

Radio Round the World

HOLLAND has the first "Association of the Victims of Radio." This comprises a group of citizens exasperated by neighbour's noisy loud speakers. To obtain official support they have adopted drastic remedies, renting rooms near the houses of official personages, including the Governor of the Province, the Mayor and the magistrates. In these rooms powerful radios and gramophones have been installed, and up to a late hour each night the dignitaries are feasted with music and song. Rumour has it that the mayor is drafting regulations that will put an end to the nuisance.

OVER 10,000 cases of interference of electrical apparatus with broadcast reception are dealt with annually by the British Post and Telegraph Department at the instigation of the B.B.C., and with the progress of electrification of business and domestic machinery a section of listeners are claiming that the whole position should be publicly ventilated.

THE Columbia Broadcasting System of the U.S.A. has begun regular daily transmission of images from a new ultra short-wave experimental television station.

ONE of the principal theatres in Turin has been taken over as a broadcasting studio by the Italian radio authorities.

THE refusal by the Federal Radio Commission to renew the license of a broadcaster who has used the facilities of his station "to obstruct the administration of justice, offend the religious susceptibilities of thousands, inspire political distrust and civic discord, or offend youth and innocence by the free use of words suggestive of sexual immorality," does not constitute a denial of the right of free speech, according to a recent ruling by the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia.

IN view of the statements at the time of the inauguration of the new Empire station it is interesting to read in a London journal that though reception appears to be favourable in India, other parts of the Empire have not been favourably impressed. After two days' service, not one Canadian acknowledgment had been received at Broadcasting House.

THERE is good reason to believe that the B.B.C. has done well in its new arrangements with the Treasury. Negotiations lasting nearly a year have come to an end highly satisfactory to the broadcasting authorities. At present the B.B.C. receives about five shillings from every license issued, but with the new arrangement, which is understood to be permanent, a greater percentage is to be received.

RADIO equipment for the automatic steering of aeroplanes which insures the direct flight of a plane to a predetermined destination, regardless of the effect of wind drift, is soon to be available. This development, together with the phenomenal increase in the use of radio telegraphy and telephony for communication in airways operation, promises a new field for radio production.

Our Puzzle Corner

Memory Refreshers

1. What is a gnu?
2. What is grindery?
3. How did the word "guinea" come to be a term of money?
4. When is the word "hegira" used?
5. What are the names given to the colours used in heraldry?
6. What is a hermit crab?



Victor S. Lloyd,
Who will relate
One of his Experiences
From 2YA on
SATURDAY, MARCH 25.

7. What is Hollands?
8. What is indian ink?
9. What is a Jeremiad?
10. What is a juggernaut?
11. What is a katydid?
12. What is Koumiss?
13. What plant provides linseed?
14. What is Maundy money?
15. How did the name milliner come about?
16. What is the phoenix?
17. Why is a poster so called?
18. Why is a certain kind of teacake called a Sally Lunn?
19. What is the animal called a unicorn?
20. What is a white elephant?

Answers

1. A gnu is an African animal of the antelope type. In appearance it suggests the body of a horse and the head of a buffalo.
2. The goods stocked by merchants who supply bootmakers and repairers with their requisites.
3. The gold which went to make the coin came from the Guinea Coast.
4. Just as we have numbered our years from the theoretical birth of Christ, so the Mohammedans count their years from the time when Mahomet left Mecca for Medina. The word hegira means departure, and when we use the term anno Domini, the

Mohammedan calendar uses the term hegira.

5. Gold is "or," silver is "argent," red is "gules," blue is "azure," green is "vert," purple is "purpure," and black is "sable."

6. A species of crab which possesses no shell covering. As a consequence, it finds an empty spiral shell or dispossesses some creature of its shell, enters it backwards, and lives there.

7. A kind of gin made in Holland of rye, malt, and the berries of the juniper tree.

8. An ink made with lampblack and some gummy fluid. It has no connection with India.

9. A tale of grief and woe, of complaint and lamentation, often with a spice of ridicule. So named from the "Lamentations of Jeremiah," in the Old Testament. Sometimes applied to a person who always has a long face.

