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THE  
BRITISH BROADCASTING  
CORPORATION

Annual Report and Accounts

FOR THE YEAR

1951-52

*Presented by the Postmaster General to Parliament  
by Command of Her Majesty  
September 1952*

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HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

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BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION,  
BROADCASTING HOUSE,  
LONDON, W.1.

30th July, 1952.

DEAR POSTMASTER GENERAL,

I have pleasure in sending you herewith the Corporation's Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st March 1952. These are submitted in accordance with the provision in the Corporation's Royal Charter.

Yours sincerely,  
(Sgd.) SIMON OF WYTHENSHAWE,  
*Chairman.*

The Right Hon. Earl De La Warr,  
Her Majesty's Postmaster General.

## MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

ON 31ST MARCH, 1952

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## Summary Review of the Year 493

At the end of 1951, the BBC completed its twenty-fifth year as a public corporation. Its post-war Charter expired at the same time. The expectation that the beginning of 1952 would bring a new long term Charter and an end to three years of enquiry and uncertainty was not, however, fulfilled.

Following the publication of the Report of Lord Beveridge's Committee in January, 1951, the then Government published its provisional proposals in a White Paper in July and they were debated in both Houses of Parliament in the same month. The Government's final conclusions had not been reached when Parliament was dissolved in October and the new Administration decided, upon coming into office after the General Election, that they needed more time in which to reach the necessary decisions. A Charter and a Licence were therefore issued to enable the BBC to carry on for a further six months and to give the new Government time for consideration of a longer Charter to date from 1st July, 1952. At the end of the year covered by this Report, i.e. at the end of March, 1952, the Government's proposals had not been presented to Parliament.

The six-months' Charter and Licence carried on the BBC as it was, except that the Government decided to adopt from 1st January the previous Government's proposal that the Parliamentary Grant should be at the rate of 85 per cent. of the net licence revenue, instead of the then current rate of 100 per cent.

The Governors were reappointed for the same further period of six months.

### *King George VI*

In an eventful year of broadcasting, there was the overshadowing event of the death of His late Majesty King George VI. During the period of national mourning, the BBC strove to bring its programmes into harmony with the feelings and sense of loss of the nation and Commonwealth. Its broadcasts of the funeral and other ceremonies were heard all over the world and reached multitudes of listeners, not only in the Commonwealth but in the United States of America and other countries, which rebroadcast them from their own local stations. Through the Television Service, the BBC was able, for the first time, to convey in pictures, as well as in speech and sound, something of the historic pageantry and ceremonial accompanying the death of the Sovereign and the beginning of a new reign. Broadcasts were made from a number of the places in the United Kingdom, and in the Commonwealth overseas, at which the accession of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was publicly proclaimed.

### *Other national events*

In the summer, there was the Festival of Britain. In aiming to play its full part in this event, the BBC was engaged in a bigger protracted effort than any that it had previously devoted to a single enterprise. Apart from news coverage, it reflected the Festival in a total of some 2,700 programmes. A broadcasting centre was set up at the South Bank and from there broadcasts were carried out in many languages. In London and in the Regions all the main Festival events and countless local activities were covered for listeners at home and abroad in hundreds of outside broadcasts and other programmes. Television cameras brought many different aspects of the Festival to the homes of viewers in the London and Midland areas.

Over and above this, the BBC tried to ensure that, during the period of the Festival, broadcasting in its whole range should provide the best that

Britain could offer. Certainly nothing that the BBC had done in any previous summer period could compare in quality of output with its programmes in the summer of 1951.

The BBC also put itself on show by means of an exhibition in Piccadilly, which was visited by 220,000 people, including many from overseas.

In accordance with the wish of the main political parties, the procedure adopted during the General Election in the autumn was the same as in the previous year. Election addresses were given for the first time in the Television Service. Very comprehensive arrangements were made for the reporting of the results, both in sound and in television.

Big events call for a special response but broadcasting is essentially a service in being. It goes on day by day and hour by hour all round the clock. The production and servicing of the regular daily programmes call for unflagging energy and imagination. This applies to all the various services that make up the strands of a very large output. The BBC broadcasts a total of nearly 150 hours of programmes every day. This includes, in news and talks alone, some 850,000 words. The aim in subsequent sections of this Report is to give an informative account of the work of the various divisions and departments. In this introductory review, it is possible to note only the more important developments. While taking a modest pride in the achievements recorded, the Corporation is conscious of imperfections and of much that remains to be done.

### *Television*

Television made two big strides northwards during the year. First, to the North of England, when the high-power transmitters at Holme Moss, near Huddersfield, were opened on 12th October, 1951. Second, to Central Scotland, when the medium-power transmitters at Kirk o'Shotts, between Glasgow and Edinburgh, were brought into use on 14th March, 1952.

It was hoped, at the end of the period under review, to have the medium-power transmitters in service at Wenvoe, near Cardiff, in August, 1952. This station will serve the Bristol Channel area.

The high-power transmitters will come into service at both these stations as soon as they are ready. The medium-power transmitters will then serve, for the time being at least, as reserves for use in the event of a breakdown in the main equipment.

Wenvoe will complete the network of five high-power transmitting stations forming the main part of the BBC's plan for a national coverage of television. All these BBC stations are entirely of British design and manufacture. Their total coverage will amount to some 78 per cent. of the population of the United Kingdom.

The five low-power stations forming the remaining part of the BBC's plan were postponed in 1951 by decision of H.M. Government because of the needs of rearmament. It is much to be hoped that circumstances will allow of the restoration of this part of the programme without too long a delay.

The expansion of coverage during the year was accompanied by a large increase in the number of viewers. The number of licences for television nearly doubled themselves, rising from 764,000 to 1,457,000 during the year.

The expansion of the range of the programme service in the television areas was further advanced by the establishment of an outside broadcasting unit in the Midlands and by the extended use of micro-wave equipment.

These developments made it possible for a number of successful broadcasts to be made from much further afield than before.

Progress was made in the building up of television studio resources. The conversion and equipment of a third studio at Lime Grove was completed in February, 1952.

In July, 1951, building work was begun on the Scenery Block at the White City site. The satisfactory accommodation of artists and staff will remain a serious problem until this block can be occupied. The building work has been subject to delays but is now expected to be completed by the middle of 1953.

Some notable experiments and advances were made in production technique. The provision of broadcasts on topical matters of national and industrial significance was speeded up. More plays and other programmes were specially written for television. Plans were formulated for an experimental service for schools and attention was paid to the training of production staff and scriptwriters. Improvements were made in organisation within the service. Contacts were further strengthened with foreign television organisations. At home, many problems remain to be solved in the field of relations between television and other parts of the entertainment industry but some progress was made during the year.

The attraction of television for masses of the population of all ages becomes more and more evident. Great power for good or ill resides in this medium. The BBC is very conscious of the responsibility that must rest on those in charge of it. The Corporation intends to maintain in television the aims and standards that have given its sound programmes a high reputation throughout the world.

#### *Home Sound Broadcasting*

Good progress was made with the plan mentioned in last year's Report as a means of alleviating the reception difficulties which arose after the introduction of the Copenhagen Wavelength Plan in 1950. Eight of the twelve local "backing-up" stations provided for in this scheme were brought into service.

The Corporation must again emphasise, however, that no major improvement can be achieved on the long and medium wavelengths now in use. The position on these wavelengths has long been unsatisfactory and is deteriorating. The only satisfactory long-term solution lies in the use of very high frequencies. The BBC's plan for a nation-wide chain of VHF stations using frequency modulation was laid before the Government early in 1951. Meanwhile, the experimental transmissions from the high-power VHF station at Wrotham have continued. The Corporation hopes that it will prove possible to take action in this direction before the position seriously worsens.

A new high-power transmitter at Daventry for carrying the Third Programme on its main wavelength of 464 metres came into service in April, 1951. Its aerial, a novel type of BBC design, proved remarkably successful in extending the fading-free service area of the station.

The progress of the three Home sound programmes—Home Service, Light Programme and Third Programme—and of the Regional programme services is described in the following chapter. The Third Programme celebrated its fifth anniversary on 29th September, 1951.

#### *External Services*

It was announced by H.M. Government in February, 1952, that the amount of the Grant-in-Aid for the BBC's External Services would remain unchanged

for the year 1952-53. The amount is £4½ m. It was accordingly necessary, as a result of rising costs, to make reductions in the services. These are recorded in the section of this Report devoted to the External Services. Some of the reductions were effected before the end of the financial year. This was the second successive year in which the BBC was obliged to make cuts in its External Services.

There was a marked increase in the jamming of BBC broadcasts to Eastern Europe. Counter measures were taken. There was an increase in the rebroadcasting of BBC programmes elsewhere.

The new high-power transmitting station in Singapore came into operation in May, 1951.

A Vietnamese Service was started in January, 1952.

Co-operation with foreign and overseas broadcasting organisations reached a new high level. There was an increasing collaboration over a wide range of programmes. Many hundreds of professional broadcasting people visited the BBC for varying periods from many different parts of the world and a good many of them came to study television.

#### *Other Engineering Developments*

Apart from the transmitter and other engineering developments already mentioned, other technical advances were made, especially in the development of automatic equipment designed to save skilled manpower. At the end of 1951, seven of the BBC's low-power transmitters were working unattended, so releasing trained engineers for other purposes, and an experiment in working a high-power transmitter unattended was begun. Complex automatic equipment for switching and monitoring was installed at the BBC's largest shortwave transmitting station, at Skelton. Outlying studios have also been designed or modified so that they can be used without engineers in attendance.

The BBC's largest orchestral studio, at Maida Vale, London, was completely re-treated acoustically and a marked improvement in the technical quality of the concerts resulted. The work of improving and bringing up to date the older BBC studios continued in London and elsewhere.

The BBC's Engineering Division maintained its world-wide contacts. The BBC continued to do everything possible to help the Colonial Office in the development of broadcasting services in the Colonies; further secondments of engineers were made for this purpose.

#### *The Beveridge Report*

As mentioned in last year's Report, the BBC immediately approached the Trades Union Congress, when the Beveridge Report appeared, in order to discuss the Committee's recommendation with regard to staff representation. The Corporation expressed its readiness to accept the Recommendation 93 as a whole and had a number of discussions with the T.U.C. and the Unions concerned but at the end of the year none of the Unions, except the BBC Staff Association, had felt able to accept the Recommendation.

The BBC took action on a number of the Committee's other recommendations, notably in arranging for a greater administrative distinction between sound and television broadcasting. Steps were taken on the basis of a number of the recommendations relating to staff. The Beveridge recommendations have been very fully studied and a number of them have been implemented. Special efforts were made to reach agreements on outstanding issues with the various artists' unions but not much progress was made.

Increases of pay were approved for all categories of staff during the year.

# Home Sound Broadcasting

## THE THREE PROGRAMMES

The pattern of the Home Service, Light Programme and Third Programme was not substantially changed during the year. The differences between the three services are shown in Table I\*, where the proportions of the various types of programme output in each service during the year under review can be compared. In studying this Table, it is important to take into consideration the differences in transmission time between the three services. The Home Service is on the air for 114½ hours a week, the Light Programme for 106 hours, and the Third Programme for 42 hours. The comparative analysis is carried further in Appendix III, where it will be seen, for example, that although serious music filled 52 per cent. of the Third Programme against 18·8 per cent. of the Home Service, the actual amounts of serious music played in each service during the year were almost the same: 1,124 hours in the Third Programme and 1,121 hours in the Home Service.

In addition to the differences in the proportions of various kinds of programmes which each service contains, there are differences between them in the treatment and presentation of much of the programme material, designed to fulfil the divergent aims of the three services. These aims have often been defined and are fully set out in the Beveridge Report (Appendix H, pages 25 and 26).

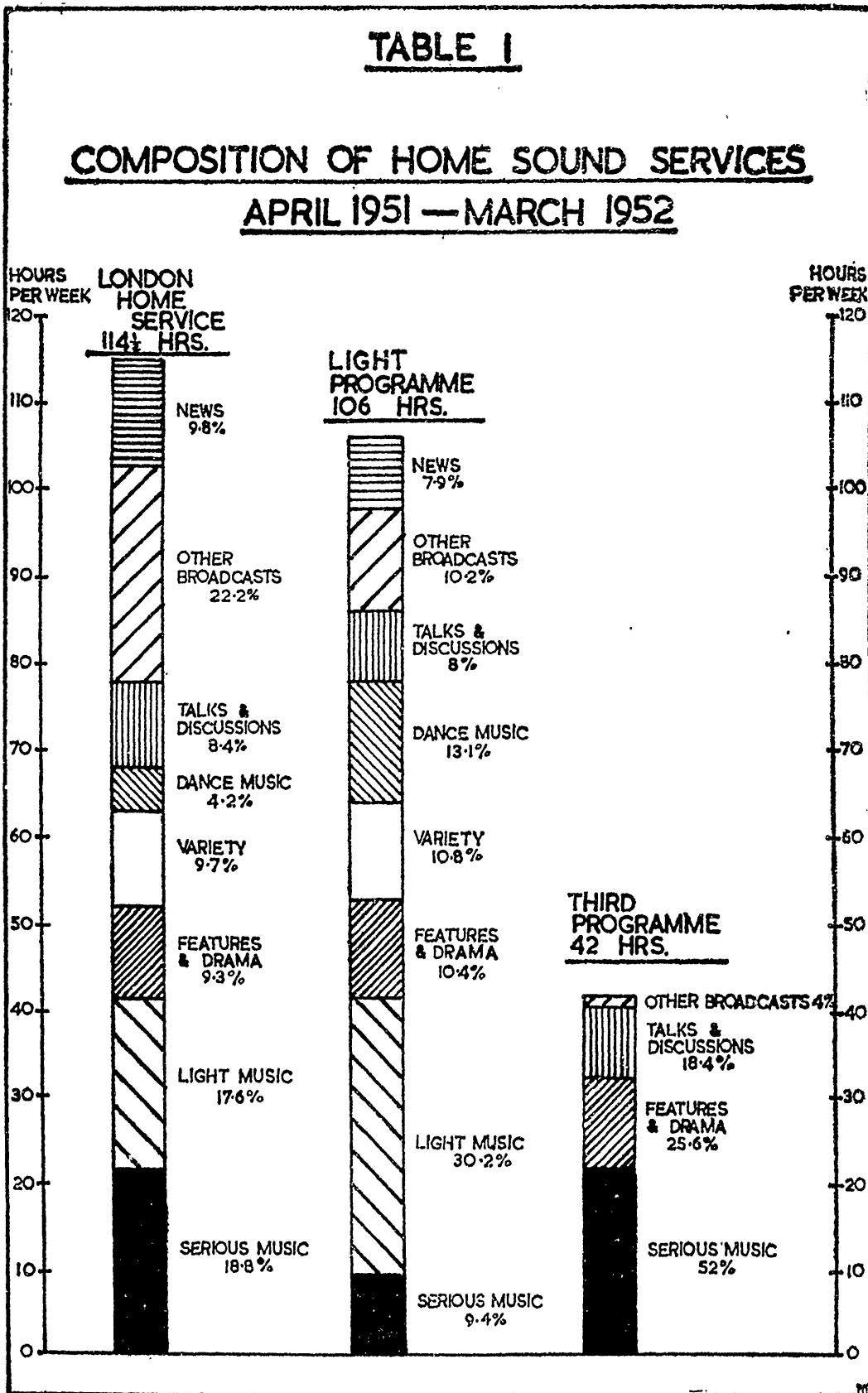
In brief, the Home Service is comprehensive and is designed to appeal at one time or another to almost all, if not to all, listeners. The Light Programme is designed primarily for those who enjoy the most popular kinds of entertainment, but it also seeks to interest its listeners in more serious matters. This is often done by adapting the treatment of more serious subjects to suit the audience. During the year under review an experiment of this kind in the treatment of books, in the programme "Book by the Fire", was remarkably successful. The Third Programme is designed for listeners of cultivated tastes and interests and the aim is to include in it only items of artistic value or serious purpose.

In order to summarise the aims of the three services thus briefly it is necessary to mention first the differences between them, but there are also many similarities, and it should not be supposed that the BBC attempts to divide the listening public into three entirely separate sections. Apart from the fact that listeners can pick and choose from the three services, the same programme material—sometimes the identical programme item—can be heard in two, or even three, services. There is no difference in style between news bulletins in the Home Service and those in the Light Programme; plays by Bernard Shaw have been broadcast in all three services; and the jazz rhythms of Mr. Jelly Roll Morton of New Orleans have been heard in the Light and Third.

The Budget is a good example of a subject which affects every listener in the country and is dealt with in all three services. In the first place, it was of course fully reported in news bulletins (Home and Light), and in "To-day in Parliament" (Home) and "Yesterday in Parliament" (Light). Newsreels (Light) included during the week numerous interviews with officials of national, industrial and commercial organisations affected by the proposed changes in taxation; and reports of reactions from Commonwealth and foreign countries.

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\* See overleaf.



On Budget Day Mr. Butler gave the usual fifteen-minute talk for the Government after the nine o'clock News (Home), and the following evening at the same time Mr. Gaitskell spoke for the Opposition. During the same week in the Home Service a talk on "The Grower and the Budget" was given in "Farming To-day" and the Budget was the subject of a News Commentary for Schools. In the West of England Home Service "The Week in the West" included interviews about "The Effect of the Budget on the Tourist Industry". A talk on "People's Reaction to the Budget" was given in "Scotland in the News", in the Scottish Home Service. A week later the subject of another News Commentary for Schools was "After the Budget". In the Light Programme the Budget was the subject of "Topic for To-night", a five-minute talk following the ten o'clock News, on the evening of Budget Day and on the previous evening; and of a feature programme, "Focus on the Budget", later in the week. In the Third Programme, which does not deal immediately with topical subjects, the Budget was examined some weeks later in two talks by Professors of Economics.

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

The year was remarkable for the number of national events that took place. By means of outside broadcasts in the Home Service and Light Programme listeners were enabled to share as fully as possible in the ceremonies at which they could not be physically present.

Early in May, came the opening of the Festival of Britain when H.M. King George VI and the Queen drove in State from Buckingham Palace to St. Paul's, to attend the Service of Dedication, after which His Majesty spoke from the steps of the Cathedral. The same evening listeners were able to hear the inaugural ceremony and concert at the Royal Festival Hall. Broadcasts from all the main Festival centres and exhibitions followed during the summer.

The visits to this country of H.M. the King of Norway and the King and Queen of Denmark provided the occasion for several special broadcasts. At the dinner in honour of the King of Norway, the first broadcast from a banquet at Buckingham Palace, listeners heard speeches by King Haakon and Princess Elizabeth.

The tour of Canada by Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh was fully reported in the Home Service and Light Programme news bulletins, Radio Newsreel, a twenty-minute programme in the Home Service on Saturday nights, and in other special broadcasts. A BBC news reporter and two commentators went to Canada to cover the tour and in addition to their descriptions those of Canadian commentators were also heard in this country. There was a direct relay from Washington of the Princess's presentation of the late King's gift to President Truman.

#### *The Death of His Late Majesty, King George VI*

The announcement of the death of King George VI was broadcast simultaneously on all wavelengths of the Home Services and Light Programme at 11.15 a.m. on Wednesday, 6th February. All broadcasting to listeners in the United Kingdom then closed down for the rest of the day except for repetitions of the announcement at 11.45 a.m., 12.0 noon and 12.15 p.m.; News bulletins at 1.0 p.m. and 6.0 p.m. (both preceded by Weather Forecasts), and at 7.0 p.m., 9.0 p.m., 10.0 p.m., and 11.0 p.m.; and a short Memorial Service from the studio following the nine o'clock News.

During the following nine days a single programme was broadcast on all wavelengths. This procedure was based on the principle of an act of national

unity during the period of mourning. Programmes returned to normal on the day following the funeral. Variety, dance music and the lighter forms of entertainment were excluded from the single programme. News bulletins were broadcast at all the normal times except 10.0 p.m. and 11.56 p.m. and many of the regular items from the Home Service and Light Programme were retained.

The Prime Minister's moving tribute to His late Majesty was broadcast at 9.0 p.m. on the day after the King's death. On the same evening the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Chorus gave the first of several In Memoriam concerts which culminated on the night of the funeral in a performance of the final sequences from Handel's "Messiah".

The Daily Service and a simple prayer after the 11.0 p.m. News Summary were included in the single programme each day, and Evening Prayers were broadcast on Saturday, 9th February. Morning Services arranged for Sundays, 10th and 17th February, were broadcast as usual, but on the evening of the 10th the normal evening services were replaced by a special Memorial Service held in the Concert Hall of Broadcasting House, London. The Archbishop of York, the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and the Moderator of the Free Church Federal Council took part in the service, which was preceded by a short talk broadcast from Lambeth Palace by the Archbishop of Canterbury, who was ill. At 10.30 p.m. the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster gave a short devotional talk and at 10.40 p.m. there was a special edition of the religious programme "Think on these Things". On the eve of the funeral, the Rev. W. J. Noble, a former President of the Methodist Conference, broadcast a short epilogue. The Funeral Service itself was relayed from St. George's Chapel, Windsor. On Sunday, 17th February, in addition to the normal services, the special Morning Service was relayed from St. Paul's Cathedral.

During the period of the nation's mourning, the Proclamation of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II was broadcast from London, Cardiff, Edinburgh and Northern Ireland. On the arrival of the funeral cortège from Sandringham a description was broadcast of the scene in Whitehall and at Westminster Hall, and later the Lying-in-State was described. On the day of the funeral descriptions were given of the departure of the procession from Westminster Hall; of the procession as it passed St. James's Palace; of the arrival at Paddington Station and the departure of the Royal Train for Windsor. The Funeral Service from St. George's Chapel was broadcast in full, with a description prior to the Service of the scene inside and outside.

Among special commemorative programmes during the period of mourning was "The Commonwealth Mourns its King", broadcast on the eve of the funeral, which contained contributions from many parts of the world.

#### *The General Election*

Thirteen broadcasts were given by the main Parties. The reading of the results began at 10.25 p.m. on Polling Day and continued until 4.0 a.m. the following morning. It was resumed at 10.30 a.m. and went on until 5.0 p.m. A "Focus" programme was broadcast before Polling Day containing information about the way British citizens elect their representatives to Parliament, and a "Taking Stock" programme on the evening of the day following Polling Day contained comments on the results from many sources.

#### *The Italia Prize and the Peabody Award*

For the second time the BBC received an award in the international competition for the Italia Prize. In October, 1951, the first prize was shared, with a French production, by Dr. J. Bronowski's "The Face of Violence",



originally produced by Douglas Cleverdon, Features Department, for the Third Programme.

Alistair Cooke, his programme "Letter from America" and the BBC were jointly awarded by the University of Georgia one of the George Foster Peabody Radio Awards for 1951, that given annually for the most outstanding contribution in radio to the promotion of international understanding.

#### *The Third Programme*

The BBC Third Programme celebrated its fifth anniversary on 29th September, 1951, when Mr. E. M. Forster broadcast an address and Sir Thomas Beecham conducted a concert broadcast from the Royal College of Music.

In the week preceding the opening of the Festival of Britain the Third Programme made a completely new experiment in broadcasting. An attempt was made to recapture the cultural atmosphere of the year 1851. Everything broadcast during the week was originally written, published, or performed in the year of the Great Exhibition.

#### *The Reith Lectures*

The Reith Lectures, broadcast annually in the Home Service and repeated in the Third Programme, were given in 1951 by Lord Radcliffe of Werneth on the subject of "Power and the State".

Professor Arnold Toynbee, Director of Studies in the Royal Institute of International Affairs and Research, and Professor of International History in the University of London, has accepted the BBC's invitation to give the Reith Lectures in 1952 and has chosen as his subject the impact of the West on other civilisations of today.

### NEWS

The BBC aims to broadcast news that can be recognised generally as being of real importance. Each day some 300,000 words are received from the news agencies, from the BBC's Monitoring Service, and from its own correspondence and reporters. The main problem of the editorial staff is to select from this mass of information the small proportion for which there is broadcasting time. A fifteen-minute bulletin contains only about 2,100 words—roughly equivalent to two columns of an average newspaper. The next problem is to communicate the selected news by sound alone, and this is beset by many difficulties. For the listener there is no equivalent to the skimming of columns, turning of pages, or to the re-reading of a difficult passage. Simplicity is essential. Long statements cannot be given in full and careful summaries have to be made.

During the year under review, news bulletins continued to be broadcast in the Home Service at 7.0 a.m., 8.0 a.m., 1.0 p.m., 6.0 p.m., 9.0 p.m., and 11.0 p.m. (Summary); and in the Light Programme at 9.0 a.m., 7.0 p.m. (Summary); 10.0 p.m., and 11.56 p.m. (Summary). The 7.0 p.m. news summary in the Light Programme was followed by the daily edition of "Radio Newsreel". On all days of Parliamentary sittings "Today in Parliament" was broadcast in the Home Service at 10.45 p.m. and repeated next day in the Light Programme at 12.0 noon. "The Eyewitness", a programme similar to "Radio Newsreel", was broadcast on Wednesdays in the Home Service. There was a regular service of sports bulletins. S.O.S. and Police messages were broadcast, like the weather forecasts, in immediate proximity to the news bulletins, and their results are summarized in Appendix V.

Resident correspondents were maintained abroad at eleven centres, as in the previous year. Special correspondents were sent to the General Assembly of the United Nations in Paris ; to the meetings of the North Atlantic Council and of the Council of Europe ; and to the Persian Gulf for the critical phase of the Anglo-Iranian oil dispute. The techniques of radio reporting were illustrated as seldom before in the great sea story of the "Flying Enterprise", an event of another kind that aroused world-wide interest.

#### OUTSIDE BROADCASTS

In addition to the outstanding contributions of the Outside Broadcasts Department, which have already been mentioned in the Review of the Year, the usual commentaries on national sporting events were broadcast regularly throughout the year, as well as commentaries on such events as Trooping the Colour and the Lord Mayor's Show.

Further experiments in actuality broadcasting were tried out covering new fields, and resulted in successful programmes on poliomyelitis, the common cold and rehabilitation.

The Outside Broadcasts Department was responsible not only for the outside broadcasts heard in this country, but made arrangements for those in the External Services and provided facilities for foreign broadcasting organisations. On special occasions, very extensive arrangements had to be made. For example, the funeral procession of King George VI was described by some 80 commentators in all, and about 100 microphones were used. Apart from the outside broadcasts for which the department was entirely responsible, such as sports commentaries and others already mentioned, it also made arrangements for many other kinds of programme originating from sources outside BBC studios. These included all church services, public concerts, relays of opera, and dance music from public ballrooms and restaurants.

#### GENERAL TALKS

##### *Political Broadcasting*

Party political broadcasting was again conducted during the year under the agreement reached between the main political Parties and the BBC in 1947 and reviewed annually. Before the General Election it was agreed that this should obtain until the end of March when it fell due for annual revision. In the event, Labour and Conservative each used one broadcast less than their quota of Party political broadcasts for the year. Political broadcasting in connection with the General Election also followed precedent. Thirteen broadcasts were given by the main Parties. No minority party had the necessary fifty candidates in the field on Nomination Day to qualify for a General Election broadcast. There were sixteen broadcasts during the year by Ministers of the Crown on matters of national importance.

