

2nd ISSUE

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RADIO Round the World

IN Denmark, which country boasts of the highest ratio of wireless licenses to population, the penalty imposed on a "pirate" amounts to about £21.

THE B.B.C. announces that a new microphone is being tested which is so sensitive that listeners can hear the winking of an eyelid.

THE big studio in Rome's new broadcasting house measures 97 feet by 14 feet, and will hold an orchestra and audience of 120.

COMPLETE reorganisation is to be made in Norway's broadcast network during the year 1933-4, at a cost of more than one million kroner. Six of the most important districts are to have new two-kilowatt stations, and Bergen is to be specially favoured with a twenty kilowatt transmitter.

ALL broadcasting stations in Japan are members of one association. No programme is permitted to be broadcast until it has been submitted to and has received the full sanction of the Imperial Japanese Department of Communications. The regulations under which the company operates do not permit it to broadcast advertising programmes or political speeches.

IN a laboratory in America recently, a soprano singer sung an entire song while watching the constantly-changing image of her voice. On a little window in plain view a blue line traced every variation of the voice. A camera recorded the picture, from which a vocal recording was made. The developed film shows a moving image of the voice, paralleled by a sound-recording which could be reproduced by a motion picture sound projector.

THE B.B.C. has, in the course of its colossal growth, tended to lose that spirit of spontaneity which is a happy feature of broadcasting when in its infancy; but they wisely retain a free-lance staff which, not being entirely bound by a set routine, gets out among listeners and senses the effect of the colossus upon the public. Fresh ideas are conceived, and moulded into presentable form, and from this some remarkably successful programmes have resulted.

BROADCASTING stations in Germany have recently been the recognised butt of excited crowds. During the extreme tension of election week persons attempted to upset one of the masts of the Laugenburg transmitter, and were just prevented by the police watch from doing considerable harm. On the Saturday night preceding the election, an attempt was made to set fire to the Breslau station. The damage, however, was not considerable and broadcasting was not interrupted. In both cases the rioters were able to escape unrecognised. The watch was doubled to prevent further sabotage.

THE new station for Montreal will be of 50 kilowatt power and the projected wave-length is 411 metres.

THE Columbia broadcasting network of America charges advertisers £3390 per hour for a simultaneous broadcast through its 89 stations.

THE new transmitter for Breslau is to have an extraordinary aerial. It will consist of a vertical wire suspended within a wooden tower 500 feet high.

AT a recent public meeting at Rotorua, presided over by the mayor, a resolution was passed affirming the advisability of establishing a B station in that town. A committee was formed to go into the question from a technical and general point of view, and a report is to be made at a later public meeting.

IN addition to the international radio telephone station being erected at Shanghai, the Chinese Government has called for tenders for the construction of four stations for communication within China, one to be in Shanghai and the other three at important cities in the country. Agreements have been concluded between the Chinese and telegraph interests in the U.S.A., for the exchange of traffic between China, the U.S.A., Cuba, and the Philippine Islands.

QUESTIONS are being asked whether the Federal Radio Commission of the U.S.A. has not served its purpose. In the wide analysis to which governmental expenditure is being subjected, it is pointed out that in five years the staff has grown from a dozen employees to 137. Some are of the opinion that instead of the commission being a taxpayers' liability the expense of the work should be a charge upon the broadcasting companies. The present popular revolt in America against all governmental commissions has many partisans who emphasise the work of the department of commerce, which did much constructive work in abolishing chaotic conditions before the commission was appointed.

THE Danish Broadcasting Council is quite unlike the controlling body in other countries, and is really a wireless parliament, representative of all interests, and considered the best arrangement possible. Two members are nominated by the Minister of Public Works. The newspapers have their say, and two members represent the Press. Parliament nominates two members and the Minister of Education sends one representative. Listeners have a bumper share, and elect six representatives, making a total of fifteen. Every applicant for a license is able to express his view of the composition of the programmes on the back of the form, and from this information programme arrangement is largely cast.