10. Formerly an idol to which the people of India sacrificed themselves. Now, anything to which people ruthlessly and madly apply themselves, or anything which causes sacrifices out of all proportion to their value.

11. The Katydid is a huge flying insect, with green wings, inhabiting Central United States. It lives in trees and utters a shrill sound resembling its name.

12. Koumiss is a spirit made from mare's milk fermented and distilled.

13. The flax plant provides linseed.

14. Small sums which are distributed to the poor on Maundy Thursday, the day before Good Friday, by the King, through his agent, the Lord High Almoner. James II was the last Sovereign to make the gifts in person. Special silver coins of the value of 1d., 2d., 3d., and 4d. are struck for the purpose. They are legal tender, but few people spend them, since the coins can be sold for much more than their face value to collectors.

15. A milliner is a person who sells ladies' hats. At one time the best hats came from Milan, and people who dealt in goods coming from Milan called themselves "Milaners."

16. A mythical bird which lived for more than half a century; it then built itself a funeral pile, set it alight by flapping its wings, sat on it, and was consumed, then rose from its ashes endowed with fresh youth and beauty. Hence, the term has come to mean anything immortal.

17. In Georgian times it was a custom to stick bills around the posts which marked the edges of the streets. Such bills became known as posters.

18. Because a woman of this name originated the kind and sold it in her shop at Bath.

19. The unicorn is a mythical creature which resembled a horse but was possessed of a single horn and had the legs of a buck as well as the tail of a lion. It was white with red on the head. Mention of it has been found dating as far back as four centuries before Christ.

20. Originally the so-called White Elephants were sacred to the service of the priests. Any person found in possession of one was liable to trouble, torture, or even death. As a result, a white elephant has become a term for anything that causes more trouble than it is worth.

A Faulty "B" Battery

Useful Test Method

A CORRESPONDENT, "Sparks," writes: "One of my 'B' batteries gave trouble recently, and while testing it I struck a method which actually enables one to see when a battery is noisy. Here is what occurred. I used three super batteries in series, with tappings for various voltages. Quite suddenly the set became extraordinarily noisy, and I naturally suspected the 'B' batteries. The units were tested out separately with a good voltmeter, and all were found well up. It seemed that therefore there was a loose or dirty connection somewhere, but investigation proved there wasn't. The grid battery and accumulator were next suspected, but substitution of both still left the noises just as bad as ever.

"I resolved therefore to make another examination of the 'B' battery. Taking the units one by one I rigged up a suitable resistance in series with a milliammeter and connected them across the extreme terminals. The current passing was 10 mils, which is what the set—an 'Outspan Four'—normally consumes. At this load the milliammeter gave no indication of any current fluctuation. It then occurred to me to increase the load a little by reducing the resistance, and by using a potentiometer as a rheostat I was able to do this gradually. Two out of the three units showed no fluctuation when the current was increased to 20 mils, and one part of the third unit was also blameless.

"When, however, I came to another portion of it, I found the needle remained motionless as long as the current did not exceed 10 mils, but when the resistance was reduced a little, it began to vibrate rapidly, and the trouble was at last tracked down. The fluctuations were evidently there when the battery was on 10 mils drain, but they were so small or so rapid that they did not cause a visible movement of the needle."

World Radio News

DURING 1932 the B.B.C. stations broadcast for 53,163 hours, with breakdowns amounting to only 0.023 per cent. This was even better than the year before, when failure percentage was 0.03.

AS a result of the increase in licenses following upon an intensive campaign against pirates, the Belgian authorities have decided upon an increase in hours of transmission.

A FINE example of the B.B.C.'s technical methods was demonstrated at the first relay of a complete performance of a Gilbert and Sullivan opera from the Savoy Theatre. Owing to copyright restrictions only portions of such operas have been relayed, but with the permission to broadcast a full performance every care was taken to make the relay a success. There was never a suggestion as far as listeners were concerned that performers were moving away from the microphone, and had the opera been staged in the studio it could not have been done better.