the National Broadcasting Stations. It is held that the majority of residents live in tiers of flats which are not built to withstand rythmical exercises on several floors. In the interests of chandeliers, the announcer has already advised caution, and emphasised the need for gentle movements.

THE American broadcasting station WCAU is to increase its power from 10 k.w. to 50 k.w., and use a vertical aerial 500ft. high. The earthing system will contain ten miles of wire. The Tennessee station WSM will use with its new transmitter a vertical aerial 878 feet high—the tallest aerial in the U.S.A. Following the usual custom, the towers will be lighted and beacons so as not to be an obstruction to aviation.

IT is reported from Cairo that caravans crossing the Sahara Desert nowadays usually carry wireless sets on the backs of camels. At several desert oases wireless receivers have been installed for travellers. Even some of the nomadic Arab tribes have their camps equipped with up-to-date portable sets.

THE International Broadcasting Bureau at Geneva estimates that there are 34,000,000 wireless receiving sets in the world, and the bureau, allowing four listeners to each receiver, gives the extraordinary total of 136,000,000 people making use of wireless broadcasting.

TAKING income tax into account, and the decision of the B.B.C. to relinquish £150,000 of income for the fiscal year 1932-1933, it is estimated that the B.B.C. will receive rather less than five shillings from each license issued this year.

THE radio industry in America evidently has confidence in the future, for it is investing over two hundred million dollars in new machinery, dies, tools, raw materials, and other equipment necessary for the manufacture of radio sets. It is expected that the record of last season, when 3,500,000 sets and 50,000,000 valves were sold, will be easily passed in the coming year.

ONE of the most satisfactory features in connection with the new broadcasting regulations in Canada was the intimation from the United States of America that they will be glad to make all necessary adjustments to render certain channels available for effective broadcasting in Canada. This friendly attitude was gracefully acknowledged by the Prime Minister of Canada when speaking in the House of Commons.

THE result of the £2000 competition for symphonic compositions suitable for broadcasting, sponsored by the National Broadcasting Co. of America, has been announced. A total of 573 scores were submitted for judgment, and a committee made a selection of the five most meritorious. These were broadcast and were placed in order of merit by 150 musicians scattered throughout America. When the compositions were presented later in their winning order, each composer briefly introduced his own composition. The winner of the second prize, who was in Paris, spoke to American listeners through a short-wave station in that city.