



Events of the Week in Brief Review.

DECLINE IN GERMAN LICENCE FIGURES.

On June 30th the number of licensed listeners in Germany amounted to 3,224,944, showing a decline of 13,452 on the preceding quarter.

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THE TRUTH ABOUT OSLO.

The trials with the Oslo new 60-kilowatt transmitter have not given satisfaction. The tests are temporarily suspended, and we understand that two or three weeks must elapse before the requisite modifications can be completed.

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HAVE YOU HEARD THIS ONE?

With the call letters PFI-IDZ, the Idzerda Radio Works at The Hague broadcast experimental transmissions every Saturday night between 11.40 p.m. and 1.40 a.m. on 299 metres. Short broadcasts of talks and gramophone music are made, the announcer informing listeners between items that they originate from Idzerda Radio, Den Haag.

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RADIO REPAIRS BY THE BLIND.

A blind student has just passed successfully through the gramophone and radio service course held at the "H.M.V." mechanics' school, Hayes, Middlesex. He is Mr. J. H. MacMichael, a music dealer, of Alloa, Clackmannanshire. Mr. MacMichael felt his way about the parts of the instruments on which he received instruction, and did the best work in his class, needing only the help of a boy to read the meters.

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POLYTECHNIC WIRELESS COURSES.

Classes in wireless and high-frequency engineering will re-open at the Polytechnic, 307-311, Regent Street, London, W.1, on September 22nd. The facilities include a transmission laboratory with a complete commercial installation for telegraphy and telephony (6RA). Radio instruction can also be obtained at the Northampton Polytechnic Institute, St. John Street, London, E.C.1.

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THE OLDHAM-U.S.L. BATTERY.

Behind the announcement of Mr. John Oldham that the Oldham battery will in future be sold as the "Oldham-U.S.L. battery," lies an interesting history of successful efforts by the British organisation to co-operate with one of the largest battery producing concerns in the world, viz., the U.S.L. Battery Corporation of Niagara Falls, America. While making available fresh sources of research and

production facilities, the new arrangement does not affect the nationality of the Oldham firm, which, established in 1865, remains entirely British in regard to capital, labour, and material used.

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PROHIBITION: RADIO VARIETY.

Amateur transmission, except by clubs, is forbidden in Germany. The latest estimate places the number of illicit amateur transmitters at 1,500.

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A POWERFUL STATION.

If the new Radio Paris 60-kilowatt transmitter at Essarts-le-Roi fulfils expectations, writes a correspondent, France will at last have a national station covering the greater part of the country.



"STEREOSCOPIC" BROADCASTING.
A double microphone shown at the Berlin Radio Exhibition by the Reich Rundfunk Gesellschaft. It is claimed that, by introducing a slight phase difference, the microphone gives the listener a sense of direction.

There is a faint suggestion, however, that the sponsors of the new transmitter are over-estimating its capabilities, since they state that "excellent reception will be obtained by crystal sets within a zone of 315 miles."

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DUAL TRANSMITTERS FOR HUNGARY.

We understand that plans are maturing for the construction at Budapest of a powerful new broadcasting station, modelled on the lines of the British Regional stations. Two programmes will be transmitted simultaneously

HAPPY HERTS.

"A radio set in every other home," is the record claimed for the counties of Hertfordshire, Oxfordshire, and Surrey. The percentage of families holding radio licences is 55.4 in Hertfordshire, 53.9 in Oxfordshire, and 50.2 in Surrey.

The average all over the country is 30.9, with Durham lowest at 10.9.

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TELEVISION TESTS FROM BERLIN.

On 419 metres (716 kc.), with a power of 1.7 kW. in the aerial, the Berlin Witzleben (Germany) transmitter carries out a regular series of television transmissions, according to the following time-table: From 13.00 to 13.30 B.S.T. daily (Monday to Friday inclusive), with extra transmissions from 09.00 to 10.00 B.S.T. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays; on Saturdays a special test is also made between 01.00 and 02.00 B.S.T.

The Königswusterhausen high-power station relays these experiments and also transmits its own tests on Thursdays (01.45-02.45), and on Saturdays from 09.00-10.00 B.S.T. The wavelength utilised is that adopted for the programmes, namely, 1,635 metres (183.5 kc.) and the power is 35 kW.

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A WIRELESS COLOUR-SCHEME.

To rob wireless repair work of one of its greatest bugbears is the object of the new standard colour code incorporated in H.M.V. and Marconiphone instruments at the coming Radio Exhibition. To diagnose the trouble in a refractory receiver the service man has first of all to identify the various circuits amid the maze of wires in the instrument, and this is sometimes the hardest part of his task.

The colour coding system has been in use by the telephone industry for many years and has been used sporadically for constructional purposes by various manufacturers. The "H.M.V." system, however, represents the first attempt to standardise the code, so that a dealer seeing a brown wire in a 1930 instrument will know that a brown wire will identify the same circuit in a 1940 model.

The code is being released generally to the wireless and music trades, and will be introduced into all "His Master's Voice" and Marconiphone service manuals. We understand that credit for the preparation of the code is largely due to Mr. Whitehouse, of The Gramophone Company.