Throughout the year a wide range of Members of Parliament of all Parties spoke in the "Week in Westminster" and the new House of Commons has made available new speakers for all programmes.

##### *Lectures*

In addition to the Reith Lectures, already mentioned, many of the great foundation lectures were broadcast in the Third Programme either in their original form or revised ; among them the Creighton Lecture by Professor J. E. Neale, the Herbert Spencer Lecture by Sir William Hamilton Fyfe, the Rede Lecture by Sir Maurice Bowra, the Marett Memorial Lecture by Dr. Gilbert Murray, the Romanes Lecture by Lord Hankey, the Eddington

Memorial Lecture by Sir Edmund Whittaker, and three of the Clark Lectures by Mr. Humphry House.

Mr. Somerset Maugham's lecture on "The Writer's Point of View" to the National Book League was broadcast in the Home Service, and Lady Violet Bonham Carter gave a broadcast version of a lecture on "The Power of Words" originally delivered to the Royal College of Physicians. In addition various sets of lectures were specially commissioned for the Third Programme. Mr. E. H. Carr broadcast an important series on "The New Society" which was later condensed and repeated in the Home Service. Professor Julian Huxley reviewed, in another series, his studies on "The Process of Evolution".

### *Contemporary Affairs*

Talks and discussions in all three programmes enabled listeners to hear the comments, upon events of the day, of a great range of speakers of varied nationality and interests, among them many men of affairs as well as detached observers.

In the Home Service, "Taking Stock" continued to aim at providing authoritative and constructive debate on current issues. Its counterpart among series given by single speakers was "World Today". "World Commentary" and "Special Correspondent" supplemented these major series with reports from without and within our shores. "Letter from America" continued throughout the year. Interesting innovations in controversy were provided by two-view broadcasts, e.g. one following immediately upon the T.U.C. Conference in September, 1951, "Has the T.U.C. faced the Facts?" and another on the Durham County Council "closed shop" dispute. A third more elaborate experiment was a Tuesday evening broadcast by MM. Spaak, Reynaud and Munck on European Co-operation, the points raised in which were debated two days later by the Rt. Hon. Philip Noel-Baker, M.P., Mr. Julian Amery, M.P., Sir Andrew McFadyean and Mr. Noel Annan.

In the Light Programme "Argument", "Topic for Tonight" and "Dear Sir" were continued. In "Argument", an extempore discussion between two political opponents, it was found that the constructive discussions were on the whole less popular than those which focused attention on Party political differences.

Contemporary affairs were given a new prominence in the Third Programme, where space can be provided for their treatment in series of talks as well as single broadcasts. Mention may be made of such series as "The Re-awakening of Asia", and "British Foreign Policy" in which fundamental principles were considered in terms of the situation today, and of the considerable number of talks and discussions on trends of development in Africa.

A special feature of the year under review was the increase in broadcasts by travellers with a gift for bringing to life the map of the Commonwealth and Colonial Territories. Among these were talks on Pakistan, Israel and Jordan by Julian Duguid, Patrick O'Donovan's descriptions of the African scene, and Ritchie Calder's broadcast dispatches "News from Asia". There were also many situation reports on events in other countries.

### *Literature and the Arts*

One of the outstanding events of the year was the performance in the Third Programme of a specially commissioned translation by Professor C. Day Lewis of Vergil's Aeneid. This was introduced by Mr. T. S. Eliot.

and a number of distinguished foreign scholars later spoke on the Vergilian tradition in Germany, France, Italy and Spain. Another important set of talks devised by Mr. Michael Tippett assessing the influence of Arnold Schoenberg accompanied a series of performances of his music. Two series of illustrated talks on modern music and on modern opera were broadcast in the Home Service.

Talks on architecture and the other visual arts included a series on design in connection with the South Bank Exhibition and a broadcast by Sir Gerald Kelly on the tradition of the Royal Academy.

Mr. George Rylands presented a programme on "The Actor's Interpretation of Hamlet" in which listeners heard recordings of the voices of famous actors of the past. Mr. Gordon Craig broadcast memorable talks on Sir Henry Irving, and on "The Old School of Acting"; Sir Lewis Casson spoke on "Acting for Shaw". In "Personal Anthologies" a number of living poets introduced readings of poetry chosen by themselves. A new outlet for creative writing and criticism by younger writers was provided in a monthly programme called "New Soundings".

#### *Talks on Scientific Subjects*

"Science Survey" continued all through the year, drawing speakers from universities and institutions throughout Great Britain. The British Association meeting was reported in two special half-hour surveys and a full recording of the address by H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh was broadcast in the Home Service.

During the year a wide variety of talks and discussions were broadcast in the Third Programme by distinguished speakers. The President of the Royal College of Physicians, Dr. Russell Brain, spoke on "Mind and Matter", Professor George Macdonald on "Malaria", Dr. Shoenberg on "Physics at very Low Temperatures", Professor J. Z. Young on "Sir Charles Sherrington", the Nobel prizewinner, Professor C. F. Powell on his work on Mesons, and Dr. C. D. Darlington on "Genetics". Professor Norbert Wiener of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology contributed to an important series of talks on the theory underlying the development of automatic controls (calculating machines, mechanical "brains", etc.).

#### *Further Education*

Various series of educational broadcasts were planned after research into current needs and interests of special audiences had been pursued. In addition, a leaflet "Listen and Learn" was published in September and December drawing attention to forthcoming series of talks, discussions, plays, features and concerts in all three Services. This was distributed free to public library authorities, technical colleges and other educational institutions.

The service of educational broadcasts to the Forces was continued as in previous years, and steps were taken to adjust the broadcasts more closely to the day-to-day practice of Service instructors. A citizenship series entitled "Member of Parliament" attracted special interest at the time of the General Election.

In the Light Programme, a series entitled "The Younger Generation" was broadcast throughout the winter months on several evenings each week. These programmes catered for the main interests of young people between the ages of 15 and 20.

The Corporation hopes in the course of the present year to make a statement on its further education policy, arising out of a two-year experiment.

*Practical Advice*

The "Can I Help You?" series continued to give advice on everyday problems.

Agricultural broadcasting played its part in making available to home food producers the best scientific and practical advice, and in ventilating current problems. Under the title "Searchlight on the National Agricultural Advisory Service", four programmes were broadcast which analysed widespread criticism of the new service. The talks were published by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Another series of talks dealt with the principal factors limiting agricultural expansion at the present time and was followed by a discussion on home food production.

The long-established magazine programme "Home Grown" in the Home Service was re-fashioned and is now broadcast unscripted with the assistance of the "comperes" Mr. Roy Hay, Editor of "The Gardeners' Chronicle", and Mr. Fred Streeter as permanent adviser.

*Woman's Hour*

"Woman's Hour" continued as a daily magazine programme addressed to women in their homes between 2.0 and 3.0 p.m. On Sunday afternoons a weekly digest of the programme was added as a result of representations from individuals and from various organisations, such as the National Council of Women and the Business and Professional Women's Clubs, on behalf of their members who work outside their homes and are therefore unable to listen to the daily programme.

*The Festival of Britain*

In normal years the audience for talks diminishes between May and September and output is accordingly reduced. In the year of the Festival it was considered appropriate to maintain the major series through the summer and to bring as many distinguished speakers as possible to the microphone. Nine of the British Nobel Laureates spoke in "Science Survey". Lord Russell broadcast an outstanding series on "Living in an Atomic Age". Sixty talks connected with the Festival itself were broadcast from the London studios, including a series by Mr. J. B. Priestley in which he reflected upon his own impressions under the title "On the Spur of the Moment". In October the Hon. Harold Nicolson reviewed the Festival in a Note for Posterity on Britain in 1951.

*Appeals for Charity*

During the year, £164,942 14s. 10d. was received in response to the Week's Good Cause appeals broadcast on Sunday evenings. As usual, the response to appeals varied considerably; the largest sum received during the period was £26,205 for the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, after an appeal by the Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill.

Urgent appeals were broadcast on weekdays to relieve distress caused by hurricanes in Jamaica and the Orkneys and by a colliery disaster in the North of England. An appeal for the British Wireless for the Blind Fund made on Christmas Day by Mrs. Churchill, on both the Home Service and Light Programme, resulted in gifts totalling £20,345.

**MUSIC**

Nearly 5,000 separate music programmes were broadcast during the year, including 1,200 orchestral concerts. The total duration of these programmes

was about 3,400 hours. Table II shows the average number and duration of various types of music programmes (including gramophone records) broadcast during a week in the Home Service, Light Programme and Third Programme.

TABLE II  
*A week's music programmes*

| TYPE            | HOME              |       | THIRD             |       | LIGHT             |       | TOTAL             |       |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|
|                 | No. of Programmes | Hours | No. of Programmes | Hours | No. of Programmes | Hours | No. of Programmes | Hours |
| Orchestral ...  | 12.50             | 11.10 | 5.50              | 5.30  | 7.50              | 7.37  | 25.50             | 24.17 |
| Opera ...       | 1.75              | 1.16  | 1.50              | 2.48  | .25               | .15   | 3.50              | 4.19  |
| Recitals ...    | 11.00             | 4.03  | 12.50             | 6.16  | 1.00              | .26   | 24.50             | 10.45 |
| Chamber Music   | 3.50              | 2.18  | 6.50              | 4.15  | .25               | .07   | 10.25             | 6.40  |
| Light Music ... | 30.50             | 17.43 | —                 | —     | 48.50             | 28.43 | 79.00             | 46.26 |
| Bands ...       | 3.75              | 1.45  | —                 | —     | 6.25              | 3.14  | 10.00             | 4.59  |
| Totals ...      | 63.00             | 38.15 | 26.00             | 18.49 | 63.75             | 40.22 | 152.75            | 97.26 |

### *Home Service*

In the Home Service a wide range of the general repertoire was covered, including all the symphonies of Beethoven (each performed twice), Brahms (each performed three times), Dvořák, Sibelius and Vaughan Williams. Symphonic works by Samuel Barber, Bartók, Frank Martin, Martinu, and Carl Nielsen were also given, and between October, 1951, and March, 1952, first performances were broadcast of thirty-four new British works.

Operatic broadcasts were given from the Edinburgh Festival, Glyndebourne, Sadlers' Wells, Covent Garden and from the studio. The first performance of Vaughan Williams's "The Pilgrim's Progress" at Covent Garden was broadcast complete, and a concert version of Hindemith's "Mathis der Maler", given before an audience at the Royal Albert Hall, was one of the BBC's most enterprising music productions of the year.

An exceptional amount of choral music was performed including the following full-scale works: Bach's St. Matthew Passion and B Minor Mass; Beethoven's Mass; Brahms's Requiem; Elgar's The Dream of Gerontius; Handel's Messiah; Mozart's C Minor Mass; Vaughan Williams's Sancta Civitas; and Verdi's Requiem, Stabat Mater and Te Deum. The choirs of eight cathedrals gave recitals of music particularly associated with them and a series of organ recitals from the major cathedrals was begun.

The comprehensive nature of music programmes in the Home Service is indicated by the fact that works by six hundred and seventy composers were broadcast during the year.

### *Third Programme*

A considerable proportion of the music in the Third Programme was broadcast in series or groups. The exploration of the works of Haydn, which had begun in January, 1951, with the first of a long series of recitals in which all the string quartets were played, was continued with the addition of a series of the great choral works and another of the less familiar symphonies. A great deal of Bach's music was played including all the orchestral suites, the four short Masses and the complete Klavierübung. The complete chamber works of Brahms were performed, and all the published chamber works of Dvořák.

Other series were devoted to Handel's Chandos anthems and organ concertos, Mozart's quintets, Schumann's piano music, madrigals and early keyboard music, and the history and development of the trio sonata. The exploration of early music was extended during the year to a period earlier than had been covered previously, in five programmes of Plantagenet music, which proved that these early works are not only of historical interest to the scholar but provide material for programmes enjoyed by listeners of less erudite taste. The associative planning of music with other kinds of programmes was best exemplified in the 1851 Week, when many works completely forgotten were revived alongside music which remains as popular today as it was in the Victorian era; and in the week devoted to Impressionism and Symbolism during which the musical contributions centred on the work of Debussy and of composers who influenced him. In the first three months of 1952 a series of programmes was devoted to the music of Arnold Schoenberg, 1874-1951, who was the most controversial figure in the contemporary musical scene. The performances of his chief works were accompanied by talks on the composer's life and achievement, the whole scheme being edited by Mr. Michael Tippett. As usual, many works given in the Third Programme were receiving their first broadcast performances, or their first performances in this country, and in some cases they were given their first public performances anywhere. Several programmes were arranged in conjunction with the London Contemporary Music Centre and recordings of performances arranged by the International Society for Contemporary Music were also broadcast.

Listeners were able to hear two notable first performances of operas: Stravinsky's "The Rake's Progress" at the Fenice theatre in Venice, and Britten's "Billy Budd" at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. The total number of complete operas broadcast in the Third Programme during the year was fifty-one, of which twenty-one were broadcast more than once. Among them were nine operas by Verdi, mostly broadcast from recordings of performances given in Italy in commemoration of the *Anno Verdiano*. Other operas ranged from Wagner's "Ring" given from recordings of performances at the first Bayreuth Festival held since the war, to studio performances of Benedict's "The Lily of Killarney". Operas were broadcast from studio performances; from recordings of performances given in public or broadcast in other countries; and relayed direct from Covent Garden, Sadler's Wells and the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, in London; and from the Festivals at Edinburgh, Bayreuth, Liverpool, Frankfurt, Salzburg, Glyndebourne and Cheltenham.

### *Light Programme*

The policy was continued of presenting to the large audience of the Light Programme many attractive features of the country's musical life. Promenade Concerts were relayed during both the Summer and Winter seasons and among international celebrity concerts broadcast in the Light Programme were those given by Gigli, the Vienna Boys' Choir and the Glasgow Orpheus Choir. There was a series of programmes by Regional Children's Choirs and relays from such events as the London Welsh Association's St. David's Day celebration and the L.C.C. Schools' Festival. One of the year's innovations was the Grand Concert on Saturday nights which included songs and dramatic recitals. Among the series featuring vocal and instrumental music were "Come to the Opera", "Tuesday Serenade" and "Masters of Melody", and the popular presentation of chamber music and song was continued in sixteen programmes in the series "Music in Miniature".

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### Orchestras

The BBC Symphony Orchestra gave an average of four broadcasts a week in pairs—the Wednesday concert in the Home Service being substantially repeated in the Third Programme on Thursday, and the Saturday night Third Programme concert in the Home Service on Sunday. Ten of the Wednesday concerts were given in public at the Royal Albert Hall and the orchestra also visited Cardiff, Swansea and Manchester, where it took part in the inaugural concerts at the re-built Free Trade Hall. The orchestra performed at these concerts under the BBC's Chief Conductor, Sir Malcolm Sargent. Among the distinguished visiting conductors during the year were Sir John Barbirolli, Sir Thomas Beecham, Bt., Sir Adrian Boult, Juan Jose Castro, Georges Enesco, Eugene Goossens, Vittorio Gui, D. K. Ingelbrecht, Rafael Kubelik and Leopold Stokowski. The BBC Symphony Orchestra took part in the Festival of Britain with six concerts at the Royal Festival Hall and two at the Royal Albert Hall.

The BBC Opera Orchestra, conductor Stanford Robinson, took part in many opera productions in the studio and broadcast frequently in the Light Programme in such series as "Come to the Opera", "Masters of Melody" and "Tuesday Serenade".

Regional Orchestras made contributions to the Light and Third Programmes as well as to the London Home Service. Table III shows their average monthly broadcasts other than those heard only in their own Regional Home Services.

TABLE III  
*Number of Programmes Contributed by Regional Orchestras to Other Programmes*

|                 | Home | Third | Light | Total |
|-----------------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Midland ... ..  | 4    | 1     | 7     | 12    |
| North ... ..    | 7    | —     | 7     | 14    |
| Scottish ... .. | 7    | 1     | 9     | 17    |
| West ... ..     | 3    | —     | 5     | 8     |
| Welsh ... ..    | 7    | —     | 10    | 17    |
|                 | 28   | 2     | 38    | 68    |

Approximately 100 engagements were given to major symphony orchestras, of which 20 ranked, under the agreement with the National Association of Symphony Orchestras, as compensatory engagements for public performances given by the BBC's orchestras.

There were two seasons of Henry Wood Promenade Concerts. In the eight weeks' summer season of 49 concerts Basil Cameron joined Sir Malcolm Sargent as principal conductor and the London Symphony and London Philharmonic Orchestras participated with the BBC Symphony Orchestra. The winter season consisted of 12 concerts.

### Auditions

There was no relaxation of the attention given to the discovery and encouragement of new artists. Nine hundred and forty-two were heard in preliminary and final auditions, of whom 167 were offered engagements.



## HOME SOUND BROADCASTING

## DRAMA

The number of drama productions for the year in the London Home Service, Light and Third Programmes amounted to some 170 plays longer than an hour and a quarter, and about 200 short ones, from 20 minutes to an hour each, together with a score or so of serial dramatisations in addition to the instalments of "Mrs. Dale's Diary", broadcast on five days a week.

The more popular long plays were broadcast in the two series "Saturday Night Theatre", in the Home Service, and "Curtain Up", in the Light Programme; the more serious ones in "World Theatre", in the Home Service, and in the Third Programme. Serials were divided between the Home Service and Light Programme.

The choice of plays for so large an output ranged over the whole field of drama from British and foreign classics to new plays and recent successes originating on the stages of London, Paris, and New York. A considerable number of new works written or arranged specially for radio were commissioned, particularly for broadcasting during the Festival of Britain when a special effort was made to contribute outstanding productions of a great variety of plays to each of the three programme services.

The task of finding enough suitable plays for radio production was much alleviated by the establishment of a script unit, properly equipped to deal with the great number of plays submitted for broadcasting (about 70 a week), and with the vital work of promoting or adapting dramatic and literary works for broadcasting, from translations of distinguished foreign plays, e.g. "Malatesta" by Henry de Montherlant, and "The House of Bernarda Alba" by Garcia Lorca, both in the Third Programme, to serial dramatisations of novels, notably "Oliver Twist", broadcast in the Home Service on Sunday nights, which was made the subject of competitive treatments by a number of playwrights and radio writers.

The year was notable for the number of performances given by star artists of the stage and screen. In the course of six special "World Theatre" productions during the Festival, John Gielgud, Dame Edith Evans, Angela Baddeley and Gwen Ffrangcon-Davies were heard in "The Importance of Being Earnest", Donald Wolfelt in "Macbeth", Margaret Rawlings and Athene Seyler in "The Way of the World". At other times, John Gielgud was heard in "King Lear", Flora Robson in "Mary Tudor", Fay Compton in "The Winter's Tale", Joyce Redman in "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray". A distinguished cast, led by Robert Harris, Felix Aylmer and James McKechnie, contributed largely to the success of the first full-scale production in six parts of Thomas Hardy's "The Dynasts", which was one of the special Festival broadcasts in the Third Programme. During the year a sequence of 12 plays by Bernard Shaw was begun in the Third Programme, under the general editorship of St. John Ervine and mostly produced by Esme Percy, who has long been associated with Shaw's plays in the theatre as producer and actor.

## FEATURE PROGRAMMES

Once again the programmes produced by the Features Department contained material obtained from many parts of the world. For example: Louis MacNeice, on his return after an 18 months' secondment to the British Council in Athens, contributed with Laurence Gilliam a number of programmes on contemporary and historical Greece; D. G. Bridson completed a four months' tour of the United States which was reflected both in the

Home Service and Light Programme ; and a series "Saturday Night Ashore" told the story of Maurice Brown's Mediterranean voyage with the Royal Navy. Other programmes which incorporated recordings and material gathered at first hand were Alan Burgess's report on Bad Aibling in "Window on Europe", Leonard Cottrell's "Hurricane in Jamaica" and Eileen Hots's "Avalanche at Airolo".

Earlier successes were repeated in the Home Service in such series as "The Undefeated", "Now It Can Be Told", "Let Justice Be Done" and "This is the Law". Further controversial subjects were covered both in the Home Service and in the Light Programme. These varied from "Reports to the People" on Persian oil and farming to topical "Focus" programmes on The Cuts, the Budget, emigration and child-cruelty. Other series in the Light Programme were "Night Duty" which told the story of overnight work at the hospitals, fire and police stations, etc.; "I Like My Job", candid confessions about their work by people in unusual walks of life; and "Diamond Jubilee Club", about life as it is enjoyed by people over 60.

Notable features in the Home Service also included "Dam Busters", Paul Brickhill's wartime story of the destruction of the German dams by the R.A.F.; "The Reuter Story", which marked the Reuter centenary celebrations; "Marie Lloyd" (produced in collaboration with Variety Department by Douglas Cleverdon); "The Slowest Journey in the World", Gerik Schjelderup's re-telling of Nansen's Arctic voyage; and the two programmes on Everest, written and produced by Edward Livesey. Nesta Pain added to her many successes a series on the life-stories of insects. Alan Lomax wrote and produced many notable programmes—for both Home Service and Third Programme—on American and British folksong.

The Third Programme's 1851 Week and its week devoted to the work of the Symbolists and Impressionists both included notable feature productions. Adaptations of "The Childermass" by Wyndham Lewis and "Helena" by Evelyn Waugh and Christopher Sykes; "The Goat's Toe" and "Blame Not the Bard" by H. A. L. Craig; a programme on George Moore compiled by W. R. Rodgers; repeat performances of "The Dark Tower" and "The Golden Ass" by Louis MacNeice, "Moby Dick" adapted by Henry Reed and "The Voyage of Magellan" by Laurie Lee were also among the most notable productions broadcast in the Third Programme during the year.

#### VARIETY

In normal years it is customary to give many of the most important popular programmes a seasonal rest during the summer when listening is at its lowest level. But in 1951 it was decided to maintain throughout the Festival period, from May to October, a Variety output of the highest possible quality. Apart from the provision of a number of special programmes, this involved the retention for longer than usual of many well-known series. The problems of a normal year's broadcasting were thus intensified and a long unbroken effort was sustained by artists, writers and producers.

Special Festival programmes were devised to display the best contemporary British talent and to review the development over the years of light entertainment in this country. Among programmes coinciding with the opening of the Festival was "Festival of Variety" in which a quite unprecedented cast of British star artists took part. "Festival Parade" on alternate Saturdays during the season also mustered notable leading artists from the music hall, the musical theatre, the concert platform and the screen. "Show Business—Festival to Festival" sought to cover in scrap-book form 100 years of British entertainment.

Biographical programmes liberally illustrated with excerpts from their shows were devoted to Sir Charles Cochran, Ivor Novello, Noël Coward and Vivian Ellis. Among regular weekly series notable successes were achieved by "Take It From Here", "Life with the Lyons", "Educating Archie", the "Billy Cotton Band Show", "Bedtime With Braden" and, in a slightly different field, "We Beg to Differ" and "Twenty Questions".

"Top of the Form", the inter-school general knowledge competition which included a tournament between British and Scandinavian Schools, achieved its highest popularity in the year and light entertainment exchange programmes between Britain and various Continental countries were also widely popular. Two weekly series, "Accent on Youth" and "Up and Coming", designed to provide a regular outlet for young and new artists, were launched during the year. "Calling All Forces", directed principally at Forces serving overseas, maintained its popularity with its main audience and at the same time attracted a very large number of listeners at home.

On the musical side, representing some 50 programmes each week in a total departmental output of 80, all the best known dance bands and popular singers were featured. Among the most notable series was "The Glory Road", a programme of negro spirituals with the American singer Josh White.

Despite the ambitious nature of Variety plans for the year the casualty rate among new shows was encouragingly low.

#### SCHOOL BROADCASTING

While the planning and the execution of the programmes for schools is the work of the School Broadcasting Department of the BBC, it is the duty of the School Broadcasting Council, which determines the broad lines of educational policy in school broadcasting, to ascertain the effectiveness of these programmes in the schools and to encourage and assist in their wider and better use. Technical assistance to schools continues to be given by the BBC's Education Engineers. The process of review is continuous and, as a result of an enquiry into the contribution which broadcasting has been making since the war to the study of music in primary and secondary schools, the Council asked for the addition of two series which the Corporation has provided since September, 1951. Some findings of a review of the English programmes were published in two pamphlets in June, 1951.

Prominence was given in the Summer Term programmes of 1951 to the Festival of Britain and the occasion was taken to celebrate Empire Day by a special service attended by children, broadcast from the Festival Church. Another innovation was the broadcasting of "Commonwealth Exchange", five programmes on the theme "Something We're Proud Of" contributed by Australia, Canada, Ceylon, South Africa and New Zealand. The BBC contribution was broadcast in the Commonwealth countries.

A number of professionally interested teachers, inspectors of schools and school broadcasting officials from overseas visited the School Broadcasting Department; they included two Jamaican teachers on a three months' training course. Recordings of broadcasts to schools, at present limited to 25 a year, are provided for the use of Commonwealth and foreign educational broadcasting organisations; there is, in addition, a service for the supply of scripts. Eight specially written programmes were recorded for broadcasting to schools in Norway, Denmark and Sweden, where they formed part of studies in the English language.

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In March, 1952, the Ministry of Education published Pamphlet No. 20: "School Broadcasts, a sample study from the listeners' end", a report prepared by some of H.M. Inspectors.

The number of schools registered with the School Broadcasting Council totalled 24,237, representing an increase of 2,055 during the year. The detailed figures were as follows:—England 20,072; Scotland 1,994; Wales 1,617; Northern Ireland 487; Channel Islands and foreign 67.

The number of registered listening schools has increased steadily year by year. The BBC is not satisfied that a commensurate progress is being made in the improvement of listening facilities in the schools. The provision made for reception is in many schools poor. The Corporation deplors this, especially in view of the great effort which it makes to provide programmes of the best possible quality for the schools.

### RELIGIOUS BROADCASTING

Religious broadcasting acts as a bridge between the organised religious life of the country (including Church members confined to their homes) and numerous listeners who seek some religious help but who are not active members of any religious organisation. It was estimated that on a typical Sunday about one-third of the adult population heard at least one religious broadcast and the majority of these listeners were men and women who were not regular churchgoers.

The main religious broadcasts on Sundays were the People's Service, the "Sunday Half Hour" of community hymn singing, and "Think on these Things" in the Light Programme, and Morning and Evening Services in the Home Service. On weekdays "Lift up your Hearts" and "The Daily Service" were broadcast in the Home Service, and in the Light Programme "Five to Ten"; the last named, a brief programme consisting of "a story, a hymn and a prayer", was first introduced in December, 1950.

Talks on theology were broadcast in the Third Programme and several series of broadcasts on religious themes found a place in the Home Service on Tuesday evenings. The Home Service also included broadcasts by distinguished Christians visiting this country and reports on ecclesiastical events. In March, 1952, there was a second "Scottish Churches' Radio Mission", of which further mention is made under "Scotland".

