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The
Radio Record
BOX 1032 - WELLINGTON.

RADIO Round the World

THE broadcasting station at Bagdad has no call-sign. It announces itself simply as "Bagdad."

THE Bombay police, it is reported, have discovered an illicit broadcasting station operated by the Bombay Congress.

BROADCAST licenses in Western Australia have increased by more than 30 per cent. in less than three years.

WEST AFRICA must be one of the largest areas in the British Empire which have not a broadcasting service. Post office engineers tried to run a programme for some time, but did not receive much encouragement.

MR. NOEL ASHBRIDGE, chief engineer of the B.B.C., and Mr. R. H. Eckersley, the director of programmes, have intimated that they intend to go to the United States in the spring on a special mission.

BULLETINS for babies? "People living in outlying places where no kind of news reaches them until they are at least twenty-four hours old, found in radio news broadcasting a blessing which they can ill afford to lose."—*Indian Wireless Magazine.*

A DANISH bootmaker is said to have discovered how to drive a half horse-power motor by electric energy derived from the air by an ordinary radio aerial. As the energy in a receiving aerial is infinitesimally small, the discovery if genuine is an epoch-marking one.

THE number of houses in Great Britain is computed to be 11,197,620. Of these 6,887,891 have no electric light. Of the remaining homes 1,068,340 are said to be electrically fed by d.c. supply. From these figures it would appear that there is a large field still remaining for battery-operated sets in Great Britain.

AN unprecedented boom in radio in Ulster recently followed a broadcast by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales from the Belfast station. The speech, which was made on the last day of the Prince's visit to Northern Ireland, was followed with the greatest enthusiasm by all Ulster listeners. Some idea of the importance attached to the event may be gauged from the fact that most of the offices closed at an earlier hour than usual to allow employees adequate time in which to get home and hear the broadcast. Not for years has such genuine enthusiasm been aroused, and in consequence all sections of the radio industry have been infused by a new enthusiasm.

THE five millionth license fee in Great Britain was spectacularly arranged and received its full share of prominent publicity. Officials of the Post Office and the B.B.C. with a whole phalanx of Press photographers were awaiting the arrival of the listener at exactly the moment when he yielded to the impulse to take out a license for a wireless set.



T. M. Charters,

a popular Christchurch baritone, who was heard in Scottish melodies from 3YA on Monday, January 23.

—Stephano Webb, photo.

THE manager of the Minsk and Saratoff (Russia) broadcasting stations recently allowed some Hungarian dance music to be broadcast instead of the usual Communist propaganda, and for so doing he has been sentenced to ten years' imprisonment.

NOTHING could condemn the present American broadcasting plan more than the following outspoken extract from the "Chicago Herald and Examiner":—"The public wants the great music of the masters. And it wants it not only regularly but skilfully presented. The commercial sponsors are not in a position to pay the broadcasting freight of such bands, even were they disposed to back such a venture. The broadcasters themselves, obviously, cannot foot the bill and stay on the black side of the ledger. Therefore, if radio is to advance musically it would seem the only step is for broadcasting to evolve some plan by which the public would support with cold cash consistent airings of the best orchestras."

BROADCASTING in Lithuania is curiously organised. The only broadcasting transmitter, which is used also for commercial telegraphy at certain times of the day, belongs to, and is operated by, the Ministry of Posts. The studio and the broadcasting organisation form part of the Ministry of Education.

IN France the proposed tax on receivers is meeting with virile opposition, as the authorities have not definitely outlived the benefits that will accrue with the enactment of a broadcasting BILL. It is thought that if a BILL were passed giving some authority power to take steps against all forms of electrical disturbance, most of the opposition would cease. Man-made static in several parts of France is particularly virulent.

WHEN Lithuanian broadcasting became organised in 1926 there were only 323 listeners in the country. By June, 1932, this number had increased to 14,128. The fee varies according as to whether the holder possesses a valve or crystal set, and whether the location is in the town or country. It is thought by the authorities that the number of pirates greatly exceeds the licensed listeners in Lithuania.

THE English Postmaster-General in a recent broadcast talk revealed that when the link with India is completed it will be possible for anyone in Britain to telephone anyone throughout the Empire, and for 95 per cent. of telephone users throughout the world London will become the switchboard of the world. The record long-distance call is held by an American film star, who telephoned London from Australia and thence connected with Los Angeles. When the air mail service is extended via Singapore to Australia letters would reach the latter in 14 days.

THE question of the use of Africans, the second official language of the Union, by South African broadcasting stations is exercising official concern. It is stated that Johannesburg station broadcast 240 hours in one recent month, and only fifteen hours were devoted to Africans. The position in Cape Town was stated to be worse. The policy of the National Government has been an attempt to make Africans the chief language of South Africa, but without the co-operation of the broadcasting stations it would appear that Africans will remain the second language, even if it does not eventually die out completely.

FACED with the undeniable fact that the corporation tramways interfere with broadcast reception, the parliamentary committee of the Sheffield City Council recommend that "it would not be wise for the council at present to make regulations." The engineer computes that it would cost £3000 to equip cars with interference eliminating coils, but the committee disclaims responsibility upon the argument that the tramways were first-comers. The contention that the council were morally responsible for eliminating the interference carried no weight, and the decision places on record that some bodies apparently believe that a "first-comer" has unbounded opportunities to create a nuisance in perpetuity.