The BBC's Central Religious Advisory Committee met three times during the year to consider questions referred to them by the Governors and to give advice on plans for religious programmes. Leaders of all the main Christian denominations combined to serve on the committee.

As further reported under "Publications", a BBC Hymnbook which had been in preparation for a number of years was published in October, 1951.

### CHILDREN'S HOUR

Broadcasts in Children's Hour amount to six hours twenty minutes a week and this was divided up on an average as follows: plays and features, three hours; music, one hour fifteen minutes; stories, forty-five minutes; talks, thirty minutes; miscellaneous (competitions, verse, religious broadcasts, etc.), fifty minutes. The result of a Request Week Ballot held in February, 1952, showed that serial plays were the most popular programmes with children of all ages. Apart from adaptations of "Huckleberry Finn" and "Little Men" all the plays broadcast during the year were written specially for broadcasting, many by well-known writers. There were many broadcasts from places of interest, including the South Bank Exhibition and the Naval

College, Dartmouth, and at Christmas time there was a choral exchange programme with Lausanne. Monthly children's services were broadcast from churches in Scotland and the Midlands, the Scottish services being preceded by short religious plays. The Request Week Ballot brought in 28,572 replies, a higher total than in any previous year. A special study of children's listening carried out by Audience Research Department showed that on an average evening during the summer holidays three out of ten children between the ages of five and fifteen listened to Children's Hour.

#### RECORDED PROGRAMMES

In addition to providing services of studio management and recording for all other production departments, the Central Programme Operations Department supplied the Home Service and Light Programme with an increasing number of broadcasts produced through the medium of recording. These included topical series like "Down Your Way", which completed its fifth year in December; "Welcome Stranger" and "Farewell Stranger", both broadcast throughout the Festival of Britain; the weekly reminiscent programmes "Echoes from the Past" and "Just a Year Ago"; and monthly broadcasts reflecting life in the countryside. The department also produced nearly 260 individual programmes on subjects which ranged from folk music and natural history to foreign travel and sport.

#### GRAMOPHONE RECORDS

In the use of commercial gramophone records the BBC was again limited to a total playing-time of twenty-two hours per week in the whole of the Home Service, Light Programme, Third Programme and Regional Home Services (see also under Administration, Relations with other bodies). A considerable proportion of this small allowance was used in such widely popular request programmes as "Housewives' Choice" and "Family Favourites" in the Light Programme, and in others, like "Desert Island Discs", which also depend entirely on gramophone records. Among numerous programmes of a kind in which gramophone records are indispensable for purposes of illustration were "Music Magazine" and the lunch-time operatic programmes in the Home Service on Sundays, and "Studies in Interpretation" in the Third Programme. New records were reviewed in "Music Magazine" and in the Third Programme. In all Services there were many straight recitals and concerts on gramophone records which included unusual musical works, some of which have not yet been performed in this country, and the performances of singers, instrumentalists and conductors who are now dead. Nearly every production department of the BBC made constant use of the Gramophone Department's library, which is the largest in the world, containing more than 350,000 records.

## Television Broadcasting

The development of television broadcasting since the war has been beset, inevitably, by problems arising out of the nation's difficult economic position. Year after year, the BBC has had to slow down progress on its plan for television, and to hold up some parts of it altogether, as a result of Government restriction on capital investment.

Yet, in spite of recurrent disappointments and setbacks, steady progress has been made. The past year was no exception, although it opened somewhat inauspiciously. H.M. Government announced in March, 1951, that

all work on the five low-power stations, which were to have formed the second stage in the BBC's plan for national coverage, must be indefinitely deferred. The major part of the White City project was also postponed. The Government had already announced that some curtailment in making receivers would be unavoidable and there had been a recent increase in the amount of the purchase tax.

In these circumstances, the balance sheet of progress at the end of the year may be accounted not unsatisfactory. With the opening of the two new stations, Holme Moss and Kirk o'Shotts, the potential audience for television programmes was almost doubled and over the whole country the actual number of television licences in force was also almost doubled. The year ended with four high-power stations in operation out of the five provided for in the present plan. And the fifth was so far advanced that it was possible, soon after the year was ended, to announce its opening in August, 1952. With the opening of the last of the five stations, at Wenvoe, television will be within reach of more than three-quarters of the population of the United Kingdom.

It will be for H.M. Government to decide when the time has come to inaugurate the next stage of the BBC's plan.

Getting television to the nation is a great enterprise in which the Post Office and the radio industry are involved, as well as the BBC. The important station developments mentioned above represented the BBC's contribution to this task in the year under review. They are described more fully in the later section devoted to Engineering.

But alongside that task there is the continuing need to perfect the technique, in the widest sense, of television broadcasting, or in other words, constantly to improve the programmes as seen on the viewer's screen. Many factors enter into this: the design and supply of new equipment; the development of experience and skill in production and operations of all kinds; the planning of the programme schedules and the extension of the range of programme content—all are necessary to a full and balanced exploitation of the medium. The BBC feels that during the year, the sixth since television started again after the war, important advances were made. Developments in the engineering field are described later, in the Engineering section of the Report, but one or two of the points can be mentioned here.

The provision of a mobile control room, based at Birmingham, to serve the Midlands and North-West of England was a specially important development, because it furthered the BBC's aim to get television programmes of many different kinds from as many places in the country as possible. The radio link equipment with this unit enabled programmes to be taken from points up to fifty miles from the main Regional centres. Another mobile unit will be supplied during the present year for Scotland and the North-East and a third for Wales and the South-West of England. The BBC is aiming at present for national coverage of a single television programme, but when the coverage is complete contributions to the programme will come from all parts of the country. It will be a case of television for all, with contributions from all.

The bringing into use of a third studio at Lime Grove, Shepherd's Bush, was another important step. Lime Grove is now the main studio centre. The greater part of the programme output staff and of the administrative staff were transferred to it during the year. Drama productions were the latest arrival there. At Alexandra Palace, only one of the studios is still in use, alongside the control room and transmitters for the London area. There is the third centre at the Palace of Arts, Wembley, which houses the

outside broadcasts organisation. The operation of the service from these three widely separated bases involves numerous difficulties. The position will be greatly eased when the scenery block and the offices to be contained in it at the White City site become available; they are expected to be ready for occupation in 1953.

Much attention was paid during the year to the training of staff in television work. This applies both to engineering and to programme staff (see pages 78 and 85).

Staff were appointed during the year to take charge of music, drama and children's television and there were a number of other senior appointments on the programme side.

There were a number of important events during the year in which television had a new part to play; they are separately recorded in subsequent paragraphs. Such occasions become landmarks in the television story and much depends on the way in which the service responds to its special opportunities. But it is, after all, mainly by its daily programmes that the service is judged and the BBC feels that in this respect its Television Service need not fear comparison with any other, whether it is judged from the standpoint of range and variety of content or from that of artistic and professional standards.

The BBC realises that in certain directions the possibilities of television are still unexploited. This is true of television for schools. But here a great deal of careful exploration has been going on. At the end of the period under review, arrangements were in hand for an extensive experiment in school television broadcasting to be carried out in May, 1952. This scheme was the result of an investigation of possibilities by a committee appointed by the School Broadcasting Council for the United Kingdom, representing all the important interests in the educational world. In this field, the BBC is acting in the closest association with the Council, which has promised its full support. Great importance is attached to this matter.

#### *Death of King George VI*

Millions of listeners saw the broadcast of the funeral procession of King George VI as it passed from Westminster Hall into Parliament Square and Whitehall and again at Apsley Gate and at Windsor. By arrangement with the General Post Office, viewers in Scotland, where the service was due to open in March, were also able to see these pictures, which were transmitted by radio link from Manchester (then the most northerly point of the television network) to the BBC's transmitting station at Kirk o'Shotts. Other moving events following the death of the King were covered by direct broadcasting. They included, in particular, the Proclamation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at St. James's Palace and also at Temple Bar. Newsreel cameras made many pictures at this time, some of which were embodied in a special programme, consisting of film and telefilm, that was broadcast on the evening after the funeral.

A short Epilogue was broadcast from the studio on the eve of the funeral and the People's Memorial Service from the Royal Parish Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, and the Service of Memorial for King George and Prayer for Queen Elizabeth from St. Paul's Cathedral were both broadcast in full.

Some programmes were cancelled on the day of the King's death and the programmes were modified during the period of national mourning. There was a special difficulty in this, arising out of the fact that television, unlike sound broadcasting, is not in a position to record for subsequent use programmes in which members of the artists' unions have taken part. There was no reserve of television productions on which to draw. However, several

special broadcasts were arranged, including a concert by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Boyd Neel, which included Bach's E-Major Violin Concerto, with Endre Wolf, and poetry readings by Flora Robson, John Clements and Richard Ainley.

#### *General Election 1951*

The decision of the main political Parties to take part in television broadcasts during the General Election was a milestone of the first importance for the BBC. Those who broadcast for the parties were Lord Samuel, Mr. Eden, who was interviewed by Leslie Mitchell, and Sir Hartley Shawcross, who was accompanied before the camera by Mr. Christopher Mayhew. On Election night, Graham Hutton, H. G. Nicholas and David Butler were seen analysing and discussing the results, with the aid of diagrams, as they were announced. The transmission lasted from 10.15 p.m. to 3.45 a.m. next morning and again from 10.0 a.m. to 5.0 p.m. on the following day.

#### *The Festival of Britain*

During the Festival of Britain the Television Service helped viewers to share as fully as possible in sights and happenings in which they could not directly take part. One hundred special programmes were broadcast during the five months May—September. They included broadcasts of the opening ceremonies at St. Paul's Cathedral and the Royal Festival Hall and the official visit of the Royal Family to the South Bank. The broadcast from St. Paul's Cathedral covered part of the procession, the whole of the Service of Dedication, with the address by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the speech delivered by the King from the steps of the Cathedral afterwards. It was the first time television cameras had been allowed inside St. Paul's.

During the Summer there were visits to various parts of the South Bank and the Battersea Pleasure Gardens, to the Exhibition of Sporting Trophies at Derby House and the Exhibition of Musical Instruments at the Arts Council offices in St. James's Square. Among other events broadcast were a rowing regatta on the Serpentine and motor-boat racing on the Thames.

As part of the BBC's own cultural contribution, the Drama Department produced a Festival Theatre series, which included Shaw's "Saint Joan", Congreve's "The Way of the World", and two plays written specially for television—"The Final Test" by Terence Rattigan and "Treasure on Pelican" by J. B. Priestley. James Bridie was commissioned to write the fifth play but died before completing it. The broadcast of "Così fan Tutte" from Glyndebourne in July was another notable contribution; it was also a remarkable technical achievement, at that time, to bring the programme from such a distant point. The life and work of the sculptor Henry Moore was the subject of a film and there was another film called "We in Britain", dealing with the character and achievement of the British people.

Children's Programmes marked the Festival by entertaining a French boy and girl for a three weeks' tour of England. This included visits to the South Bank and Festival Pleasure Gardens and other places of interest in London, Oxford and Rye. The programmes showing their tour were a combination of films, outside broadcasts and studio visits.

Light Entertainment produced a spectacular series of five ninety-minute programmes called "The Passing Show"—the department's most outstanding achievement of the year. The Programmes traced the history of show business in Great Britain from 1900-1950. Another specially commissioned programme was "The Golden Year"—the first musical play ever written for television. Based on the Great Exhibition of 1851 it starred Jack Hulbert, Sally Ann Howes, and Peter Graves.



Even a summary record is not complete without reference to an important programme called "100 Years of Medicine", in which Lord Horder and other distinguished speakers took part.

#### *Sports Broadcasts*

The sporting highlights of the year were the South African cricket and Rugby football tours, some outstanding athletics and show-jumping at the White City, the Cup Final at Wembley, a £20,000 race at Ascot, the Wimbledon fortnight, and the Boat Race. Whereas in 1950 it was not possible with the resources then available to present more than one other outside broadcast during the week preceding the Boat Race, in 1952 three other outside broadcasts were scheduled for the day itself and a total of eight during the week. In addition, viewers saw a number of boxing championships, an international swimming gala, international table-tennis, the first television broadcast of women's cricket and women's hockey, billiards from Leicester Square Hall and ice hockey matches. The associations concerned refused permission to broadcast certain football matches: negotiations still continue with these bodies. The first outside broadcast of sport from the North after the opening of Holme Moss was the Rugby League International match between England and New Zealand at Swinton, in November.

#### *Other outside broadcasts*

Public events, in addition to the national occasions and important sports fixtures, some of which have already been mentioned, figured prominently in the weekly output of the Television Service. They covered every type of activity from tea tasting in a London warehouse, scientific research in the Forensic Laboratory at Nottingham and training for the Fleet Air Arm and for the Airborne Forces, to scenes at the film premiere of "The Lady with the Lamp", which was attended by Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh, fashion shows, the illuminations at Blackpool, the Carnival from Southend and the Royal Tournament from Earls Court. Ice shows from the Empress Hall and Wembley, and circuses at Blackpool, Haringay and Olympia were popular with viewers and in all these events the attitude of the entertainment industry was co-operative and helpful. Cameras also visited several places of national interest, including Westminster Abbey, the Tower of London and St. James's Palace on the occasion of the Queen's visit to the exhibition of the Royal School of Needlework. Annual events such as Trooping the Colour, the Cenotaph Service and the British Legion Festival of Remembrance at the Albert Hall were again broadcast. Altogether 406 programmes were broadcast from outside sources during the year.

#### NEWSREEL

The Television Newsreel Unit continued to produce three 15-minute editions of the Newsreel each week throughout the year, and a 15-minute review each Sunday night. For the major part of the year a cameraman covered events in Korea. During the Wimbledon fortnight, a nightly 13-minute summary of the high-spots of the day's play on the centre court was shown. On New Year's Eve there was a one-hour review of 1951. This was based on newsreels shown during the preceding 12 months. During that time there had been a full coverage of the Festival of Britain, the General Election and the meetings of the General Assembly of the United Nations in Paris; pictures of sporting highlights; the Anglo-Iranian oil crisis with scenes inside the International Court of Justice at the Hague; scenes on the occasion of the dismissal of General MacArthur; the signing of the Japanese Peace Treaty; the Royal Tour of Canada; the loss of H.M.

Submarine "Affray"; the setting-up of N.A.T.O.; and the progress of rearmament in different European countries. Other pictures taken by staff cameramen included the crisis in the Canal Zone and the scenes of destruction in Cairo, the loss of the "Flying Enterprise" (shot for the most part from the air) and the Winter Olympic Games.

The Children's Newsreel Section continued to produce a weekly Newsreel in addition to film sequences for inclusion in Children's Programmes. These included six programmes of Richard Hearne (popular with children for his "Mr. Pastry" series) holiday making in Norway; shots of the tour of the two French children during their Festival visit; and a magazine programme "Do You Remember" which is made up of selected newsreel stories and broadcast at intervals during the year.

#### PLAYS

The year was an important one for the Drama Department, for three especial reasons. In the first place, a beginning was made with the systematic pooling of information and ideas on the subject of plays for television. The stock of available theatre plays is not inexhaustible. The rate at which plays are used is very high; over 100, of full length, are produced annually at present. Nor would it be desirable to rely exclusively on theatre plays for television. New plays by living playwrights are a great need. The Script Unit that has now been formed is able to deal thoroughly and expeditiously with all plays submitted to the BBC for television. It is expected in due course to develop a wider and more creative function in the preparation of scripts suitable for the screen.

The second noteworthy point is that it was possible during the year to bring an added vitality into the work through the engagement of a number of guests producers to supplement the work of the regular staff.

And thirdly, before the year was ended, it was possible to transfer the seat of drama productions from the Alexandra Palace to the studio centre at Lime Grove. Here there was a studio to work in, twice as large as the ones left behind in North London, also the latest type of camera and other up-to-date equipment, including a back projection screen. An immediate improvement was noticeable in the quality of the productions. The first plays produced at Lime Grove—"Dial M for Murder", "Music at Night" and "Mourning Becomes Electra"—showed this.

Other notable productions were "Shout Aloud Salvation" by Charles Terrot and Michael Barry, specially written for television, and the first television productions of "The Night of the Fourth" by Jack Roffey, "To Live in Peace" by George Forzano, "Noah Gives Thanks" by Eric Crozier and "Tomb with a View" by Lance Sieveking. Shakespearean productions included "Henry V", and "King John" with Donald Wolfitt in the title role.

A successful experiment was made in presenting a repertory company's production—J. M. Barrie's "The Old Lady Shows her Medals", performed in Glasgow by the Glasgow Citizen's Theatre Company.

Drama serials were introduced on Saturday nights: the most notable series was that of Sherlock Holmes, adapted by C. A. Lejeune.

#### OPERA, BALLET MUSIC

The BBC continued its search for new techniques in the presentation of music, opera and ballet. "La Bohème" (Puccini) and "Rigoletto" (Verdi) were presented from the studio in English. A new and topical translation of "La Belle Hélène" (Offenbach) was presented, and other programmes

were devoted to scenes from "The Barber of Seville" (Rossini) "Carmen" (Bizet) "La Traviata" (Verdi), "The Tales of Hoffmann" (Offenbach), and "Faust" (Gounod). Two contemporary operas by Gian Carlo Menotti were produced—"The Consul", with the complete American company on its return from a European tour, and "The Telephone". As already noted, Mozart's "Così fan Tutte" was relayed by microwave link equipment from the Glyndebourne Opera House in July, 1951—this was an ambitious experiment at the time, and can be regarded as an unqualified success.

"Ballet for Beginners" increased in popularity. The series had begun in 1949 with six programmes explaining and demonstrating ballet movements, together with descriptions of backstage activity such as the making of shoes, scenery and dresses. A second series the following year was equally popular and a special version of each programme was broadcast for the children. The third series was given in the year under review. In it "Les Sylphides" and "Giselle" were analysed and demonstrated by Miss Felicity Gray and her company. A number of stage ballets were presented, and classical ones were re-created with the aid of devices possible only to the camera by superimposition, with models, films of silhouettes, etc. The most notable were "Le Pavillon d'Armide" and "The Sleeping Beauty". Experiments were also made in the presentation of abstract visual patterns.

In the presentation of recitalists such as Pouishnoff, Cyril Smith and Gerald Moore restrained use was made of camera movement, so as not to distract viewers from the music. Two piano concertos were presented, and an organ recital was broadcast for the first time. This was given by Fernando Germani in All Souls' Church, Langham Place.

A music department was formed within the Television Service and the head of it took up his appointment in the summer of 1951. The experience gained during the year indicates that it should be possible to present successfully in television a widening range of both simple and complex music programmes.

#### LIGHT ENTERTAINMENT

More light entertainment was given. Two hundred and sixty-four programmes were produced altogether. Artists of great distinction appeared. They included Arthur Askey, Norman Wisdom, Terry-Thomas, Vic Oliver, Bernard Braden and Barbara Kelly, Jewel and Warriss, Richard Hearne, Gracie Fields, Jack Hulbert, Donald Peers, Jimmy Edwards, George Robey, Anne Shelton, Laurel and Hardy, Vera Lynn, Bill Johnson and Margaret Lockwood.

Several series of weekly, fortnightly or monthly programmes were successfully established. There were, for example, "Café Continental", "Music Hall", "How Do You View?" (Terry-Thomas), "Kaleidoscope", "Turn It Up" (Jewel and Warriss) and "Vic Oliver Introduces". Several new types of programmes were produced with considerable success, such as "What's My Line?" a guessing game in which a team of four people with a chairman try by a process of eliminating questions to discover the profession of individuals introduced to them; "Music for You", a programme of light music featuring Eric Robinson and his orchestra with such celebrated guests as Joan Hammond, Muir Matheson and Violetta Elvin; "The Inch Man", a Saturday night thriller serial; and "Hit Parade", a presentation of the most popular dance tunes of the moment.

The most notable achievements of the year were the contributions to the Festival of Britain programmes; "The Golden Year" and "The Passing Show". The programme most popular with viewers was the special "Music

Hall" presented at the Theatre Royal, Leeds, on the occasion of the opening of the Holme Moss transmitter. Programmes produced at Earl's Court during the National Radio and Television Exhibition of 1951, "Music for You" and "What's My Line?" were also very popular.

#### INFORMATION

##### *Talks*

The International Commentary series continued, and by the use of film, diagram and discussion it not only gave a vivid picture of world affairs but also introduced viewers to many of the men concerned with shaping those affairs. There was an increased number of broadcasts, planned and transmitted at short notice, to explain urgent events of national and international importance. The most outstanding of these was the presentation of the General Election. Political topics of the day were featured regularly in the discussions called "In the News", in which a number of Members of Parliament took part.

General scientific and zoological subjects were dealt with in "Inventors' Club" and "Looking at Animals". "Science Review"—a new venture in the form of a film magazine programme—established itself as a record of contemporary scientific and technological developments. The series "Enquiry into the Unknown" and "The Limits of Human Endurance" gave a considered exposition of some of the workings of the mind and body. In preparing these programmes the Television Service had constant help from leading scientists and scientific institutions.

A special audience was steadily built up for the afternoon broadcasts to women. These included programmes on art, literature and music in addition to regular transmissions on topics of domestic and special interest to women. Social problems were also tackled—a development which may become significant in television. Three broadcasts were planned showing how the deaf, the blind and the disabled are helped to make a normal life for themselves. In view of the immediate public response to the first programme, the remaining two were transferred to the wider audience of evening viewers.

Experiments were made in the difficult field of the visual arts, but results were not very rewarding. The series "A Roof Over Your Head" demonstrated present-day trends in domestic, industrial and civic architecture. Paintings of religious subjects served as a narrative illustration to the story of "The Three Kings".

Another experiment was the presentation of short stories; one of the original and most popular television story-tellers was Algernon Blackwood whose last appearance was in October, two months before his death.

The policy of introducing eminent men and women to viewers was continued in the series "Speaking Personally". Speakers included Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Bertrand Russell, Nigel Balchin, Somerset Maugham, Dr. Gallup, Viscount Stansgate, Phyllis Bentley, Compton Mackenzie, Lady Astor, Peter Ustinov and Alastair Sim.

##### *Documentaries*

In trying to convey interesting and reliable information in an entertaining way, the documentary scriptwriters continued to build their programmes round a story. Great importance was attached to accuracy and authenticity and, to this end, advice and information were sought from authoritative sources. The BBC enjoyed the fullest help and co-operation from all sorts of bodies—legal, scientific, medical, especially. Organisations concerned with social work were also helpful. The Home Office and Scotland Yard

gave invaluable assistance. Most of the documentary programmes were in preparation over periods of many weeks of research and writing. Typical programmes were "To Save a Life"—a description of a night's work in a big London hospital; "Women at Work"—a survey of conditions responsible for the present-day employment of women in commerce and industry; "The Suffragette"—an account of Mrs. Pankhurst's struggle to achieve women's suffrage; "The Loch Ness Monster"—an enquiry; "I was a Stranger"—a reconstruction of the conditions governing the employment of Displaced Persons in this country; and "Rising Twenty"—a survey of the teen-age viewpoint. "I made News" was a series of ten experimental weekly programmes based on true newspaper stories.

#### FILMS

The Film Department had three main responsibilities: the thrice-weekly Newsreel; the provision of film sequences for inclusion in "live" drama, light entertainment, talks and feature programmes; and, on occasion, the making of films specially for television. Of the latter, eight complete short films were produced, including one on the life and work of the sculptor, Henry Moore. This shared a first award at the International Film Festival held at Venice in June.

The boxing championship match between Sugar Ray Robinson and Randolph Turpin was filmed and shown the night after it took place. It aroused so much interest among viewers that it was shown again by special request a week later. On the occasion of the British Association's meeting in Scotland, the whole of the Duke of Edinburgh's Presidential Address was filmed.

In January, in collaboration with the film industry, the BBC was able to start a series of programmes consisting of excerpts of films being currently released to the cinemas, and stars and film personalities talking in the studio. Sufficient films were found and booked for regular presentation in the afternoon programmes, and in addition, an agreement was made with the Association of Specialised Film Producers whereby four short films of the documentary type were made available.

#### RELIGIOUS PROGRAMMES

Nine religious services were broadcast during the year, as compared with three in 1950-51. Four of these came from St. Paul's Cathedral: the Opening Service of the Festival of Britain, the American Commemoration Service, the Christmas Morning Service and the Memorial Service for King George VI. The others included the first television broadcast of a Free Church Service (Harvest Festival), a Watchnight Service from Wesley's Chapel and the first Church of Scotland Service from St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, on the occasion of the opening of the Kirk o'Shotts transmitter.

Further experiments, including film illustrations, were made with various forms of meditation at the end of Sunday evening programmes. Two religious plays were produced. Reference will be found below to the religious element in Children's Television. The BBC's Central Religious Advisory Committee devoted much of its time during the past year to considering the most effective methods of making religious contributions to television programmes.

#### CHILDREN'S TELEVISION

Steady progress was maintained in the second year of daily children's programmes. From October to mid-March the transmissions began at 5.30 p.m. instead of 5.0 p.m. to avoid the peak electricity load period.

Plays in serial form continued to be popular, notably "Sara Crewe", "Treasure Island" and "Billy Bunter", the latter two series being repeated in the evenings for adult viewers. "The Railway Children" was so popular that a shortened version was broadcast soon after the original production. In the main, serials are based on children's classics in the hope and belief that young viewers will be stimulated to read the books for themselves.

Plays included two adaptations of "The Arabian Nights", "Rumpelstiltskin", "Beauty and the Beast" and "The Florentine Apprentice"—the first of a series based on stories of the Renaissance; the British Museum co-operated in making special casts of sculptures for this programme. A religious element was introduced for the first time during the year: a Nativity Play was performed on Christmas Eve, followed later by "Francis and Juniper" and "The Twelfth Brother" (Joseph). Bible and other stories with a religious or ethical theme will continue to appear at intervals of about six weeks throughout the year.

In addition to the "Ballet for Beginners" series, two specially written ballets were broadcast. One of these—"Kitchen Carnival"—was repeated in the evening.

Puppets continued to be very popular with younger children. "Peter Rabbit", "Little Gray Rabbit" and "Winnie the Pooh" were among the stories serialised, while individual characters such as "Mr. Turnip" and the parrot "Porterhouse" held the affection of children as welcome additions to the original "Muffin"—still much loved.

Many experiments were tried in illustrating stories, including drawing on glass, film animations and moving captions. The series "How does it End?" in which the development of a book is described, with one or two of the main characters appearing in costume to continue the story, is a further attempt to encourage children to read for themselves to see how the book ends.

A determined effort was made to ensure that children were given an opportunity to do more than stare at the screen. Two new programme series—"Eyes and Hands" and "Workshop"—provided such opportunities, and competition results indicated that much interest and considerable skill were aroused in the making of original mosaics (of paper), casting and carving in plaster, and in building models of houses suitable for different geographical conditions. Guessing games, identification of birds, animals and common objects, were included in the Saturday magazine programmes. The "Men of Action" series was designed to show children how things are made—from bullseyes to bicycles. In each of these programmes a craftsman discussed his trade with an interviewer and demonstrated his work, and a commentator in the studio described a film showing factory processes.

#### OUTSIDE RELATIONS

The BBC was glad to welcome many visitors interested in television. Among the official visitors, mention must be made of an important delegation from Australia, which spent several weeks studying every aspect of the BBC's service. New Zealand and Eire were also represented among the BBC's distinguished visitors from overseas. European and other foreign visitors included representatives of the Bavarian Television Service, the Danish State Radio, the Norwegian Television Committee, the Belgian Radio Service, Radio Luxembourg and the Broadcasting Service of Uruguay.

An especially close relationship was maintained with the French television service. The Director-General of Radiodiffusion et Télévision Françaises paid a two-day visit to this country in July, 1951, in the course of which he attended the performance of "Così fan Tutte" already mentioned. Three meetings of the Anglo-French Television Committee were held and arrange-

ments were made for testing the possibility of the BBC's taking a week of programmes from Paris in July, 1952.

The BBC Controller of Television Programmes visited the United States to study American television.

Many important matters are involved in the relations between the Television Service and the film industry, the theatre and the world of entertainment in general. They are dealt with, for better convenience, in the section devoted to Administration, where the BBC's negotiations with the performers' unions and other bodies, covering the whole field of broadcasting, are described.

## Regional Broadcasting

The extent of the Regional contribution to the BBC's programmes during the whole of the year is shown in Table IV. This Table illustrates the substantial degree to which the Regions produced their own programmes during the evening period (see under 2 of the Table). The extent to which programmes were contributed to the BBC's other programme services (see under 4 of the Table) was also significant.

TABLE IV  
*Regional Programmes for the 52 weeks ended 29th March, 1952,  
shewn in terms of hours of broadcasting.*

|  | Mid-land | North | West  | Scot-land | Wales | North-ern Ireland | Total  |
|--|----------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------------------|--------|
| 1. Day-Time Period (up to 5.0 p.m.)                                  |          |       |       |           |       |                   |        |
| (a) Programmes produced by Regions for their own Home Service ... .. | 309      | 383   | 443   | 474       | 420   | 163               | 2,192  |
| (b) Programmes taken by Regions from other Home Services ... ..      | 3,443    | 3,369 | 3,309 | 3,278     | 3,332 | 3,589             | 20,320 |
| (c) Total ... ..   | 3,752    | 3,752 | 3,752 | 3,752     | 3,752 | 3,752             | 22,512 |
| 2. Evening Period (5.0 p.m. onwards)                                 |          |       |       |           |       |                   |        |
| (a) Programmes produced by Regions for their own Home Service ... .. | 732      | 712   | 586   | 1,014     | 801   | 459               | 4,304  |
| (b) Programmes taken by Regions from other Home Services ... ..      | 1,479    | 1,529 | 1,625 | 1,197     | 1,410 | 1,752             | 8,992  |
| (c) Total ... ..   | 2,211    | 2,241 | 2,211 | 2,211     | 2,211 | 2,211             | 13,296 |
| 3. Total Regional Broadcasting Hours (1(c)+2 (c)) ...                | 5,963    | 5,993 | 5,963 | 5,963     | 5,963 | 5,963             | 35,808 |
| 4. Programmes produced by Regions for other Services                 |          |       |       |           |       |                   |        |
| (a) Light Programme... ..  | 148      | 174   | 116   | 89        | 120   | 35                | 682    |
| (b) Third Programme ... ..   | 16       | 31    | 6     | 58        | 4     | 1                 | 116    |
| (c) Overseas Services ... ..   | 137      | 174   | 62    | 201       | 72    | 37                | 683    |
| (d) Other Services ... ..  | 7        | 3     | 3     | 13        | 2     | 5                 | 33     |
|  | 308      | 382   | 187   | 361       | 198   | 78                | 1,514  |
| 5. Total programmes produced by Regions (1 (a), 2 (a) and 4)         | 1,349    | 1,477 | 1,216 | 1,849     | 1,419 | 700               | 8,010  |

## SCOTLAND

The arrival of television, the Beveridge Report and the Festival of Britain combined to focus a great deal of attention on broadcasting matters in Scotland throughout the year.

The Scottish Home Service tried to reflect the mood and the culture of the nation on a wide variety of subjects. The growing popularity of Scottish country dancing, especially in the East and North, the rapidly expanding dramatic movement, at its best in Glasgow and the West, the love of folk-song in both Gaelic and English, and the native desire to have and to hear a good argument—all were reflected in the BBC's offerings to its listeners and, though individual items had their critics, the general reaction was one of satisfaction.

The main events of the Festival of Britain in Scotland were covered very fully in feature programmes about the towns in which they originated, in news reports and in a radio magazine "Festival Scotland", which was presented weekly during the Festival period.

Two other outstanding programmes which reflected and examined contemporary events and problems were "The Lion and the Unicorn", to mark the 500th anniversary of the University of Glasgow, and "9682—the Story of Mr. Plainstane's Progress", a feature on tuberculosis in Scotland, which was widely commended by medical and public health authorities.

Programmes for those with literary and artistic tastes, such as the "Chapbook" series and "Arts Review", continued to be broadcast successfully. "The Bench-hand", a satirical fantasy on modern economics, "The Noblest Prospect" and "Professional Portrait of a Forester" also proved popular.

"A Matter of Opinion", a discussion programme in which members of the audience in a different town each week offer opinions for debate by a team of distinguished speakers, stimulated interest in current topics. Three well-known Scottish broadcasters shared in "Viewpoint", a weekly talk on Scottish affairs.

The music output continued to provide something for all tastes, from modern classical works, both orchestral, choral and solo, to traditional and modern dance music. The BBC Scottish Orchestra and the Scottish Variety Orchestra made important contributions to the BBC's general programme output in Home and Overseas services. One of the outstanding musical contributions was the weekly series "Makers of Music" which gave opportunities to artists, young and old, to play works of their own choice. Other notable items were the opera "Jeannie Deans" and the incidental music to a radio version of "Marmion".

Drama was mainly represented by historical plays, such as "The King of Scots", "The Lyon of Scotland" and "The Flowers o' Edinburgh". There was a memorial programme on the first anniversary of the death of James Bridie, and performances of his plays "The Anatomist", "Mr. Bolfrey" and "Mr. Gillie" were given during the year.

New poetry by Scots found a place in "Poetry Magazine", while "Scottish Life and Letters" kept before the listening public the general literary trend. "Arts Review" performed the same function for the visual and dramatic arts.

Variety entertainment centred largely on the weekly "It's All Yours" programme, in which a young comedian, Jimmy Logan, has become increasingly popular. But it was the memorial programmes to two great Scots comedians, Sir Harry Lauder and Will Fyffe, that attracted the biggest audiences of all.



Studio performances were supplemented by outside broadcasts of great events and occasions, such as the Exhibitions of Industrial Power and "Living Traditions" during the Festival of Britain, the meetings of the British Association when the Duke of Edinburgh gave the inaugural lecture, the Gathering of the Clans and the Gaelic Mod, together with special visits to places of public entertainment at Christmas and the New Year.

School courses and Children's Hour continued to attract youthful listeners and contributions to Woman's Hour, Farm Forum and "In the Country" catered for their special audiences.

The Religious Section, guided by the Scottish Religious Advisory Committee, organised another Radio Mission, a feature of which was the splendid co-operation of church authorities, ministers and congregations. Many of the items were heard by listeners outside Scotland.

Scotland had a pre-view of the Television Service when Post Office engineers provided a temporary link with London to enable thousands of Scots to see the funeral procession of King George VI. As already noted, the regular service was opened with low-power transmitters on 14th March, and reception reports indicated that a good signal was given over a wide area of Central Scotland.

The Scottish Press and public greeted the arrival of television with enthusiasm and, although there has been some disappointment at the lack of Scottish studio facilities and the consequent paucity of Scottish items in television programmes, first reactions to the new medium have been very favourable.

Arising out of the coming of television, some alterations in the planning of sound programmes showed remarkable results. Some six months before the Television Service opened, changes were made in the timing of the more popular items on the Scottish Home Service, so that most of the programmes with a wide appeal would be heard outside the normal hours of television transmission. This policy, which packed the 6.0-8.0 evening period with top-class Scottish items, resulted in a remarkable listening "loyalty" during those hours. Audience research figures show that twice as many Scots listeners heard the Scottish Home Service during the 6.0-8.0 period on week-nights as listened to the Light Programme.

#### WALES

During this Festival of Britain year, the broadcasts from the National Eisteddfod, the International Eisteddfod, the League of Youth Eisteddfod and the Swansea Music Festival had an added quality, and in addition the Church of Wales Festival of Drama and Music at the Cathedral of St. David's was an occasion for close co-operation between the BBC and the Festival Committee. In providing concerts, producing plays and attending committees, members of the staff of the BBC in Wales played a considerable part outside their normal work in helping many Festival events. A weekly programme reflected upwards of 150 local celebrations selected from a much larger number.

Two notable musical occasions were provided by the first performances of Daniel Jones's Second Symphony and of Arwel Hughes's cantata "St. David". The BBC Welsh Orchestra gave two concerts in Brecon Cathedral before large congregations, and in the opening concert of the National Eisteddfod at Llanrwst, Denbighshire, they joined with the Welsh National Opera Company and soloists in a programme of selections from grand opera sung in Welsh. In the autumn, the BBC Symphony Orchestra gave two concerts

in the Brangwyn Hall, Swansea, and one in the Sophia Gardens Pavilion, Cardiff.

Another broadcast that can be singled out for its special appeal was the exchange of carols between the BBC Welsh Chorus, singing from the historic parish church in Llangynwyd in Glamorgan, and the choir of Trondheim Cathedral in Norway. This was one of many exchanges with continental choirs.

BBC producers were invited to produce new plays, "Llewelyn Fawr" and "Dewi Sant", as Festival events. Both were subsequently adapted for radio and heard in the Welsh Home Service.

In the early autumn the BBC began its first daily family serial in Welsh. It goes under the title "Teulu Tŷ Coch". It was begun in disappointment that among the better scripts submitted in the BBC's competition for a Welsh radio play, there was no play of any merit written on an everyday theme in everyday language. The successes were all verse plays. To redress the balance, it was decided to launch this daily serial, which portrays the mild adventures of Ned Lloyd, the schoolmaster, and his family.

In drama and dramatic features generally it was thought well during the Festival period to repeat a few of the outstanding successes of recent years. These included "Sea Flood" (an adaptation of Peacock's "The Misfortunes of Elphin"), "The Rescuers" (the story of a famous Welsh mining disaster), "The Lion and the Owl" (a translation of Saunders Lewis's verse play "Blodeuwedd") and Dr. W. J. Gruffydd's translation of Shakespeare's "King Lear". There were translations too of Camus's "Le Malentendu", "Los Interessos" by Jacinto Benavente, "Cosi e, se vi Tare" by Pirandello, and "The Clouds" (Aristophanes).

The opening of the Abbey Steelworks at Port Talbot was marked by two large-scale programmes. There were many biographical feature programmes, including studies of the well-remembered William Abraham (Mabon), the Rhondda miners' leader, and Dr. Joseph Parry, the composer and professor of music, both of whom still retain a hold on public memory and affection. Another important feature programme, "The Kingdom of the Fly", gave the story of the latest attempt to check the ravages of the tsetse fly on the cattle of Central Africa.

The Annual Lecture was delivered this year in Welsh by Principal Emrys Evans of the University College of North Wales. His subject was "The Classics in Wales". Other successful speakers included Dr. Elvet Lewis, Canon Maurice Jones, Rev. H. T. Jacob and Mrs. Elizabeth Williams—all distinguished nonagenarians. Opportunities were given for the expression of varied and contrary opinions on controversial topics of special interest in Wales. The number and variety of listeners' questions sent in to the homely and informative "Byd Natur" showed the popularity of this programme dealing with country matters.

A radio figure who continued until he was well over eighty to delight listeners with his ballads and traditional songs died during the year; Welsh light programmes are the poorer for losing Robert Roberts, Tai'r Felin.

The Welsh Children's Hour continued to provide a varied programme. The BBC devoted some of its best resources to this programme to which much importance is attached.

A club Rugby match on St. David's Day was the subject of the first running commentary on a sporting event to be given in the Welsh language.

The most popular entertainment programmes in Welsh were "Pawb yn ei Dro", "Pobl yr Ardal", "Sut Hwyl" and "Brethyn Cartref". These all

took the form of outside broadcasts from village halls in North and West Wales. The more remote parts of the anglicised areas of Wales were represented in a series of programmes called "Off the Beaten Track". "Welsh Rarebit" was chosen as one of the main variety programmes in the Light Programme during the Festival period.

The opening of the television station at Wenvoe was awaited with much interest. The purchase of Baynton House, Llandaff, as a site for new Welsh headquarters of the BBC was completed at the end of 1951. The BBC premises in Alexandra Road, Swansea, have been reopened since the end of the year under review. The BBC is proposing to build a low-power station to improve reception of the Welsh Home Service round the coast of Cardigan Bay and it is hoped that it will be working early in 1953.

#### NORTHERN IRELAND

The Festival of Britain dominated Northern Ireland broadcasting from May to September, 1951, but a broadcasting year which opened with national celebrations closed with national mourning on the death of King George VI. Broadcasts from Northern Ireland during the Lying-in-State of the late King included the proclamation of the new Monarch by the Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland, acting on behalf of the Governor, in the Great Hall of the Parliament Buildings at Stormont, a contribution to the world-wide broadcast "The Commonwealth Mourns its King" and an anthology of music and verse by Ulster writers and composers. The week ended with a short service of thanksgiving for the life and example of His late Majesty, conducted by the Dean of Belfast, the Very Rev. R. C. H. Elliott, Chairman of the BBC Northern Ireland Religious Advisory Committee.

In reflecting the Festival of Britain and the many events and celebrations which it comprised, the BBC in Northern Ireland carried out 122 broadcasts. Assistance and facilities were provided for many European and overseas correspondents and programmes from Northern Ireland were broadcast in the BBC's French, Italian, Swedish, Danish, Greek, Bulgarian and Malayan Services. The celebrations opened with a two-months Festival of Arts, a delightful season of folk dance and song, of symphony concerts, chamber music, opera, ballet and drama, art and architectural exhibitions, historical pageants and musical and literary competitions, most of which was reflected either in outside broadcasts or by talks, discussions or eye-witness accounts. The opening by the Right Hon. Dehra Parker, President of C.E.M.A. (N.I.) was broadcast on 3rd May. A month later the Queen (now Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother) and Princess Margaret visited the Ulster Farm and Factory Exhibition and many places in the surrounding country and commentaries on the Royal tour were broadcast in both Home and Overseas services.

Listeners also heard the Queen's speech during a function at Campbell College, Belfast. The speech of the Prime Minister, Sir Basil Brooke, opening "Derry Week" and the Governor's welcome to the "Campania" were both broadcast. The many smaller celebrations had their place in a "Festival Magazine", broadcast weekly. There were 166 reports and eye witness accounts and many studio productions of works by distinguished authors. BBC staff contributed also by serving on many of the responsible bodies concerned with the Festival. As elsewhere, the BBC produced many special programmes for the Festival period.

Seventeen feature programmes, all of them written by Ulster authors, were broadcast during the Festival period. As far as features were concerned, however, the major effort of the year was the series "The Fairy

Faith", consisting of five programmes on the fairy lore of Ulster. For several months, Michael J. Murphy, on commission from the BBC, travelled the glens and mountains of the Province seeking out such fairy beliefs as still lingered there among the country people. Later Sam Hanna Bell (Features Producer) and the Mobile Recording Unit retraced his steps with him, working through the Mourne, the Sperrins, South Armagh, the Glens of Antrim, the Braid Valley, the Fintona district and the shores of Strangford and Lough Erne. At the end of the journey they had completed on the BBC's behalf the most comprehensive survey of the kind ever attempted. The story tellers dipped deep into memory and a legacy of folk lore and legend which was gradually being lost as the old people died was preserved by BBC recordings. From first to last—from the suggestion made at a meeting of the Northern Ireland Advisory Council to the final recordings—the series took about 12 months to complete. The Northern Ireland studios provided 23 plays during the year, 20 of them by Ulster authors. Some notable talks were broadcast, including those by Dr. Cyril Falls, St. John Ervine, W. R. Rodgers, Tyrone Guthrie, Colonel S. G. Haughton and the Vice-Chancellor of Queen's University. Music of all kinds made its customary major contribution to programmes and there was welcome collaboration with the Queen's University Music Society and the City of Belfast Orchestra. In the field of light entertainment, several programmes deserve a mention. "The McCooeys", recounting the weekly adventures of a Belfast family, remained as popular as ever after three years on the air. A new series, "The Young Idea", was specially devised as a vehicle for the humour and versatility of James Young, who had distinguished himself as a performer in "The McCooeys". Many entertaining verses were heard by listeners to "The Country Bard".

Dissatisfaction persisted over the continued sharing of the Northern Ireland Home Service wavelength and programme with the North-East of England and the opening of the television transmitter in Scotland seemed to bring home to the public that Northern Ireland will be the only BBC Region under the present plan without a Television Service.

The existence of a widespread feeling of disappointment on both these counts is recognised. It is not possible, however, to propound any immediate solution of either difficulty. The BBC will be ready to proceed with its plan for the five low-power stations, at present postponed, as soon as Her Majesty's Government may decide that the national position allows of it.

The other trouble arises out of the shortage of medium-wavelengths available for broadcasting. The position has been thoroughly examined and the conclusion reached that with the medium-wavelengths at present available, and having regard to the requirements of other services, there is no other arrangement which would provide a satisfactory solution. The sharing of wavelengths is unavoidable and this inevitably results in an area of bad reception called the "mush area". With the present sharing arrangement between Northern Ireland and North-East England, the mush area is mainly over the Irish Sea. Any other wavelength sharing arrangement would be detrimental to listeners to a far greater extent. The ultimate solution to the problem lies in VHF broadcasting, to which reference is made on page 68; when the BBC is allowed to develop this system priority will be given to a station in North-East England.

#### MIDLAND REGION

With the arrival in the autumn of 1951 of a television outside broadcast unit, the Television Service was able to bring to its viewers a considerably wider range of Midland events. Although the unit was shared with the

North Region, scarcely a week passed without a contribution from the Midlands, usually from the fields of entertainment, industry or sport. Birmingham, Bourneville, Bramcote (Royal Naval Air Station), Coventry, Dudley, Nottingham, and Worcester were among the places from which outside broadcasts were taken.

An occasion of special interest was the "Town Forum" programme from Birmingham which was broadcast simultaneously for sound listeners and for viewers. A team of visitors from Germany, headed by the Bishop of Hanover, answered questions put by members of the audience. This was an impressive broadcast.

Much new ground was broken in sound broadcasting by the Midland Region, many of whose ventures met with success and were absorbed into the BBC's national services. Outstanding among these was "The Archers", the daily farming serial broadcast in the Light Programme, with an omnibus edition on Saturdays. The primary purpose of this programme is to entertain, but much care is taken to make the farming background authentic, and about a fifth of the content consists of agricultural material. Close liaison is kept with farming organisations, and the BBC's Agricultural Advisory Committee have expressed the view that the programme is doing a good service to agriculture.

Other distinctive programmes which were widely heard in the Midlands and beyond were the music features from the studio with the BBC Midland Light Orchestra. Musical comedy programmes with narration were popular, as were "Stories from the Ballet" and "Grand Concert". The orchestra maintained its high standard of performance throughout the year: many tributes were received as a result of the three evening concerts given after the death of the King. The BBC Midland Singers did distinguished work and were heard regularly on the Third Programme.

Midland Region has made a reputation for itself in connection with its programmes about science. Two established series which continued were "Look Ahead", which in four programmes sought to assess the present material circumstances of man, and "The Lunar Society of the Air", a sequence of after-dinner conversations between eminent scientists dealing with the growth and use of knowledge.

An important recent experiment took the form of a monthly industrial magazine, "Just the Job". Its object has been to reflect the achievements and problems of the people who work in Midland industry. The programme has normally included a short discussion on a shop-floor topic, an interview with a leading figure in industry, a contribution about some notable achievement by the people responsible, and "This Month's Grouse", dealing with a particular difficulty of the moment.

"Stories from the Regiments" consisted of dramatisations of the history of Midland Regiments: these programmes have received approbation from all ranks of the regiments concerned.

The main framework of the Region's broadcasting during the Festival of Britain period was a series of "County Weeks", in which each of the 13 counties of the Region was "highlighted" in turn. No feature of the county weeks was more successful than the massed choir concerts, in which groups of choirs in each county were given the opportunity to sing with a professional orchestra. Other musical highlights in the Midlands were provided by one or more relays from the Three Choirs Festival at Worcester and from the Cheltenham, Norwich, Malvern and Birmingham Music Festivals.

The Midland news bulletins continued to be made more comprehensive, with the help of a hundred correspondents in different parts of the Region. A new programme of reportage, "It Happened This Week", was introduced and proved popular. "Midland M.P.s at Westminster" continued to give listeners an information service about Parliamentary matters of special interest to the Midlands.

Among the controversial issues discussed by speakers in "Midland Parliament" were the raw material shortage, the loss of productive land, television—blessing or menace? and education for management. The outside broadcasts staff had an exceptionally busy year with a wide range of assignments for both television and sound broadcasting, including great sporting events and the many celebrations in connection with the Festival of Britain. Many plays and features, mostly based on local material, were broadcast. In Midland Children's Hour the "Midland Magazine" programmes, written and presented entirely by children, continued to be most popular.

The opening of an East Midlands studio at Nottingham, with a small staff, was found at the end of its first year to have been fully justified, both in bringing more East Midlands material into the programmes and in engendering local satisfaction and goodwill. The only critical note from the Nottingham area was in respect of reception, which remained unsatisfactory.

#### NORTH REGION

The BBC's North Region extends southwards from the Scottish border to a line running roughly from the border of Flintshire on the west coast to the dividing boundary between Lincolnshire and Norfolk on the east. It contains nearly one-third of the holders of wireless licences, with all their great diversity of occupations and interests. In trying to cater for these interests, and to provide an outlet for native talent, the BBC in the North, while striving always to maintain an acceptable quality, has to meet an unremitting need for quantity. In the year under review there was an average combined total of ten productions per day from the Region's three studio bases.

Great attention was paid to maintaining a popular and valuable Regional news service. Two bulletins were produced every weekday evening—one for the area served by the 434 m. wavelength, and a subsidiary bulletin for the North-East. Almost as many North of England listeners heard one or other of these Regional Bulletins as heard the 9.0 p.m. national bulletin. This Regional news is collected by telephone from among 170 free-lance correspondents, backed by BBC staff correspondents and other special sources of information.

In the field of talks and discussions, two new series were of special interest. The weekly "Progress Report" which started in November, 1951 (revived from an earlier North Region programme) provided a twenty-minute review of topical developments in industry, medicine, and the social sciences. The programme does not provide for argumentative discussion, but consists of statements and opinions by usually three or four authoritative spokesmen. Subjects dealt with included the outlook for electricity and gas supplies, the development of gas turbines, conditions in the coal industry, synthetic fibres, child welfare, and road safety. Audiences, as assessed, were no bigger than those usually anticipated for serious and unadorned broadcasts of this kind, but the level of appreciation was found to be consistently high. The series has become the most effective medium that this Region has discovered for many years past for the responsible and factual review of progress in such fields.

Discussion of a different kind was encouraged in the weekly sessions of the "Fifty-One Society". This discussion group was brought into being towards the end of 1951, with the object of providing a forum for controversial discussion in which individual personalities would not be given undue prominence. The permanent members of the group have been drawn from both sides of industry, from the public services, and from the academic world. The audience has again been small, but the formula is a new one and there is considered to be every justification for persisting in it.

The vigorous religious life of the Northern counties continued to provide the basis each month for the broadcasting of some five church services, an equal number of talks, a Sunday Half-Hour or People's Service, together with contributions to Choral Evensong, "Lighten our Darkness" and various religious broadcasts for overseas.

One of the most successful series of major feature programmes that North Region has produced is "They Found Fame", dealing with the achievements of such famous Northerners as Lord Collingwood, the Everest mountaineers Mallory and Irvine, Lord Delamere (of Kenya), and others. The series was preceded by an equally successful run of programmes during the Festival season, dealing in turn with each of the nine Northern counties as known or remembered by Northern writers of national repute. Northern audiences have been found to appreciate programmes dealing with people and places, in preference to more abstract themes.

The main effort of the Regional drama department, based at Leeds, was the production of a weekly sixty-minute play for the North of England Home Service. Apart from filling a gap on the one evening of the week when there was no drama production in either the Light Programme or the national Home Service, this substantial undertaking has provided considerable scope for Northern performers and Northern writers.

The music resources of the North of England are almost inexhaustible, and an average of more than one performance a day was produced throughout the year. The BBC Northern Orchestra of 51 players combined to hold its own among national orchestras of equivalent size. A more recent innovation in the Region has been the provision of a small Variety Orchestra. Regular programmes such as "Sounding Brass and Voices", "Children Singing" and "The Counties Sing", have provided a solid backing to the less frequent celebrity recitals and major choral works.

"Have a Go" continued to head all rivals in national popularity, and "Variety Fanfare" also had very big audiences. "Top Town" provided an interesting medium for competitive non-professional talent, and other Variety shows were devised for "coming" comedians.

It was the Children's Hour, with its attractive portrayals of famous Northerners, that set the pattern for the adult series mentioned above. During the past year Children's Hour embarked on a series dealing with the history and achievements of the ancient grammar schools in the North.

The sharing of a wavelength, mentioned above in the section devoted to Northern Ireland, is no more acceptable in North-East England than it is on the other side of the Irish Sea. The observations on this point in the last paragraph of the section on Northern Ireland are equally applicable to this section of the Report.

Television came to Lancashire and Yorkshire with the opening of the Holme Moss station in October, 1951. Its impact has been much as had previously been experienced, first in the London Home Counties and later in the Midlands. If anything, it appears that the Northerner is slightly the

less ready to capitulate to the lure of the new medium. The Region itself, with its shared use of a mobile television unit, has begun to contribute to the national programmes. The excellence of the programmes from Leeds and Blackpool which marked the inauguration of Holme Moss has not since been equalled, but the Regional staff most directly concerned are steadily gaining experience, and there is solid reason to anticipate an improvement and development in this latest aspect of the Region's work.

#### WEST REGION

The Festival of Britain was marked by enthusiastic celebrations throughout the West Country. Broadcasting played its part in these celebrations both directly and indirectly. From May to September, recordings of Festival events in cities, towns and villages were broadcast, each week in a Festival Magazine. Direct outside broadcasts were taken of many outstanding occasions—notably of the opening of the rebuilt Colston Hall in Bristol and of the inaugural concert there. The BBC itself contributed to local celebrations by sending the BBC West of England Light Orchestra on a Festival tour, to give public broadcast concerts in places throughout the length and breadth of the Region as far apart as Weston-super-Mare, Penzance, and the Isle of Wight. More directly, broadcasting in its own right contributed to the Festival in the Region by many special programmes. A series of talks surveyed much of the social, industrial and agricultural development of the Region in the last hundred years. Another series gave biographical histories of the great men of the period in the West and South-West of England. In a series of Festival feature programmes, the life and character of the West Region were portrayed in a series of comprehensive full length radio portraits under the general title "Here is our Home". Among the subjects chosen for the series were: Bristol—a major city; Plymouth—a great naval base; Salisbury—a cathedral city; Bournemouth—a holiday resort; Swindon—an industrial centre; Launceston—a country town; Bolventor—a remote village.

The BBC's news service in the West, in which the news bulletins are extensively augmented each week by news talks, commentaries and magazines, continued to serve an area which is homogeneous to a remarkable degree but yet has no single common Regional newspaper. The material for this news service is derived largely from local correspondents. In a few localities difficulty was encountered as a result of journalists not being permitted by their employers to act as BBC correspondents; steps were taken to get over this difficulty.

The open discussion of matters of public importance continued to be an essential ingredient of broadcasting in the West. In the "Any Questions" series, members of the public put their questions to panels of well-known speakers. In "Speak Your Mind" and in "Air Space"—the Region's correspondence column—ordinary men and women not only asked questions but also freely gave their views.

To such veteran series as "The Naturalist" and "Country Questions", which West Region has been contributing for many years to the national programmes, two new series of countryside programmes were added in this particular year. One of them, "Let's Go", was intended as a guide to Britain out of doors. The other was "Birds in Britain".

A new magazine series "Apollo in the West" concerned itself with the artistic and literary life of the Region. Several programmes of the work of Regional poets were broadcast during the year. In the field of serious music the full range of the Region's heritage, from early folk song to the work of present-day composers was comprehensively displayed. The



Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra broadcast on a considerable number of occasions.

The Light Entertainment side of Regional broadcasting enjoyed a very full year. Three separate series of dancing programmes were run in parallel, one concerned with modern ballroom dancing, the second with "old-time" dancing, and the third with folk dancing and square-dancing. A series of "Western Music Hall" broadcasts, built round artists of close Regional associations, enjoyed considerable popularity and large audiences. The Region's family serial "At the Luscombes" reached its 100th performance.

Religious broadcasting in the Region extended its scope well beyond its regular Sunday commitments. The department contributed the weekly magazine "The Faith in the West", as well as a number of feature programmes. The output of the Drama Department blended old favourites like "The Widow Woman", "Yellow Sands" and "Quinneys", with such new work as a four-part adaptation of "Frenchman's Creek" and an experimental new play "Westward Journey" by R. H. Ward. Mr. H. A. Vachell on his 90th birthday spoke at the end of the broadcast of his play, "Quinneys". Among the year's favourites in Children's Hour were "Walks in the West Country", "Cowleaze Farm," "The Adventures of Clara Chuff", and an adaptation of John Masefield's Devonshire adventure story "Jim Davis".

The West Regional Advisory Council has expressed the wish that West Regional broadcasting should take every opportunity of strengthening the links between listeners in this part of England and the people living on the mainland of Europe just across the water from the Region's southern coastline. It has accordingly become the custom for the Region to mount one major feature each year reflecting some aspect of life in France. In 1951 that programme took the form of a portrait of a French town, and the town chosen was Vannes, in Brittany. Among other programmes contributing to the same end was a short feature on the opening of an air car ferry service between Southampton and Cherbourg, and another dealing with the last voyage, after forty years service on the Southampton—Le Havre run, of the cross-channel steamer "Hantonia".

In addition to these feature programmes the Region carried out many musical exchanges with continental countries, including Belgium, Switzerland, Holland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Western Germany.

## Audience Research

The pattern of listening to the BBC's home sound programmes changed very little in 1951. Once again listening was at its maximum in January and February and at its minimum in July. The daytime listening curve retained its time-honoured shape with minor peaks at breakfast and midday meal times, a major peak for the 6.0 o'clock News followed by some recession and then a steady ascent until the time of maximum listening, roughly between 8.30 and 9.30 p.m.

Fundamental preferences, as expressed in listening behaviour, also showed very little change. Once again there was twice as much listening to the Light Programme as there was to the Home Service (though in Scotland listeners spread their time much more evenly). Typical audiences for popular series in 1951 were: Music Hall, nine and a half million; Saturday Night Theatre, eleven million; "Any Questions?", ten million; and Sunday Half-Hour (community hymn singing), seven and a half million. Audiences of up

to one million were usual for such "minority" programmes as symphony concerts, "The Critics" or more serious talks. Discussions such as "Taking Stock" were, on the average, heard by about two million listeners. The news bulletin which commanded the largest audience was the 6 o'clock (average seven million listeners). The broadcast which drew the largest audience in 1951 was the commentary on the world middleweight championship contest between Turpin and Sugar Ray Robinson; it was heard by some twenty-five million listeners.

In general 1951 saw a slight decline in the extent to which the British public listened to sound broadcasting. It is estimated that whereas in 1950 evening listening per adult averaged  $7\frac{3}{4}$  hours out of a possible 35 a week the corresponding figure in 1951 was  $7\frac{1}{2}$  hours. The biggest single cause of this diminution in listening was the spread of television. Although television set owners continued to listen to sound broadcasting substantially during the hours when television was off the air they drastically reduced their listening when television was available.

The time spent in viewing is, however, by no means all at the expense of sound broadcasting. It is estimated that, on the average, twenty minutes of each hour spent in viewing is diverted from activities other than listening. Most of this time is found by re-arranging home life. Comparatively little of it comes from reducing activities outside the home, for television's power to keep people at home is much less than has sometimes been suggested.

Television's attraction for viewers is shown by the fact that the average viewer watches roughly half the evening programmes which are broadcast, that is for about eight out of sixteen hours of evening programmes a week. This frequency, or something very near it, is maintained long after the novelty of television ownership has worn off. Children are even more assiduous viewers. Five-seven year olds who live in homes where there are television sets watch three out of four programmes in Children's Television and eight-eleven year olds two out of three.

Since the number of viewers is rising, statements about the size of television audiences rapidly become out of date. But when, early in 1952, the number of television licences current was about one and a quarter million some typical audiences for television programmes were estimated to be as follows: "Ballet for Beginners" one and a half million, "World Survey" two and a quarter million, the Sunday night play three million and "Kaleidoscope" three and a quarter million. On exceptional occasions, when viewers throw their homes open to their friends, television reaches a much wider circle. Thus the evening showing of the telefilm of the funeral of King George VI was estimated to have been seen by four and a half million people.

Sound broadcasting's audiences, of course, far exceeded those of television. During the period to which the figures given above apply, it was normal to find that more than four times as many people were listening to the Home Service, the Light Programme and the Third Programme as were viewing television.

The methods by which the quantity of listening and viewing is measured day by day, and the opinions of listeners and viewers are assessed were explained in detail in a memorandum published in Appendix H of the Report of the Broadcasting Committee, 1949. These methods continued in use during the year under review.

But as in other years these regular methods were supplemented by *ad hoc* enquiries. For example 1951 saw the completion of an intensive enquiry into the characteristics of the television public and the effect of television upon

leisure. This enquiry involved personal interviews in over 3,000 television homes. Its findings were made public in the BBC Quarterly (Spring 1952).

Towards the end of the year a study of the new Northern television public was launched. It followed the pattern of a similar enquiry after television had reached the Midlands and had as its object the discovery of the extent to which the tastes and habits of the new Northern public differed from or were similar to those of viewers of longer standing. The co-operation of "1951 viewers" was publicly invited and no less than 57,000 television families responded.

In the sphere of sound broadcasting further progress was made in the development of methods of measuring the extent to which spoken word broadcasts are effective in conveying ideas and information to listeners of differing levels of capacity. After several months of experiment an enquiry was undertaken into the effectiveness of the series "Topic for Tonight" (the 5-minute talk which follows the 10.0 o'clock News). Over 1,000 listeners personally participated in group test sessions at Broadcasting House during the autumn of 1951. The results of this enquiry are now under analysis.

The BBC's advice on the problems of audience research is frequently sought by overseas broadcasting organisations. In 1951, too, its experience was gladly placed at the disposal of a Joint Committee of the broadcasting organisations of Western Germany and officers from All India Radio were temporarily attached to the Audience Research Department for the study of its methods.

## External Broadcasting

### *Reductions in Services*

It became apparent early in 1952 that unless the Grant-in-Aid could be increased, considerable cuts would have to be made in the BBC's External Services for the coming year.

It will be recalled that there was a 10 per cent. cut in 1948, and various smaller reductions have been made necessary at other times by the continued increase in the costs of operating the services.

At the beginning of the year under review the General Overseas Service was reduced from 24 hours a day to 21 hours. In the Latin American Service, Spanish was reduced from  $5\frac{3}{4}$  hours a day to  $3\frac{1}{4}$  hours, Portuguese from  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hours a day to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours; the BBC office in Bogota was withdrawn. The Afrikaans Service was reduced from  $\frac{3}{4}$  hour a day to  $\frac{1}{4}$  hour; Greek for Cyprus was dropped. French was reduced by three quarters of an hour a day; Dutch by six minutes; German for Austria by a quarter of an hour a day, and for Germany by three-quarters of an hour; Yugoslavia by quarter of an hour. In all about  $12\frac{1}{2}$  hours were cut out of the daily programme output, the cuts falling mainly on the services beyond Europe. These cuts caused the abolition of about forty posts.

As the year 1951-1952 continued, it was seen that overall costs would rise for the forthcoming year by another seven per cent. It was announced in February, however, that the Grant-in-Aid would continue at the existing figure of £4,750,000. Further cuts have therefore to be planned. As a result, the Latin American Service was further reduced. Another quarter of an hour was taken off both the Spanish and Portuguese Services, but as the Spanish programme now consists of a programme which is repeated, the cuts in programme content are far more than the loss of programme time suggests.

The production of all transcription programmes for Latin America was stopped. Hitherto these have been used for several hours a week by 350 stations in Latin America. The remaining four BBC offices in Latin America were withdrawn. The majority of breakfast and lunchtime broadcasts to Western Europe were eliminated and the services to Belgium and Luxembourg were discontinued. Broadcasts to countries in this part of Europe were therefore reduced by just over five programme hours a day: the services affected being Belgian, Danish, Dutch, French, German, Luxembourg, Norwegian, Portuguese and English by Radio. There was no reduction in the services to Eastern Europe.

In addition to these reductions in output, cuts were made in the Monitoring Service; the "Arabic Listener" ceased publication; and nearly all capital expenditure, already reduced to the bare minimum, was deferred. The number of posts abolished was about 130. The programme cuts took effect from the end of the financial year; the other cuts were made immediately.

During the year the new transmitting station in Singapore came into full operation on a single shift basis, and the new Vietnamese Service of a quarter of an hour a day was inaugurated on 6th January, 1952.

Special importance attached to broadcasting in Arabic and Persian. In January the Arabic transmissions were increased from  $3\frac{3}{4}$  to 4 hours a day. In June the Persian Service was increased by  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour a day, but was decreased again in August by a  $\frac{1}{4}$  hour a day.\* Development in these services is described in the appropriate sections.

### *Jamming*

During the year there has been a marked increase in the jamming of BBC services to Russia and Eastern Europe. This is referred to more fully on page 69 in the section of this Report dealing with Engineering. Measures to counter jamming have throughout the year thrown an increased operational cost on the External Services of the BBC. However, it was announced by the Foreign Secretary on 2nd April that the BBC would not be asked to meet the cost of anti-jamming at the expense of other services.

### *Rebroadcasting*

In direct contrast to the jamming of BBC broadcasts to Russia and Eastern Europe is the continued increase in rebroadcasting elsewhere. Often this is the result of friendly collaboration with the broadcasting organisations of other countries. A number of the regional reports which follow refer to such developments: those in France and Germany, for instance, are typical. In the U.S.A. the increase in rebroadcasting is particularly striking. During the year the Japanese broadcasting organisation began for the first time to rebroadcast the BBC news in Japanese regularly. The increase in rebroadcasting has been an outstanding development in this year's work.

### *Liaison with other Countries*

The provision of BBC studio and recording facilities for other broadcasting organisations continued to increase during the year, as did the demands for scripts. Numerous broadcasting officials visited the BBC for discussions, for attachment or for attendance at one of the Staff Training Courses. Guest students in sound broadcasting included many from Colonial stations. On the television side visits for information were paid by senior officials from a

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\* (See Appendix VII for a full list of programme hours in the External Services during recent years.)

number of countries, and several programme staff attended a Television Staff Training Course. In the course of the year arrangements were made for over 200 visiting broadcasting officials at different times.

Outstanding events in which the BBC provided collaboration with other broadcasting organisations included the Festival of Britain, the Edinburgh Festival, the General Election, and the death and funeral of His late Majesty, King George VI. During the General Election in October the Corporation provided facilities for 61 reporters representing 20 organisations in 10 European countries, the four major networks in the U.S.A. and Canada, Australia, Eire and Israel.

Special broadcasts of commentaries, in English and Afrikaans, on the cricket and Rugby football matches played by the touring South African teams, were arranged at the request of the South African Broadcasting Corporation.

The co-operation of overseas broadcasting organisations all over the world, too numerous to mention in detail, is gratefully acknowledged, particularly in connection with the round-the-Commonwealth programmes on the occasion of the death of H.M. King George VI and the Christmas "round-the-world" programme. Mention must be made of the unstinted help given to BBC commentators by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation during the tour of Canada by H.M. The Queen (then H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth) and H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh, and by Cable and Wireless, Nairobi, while they were in Kenya at the start of their tour which had to be cut short. The BBC also gratefully acknowledges the help provided by Radio Eireann on numerous occasions, and by the broadcasting organisations of West European countries which enabled the BBC to relay most of the important musical events taking place there.

Numerous two-way musical programmes, especially with the Regional Home Services, were arranged with the Continental countries and the BBC made special transmitter arrangements for broadcasting the United Nations proceedings from Paris to the home audience. BBC transmitters were also placed at the disposal of United Nations Radio Division for broadcasting reports on the proceedings to various territories overseas.

#### SPECIAL OCCASIONS

While the External Services of the BBC continue day by day and year by year to send out their regular broadcasts, especially suited to particular countries and interests, there are some occasions which focus and concentrate the entire Services on one theme. At such times it is possible to see the work of world-wide broadcasting as a whole.

During the year there were two such occasions, the Festival of Britain, and the death of H.M. King George VI with the events of the following days.

##### *The Death and Funeral of the King*

In the days following the death of H.M. King George VI it became evident that a personal affection and sympathy were felt for him throughout the Commonwealth, and in other countries, that had not been fully realised even by his most devoted subjects. The External Services of the BBC were called upon to make what was perhaps the most important and impressive series of broadcasts in their 20 years' history.

The sudden news of the King's death called for immediate alteration in the broadcasting schedules. Arrangements were at once made, following the provisional plans already in existence. It was of course unsuitable for any of the External Services to remain silent, and all continued to broadcast,

though with changed programmes. Among the earliest announcements of the King's death were those in Indonesian and Norwegian, which gives an impression of the world-wide range of services that are being continuously broadcast. The General Overseas Service made the special announcement at 11.15 G.M.T. From then, all the overseas English-speaking services were merged into one. The announcement was followed by muffled bells and solemn music. The announcement was repeated at each quarter of an hour until 12 G.M.T. ; then every half hour ; and later at the normal programme junctions and news periods.

Until the following day the programme consisted of news bulletins, which were broadcast at the normal General Overseas Service times, followed by bells and appropriate music. There were special announcements, a religious programme was taken from the Home Service and a broadcast was given from outside Buckingham Palace.

This was the pattern followed during the first day by all the External Services in Europe and elsewhere. The tolling of the tenor bell of the parish church of Lavenham, Suffolk, was an interval signal much used, and as was afterwards learnt, greatly appreciated by listeners in many places.

On the following day, Thursday, 7th February, the various English overseas services returned to their separate channels of transmissions. From then a full programme service was broadcast by the General Overseas Service, although variety and dance music were not given until after the funeral. Light music was, however, reintroduced sparingly from Saturday, 9th February.

Broadcasting in all services followed the ceremonies of the Proclamation, the removal of the King's body from Sandringham, and the Lying-in-State. The General Overseas Service brought out the Commonwealth-wide meaning of the Proclamation in a broadcast which gave the ceremonies in other Commonwealth capitals as well as that in London. This Service also originated its own version of the feature programme "A Commonwealth Mourns Its King". It was recorded and disks flown to all the leading broadcasting organisations in the Commonwealth, so that they could be rebroadcast in some places even before the day of the funeral.

Many similar outside broadcasts and special feature programmes were given throughout the 46 languages spoken by the BBC—"The Place of the Crown in the British Constitution", "What it means to have a Queen", "The Crown and the Commonwealth", "Britain in Mourning"—these were the titles of some of the special programmes in the European Service. Broadcasts to Russia and the satellite countries made special efforts to express the significance of the Crown in the life of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth.

On the day of the funeral, 15th February, the BBC had arranged for some 50 commentary points along the route, so that people all over the world were able to join in the last tribute to King George VI as the funeral procession passed through London from Westminster to Paddington and then to St. George's Chapel, Windsor. A hundred and thirty-two microphones were in use by 50 to 60 commentators.

The General Overseas Service went out on about 30 transmitters, giving world-wide coverage in English to the broadcast as it was heard on the Home Service. Three recorded repeats were made during the following 12 hours.

In the European Service the day was devoted, apart from the news, entirely to the funeral. There were 9 live outside broadcasts, which were carried by the 5 BBC European networks and 19 Continental networks. All these

live commentaries were recorded, and a further 11 commentaries were recorded for use later in the day.

Beyond Europe, BBC commentators gave descriptions of the funeral in 21 languages covering Latin America, the Arabic-speaking countries and Persia, India, Ceylon, Pakistan and the Far East.

Many facilities were offered to broadcasting organisations of other nations. Twenty-six commentators from European stations were among those describing the funeral scenes. Two C.B.C. commentators flew from Canada. Live commentary points were also allotted to four American networks for all the important events preceding the funeral as well as on the day of the funeral itself. In fact, the tremendous interest shown in North America entailed a concentrated operation, involving planning and constant liaison with BBC representatives in London, Toronto and New York, and with the London offices of the U.S. networks.

Meanwhile the Transcription Service had with outstanding speed recorded three of the leading programmes of the preceding days and sent them by airmail throughout the Commonwealth. These were the Prime Minister's tribute to His late Majesty; "The Ideal of Kingship", and "A Commonwealth Mourns Its King". The disks left the Transcription Service only a few hours after "A Commonwealth Mourns Its King" was first broadcast.

These facts of the size of the world-wide operation of the BBC can however do little to convey the impact, often poignant and moving, of these broadcasts on many listeners in distant countries. On such occasions it is perhaps to be expected that all the leading Commonwealth broadcasting organisations should rebroadcast the BBC. During the next few days reports came from all over the Commonwealth and Forces networks overseas, of successful reception and large audiences. Rebroadcasts were taken also in various Commonwealth languages besides English. It is striking that these programmes should have been rebroadcast by nineteen different European networks, and by some seven hundred stations in the U.S.A. Several European stations rebroadcast Mr. Churchill's speech of 7th February in English, and this also was broadcast and repeated throughout the U.S.A. Descriptions of the funeral procession and also of events of the preceding days given by the Japanese Section of the BBC were also rebroadcast in the Japanese Home Service.

The effect of this rebroadcasting, even apart from direct listening in ships at sea and numerous scattered points, and the use of transcriptions indicates an audience that, with the exception of the Iron Curtain countries and China, was world-wide. It must in fact have amounted to a significant proportion of all those in touch with radio sets.

For days, even before the funeral, letters of sympathetic interest were pouring into the BBC from European countries. Among them came one from a German listener who lay dying in hospital and sent some money to buy flowers for the King's funeral. Then came the letters from farther afield from every nation to which the BBC broadcasts, and these continued to arrive for weeks and even months afterwards.

Out of many letters and newspaper articles, this leader from "The Madras Mail" is chosen to convey something of the importance of the task performed by broadcasting on such occasions, as seen from the listeners' point of view:—

" . . . Yet nothing radio has yet given us was more impressive, more sublime, more realistic than the broadcast narrative of King George VI's last solemn progress from Westminster Hall to St. George's Chapel,

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Windsor. In that broadcast was pathos, beauty, majesty, grief, and redeeming grace. Thus the BBC proved that it was not unmindful of its duty to those who live afar, who are dependent upon it for opportunities to be brought into intimate contact with the great emotional and historic occasions of our age. We are all interested therein, whatever our race, for however remote they may appear at times, in a world so closely linked as this, none can escape the effect of historic happenings whether in his own country or others."

### *Festival of Britain*

During the entire period of the Festival of Britain, the External Services of the BBC made a sustained effort to bring every aspect of the Festival throughout the United Kingdom to every part of the world.

The peak point of the programmes came on the day of the opening ceremony. The English broadcast as it was heard in the Home Service was given world-wide coverage; all the language services on that day and throughout the summer illustrated the meaning of the Festival, its liveliness, colour, and the crowds it attracted, as well as its more serious aspects.

To the European Service the Festival provided an opportunity for a fresh approach to the task of projecting Britain. It received a larger treatment in the BBC's programmes for Europe than any other event since the war. There were about 1,200 Festival broadcasts in all—some 200 in advance, nearly 1,000 during the Festival itself, and some 20 to 30 afterwards. This represented nearly 250 hours of broadcasting, spaced over the 25 language sections—a substantial total in relation to the limited time available to most of these services.

Overseas programmes for the Commonwealth and other countries outside Europe began early. The object was to help listeners in the more distant parts of the world to make up their minds in good time if they wanted to come to Britain for the Festival. Sir Gerald Barry gave his first talk about the Festival in December, 1949, and this was followed early in 1950 by a talks feature programme on plans and preparations for the Festival. Altogether about 150 programmes were broadcast before the Festival opened.

In the spring of 1951, when most visitors to the Festival were already on their way, the purpose and content of these programmes changed. The Festival became a new link between Britain and the English-speaking world. The various language sections also gave many hours of programme time to the Festival, using it, in the same way as the European Service did, as a new opportunity for explaining Britain and the British to listeners in Latin America, the Far East and elsewhere. Altogether about 700 programmes were broadcast in the Overseas Services. The total broadcasting time was approximately 200 hours.

### GENERAL OVERSEAS SERVICE

The General Overseas Service, within its framework of news bulletins, continued to provide a wide selection of programmes taken from the BBC's domestic services.

Among the broadcasts originated by the General Overseas Service there was an increase in the number and scope of discussion and exchange programmes. Some of these were arranged between well-known people throughout the English-speaking world. Commonwealth affairs were covered, apart from news broadcasts, principally in "Colonial Questions", a weekly summary of Parliamentary Questions concerning the Colonies, and regular talks series entitled "Colonial Commentary" and "Asian Survey", followed by "African Survey".



Feature programmes, prepared in anticipation of the Royal Tour, were broadcast depicting some aspects of Kenya, Ceylon and the Cocos Islands. "The Heritage of Britain", a monthly series of documentary programmes, was followed in 1952 by a series of similar scope telling the story of the expansion of the British overseas. In a series of cathedral music, special broadcasts were arranged from cathedrals in Montreal, Toronto, Lagos and Sydney.

A successful new venture was the despatch of an experienced radio commentator with recording equipment to visit and report from countries between Libya and Japan, particularly those from which information is least easily obtainable by other means. Other new spoken-word programmes included "Man and the Soil", a series of statements, beginning and ending with discussions, by some of the world's leading social anthropologists, agricultural and health experts.

Among many sports broadcasts, special arrangements were made to enable listeners in South Africa to follow closely the fortunes of their cricket and Rugby football teams in England, and to bring the daily "Sports Round-up" to Forces serving in the Far East and elsewhere.

Party political broadcasts, originated in the Home Service, were carried for the first time. A special service of reports and analyses of the results of the General Election was heard extensively and rebroadcast overseas.

#### THE EUROPEAN SERVICE

The past year has marked a further stage in the development of close broadcasting relations with Western Europe, while the spread of jamming to several BBC language services other than Russian indicates a corresponding deterioration in the attitude of the Soviet Union. The number of Continental countries relaying BBC language services on their own home service networks rose to the record number of 16 on the day of the late King's funeral, and throughout the year Italy, Austria and Greece continued their daily relays without interruption.

The reliability and objectivity of the news were repeatedly praised by listeners in all free countries. The crisis in Persia and Egypt made European listeners tune in more frequently to BBC bulletins. During the period of the British General Election there was also evidence of increased listening. On the day of the election results the number of news bulletins in the European Service was increased to nearly 100. A journalist reported from Yugoslavia: "On 26th October radios were constantly tuned in to BBC wavelengths, and results were being chalked up as they came through". Finnish listeners showed exceptional interest in news from the BBC, calling it: "The most rapid source of news". Reports of Vishinsky's speeches in the United Nations were given in BBC Russian bulletins many hours before they were reported on the Russian radio.

Five hundred East German refugees interviewed in Berlin gave further evidence of the importance of BBC news to Iron Curtain countries, where radio was the main connection with the free world. A Bulgarian refugee said: "In spite of the risks which accompany listening to foreign broadcasts there is not a set in Bulgaria which is not regularly each evening tuned in to the London radio and the Voice of America. The news . . . is spread with lightning speed. . . ."

## FRANCE AND WESTERN EUROPE

*France* : During the year programmes which form friendly links between France and England have been a special feature of the French Service. A particularly vivid instance of this has been the new series of programmes known as "Tribune Franco-Britannique". These programmes are a French adaptation of the idea of the "Town Forum", as broadcast by the BBC's domestic services: a team of well-known broadcasters visits various towns, where, in a public hall, it answers and discusses questions put to it by the local audience.

This emphasis on Anglo-French broadcasts was maintained by other programmes. There was, for instance, a further series of the feature programmes known as "Des Deux Côtés de la Manche", made partly in France, partly in Britain; these compare a French town, village, industry or occupation with its counterpart in Britain. Typical subjects were: The Paris Metro and the London Underground, a Paris café and a London pub, a country vet in France and in England, the towns of Blois and Lewes. Another continuing series of programmes was "Deux Opinions—Une Histoire", which, by analysing them, has attempted to remove French and British prejudices in Anglo-French history. In the series "Justice Anglaise—Justice Française" famous British trials have been used to explain the differences and similarities between French and British law.

*Holland* : The Dutch Section's year ended with a Cross-Channel programme in which a British speaker (in a London studio) and Dutch and Belgian speakers (in Brussels) discussed the European Army. This successful programme, which was also broadcast by the BBC's Belgian (Flemish) Service, epitomised the work of the Dutch Section in the past year, during which it has dealt particularly with the more controversial questions of European politics—in order to explain the British point of view.

*Belgium* : On 29th March the Belgian Section came, temporarily at least, to an end with a programme commemorating the Section's history since 28th September, 1940; this programme recalled those famous figures of the Belgian broadcasts during the war, Jan Moedwil (M. Geersens) and Victor de Laveleye, recalled too that it was de Laveleye, who, in a Belgian broadcast, started the world-famous "V Campaign". A noteworthy feature of the Belgian broadcasts in the past year was the fortnightly London Letter (in Flemish) which was relayed by N.I.R. for some fifteen months; N.I.R. were eager for this programme to continue even after the Belgian Section had closed down.

The weekly fifteen-minute programme (Sunday mornings) for *Luxembourg* also closed down at the end of March. In its last year, as previously, its weekly account of life in Britain or of the British point of view on important international issues received considerable appreciation from listeners and was extremely well publicised in the principal newspaper of Luxembourg.

## SOUTHERN EUROPE

*Italy* : In the Italian Section the past year's broadcasting was characterised by the success of its co-operation with the Italian Radio. The "Rome-London Quiz" broadcast by Italy's second network, became a popular favourite, and there was an increase in the number of eye-witness reports and actuality despatches sent to Rome for inclusion in Radio Italiana's international magazine programmes.

In a new venture—"Controversy"—Members of Parliament and journalists holding opposite views debated current problems with great frankness.

The discussion of English and Italian views was continued in a number of documentary programmes devoted to Italian workers in this country, which also served the useful purpose of projecting life in a British community. A number of talks by the Italian Section's industrial correspondent on the conditions of work of Italian immigrants, drew fire from Radio Moscow in Italian, which attempted to discourage Italians from working in Britain.

Increased use was made of Italian residents in this country, and a new monthly programme gave the freedom of the air to Italian listeners, who were invited to submit short talks on set subjects.

A new regular programme "Behind the Iron Curtain" provides debating points to a much-divided audience.

*Spain* : Spanish problems were often in the news during the past year, and broadcasts to Spain still devote much of their time to news and the factual presentation of the British point of view.

An outstanding broadcast last year was that of the whole of the "Christopher Columbus" programmes, originally prepared for Latin America. Many programmes were devoted to the British constitution and the position of the Crown, to British law, and to the British electoral and Parliamentary systems.

*Portugal* : The past year saw an increase of co-operation with the Portuguese broadcasting system. A number of the BBC Portuguese Section's programmes were recorded and subsequently rebroadcast by Lisbon's Home Services. The account of the embarkation of the remains of ex-Queen Amélie at Brest en route for Lisbon, was relayed by Lisbon.

Among programmes devoted to industrial co-operation between Britain and Portugal was an important broadcast on the opening of the new British-built bridge at Villa Franca on the Tagus.

#### SCANDINAVIA

Letters received from the Scandinavian countries and Finland during the past year confirm that news and the interpretation of news in the form of political comment are what listeners most desire.

The broadcasts also seek to cultivate specific Anglo-Scandinavian interests. The Norwegian Service has, for instance, carried programmes on the activities of Norwegian students in this country, on domestic service conditions for Norwegian girls in Britain, greetings from Norwegian sailors, and Shakespearian talks specially for Norwegian schools.

The visit of the Swedish Home Fleet was an important item in the Swedish broadcasts. A correspondent of the Swedish Service crossed the North Sea with the Swedish Navy, and the Service was thus able to give listeners vivid accounts of this event.

Highlights in the Danish Service during the year were programmes from the Danish hospital ship "Jutlandia" when she arrived at Southampton from Korea, and the day-to-day descriptions of Captain Carlsen's efforts to bring the "Flying Enterprise" to safety.

The traditional ties of friendship between Britain and Denmark and Norway, found expression in the visits to this country of King Frederik and Queen Ingrid followed by that of King Haakon, and were reflected in the Danish and Norwegian Services. Extra transmissions were specially mounted so that Danish listeners could hear the arrival of the Royal couple in Dover, their drive through the streets of London and the ceremony at

the Guildhall where King Frederik's and the Lord Mayor's speeches were broadcast.

When King Haakon made his journey up the river from the Pool of London to Westminster and drove from there to Buckingham Palace, special running commentaries were broadcast.

In broadcasting to Finland, the exposure of the fallacies of Communism has been one of the main features of the programme. This has been done by giving news from Eastern Europe and talks on Russia and the Satellites, and by serialising books on the theory and practice of Communism.

A reflection of the success of these broadcasts may perhaps be found in the Russian jamming of the Finnish transmissions which began on 9th January and still continues. As a result of counter-measures the Finnish Service has always been audible in Finland on at least one frequency.

#### EASTERN EUROPE AND THE U.S.S.R.

All sections of the East European Service gave eye-witness accounts of every stage of the General Election campaign, from reporters sent to several different constituencies in England, Scotland and Wales in order to make clear, in full detail, what is meant by the words "free elections". Besides this and other landmarks common to all services, these details stand out:—

*Albania*: Mr. Francis Noel-Baker visited camps of recently arrived refugees from Albania in Greece and Yugoslavia. BBC Albanian broadcasts were able, by giving his reports, to be more closely in touch with the sufferings of our Albanian audience.

*Bulgaria*: Two Bulgarian delegates to the Communist Youth Rally in Berlin took the opportunity to choose freedom in the West, and broadcast descriptions of daily life in Great Britain correcting the Communist propaganda picture.

*Greece*: Athens Radio relayed two special broadcasts from London on the day of King George VI's funeral. It also relays, four times a week, the English by Radio lessons broadcast in Greek from London.

*Yugoslavia*: The greater friendliness of the Yugoslav régime to Great Britain was reflected in the increased readiness of Yugoslav visitors to London to take part in BBC broadcasts. The leading Yugoslav film producer Fedor Hanzekovic described what he had seen of British film production in two notable broadcasts, much quoted in Yugoslav newspapers.

*Rumania*: Two former Rumanian foreign ministers broadcast in the Rumanian Service during the European Movement Conference in London. Recently escaped refugees who broadcast to Rumania included a member of the Frontier Guard and Anna Pauker's chauffeur.

*U.S.S.R.*: A Soviet political commissar, who has recently sought asylum in the West, has given details of conferences held in 1949 and 1951 to consider the dangerous effect of BBC broadcasts on the reliability of Soviet troops in Germany. What is chiefly feared is a source of objective news not coloured by Moscow.

In view of recent questions in Parliament it should be stated that the BBC never urges its listeners to become refugees, but does announce that members of the Soviet Armed Forces, genuinely seeking political asylum, will not be turned back. The following incident is a typical example. A Soviet corporal bicycled into the British sector of Berlin and asked to stay. His commanding officer made a speech on parade saying that the British authorities would torture that man and either return him to the

Soviet authorities or shoot him. The commanding officer made a second speech, after interviewing the man at the invitation of the British authorities, and said that he had obviously been tortured by the British. Two nights later members of this unit heard the man over the BBC happily describing his pleasure at being able to talk back freely to his commanding officer. The officer was recalled to Moscow in disgrace.

*Turkey*: Ankara Radio and Turkish newspapers frequently quote BBC Turkish talks. For instance, a report from the BBC correspondent in Korea on the exploits of the Turkish Brigade was reproduced in full by what appeared to be every newspaper in Turkey. The Turkish Prime Minister, in a parliamentary speech, praised the accuracy and fairness of the BBC. Evidence has been received of listening to Turkish broadcasts from London behind the Iron Curtain.

#### CENTRAL EUROPE

The Communists have shown themselves increasingly sensitive to the BBC's Czech, Hungarian and Polish broadcasts; attacks on these broadcasts became more frequent, and, beginning on the 1st December with the Polish broadcasts all three of these services sustained Russian jamming.

*Czechoslovakia*: Sir Robert Bruce Lockhart continued his weekly broadcasts on international and Czech affairs. In Slovak the "Student of Slovak Affairs" commented on developments in Czechoslovakia of more particular significance for Slovaks.

The crowning development in the Communist party purges in Czechoslovakia last year was the arrest of Rudolf Slansky, General Secretary of the Party. The series of broadcasts on this event included a talk by an exiled Czech politician who had known Slansky well.

Czech and Slovak exiled personalities who have contributed to the output include Dr. Hubert Ripka and Dr. Stefan Osusky on the European Movement Conference; Dr. Jaromir Smutny on T. G. Masaryk; and General Mezl-Gak in a programme commemorating El Alamein.

An important new weekly programme was the "Historical Calendar" by Karel Brusak. Designed to combat Communist distortion of Czech history, this programme dealt in turn with such figures as T. G. Masaryk, Karel Capek, Comenius, John Huss and others who made notable contributions to their country's history.

*Hungary*: Among the landmarks in the Sovietisation of Hungary which demanded special attention in the Hungarian broadcasts were the Hungarian Government large-scale deportations and evictions, and the trial and conviction in June of Archbishop Grosz on trumped-up charges of treason and sedition.

The hundredth anniversary of the visit to England of Lajos Kossuth, leader of Hungary's fight for independence, was commemorated in a series of features introduced by an appreciation of Kossuth and the significance of his stay in England by the then Lord Chancellor, Lord Jowitt.

In May last year, the Service broadcast the news of the resignation of Foreign Minister Kallai some days before the Hungarian Government was compelled to admit it. In September, the Service foretold the date when the new enforced Peace Loan would be launched and also the amount the people of Hungary would be expected to subscribe.

Among those who took part in a round-table discussion on the European Movement Conference in London were Mgr. Bela Varga, President of the

Hungarian National Committee, Dr. Paul Auer, the Smallholder leader, and Dr. Istvan Bede, former Hungarian Minister to the Court of St. James.

*Poland* : The sharpening tone of internal and external propaganda in Poland and the jamming of the broadcasts early in December resulted in considerable changes in the type and the approach of programmes.

Such successful features as "Cominform Distortions" and the satirical dialogue "Café Gossip" were established as weekly programmes. Regular programmes for farmers and workers commented in detail on Communist industrial and agricultural policy in Poland.

One important monthly series "They Witnessed History" continued. With the co-operation of prominent Polish personalities this has reconstructed important episodes of contemporary Polish history now distorted by the Polish Communist régime.

A six-man Brains Trust has devoted several programmes to the discussion of the new constitution on the Soviet model which is about to be introduced in Poland.

A programme on the Polish workers' contribution to the building of the Woodhead Tunnel, and one describing the work done in this country in two Polish hospitals, served to project life in Britain today as well as life in a Polish community here.

Outstanding among broadcasts by Polish refugees was the "Story of Four Polish Sailors" telling the experiences of four Polish merchant sailors who decided to seek freedom in the West.

#### GERMANY AND AUSTRIA

The main development during the year was a still closer co-operation between the German Service and stations in West Germany and Austria. For example, NWDR Hamburg, the largest German station, during the year rebroadcast from the German Service over 100 topical reports and comments on Britain and British affairs; Radio Stuttgart used a regular ten-minute weekly newsreel contribution; whilst Radio Saarbrücken continued to relay the German Service's "London Letter". Part of the Austrian Service continued to be relayed by Alpenland in the British Zone of Austria, and part by Rot-Weiss-Rot (American Zone). The Austrian Service also collaborated with "Rot-Weiss-Rot" in a full running commentary of the England-Austria football match in December. This was relayed by all Austrian networks.

Among joint programmes, the London-Frankfurt Quiz retained its popularity; and the British team accepted an invitation to visit Frankfurt for a special public performance. In the feature "Information Please!" a London panel answered questions about Britain recorded by Germans in Germany on subjects ranging from cookery to foreign policy.

The programme for the East Zone was further expanded and became a daily broadcast, as a result of the addition of a Sunday religious programme. The satirical features "Two Comrades" and "The Surprised Newspaper Reader" maintained their place as the outstanding items.

Among the most popular programmes for Western Germany was the new series of 45-minute "English Portraits", which included detailed studies ranging from the Footballer and the Policeman to the Clergyman and the University Don.

Among plays produced by the Service, was an adaptation of Christopher Fry's "A Sleep of Prisoners" (relayed by Stuttgart) and scenes from the four-play Shakespeare series, Richard II-Henry V.

## PACIFIC SERVICE

During the year rebroadcasting of a wide range of programmes continued at a high level in Australia, New Zealand and Fiji. A number of independent commercial stations began carrying each week the transcribed magazine programme "This is Britain", in addition to the Australian Broadcasting Commission and the Macquarie commercial network who have been rebroadcasting the series since it began nearly two years ago. The New Zealand Broadcasting Service also broadcast it approximately every fortnight in a series based on contributions from Commonwealth countries. Towards the end of the year a weekly commentary on events of significance in Britain and Europe was carried in the Pacific Service for rebroadcast by the Macquarie network and will continue as a series indefinitely. Other rebroadcasts included complete coverage of the New Zealand Rugby League team's tour of Britain during the 1951-52 season.

## SOUTH AFRICA SERVICE

The basic programmes in the Regional Services to South Africa were the daily news bulletin in Afrikaans and an English Magazine transmitted twice each week. In addition to these regular programmes complete coverage was arranged for the 1951-52 tour of the Springbok Rugby Team. These commentaries and reports were rebroadcast extensively by the South African Broadcasting Corporation's English and Afrikaans Services. In January, 1952, they were heard by one-third of the entire adult European population of the Union, a record audience for these two South African Services.

During the summer of 1951 the South African cricketers were also on tour in the United Kingdom. All the Test matches had commentaries from beginning to end, in English mainly but with some commentary in Afrikaans, carried by special transmission and rebroadcast in South Africa. The South African Broadcasting Corporation sent two commentators to tour with the cricketers (one English-speaking and one Afrikaans-speaking) and one Afrikaner with the Springbok Rugby team.

## COLONIAL SERVICE

1. *Broadcasting to the Colonies*: With the exception of the monthly programme to Mauritius which is partly in French, and the programmes for Malta, this section deals with programmes in English for the Colonies.

In the programmes for Malta, in addition to the regular Newsletter which deals with aspects of life in the United Kingdom, Maltese visitors, including the Prime Minister and the High Commissioner, have given talks, and a twice-weekly programme of "English by Radio" has recently begun.

For the short weekly programmes to East Africa, and the Rhodesias and Nyasaland, visitors from those areas have contributed the bulk of the talks. There have also been discussions on the controversial topics of these Colonies and the monthly programme "Opinion from Westminster", by M.P.s of all Parties, has reflected the debates in Parliament on those topics.

In the broadcasts to West Africa, in addition to the regular programmes in which West Africans have taken part, there have been several series designed to arouse thought and discussion about the matters with which these Colonies are concerned. There have also been talks on scientific and medical subjects with special reference to tropical conditions and, by arrangement with the Gold Coast Education Department, the literary programmes have been devoted to talks about, and readings from, the set-books of senior students.

In the broadcasts to the West Indies, the emphasis, in several series of programmes, has been upon such matters as community development and the organisation of adult education. The year 1951 saw the 6th anniversary of the programme "Caribbean Voices" to which, during its existence, some 500 scripts of original work in poetry and prose have been contributed by West Indian writers, for many of whom this programme has been their only outlet.

2. *Broadcasting in the Colonies*: The Corporation has continued to contribute towards the development of broadcasting in the Colonies in many ways.

During the Conference of Public Relations Officers, organised by the Colonial Office in 1951, the Director of Overseas Services and other BBC officials, gave addresses and the members of the Conference visited the Transcription Service and Broadcasting House.

The advice of Corporation Engineers and other officials was sought by the Colonial Office and by several Colonial governments on plans for the development of Colonial stations. The Head of the Colonial Service during his tour of East and Central Africa had discussions with government officials in Uganda, Kenya, Tanganyika, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland. Plans for the new station in Uganda are now going forward.

The broadcasting officers recommended, and seconded, by the Corporation to organise the use of Government time on the air in the Northern and Southern Caribbean have made good progress.

From August to October, 1951, a special course in broadcasting was organised by the BBC Staff Training Department and the Colonial Service for twelve students from Nigeria, the Gold Coast and Jamaica. The reports from the Colonies concerned indicate that the course was successful. Technical assistance was also given in the development of Colonial broadcasting as noted in the Engineering section.

During the year a party of seven BBC officials, headed by the former Controller of the Light Programme, were seconded to create the new Nigerian Broadcasting Service. A total of fifteen BBC officials were under secondment to various Colonial stations, including the new station at Dar-es-Salaam, which is now in operation.

A scheme for the production of Schools Transcriptions for use in the Colonies has been prepared and is being discussed with the Colonial Office.

#### NORTH AMERICAN SERVICE

As the audience in Canada and the United States for direct short-wave listening is rather small, the aim of the North American Service is to produce programmes which will be rebroadcast by Canadian and American medium-wave and FM stations.

Material so rebroadcast is of two kinds: programmes transmitted by short-wave, picked up and rebroadcast in North America, and programmes which for a variety of reasons are recorded in Britain and despatched by the BBC Transcription Service. While these operations demand different techniques they are closely interconnected.

During the year 1951-52 there has been steady increase in the use both of transcribed and transmitted BBC material in Canada and an enormous increase in the United States.

#### *The United States*

In the United States the total rebroadcasting figure was 7,787 station-hours—an increase of 67 per cent. over last year's figure of 4,675 hours. Of this



figure 4,199 hours, or more than half, were taken by the four big national networks and broadcast by their affiliated stations all over the country. As many as 400 stations on one network sometimes simultaneously put out BBC material. These network rebroadcasts have increased by nearly 150 per cent. during 1951. This break into the network field is one of the major characteristics of the year's work, but two other factors in the United States have been, and will increasingly be of importance. One is the emergence of a new network, Liberty Broadcasting System, with over 400 affiliates with which the BBC has been co-operating closely and fully since its inception. Liberty now takes a number of regular North American Service features.

The other factor is the growth of the National Association of Educational Broadcasters, a group now consisting of more than 70 educational stations putting out high quality educational and cultural broadcasts. This group has been using BBC programmes extensively.

### *Canada*

During 1951 a total of 9,895 hours of BBC material was broadcast in Canada, an increase of 14 per cent. over 1950. More than 90 per cent. of this material was taken by the three Canadian Broadcasting Corporation networks. The C.B.C. continues to take many regular and special programmes provided by the BBC. In addition, there is a weekly "BBC Hour" on the Dominion network and C.B.C. call increasingly on the North American Service to contribute to "Wednesday Night" the C.B.C. period corresponding to the Third Programme.

### FAR EASTERN SERVICE

The Far Eastern Service continued broadcasting in English, Japanese, Standard Chinese (Kuoyu), Cantonese, Burmese, Indonesian, Siamese, Malay, and French. In January, 1952, it began a new service in Vietnamese, consisting of fifteen minutes daily made up of a news bulletin, followed by short talks. The Dutch service for Indonesia was discontinued.

The new high-power transmitting station of the British Far Eastern Broadcasting Service in Singapore came into operation on a single shift basis in May, 1951, and began relaying the entire output of the Far Eastern Service except the Malay programme. At the same time Far Eastern Service relays by Radio Ceylon came to an end. Hong Kong Radio is now relaying the BBC's news bulletins in Kuoyu and Cantonese, and talks in the BBC Malay Service are recorded and rebroadcast twice-weekly by Radio Malaya.

In Japan, there has been a development of outstanding importance, that is the regular rebroadcasting of items from the BBC's Japanese Service by the Japan Broadcasting Corporation in the autumn of 1951. The Japan Broadcasting Corporation estimates that there are four million listeners to this programme. The BBC programmes thus rebroadcast have made an immensely greater impact on the Japanese people than was possible when they were heard by the short-wave audience only. Reprinting of BBC Japanese Service talks by the major Japanese newspapers continued, as did the use of the BBC as a source of news for the Japanese Press.

In May, 1951, the English Half-Hour for the Far East was merged into a new forty-five minute programme in English, "London Calling Asia", designed to serve not only the Far East but also India, Pakistan and Ceylon. An interesting and successful experiment in this programme has been "Asian Club", in which an invited audience of Asians listen to a talk by a distinguished speaker or panel of speakers and then ask questions from the floor.

The new Vietnamese Service was well-established by the end of the year, and there was evidence of a substantial and enthusiastic audience in Vietnam. The possibility of local rebroadcasting was examined.

There was a further increase in the volume of letters received from all parts of the Far East and South Asia. Listener competitions were organised by "London Calling Asia" (jointly with the G.O.S.), and the Chinese and Indonesian programmes.

#### EASTERN SERVICE

This covers broadcasts in Arabic; Hebrew; Persian; Urdu; Hindi; Marathi; Bengali, (West and East); Tamil, and Sinhalese. In both Persia and Egypt the local radio was used to work up emotion among the populace in support of an anti-British foreign policy, and this line was also adopted by the majority of the Press in these countries. The Head of Eastern Service went on a rapid tour of the Middle East to study how best this anti-British campaign could be countered, both in Egypt and in the neighbouring Arab countries. The Arabic Service of the BBC maintained close liaison with the British Embassy in Cairo and the British military authorities on the Canal.

Owing to the importance of the Arabic transmission, serving as it does ten Arab countries and a number of principalities, the daily transmission was increased in January of 1952 from 3½ hours to 4 hours. By adding this quarter-of-an-hour the gap between two transmissions was closed and Arabic remained on the air from London from 1700 G.M.T. to 2030 G.M.T. daily; however, the half-hour period, 1900 to 1930 G.M.T. is taken up with the relay from London of the Voice of America Arabic transmission and is not the BBC Arabic. This enabled fuller coverage to be given to the Egyptian crisis at a peak period in the Middle East, where it was shown once again that listening to Arabic from London, especially the news, increases during periods of crisis. The extra time also helps to satisfy the needs of an area stretching from the Atlantic coast of North Africa to the Persian Gulf involving a difference in time of 4 hours between the westerly and easterly ends of the Arab world. One major problem is the large audience to Arabic broadcasts in North Africa, with its possible repercussions on Anglo-French relations. During the past year there have been stimulating discussions on a great number of important problems of the day, in which some notable Arab personalities have taken part. For the first time a delegation of Moroccans visited this country, as a result of arrangements made by the French Embassy, and broadcast in the Arabic Service.

The rate of letters has been maintained at about 6,000 a year, and many listeners have expressed their regret at the news that the publication of the "Arabic Listener" was to cease. For 12 years the "Arabic Listener" has been recognised throughout the Arab world as a publication with the highest standards.

In 1951, listeners to the BBC Persian Service continued to write freely to London, despite the increase in anti-British propaganda from Radio Teheran as the oil crisis became more acute. At the height of the tension many Persian listeners were writing to the BBC asking for an opinion on the rights and wrongs of the Persian Government's action. Throughout the year, until the evacuation from Abadan, the Persian Service devoted a considerable portion of its main evening transmission to an exposition of British policy in the oil dispute. Broadcasts included a special "Oil Letter" in which listeners' questions were answered, daily political commentaries and international news reviews. In June, two extra news periods, each consisting of

a news bulletin and a news commentary, were put on the air during the height of the crisis: one of these periods was taken off again in August. The political situation caused many listeners to suspend their correspondence with the BBC during the summer months, but the flow of correspondence has since revived, and in 1951, as a whole, over 4,000 letters were received by the Persian Service.

The Hebrew Service of half-an-hour daily has established its popularity with the relatively small number of Hebrew speakers. It appears to appeal to workers in the co-operative villages and communal settlements who otherwise have little opportunity of informing themselves directly concerning British life and affairs. A measure of its success has been the reaction to the poetry competition which was the first of its kind ever broadcast in Hebrew.

The main language broadcasts to South-East Asia are the daily  $\frac{3}{4}$  hours in Urdu for Pakistan and Hindi for India, but there are also short weekly magazine programmes in East Bengali for Pakistan, West Bengali and Marathi for India, Tamil for India and Ceylon, and Sinhalese for Ceylon. Any broadcast about the Kashmir question has to be carefully watched; official quarters in both capitals, of Delhi and Karachi, are quick to react to anything to which they object. There continues also to be a certain amount of cross-listening as between Pakistan and India. This is especially the case with regard to Urdu; there were for some time more letters received in London from listeners in India to the Urdu programme for Pakistan than from Pakistan itself, but towards the beginning of this year this trend was reversed. Urdu is a vital language with a history and culture of its own, whereas Hindi is a new language; the attempt to replace English as a lingua franca throughout India by Hindi is progressing only very slowly. Bengali, Marathi, and Tamil, are like Urdu in that they have their own traditions and retain their popularity and vitality; they thus provide an audience which cannot be reached through English or Hindi. Both the Pakistan and Indian Programme Organisers visited their areas during the year and established personal contact with listeners. Evidence provided by their visits, by reports received and the numbers of letters received, show that the programmes continue to gain in popularity.

Nevertheless, there were complaints that some of the programmes were poorly heard in this area in comparison with broadcasts from Moscow, Colombo, Australia and Zurich. A BBC engineer is to visit the area and investigate the question of reception generally. In the Middle East reception seems to be of a high and uniform standard.

#### LATIN-AMERICAN SERVICE

In spite of economy measures a year ago, 131 stations in Latin America rebroadcast some 12,000 hours of news bulletins, commentaries and special programmes during the year, while 279 stations broadcast nearly 50,000 hours of transcribed material. A noteworthy increase in the use of BBC Services to Brazil was achieved.

An outstanding feature of the Festival Year was the serial programme to contribute to the celebrations by the Spanish-speaking world of the 500th anniversary of the birth of Columbus. This work achieved record rebroadcasting and transcription use in Latin America. It was also used with great success by the BBC's Spanish Service.

The Latin-American Press continues to give wide publicity to the BBC's activities, at least one influential newspaper in each important centre publishing daily programme details of the transmissions to the area in Spanish and Portuguese, as well as fuller information regarding content of

programmes. Increasing public interest in television in Latin America, with the setting up of the first television stations there, has been met by a number of programmes and talks about British television, some of these of a specialised character.

The end of the year unfortunately ended the period when it was possible to broadcast programmes of the variety and scope that have built up acceptance and popularity of BBC broadcasts throughout Latin America. From 31st March, 1952, onwards the Spanish programme was reduced from 3¼ hours to a programme of 1½ hours which is repeated, thus occupying 3 hours. The Portuguese programme was reduced from 1½ hours to 1¼ hours. The supply of transcriptions in these two languages ceased completely. All the remaining BBC offices in Latin America: in Buenos Aires (and sub-office in Montevideo), Mexico City and Rio de Janeiro were closed down and the staffs disbanded.

#### TRANSCRIPTION SERVICE

The main problem this year has been, in the face of rising costs, to maintain the quantity of the output and thus to avoid disappointing those stations, particularly in the British Commonwealth, which have come to regard it as the source of some of their richest material.

The work of the Transcription Service can be divided into two categories. The first is the supply of English recordings chosen from the whole range of BBC programmes to stations throughout the Commonwealth, to the Forces' broadcasting stations overseas, to the United States of America, and to other foreign countries where English is widely understood; the second is the supply of recordings specially prepared by the Overseas Services of the BBC according to the known requirements of particular territories.

In the first category where a large number of copies of each programme are required, the original recording is processed and the requisite number of pressings made. Some 30,000 pressings were distributed in this way during the year, representing about 600 programmes, or nearly six programme hours per week.

In choosing the programmes for recording, the aim has been to give a cross-section of the whole range of BBC programmes. Emphasis is naturally given to programmes which can be performed only in this country, or which can be performed here better than elsewhere, and to those programmes which reflect the life and thought of this country and which foster a sense of community within the Commonwealth.

In the second category, namely those programmes which are specially prepared by the Overseas Services for a particular territory or an individual station, the recordings may be supplied either in the form of pressings, as described above, or, where only a small number of copies is required, as unprocessed lacquer disks. In some special instances magnetic tapes are used.

The largest operation in this category has been the supply of programmes to Latin America. Almost the entire output of the Latin American Service, other than news or topical programmes, has been made available as recordings in Latin America. These transcriptions have been regularly used by hundreds of stations throughout the continent and have been generally recognised as among the finest programmes in the Spanish and Portuguese languages. This Service to Latin America was brought to an end in March as part of the economies to meet the cut in the Grant-in-Aid.

A smaller service of programmes has been supplied to Germany and Austria, and to Italy, and occasionally to other European countries. Special recordings have been made for Canada and Australia, and to an increasing extent for broadcasting stations in the United States of America.

Progress has been made with the installation of the latest type of magnetic tape equipment. This method of recording, though it cannot yet be used as a general medium of distribution, has resulted in increased economy and efficiency within the Transcription Service.

#### ENGLISH BY RADIO

The last Report referred to a new series of lessons for listeners with no knowledge of English. Abundant evidence of the success of these lessons has now been received. An important point is their flexibility, and experience has shown that these lessons can be adapted for use in, for example, Malaya and give as much satisfaction as when they are broadcast to a European audience.

There has been a considerable increase in the use of all the courses. It is now possible for people living in Europe, the Middle East, North Africa, and the greater part of South-East Asia, to learn English or to improve their knowledge of the language with the help of "English by Radio".

All the elementary lessons are given with commentaries in the appropriate languages.

In spite of the increase in production costs as well as a general lowering of purchasing power, the publication of English by Radio books has made considerable progress. These publications are now on sale throughout Western Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, parts of India, and most parts of South-East Asia.

There have been two new developments of considerable interest. The first is the organisation of Listener Groups in Western Europe. Reports disclose clearly the extent to which group listening brings greater benefit than listening alone. They also provide a valuable source of listener research. There is a noticeable interest in our programmes among serving officers in countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Powers and some of them have also formed groups.

The second development is the decision to sell the records of English lessons to schools and universities, and there have been many requests for permission to use material in the classroom, but copyright and other difficulties have had to be overcome.

#### LISTENER RESEARCH

##### *Europe*

*Listener Panels*: There are now 13 listener panels in operation. The latest addition is the Turkish panel. Panel members commented on over a thousand programmes during the year, including special features on the Festival of Britain, the General Election programmes and political talks and features such as the Atlantic Alliance and A Settlement With Russia. Research showed that listening to the BBC increased during the General Election period and our output was thought by nearly everybody to be clear and unbiased. Finnish panel listeners and technical reporters have provided a mass of evidence, never before available, about the effect on the audience of Russian jamming of BBC broadcasts. Interviews with over a thousand individual people with recent first-hand experience of Eastern Europe produced valuable information.

*Correspondence Trends* : Letters from Iron Curtain countries dropped from over 2,500 in 1950-51 to 575 this year. (Mail from other European countries also fell by about 9,000 letters to a figure of some 24,500, but mail trends are in no way firm evidence of audience trends.) Over 350 letters were received from some 15 European countries containing tributes to the King and the Royal Family or appreciation of the programmes broadcast following the death of King George VI.

*Listener Competitions* : were held in France, Germany, Sweden and Italy and, except for Sweden, over 600 entries were received in each case.

*Radio Polls* : were conducted in Western Austria, where results indicated that about one-third of the adult listening population tuned in to the BBC occasionally, thanks largely to our relay facilities in that country. A Dutch poll carried out in the summer indicated a decline in the BBC audience there. Polling results from France in April showed little change in the BBC's audience size (some  $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 million people hear the BBC French Service daily). A German poll sponsored by the American authorities indicated that about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  million listeners in the Western zones had heard the BBC German Service in the month previous to the poll. A non-BBC radio survey in November, 1951, showed that the BBC is the most popular foreign station in Finland and is listened to occasionally by about a quarter of adult radio listeners.

### *Outside Europe*

Outside Europe, only one listening panel is in operation, that for London Calling Asia. Questionnaire work is being developed for the Arabic, Urdu and G.O.S. audiences. Listener weeks were run for the Indonesian and Israeli audiences. Experimental listener groups have been set up in India and Pakistan and it is planned to develop this technique in other centres. As usual, we had estimates from radio surveys of the size of BBC audiences in both Australia and South Africa.

The number of letters about programmes in the G.O.S. increased from 17,000 in the 1950-51 period to some 29,000 for the 1951-52 period. Most of the increase was due to the receipt of 10,000 letters for "Calling All Forces". Programmes following the death of the King brought tributes from listeners in more than 50 countries.

The Persian Service received some 4,000 odd letters in 1951 compared with 2,000 in 1950. Of over 1,000 questionnaires despatched, more than 50 per cent. were returned and the details in them gave us a good idea of the kind of listeners we have in Persia. It was apparent that we are reaching not only all areas of the country, but all sections of the Persian community. During the 1951 oil crisis in Persia, many thousands of Persians wrote to us and provided evidence that the British viewpoint on oil problems was being heard in all parts of Persia and was being listened to even by Persians who were unsympathetic to the British policy. These included members of the Tudeh (pseudo-Communist) party.

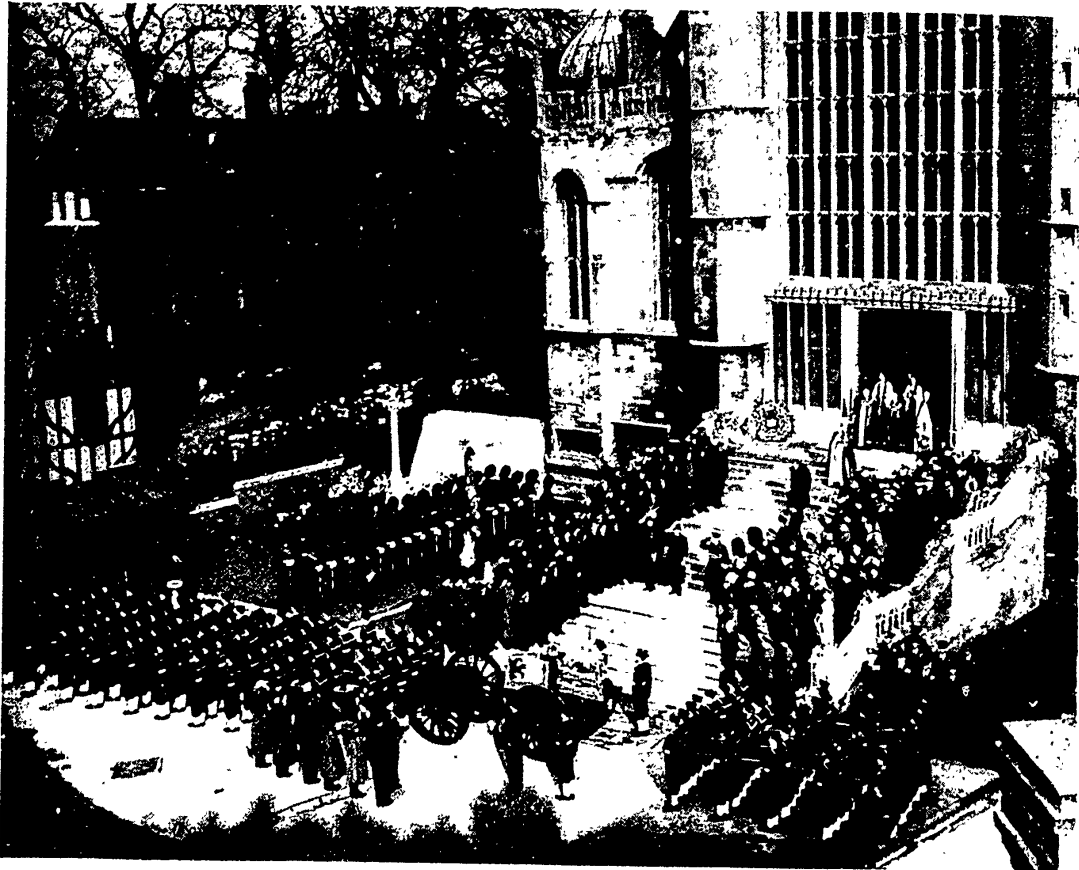
Reaction from listeners to the Hindi Service was much less in 1951 than in the previous year. The Urdu programme for Pakistan received approximately the same number of letters (2,000) in 1951 as in 1950. The Arabic Service provoked more reaction in correspondence, the 1951 figure being some 7,000 compared with 6,000 in the previous year.

### *Monitoring*

The BBC continued to monitor broadcasts from almost all countries in the world. The Summary of World Broadcasts based on this material is



The television transmitting station at Holme Moss was opened in October, 1951. Sir William Haley, then Director-General of the BBC, and members of the Board of Governors take a look at the 750 ft. mast.



The funeral of His late Majesty, King George VI, was broadcast and televised by the BBC.  
The gun carriage at the steps of St. George's Chapel, Windsor.

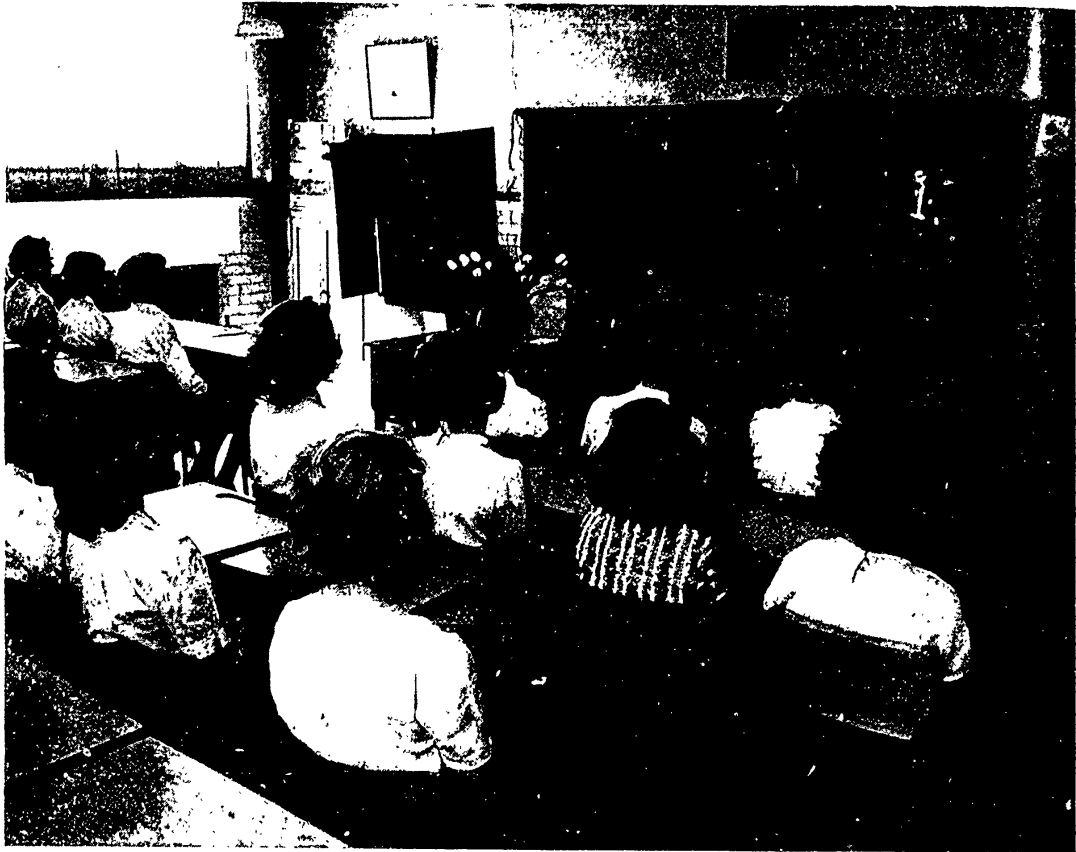


Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt broadcasts in a special festival edition of Woman's Hour.





S: Malcolm Sargent, Chief Conductor of the BBC, conducts the London Symphony Orchestra in the Royal Festival Hall, London.



Television for schools. The BBC carried out an experiment in six schools in May, 1952.



The BBC Festival Exhibition in Piccadilly was visited by people from many lands. Visitors saw themselves on television screens and heard a recording of their voices.

divided into separate parts covering the U.S.S.R., Eastern Europe, Germany and Austria, the Middle East, the Far East, Western Europe, Scandinavia, and Central and South America, and although intended primarily for official users, is, like the Daily Report, available to private individuals on a subscription basis.

As a result of a decision taken early this year news items broadcast by the Moscow Home Service to Russian listeners and by Moscow radio to countries abroad have been supplied to certain news agencies by teleprinter at a comprehensive charge.

During the past year it has been necessary to replace certain essential equipment in the Monitoring Service which had become obsolete. This process will continue during the forthcoming year when a new recording system will be introduced throughout the Service.

## Engineering

### *Coverage of the Home sound programmes*

Foreign interference and the shortage of wavelengths available to the United Kingdom under the Copenhagen Wavelength Plan, which came into force in March, 1950, made themselves felt throughout the year.

In certain parts of the country, especially in the South and South-East parts of England, the East coast, and in the North of England, there was severe interference with the Home Service programmes after dark. The West of England Home Service also suffered to some extent and so, intermittently, did the Light Programme on the medium wavelength (the main national coverage of the Light Programme on the long wavelength 1,500 metres, was not affected). Much of the interference was caused by Russian and Spanish stations. The Post Office, as the Department responsible for negotiating wavelength allocations, was kept fully informed of this interference and of day-to-day changes in the situation. Representations to the countries responsible for the more serious cases of interference were made by the Post Office, but in most cases the interference continued.

The BBC tried to reduce the effects of the interference by technical adjustments at all high-power transmitting stations during the winter. These adjustments somewhat increased the strength of reception at the expense of introducing slight distortion during loud passages in the programme.

There was a second problem, which is not a new one. In certain areas, listeners could not get good reception, whether of the Home Service, Light Programme or Third Programme, because they were too far from the transmitting station. In these circumstances, the trouble showed itself at night in the form of fading. The listeners to suffer from this difficulty were mostly those in the sparsely populated areas, especially in hilly country.

Many additional transmitting stations would be needed to provide a satisfactory solution of these problems. The number of transmitters which the BBC can use is, however, seriously restricted by the limited number of long and medium wavelengths available under the Copenhagen Plan, as well as by limitations placed by the Government on capital expenditure. Nevertheless, as mentioned in last year's Report, a plan was prepared by the BBC for 12 additional low-power transmitters to provide local coverage of the Home Service where the need was greatest. The Postmaster General gave his approval and good progress was made. By March, 1952, eight of the

stations had been brought into service. They are at Brighton, Hastings, Ramsgate, Whitehaven, Barrow, Scarborough, Folkestone and Barnstaple.

It was possible to use these additional transmitters only by working them on the same wavelengths as existing BBC stations or by employing an International Common Wave. The former alternative has now been carried almost to its limit, because the addition of further stations creates areas of mutual interference in which reception is bad, so that more listeners may be deprived of a service than the new station would benefit; the latter alternative is of limited usefulness because there is severe interference from the numerous foreign stations also using the common wavelength.

It has become increasingly clear that no major improvement in reception can be achieved on long and medium wavelengths; rather, the situation has deteriorated year by year and is likely to continue to do so. It is generally recognised that the only satisfactory solution lies in the development of broadcasting in very high frequencies (VHF). The BBC laid before the Government early in 1951 proposals for setting up a chain of VHF stations on frequency modulation to cover almost the whole of the United Kingdom. This plan is still under consideration by the Government. Meanwhile experimental transmissions from the high-power VHF station at Wrotham have continued. The BBC is perturbed by the progressive deterioration in the interference-free coverage provided by the long-wave and medium-wave stations, bearing in mind that, because of delays over which it has no control, it will be several years before a VHF distribution system can be provided to augment and ultimately replace the present system.

Appendix VIII shows the transmitting stations now radiating the Home, Light and Third Programmes.

#### *Coverage of the External Services*

Following the failure of the High Frequency Broadcasting Conference held in Florence and Rapallo in 1950 to produce plans for the use of the short-wave bands allocated to broadcasting at the Atlantic City Conference (1947), the congestion in these bands has increased. Despite detailed planning based on constant reporting from the reception areas, BBC channels have been subject to interference which has steadily grown in intensity. The basic difficulty is that the bands are not wide enough to accommodate the short-wave broadcasting requirements of all countries.

The BBC, in common with most other broadcasting organisations throughout the world, has found it necessary to continue to use a number of channels not in the bands allocated to broadcasting. These channels though comparatively few in number, have represented a vital part of the short-wave network. Conversely, a number of channels in the broadcasting bands are being used by other radio services, and the implementation of the Atlantic City Allocation Tables could be effected only by concerted agreement between administrations. An Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference was therefore convened by the International Telecommunication Union in Geneva in August, 1951, to agree, if possible, upon a procedure for implementing these tables.

An agreement was reached in December, 1951, and signed by all the countries represented with the exception of the Soviet group and four others—Finland, Yugoslavia, Peru and Yemen. Briefly, it was agreed that countries will voluntarily and gradually move all radio services into their appropriate frequency bands. It is recognised that this will be a long and difficult process and 1955 is estimated as the date by which most of the changes should be completed. Considering the development of short-wave broadcasting throughout the world, the BBC has always considered the bands

allocated to broadcasting at the Atlantic City Conference as inadequate. It is not expected that it will be possible to replace the out-of-band broadcasting channels used by the BBC and by other organisations, by others inside the already congested bands without a further serious deterioration in the BBC's services.

On 13th May, 1951, the relaying of the BBC Overseas Services by Ceylon was discontinued and the British Far Eastern Broadcasting Service controlled by the BBC assumed full-scale operation at Tebrau, Johore, relaying most of the Eastern and Far Eastern Services and part of the General Overseas Service by means of two high-power and three low-power transmitters. The service to listeners in the Far East has been considerably improved as a result.

The arrangements by which the medium-wave transmitter at Graz-Dobl relayed BBC bulletins in Hungarian, Bulgarian, Serbo-Croat, Italian, Roumanian, Czech and Albanian were continued. This has proved of great advantage to reception in the target areas during the mid-winter months when short-wave conditions were difficult. The Dobl station is normally fed by reception of one of the short-wave channels, although a line is used during evening periods from November to February when short-wave reception is not reliable enough for regular rebroadcasting.

The coverage of the two medium wavelengths used in this country for the European Service is supplemented by the use of the Third Programme wavelength of 464 metres and the Light Programme wavelength of 1,500 metres at certain times of the day when they are not needed for their normal programme.

Visits to some of the reception areas of the European and Overseas Services were made by members of the Engineering Division to obtain data on the reception of BBC transmissions. During these tours, a number of local reception reporters were interviewed, and the results of the personal contacts thus made have been most satisfactory. Visits to the Scandinavian countries, Finland, the Middle East and East Africa were completed, and others to Yugoslavia, Asia, the West Indies and West Africa are projected.

The deliberate interference (jamming), which started in April, 1949, with the BBC's Russian Service, continued without interruption. Other BBC Services so affected were Polish from December, 1951, Finnish from January, 1952, Czech from February, 1952, and Hungarian from March, 1952. Measures were taken to combat this jamming and there was evidence that they met with some success.

#### *Transmitter Developments*

The commissioning of the twelve additional low-power transmitters for the Home Service was speeded up so as to have as many of them as possible in operation by the winter of 1951-52. At Brighton an additional transmitter was installed in the existing Third Programme station; at Hastings, Ramsgate, Whitehaven, Barrow and Scarborough premises and transmitters, closed down at the end of the war, were reopened. Thus six of the stations were working by early November, 1951. A further station at Folkestone was brought into service in December and one near Barnstaple in March, each using a transmitter installed in a caravan and an aerial system which will form part of the permanent station to be built during 1952. Sites for three of the remaining four stations were obtained near Cromer, Towyn and Dumfries.

By the end of 1951, seven of the BBC's low-power transmitters were working unattended, releasing trained engineers for other duties. Three mobile maintenance teams, each composed of two engineers, were established during

the year to carry out routine maintenance and inspection of these transmitters. These engineers, selected from the staff by Appointments Boards, were given ten weeks of specialised training, and were provided with vehicles specially equipped for their work. The three teams operated from bases at Moorside Edge near Huddersfield, Stagshaw near Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Bartley near Southampton, and in addition to routine visits to the transmitters under their supervision, they were available for emergency visits to deal with breakdowns. By this scheme, breakdowns at unattended stations were reduced, between March, 1950, and the end of 1951, from a ratio of about 4.5 to 1, compared with attended stations, to about 1.25 to 1.

An experiment in working a high-power transmitter unattended was begun in January, 1952. The 150-kilowatt Third Programme transmitter at Daventry was chosen because the design of this transmitter is particularly suited to remote control and engineers are always available at the short-wave station nearby. This is believed to be the first time that a transmitter of such high-power has been remotely controlled and at the same time had the quality of its output continuously checked by automatic equipment. Furthermore, the automatic monitors designed by the BBC, now coming into increasing use for quality checking, were adapted to take appropriate action if certain faults occur. For example, if a fault were to develop in one half of the transmitter the automatic monitor would shut this down leaving the other half of the transmitter functioning normally. Much interest has been shown by engineers of other countries in these developments, which have as their object economy in staffing.

As a further measure of economy in skilled man-power, automatic equipment for programme routing and monitoring was installed at the largest of the BBC's short-wave stations. This equipment, designed by BBC engineers, caters for six incoming programmes. It switches them in accordance with a pre-determined and strictly-timed 24-hour schedule to the eighteen transmitters used on this site to provide wide coverage of the External Services. By a process of sequential sampling the equipment compares the output of each transmitter with its programme input and thus brings all programme switching and monitoring under the control of one operator.

The aerial of the Third Programme transmitter at Daventry, a novel type of BBC design, proved remarkably successful in extending the fading-free service area of the station. As a result, the local transmitter at Manchester became redundant and was closed down in September, 1951.

Breakdown figures for BBC transmitters show a notable improvement, partly as a result of the greater reliability of the unattended stations since the introduction of the mobile maintenance teams. For the twelve months ended 31st December, 1951, they were as shown in Table V. (The corresponding figures for the previous year are given, for comparison, in brackets.)

TABLE V

|                   |     | <i>Total<br/>transmitter hours</i> | <i>Percentage<br/>breakdown time</i> |
|-------------------|-----|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Home Services     | ... | 211,167 (203,178)                  | .013 (.021)                          |
| External Services | ... | 149,924 (166,832)                  | .022 (.026)                          |

### *Studio Developments*

The work of improving and bringing up-to-date the older BBC studios continued, particularly at Manchester, Leeds, Edinburgh, Birmingham, Cardiff and in various parts of London. The BBC's largest orchestral studio, at

Maida Vale, London, was completely re-treated acoustically so as to incorporate the latest ideas on the desirable characteristics for a broadcasting studio. The technical quality of orchestral and choral concerts from this studio was thereby markedly improved.

In Belfast, substantial progress was made towards the completion of the new studios in Broadcasting House, the building of which was interrupted at the outbreak of war. These studios were brought into service at that time with temporary acoustic treatment. The rebuilding of Broadcasting House, Swansea, destroyed by enemy action during the war, was almost completed and this centre will shortly be brought into service. In the orchestral studio here a new method of sound absorption was employed in the form of cavity resonators on the wall surfaces, to control reverberation throughout the audible range. The rebuilding of war-damaged premises near Broadcasting House, London, as a new home for the school broadcasting unit was well advanced. These premises, containing four well-equipped studios, are due to be brought into service in the autumn of 1952.

There was a further extension of the principle of using outlying studios without engineers in attendance. The Nottingham and Dundee studios were modified so that they could be used in this way when required. An additional small studio operated on the same principle was set up near the House of Commons and this was used extensively by the BBC's political correspondents.

#### *Outside Broadcasts*

On the occasion of the funeral of King George VI, technical facilities had to be provided at very short notice for forty-three commentaries for BBC Home and External Services and for foreign broadcasting organisations. Both equipment and staff had to be drawn from the Regions for this task.

The opening ceremony of the Festival of Britain required facilities for thirty-two commentators. At the South Bank site in London a small studio centre was constructed specially for the Festival. This had its own control room designed to handle the output of the studios and the many outside broadcasts originating in various parts of the Exhibition site. This centre displayed the newest techniques in lighting, acoustics and engineering equipment; it was visited by a number of representatives of foreign broadcasting organisations.

On board the S.S. "Campania" permanent microphone extensions were connected and cabins were fitted up as control rooms. Similar facilities were also provided for the Exhibition at Kelvin Hall, Glasgow. The necessary arrangements were made for the many outside broadcasts from the Pleasure Gardens and Fun Fair in Battersea Park and for the smaller number from the Exhibition of Live Architecture in Poplar and the Science Exhibition at South Kensington.

Many of the year's outside broadcasts depended upon unusually complicated technical arrangements. For example, there was a major broadcast in connection with the flight of a Viking aircraft from London to Paris with a commentator in the aircraft and others at receiving points on the English coast, on a fishing boat in mid-channel, and in four different places in France. This broadcast called for the fullest co-operation between the engineers of Radiodiffusion et Télévision Françaises and those of the BBC.

For the "Winged Fleet" exercise, extensive use was made of radio links with commentators in two aircraft, a submarine, a destroyer and an aircraft carrier. The combined programme from these sources was passed by radio link to a shore station and thence by G.P.O. line to Broadcasting House.

To cover the expected return of the "Flying Enterprise" to Falmouth, a temporary studio was fitted up in the town and during a period of two and a half days some seventy contributions were made to seventeen different broadcasting networks at home and abroad.

During the year, technical facilities were provided for some 5,700 outside broadcasts for home and overseas programmes and for foreign broadcasting organisations.

### *Recording*

Recording facilities at Regional premises were improved and new recording suites at Glasgow and Belfast were nearly completed.

BBC Type "D" disk recording equipment was installed for the Overseas Services at 200, Oxford Street. This is the latest type of disk recording equipment. A further set of this equipment will shortly be installed for the European Services at Bush House, in addition to the set already there.

The Transcription Service was equipped with magnetic tape recording equipment. As a result, it was possible to adopt more economical methods of working.

The introduction of magnetic tape recording on a major scale was deferred on financial grounds. An interim scheme, which will provide a small amount of equipment, in addition to that already in service, for use where the greatest operating economies can be effected, is being implemented during 1952.

During the year under review, 24,468 hours of programmes were recorded; 230,000 disks were used and mobile recording units travelled 300,000 miles at home and abroad.

## ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENTS IN THE TELEVISION SERVICE

### *Transmitter Developments*

Steady progress was made in expanding the national television network. The high-power transmitting station at Holme Moss, near Huddersfield, was brought into service on 12th October, 1951. It serves most of Lancashire, the East and West Ridings of Yorkshire, parts of the North Riding, North Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, and the whole of Cheshire and Flint. At Kirk o'Shotts, the transmitting station between Glasgow and Edinburgh, the medium-power transmitters, intended to be held in reserve in case of a breakdown in the main equipment, were brought into operation on the 14th March, 1952. Thus the television service was brought to central Scotland some months in advance of the completion of the main high-power transmitters. It was decided to follow the same procedure at the fifth high-power station at Wenvoe, near Cardiff, where it is hoped to have the medium-power stand-by transmitters in service in August, 1952. Details of the five television stations are shown in Appendix IX. All are entirely of British design and manufacture. By the use of high-power, coverage amounting to some 78 per cent. of the population of the United Kingdom will be achieved with only five stations. This figure will be raised to about 88 per cent. when it becomes possible to proceed with the five proposed low-power stations, the building of which has been deferred for the present by the Government. It was decided nevertheless to find and acquire sites for these latter stations to avoid unnecessary delay when their construction becomes possible. Two of the sites were obtained, at Pontop Pike near Newcastle-on-Tyne and at Rowridge in the Isle of Wight. Studies were made of possible sites for the proposed stations in the Plymouth, Aberdeen and Belfast areas. In the London area several alternative sites



for a new television transmitting station were examined in case it is decided to leave Alexandra Palace when the current lease expires in 1956. These tests are still in progress and a decision will not be possible for some time.

A study of future requirements showed that at least two frequency channels in addition to those at present available would be necessary to provide a service in the main areas not covered by the original ten-station plan.

Breakdown figures for the television transmitters for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1951 were as shown below :

TABLE VI

|                         | <i>Total</i>            |               | <i>Percentage</i>     |               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|
|                         | <i>Programme hours*</i> |               | <i>Breakdown time</i> |               |
|                         | <i>Sound</i>            | <i>Vision</i> | <i>Sound</i>          | <i>Vision</i> |
| Alexandra Palace ... .. | 1,874                   | 1,781         | 0·017                 | 0·141         |
| Sutton Coldfield ... .. | 1,874                   | 1,781         | 0·023                 | 0·132         |
| Holme Moss ... ..       | 424                     | 401           | 0·063                 | 0·111         |

These figures are for the transmitters only and do not include breakdowns at the studios, of outside broadcasts, or on the permanent vision cable or radio link, which may affect all or any of the transmitters.

At Holme Moss, the first station at which medium-power stand-by transmitters have been installed, these were used for a total of 316 minutes, or 1·31 per cent. of the programme time.

#### *Studio Developments*

The third studio at Lime Grove to be converted and equipped for television was brought into operation in February, 1952. This studio (Studio "H") is larger than those at Alexandra Palace and has been equipped with three camera channels previously used for outside broadcasts, and with telecine apparatus. The vision control room associated with this studio has been laid out on new lines to give the production team and engineers a frontal view of the studio through the usual sound-proof window. New vision mixing arrangements, designed by BBC engineers, have been installed to simplify operational procedure and to provide the facilities required. By means of this equipment the outputs from the three cameras in the studio and the telecine channel can be selected by "cutting" or "fading", and there is provision for the superimposition of the picture from one camera on that from another. The sound control room has been equipped with standard BBC Type "A" studio equipment, as now used in many of the sound broadcasting studios. Modifications have been made to the original acoustic treatment of this studio to improve sound quality. The original floor of the studio, which creaked badly under the weight of the camera dollies and microphone booms, has been re-laid to eliminate these noises.

Since as much as 100 kW of lighting may be in use in this television studio, a new ventilation plant has had to be installed; this includes air washing, heating and drying sections. No provision has been made for refrigeration of the air, as in the larger studio (Studio "G"); but experience has shown that the washing process reduces the temperature by about seven per cent.

In March, 1952, shortly after the introduction of the third studio at Lime Grove, drama production was transferred from Alexandra Palace to Lime

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\* Including timing signals, etc.

Grove and only one studio at Alexandra Palace remained in normal service use. Two theatres in London were regularly used for light entertainment programmes given before an audience. Cameras and other technical equipment for these theatres were provided, when required by the London outside broadcasts units.

In July, 1951, building work was begun on the Scenery Block at the White City site. The need for this had become urgent with the transfer of the majority of studio activities from Alexandra Palace to Lime Grove since there is no space at Lime Grove for the construction and storage of scenery, and office space is inadequate. The Lime Grove studios can be conveniently supplied from the White City, which is less than half-a-mile away. In addition to the Scenery Block, a number of offices will be provided at the White City site.

The technique of still "back-projection", used in the film industry to economise in specially constructed scenery as well as to provide scenic effects not otherwise easily reproduced in the studio, was introduced at Lime Grove. In this process a lantern slide is projected on to the rear of a special large screen in the studio. This screen forms the background for the studio scene, in combination with furniture and stage properties if required, and the actors perform in front of it. As a further step, experiments were begun in the use of moving back-projection, in which process a moving picture obtained from a film is projected on to a screen.

#### *Outside Broadcasts*

Delivery of new equipment from the manufacturers was delayed by the competing claims of re-armament, but two additional outside broadcast units were obtained during the year. Additional radio link equipment, used to convey vision signals from the outside broadcast point to the nearest convenient point on the permanent vision cable, was also delivered.

Before the war two radio link transmitters only were available, operating in the 41 to 68 Mc/s band. The development of equipment of more advanced type, operating on much higher frequencies, has enlarged very considerably the area within which outside broadcasts can be arranged. The old equipments were cumbersome, each transmitter being mounted in a large vehicle of the pantechnicon type. When such a vehicle was used in conjunction with control room and power supply vehicles of similar size, it was often difficult to find parking space within easy reach of the outside broadcast point. One of these transmitters is still in use, but since the wave-band in which it operates will soon be fully occupied by the main transmitting stations, the frequency it uses will no longer be available. New equipment is now in use operating on a frequency of about 200 Mc/s; this is smaller and more easily portable. Recently, centimetric wave equipment operating on frequencies in the regions of 4,000 Mc/s and 7,000 Mc/s has been developed; this has several advantages over the types formerly used. In particular, the use of more directional aerials, improved aerial gain and reduced power make for greater portability and operational efficiency. The main disadvantage is that there must be a line of sight between transmitter and receiver, but the technique of operating two or more of these links in tandem without appreciable loss of picture quality is being developed so that, when necessary, considerable distances can be spanned. There are, however, many practical problems to be solved before the setting up of vision radio links between two points can be regarded as a routine matter.

With the extension of the television service to the North of England, an outside broadcast unit was assigned permanently to be shared between the

North and the Midlands. It was planned to send a similar unit to Scotland in the Summer of 1952 to be shared by Scotland and the North-East of England.

An important addition to the equipment used for outside broadcasts was the so-called zoom lens—a lens of variable focal length. When fitted to a television camera this lens enables a selected part of a scene to be magnified gradually up to five times its original size, thus giving a close-up view without moving the camera or changing the lens. The new lens, which is a wholly British development, gives a variation in magnification of 5 to 1 compared with the 2 to 1 variation of the zoom lens used for some time past by the film industry and in the BBC.

The most important outside broadcasts have been mentioned elsewhere in this Report, but reference should be made here to some that were of particular technical interest. In March, 1952, arrangements were made for the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race to be covered from start to finish by two cameras following the race in a launch, in addition to cameras on the shore at the start. Both vision and sound signals were transmitted by radio links to reception points established on the river bank, whence they were sent by cable to Alexandra Palace. Unfortunately the weather was extremely severe and a blizzard made the operation of the cameras and other equipment very difficult; the pictures faded out at times, but viewers were able to see something of the race, including the close finish.

For the first time, television cameras went to Glyndebourne in July, 1951, to televise a special performance of "Così fan Tutte". This broadcast was made possible by the use of three centimetric-wave radio links in tandem to convey the vision signals to Alexandra Palace.

In connection with the opening of the Holme Moss transmitter, there was an outside broadcast from Blackpool in which a camera was mounted on a tramcar running along the sea-front. Vision signals from this camera were sent by radio link to a reception point on Blackpool Tower and thence by two further radio links in tandem to Manchester and by cable to the television transmitters.

There was an outside broadcast of the opening ceremony for the new station at Kirk o'Shotts, which was performed in Edinburgh and broadcast by all BBC television stations. On the following Sunday the same outside broadcast unit was used to televise the evening service from St. Cuthbert's Parish Church, Edinburgh, and this was followed later in the week by a play from the Citizens' Theatre, Glasgow.

#### *Schools Experiment*

Preparations were made for the technical side of the experiment in television broadcasting to schools. For this experiment, it was arranged that special programmes would be transmitted on a wavelength different from those used for the normal television service, so that normal programmes would not be interrupted. The plans included the temporary installation in Studio B at Alexandra Palace of modern cameras and control equipment from one of the mobile outside broadcast units. A VHF radio link transmitter and aerial were set up at Alexandra Palace, and, as soon as the six schools to take part in the experiment had been selected, reception tests were carried out to make sure that the transmissions could be received satisfactorily. Arrangements were made with the British Radio Equipments Manufacturers' Association for the loan of suitable receivers of standard domestic types, and converters were made by the BBC to enable these to receive the VHF radio link transmissions.

*Telefilm Recording*

Some progress was made during the year in the technique for making a film record of television programmes at the time of transmission, a process known as telefilm recording. The performance of the experimental 35 mm apparatus at Alexandra Palace was improved and the construction of further 35 mm equipment of more advanced design, to be installed at Lime Grove, was almost completed. Design work on 16 mm telefilm equipment continued.

## GENERAL ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT

*Research, Design and Installation*

The Research Department held an open day at Kingswood Warren in June, 1951, to which were invited members of governmental and industrial research organisations, the fighting services, universities and technical colleges, and representatives of the technical and general Press. Demonstrations were arranged to show many aspects of the department's work.

In the television field, the main programme of work was a general investigation into high-definition, colour and television recording systems. Much of this work is important to the further exploitation of, and to obtaining improved results from, the present 405-line system as well as to future development.

The performance of the new stations at Holme Moss and Kirk o'Shotts was checked by field-strength surveys and special investigations were made in certain districts within the normal service area where difficulties were caused by multiple reflections of the signal. The reflections produce "ghost" images, which can usually be eliminated by the use of a directional receiving aerial. Mention has already been made of the work done in seeking and selecting sites for other television stations.

Experiments were carried out to demonstrate the effects of the interference that would arise if two television stations in different parts of the country shared the same frequency channel. The optimum conditions for such frequency sharing were determined and applied to the planning of the future expansion of the television service.

Further progress was made with the difficult problem of obtaining satisfactory sound quality in a television studio, where the acoustic requirements conflict with others such as those of scenery and lighting.

Research in sound broadcasting included a study of long-distance propagation at very high frequencies, which has an important bearing on the BBC's plan for a chain of VHF stations broadcasting the Home sound programmes. In connection with this plan a comparatively small FM receiver has been designed and built, which shows that an FM domestic receiver need not necessarily fall into the luxury price range.

In the field of studio acoustics, new methods of measurement and new techniques have now been evolved in an attempt to obtain better correlation between the results obtained by listening and by measurement. The necessary specialised equipment was built in the Research Department in readily portable form and measurements were made in well-known concert halls throughout the country and abroad as well as in BBC studios. Information so far gained from these experiments has been applied to improving the acoustics of some of the BBC studios, in particular the large orchestral studio at Maida Vale. The study of microphones, loudspeakers and audio-frequency equipment continued. An improved type of lip microphone and a small hand microphone were produced and also a directional microphone

for special purposes. The latter is likely to prove particularly useful in television studios where acoustic conditions are always difficult. Basic principles of artificial reverberation were studied with a view to obtaining more life-like results without introducing operational difficulties. Much effort was directed to investigations concerned with magnetic recording, which is likely to have important application in the BBC's work. At the same time the disk recording system was not neglected and improved measuring equipment was designed for operational use to enable a disk recording channel to be set up with ease and certainty.

The activities of the Designs Department in relation to sound broadcasting continued to be concentrated mainly on the saving of operational staff. Notable examples were the design, development and manufacture of automatic monitors for use in the remote-controlled transmitters, the design of automatic equipment for programme switching and monitoring, which enabled a single operator to perform these functions at a short-wave station where eighteen transmitters are fed from six programme lines, and the design of a prototype Master Operating Position for regional control rooms from which a single operator can control the entire switching and programme monitoring. Equipment for improving the technical quality of programmes was developed, in particular for use where programmes are carried over long lines to distant transmitters.

Tests were carried out on a wide range of commercial equipment with a view to selecting items suitable for BBC use. Similar tests were made to ensure that equipment supplied to the BBC complied with its specific requirements and in many cases advice was given to manufacturers to help them to improve their products.

Equipment of new design for use at sound outside broadcast points was produced and given an extended service trial. This equipment is smaller and lighter than that formerly used, and the design is such that the various units can be assembled and secured on a special trolley for ease of transport. The units can be interconnected ready for use on the trolley if desired. Operational efficiency and electrical performance have been improved in many respects compared with the old equipment, and the facilities required at the majority of outside broadcasts are available without recourse to the numerous small accessories and external wiring formerly needed.

In television, much effort was directed to improving the quality of television pictures transmitted by line or by radio links and equipment was designed for producing test signals and for making measurements. Performance tests were carried out on new equipment delivered by the manufacturers. Short-range communication equipment of the "walkie-talkie" type was designed and produced for communication between television producers and studio managers on the studio floor. A miniature pocket amplifier was developed to permit the use of a miniature lapel microphone for interviewing purposes at outside broadcasts and on other occasions when an inconspicuous microphone is required. Considerable progress was made with special effects produced by optical and electronic means with the objects of saving scenery costs and extending the range of scenic effects in television programmes.

The Planning and Installation Department is responsible for preparing specifications for new equipment, conducting negotiations with the manufacturers and generally for the planning and installation of the plant and equipment in BBC premises. During the year under review, major activities in which this department was concerned included the new television transmitting stations at Holme Moss, Kirk o'Shotts and Wenvoe, the development

of the television studios at Lime Grove and the installation of the additional Home Service low-power transmitters which have been referred to elsewhere. The building and civil engineering work associated with these and other projects was the responsibility of the Building Department.

### *Training*

Apart from the normal entry and promotion courses for technical assistants, which are continuing tasks for the Engineering Training Department, emphasis was laid on specialist training to raise the technical and practical standard of existing staff so as to relieve the acute shortage of skilled manpower.

Selected staff from the sound broadcasting service were given training in the principles and technique of television operation and transmission, and there was a considerable expansion in the television activities of the department. Additional laboratories have been formed to house a master waveform generator and other television equipment; eventually a camera channel will be installed to give new staff operational and maintenance experience. Preparation for similar though more advanced television courses expanded to include lighting technique, is now going ahead.

A reorganisation of programme operations in the sound service made it necessary for non-technical staff to be given an outline of broadcast engineering with particular attention to studio acoustics and microphones. Eight short courses of this kind were undertaken during the past year.

Workshop courses were instituted to train staff to undertake the more complicated repairs to apparatus on the spot, or to make modifications found necessary in the light of service requirements.

An important part of the department's work consists in the preparation of technical instructions for use by the operating departments dealing with the equipment which they are called upon to use. In addition to instructions on new apparatus, much work was done during the year in preparing general linking instructions for new television and sound apparatus, covering aspects not dealt with by the manufacturers' instructions on specific items of equipment.

A comprehensive manual of drawing office practice was issued for the use of the various engineering departments.

Work has gone ahead on training manuals, in particular for television, and arrangements have been made with a publisher for training manuals on recording, microphones and television to be made available for public sale.

A number of technical instructions and manuals have been made available to other broadcasting organisations within the Commonwealth and to Government departments.

### *Transport*

At the end of the year under review, the BBC transport fleet in this country consisted of approximately 300 vehicles of various types. The main development was in the provision of a number of technically equipped vehicles for television outside broadcasts in the provinces. The vehicles will be similar in design and type to those used in the London area in the past two or three years and they will include equipment for radio links from sites remote from the main transmitters.

Two special vehicles were brought into service and one more is being equipped for the maintenance of unattended low-power transmitting stations. These vehicles carry the necessary testing equipment and are driven by the maintenance engineers.

As already noted, two caravans have been equipped with low-power transmitters and a number of others are in the course of preparation.

The mileage covered by the BBC fleet in the year under review was approximately 3,000,000.

#### *Colonial development*

The BBC continued to co-operate with the Colonial Office in the development of broadcasting services in the Colonies. Technical advice was given on a number of projects now being planned or implemented. The shortage of suitable technical staff is creating a general problem, but the BBC was able to meet the request of the Colonial Office for further assistance and arranged the following secondments:—

*Nigeria* : Two engineers were seconded in 1951 to take up senior posts in the Nigerian Government Broadcasting Service which, following on the survey and recommendations made by the BBC in 1949, is now rapidly expanding. The secondment of three more engineers and two technical assistants is under consideration.

*Tanganyika* : The recommendations for improving the broadcasting service in Tanganyika, following on the survey made by a BBC engineer, are now being implemented and an engineer has been seconded to carry out this work.

*Uganda* : Following a survey made by a BBC engineer, recommendations were made for the development of a broadcasting service in this territory. These recommendations have now been accepted by the Government of Uganda and the BBC is about to second an engineer to Uganda to supervise the installation and operation of new transmitting and studio equipment.

*Sarawak* : An engineer is about to be seconded as Chief Engineer in the Sarawak Government Broadcasting Department. He will carry out the work of establishing a broadcasting service following on a survey of the territory by a BBC engineer early in 1951.

*British Honduras* : A broadcasting service is to be established and a BBC engineer is to be seconded to Honduras for this purpose.

#### *International co-operation and exchange*

The BBC continued to co-operate on engineering, as on other matters with the European Broadcasting Union. It co-operated also with the international consultative committees on radio-communication (C.C.I.R.) and telephony (C.C.I.F.).

BBC engineers visited the U.S.A., Canada and various European countries in order to study current developments in sound and television broadcasting. Many visitors with the same object were received in this country from abroad. Technical information on new developments was made available to a number of Commonwealth and other countries.

A BBC engineer is still seconded to the Greek National Broadcasting Institute in Athens to advise on improvements and extensions to the Greek broadcasting system.

Help was given to the Council of Europe by BBC engineers in the broadcasts of its proceedings.

#### *Co-operation at Home*

BBC engineers continued to co-operate in the work of the British Standards Institution, and the Institution of Electrical Engineers on the problem of

electrical interference. A member of the Engineering Division was appointed to the advisory committee set up by the Postmaster General to consider the requirements that might be prescribed in regulations dealing with interference caused by small electric motors.

Each year the BBC co-operates in the National Radio and Television Exhibition organised by the Radio Industry Council which in 1951 was held at Earl's Court. A large studio was provided in which sound and television programmes were produced for inclusion in the normal BBC services. Glass panels in three sides of the studio enabled the public to see all that went on and to gain an insight into the activities behind the scenes during the production of sound and television programmes. The BBC also had a stand in the exhibition at which various aspects of sound broadcasting and television, including the engineering side, were demonstrated, and listeners' enquiries about technical and programme matters were answered.

The Engineering Division played a large part in the BBC's own exhibition in London during the Festival of Britain, and tried to show the public something of what goes on behind the scenes in broadcasting. The working exhibits included a television camera channel, which enabled visitors to see themselves on the screen, and up-to-date disk and tape recording channels on which visitors' voices were recorded and played back to them. The BBC also contributed several items of equipment to the South Bank Exhibition as examples of modern British design and craftsmanship.

Contact with the Press and with the public was maintained by giving publicity to new technical developments in sound and television broadcasting. Such events as the bringing into service of new transmitting stations and new items of equipment were made the subject of statements for the Press and occasionally of visits by representatives of the technical or general Press. Arrangements for outside broadcasts of special interest or importance were also described in statements issued to the Press or published in the *Radio Times*.

Particular importance was attached to the publication of the results of work by BBC engineers in the fields of research and design and in connection with major projects such as the construction of new television stations. Papers were prepared and read before professional institutions and articles were written for the technical Press and for *The BBC Quarterly*. Several articles were specially written for publication abroad, notably in the U.S.A.

## Administration

### RELATIONS WITH PERFORMERS' UNIONS AND OTHER BODIES

The BBC was in close touch, over a wide range of matters affecting the programmes, with artists' unions, theatre managements, the film industry and other bodies. Some of the salient points in its various discussions and negotiations can be noted here.

For example, discussions were held with the Theatres' National Committee, representing theatrical and music hall managements, about the question of television theatre relays. At the end of the year, it was hoped soon to complete a formal agreement, on an experimental basis, covering television relays of excerpts from plays, musical productions, pantomimes and variety from the theatres. This would be an important forward step for television but it has to be remembered that any such agreement must be dependent



for its operation on the readiness of the artists' unions to agree. The three unions concerned—British Actors' Equity Association, the Musicians' Union and the Variety Artistes' Federation—have hitherto opposed broadcasts of this type. They were accordingly informed of the proposed agreement with the Theatres' National Committee and invited to reconsider the matter, in the hope that they would be prepared to discuss with the BBC and the Committee a reasonable basis of payment for the artists who would be concerned in relays of this character.

Another matter which the BBC discussed with the Theatres' National Committee was that of relays from theatres and music halls for sound broadcasting only, such as have been given for many years past. It was felt that the time had come for an agreement to regularise the arrangements, providing *inter alia* for the payment to the artists concerned of fees approved by the unions concerned. At the end of the year, the BBC was looking forward to the early completion of an agreement on these lines.

A special meeting of the Joint Consultative Committee of the BBC and the Musicians' Union was held to discuss urgently the question of television relays, mentioned above, and also the important matter of recording for television. The BBC has been anxious for a long time past to secure the agreement of the Union to the recording of certain types of television programmes. Recording is the only means of providing a second performance of programmes which for various reasons cannot be repeated as "live" performances. Recording is necessary too for the making of programmes which can be prepared only as films and cannot be performed in the studio. It is essential also to any scheme of distribution of BBC television programmes to other countries. In all these discussions, progress has been held up because of the Union's uncompromising opposition to all forms of television recording. The BBC's aims and the Union's proper concern for the interests of its members were fully discussed between the two bodies and the Union agreed to give the matter its serious consideration.

A proposal was put forward by the British Actors' Equity Association for a new form of contract for the engagement of artists for television. The draft submitted by Equity raised a number of important questions of principle. The BBC gave the most careful consideration to this matter, which at the end of the year was under discussion by the Standing Joint Committee of the two bodies.

A new development was the creation of a Standing Committee representing the BBC and the Society of Authors; the Society comprises, as constituent organisations, the League of Dramatists, the Radiowriters' Association and the Screenwriters' Association. The object of the Standing Committee is to discuss matters of mutual interest, especially matters relating to television, which raises many fresh questions both artistic and contractual. Meetings were held and a number of important matters affecting the interests of authors were discussed in a cordial and co-operative atmosphere.

Negotiations continued throughout the year with the Mechanical-Copyright Protection Society, representing most British music publishers, for a new agreement to enable the BBC to make recordings of copyright music for use by overseas broadcasting organisations in the form of transcription programmes. Some progress was made but no final agreement had been reached at the end of the year.

The agreements with the Performing Right Society covering the use of its repertoire in sound and television programmes were renewed for 12 months from 1st January, 1952, on the same terms as before.

The BBC considers that in the field of its relations with the artists' unions and other representative bodies concerned with the broadcast programmes some progress was made during the year. In some directions no serious problems exist or have existed for many years past. In other directions major problems have arisen, largely in connection with television. They were listed in the Governors' Report for 1950-51. None of these was actually solved during the past year.

Among the problems still outstanding are, for example:—

- (1) the restrictions placed by the Musicians' Union on the broadcasting of commercial gramophone records. Under the BBC's existing Agreement, a limit of 22 hours is placed on the amount of time that can be used for broadcasting gramophone records in one week over the whole of the BBC's services for United Kingdom listeners, including the Basic Home, Light and Third programmes and the Regional home services. Since the end of the period under review, however, agreement has been reached under which an additional six hours of playing time per week will be allowed in respect of Regional programmes. Even with this alleviation the restrictions remain severe,
- (2) the restrictions placed by the Musicians' Union upon the use of BBC recordings for "repeat" purposes in sound programmes for U.K. listeners,
- (3) the unavailability of many artists for television as a result of the action of other employers to whom these artists are under contract,
- (4) the refusal of the Musicians' Union and the Variety Artistes' Federation to agree to television relays and television recordings.

These are serious difficulties, having most hampering effects on the broadcast programmes. Nevertheless, as the foregoing Report has shown, the BBC is trying, in discussion with the bodies concerned, to find ways in which advances can be made.

#### *A copyright in broadcasting*

Written and verbal evidence was submitted to the Copyright Committee, 1951, as regards the implementation of the Brussels Copyright Convention, 1948, and as regards the recognition of the right for broadcasting organisations to control the unauthorised use of their programmes by third parties. The Corporation considers that the establishment of a broadcaster's right is the only effective means of protecting its programmes against unauthorised use by third parties and exploitation for commercial gain, and thus enabling it to provide the best possible service to listeners. The Corporation's right in its programmes would be analogous to the rights of the manufacturer of a gramophone record or the maker of a cinematographic film in their products, as these rights are additional to the right of the owner of any copyright works performed for the record or film.

#### *International co-operation*

The Corporation was represented at meetings of the Legal Committee of the European Broadcasting Union which considered various legal questions affecting the international use of broadcast programmes and the relations of broadcasting organisations with other bodies. Mention has already been made of the BBC's work of co-operation with the union of the engineering side. The BBC continues to take an active part in the whole work of this body.

The Corporation was also represented at a meeting of the International Labour Office Advisory Committee on Salaried Employees and Professional Workers, which considered the position of performers in relation to sound and television broadcasting.

#### *Advisory Bodies*

The General Advisory Council, under the chairmanship of Lord Halifax, was kept in touch with the main developments of the Corporation's work and paid particular attention to the issues involved in a renewal of the Charter and Licence. The Corporation records its deep appreciation of the advice and support that the Council has given. The Corporation is indebted to the members of all the BBC's advisory councils and committees for what they have done to help the broadcasting service. The full membership of the bodies concerned is given in Appendix XIII.

#### ORGANISATION

Having appointed a Director of Television in 1950, the Corporation proceeded in 1951 to plan a further devolution of responsibility to the directors of all the three main output strands of the broadcasting service—home sound, television and overseas. This reorganisation, which was completed by the end of the year under review, gave effect to the Recommendation 77 of the Broadcasting Committee in favour of a greater administrative distinction between sound and television broadcasting; it provided for a similar distinction between home sound broadcasting and overseas broadcasting. In each of these three spheres, the output director concerned has now become fully responsible for operations. The operational staff, engineers and others, remain professionally responsible to their professional heads and work operationally day by day to their output director. This system of working was already well established in various parts of the BBC's organisation.

Proposals for a further devolution of authority in Regional broadcasting were also prepared but it was recognised that these must depend for their final shape on a Government decision about the Regional councils proposed by the Broadcasting Committee and at the end of the period covered by the present Report this was still awaited.

The composition and function of the Board of Management remained unchanged. It continued to consist of the Director-General and five directors responsible respectively for home sound broadcasting, television broadcasting, external broadcasting, technical services and administration. The Director-General continued for the time being to carry out the functions of a sixth directorship, that of the spoken word. Mr. H. J. G. Grisewood has since been appointed to this post.

It continued to be the BBC's policy to delegate responsibility to the greatest practicable degree to controllers and heads of departments and through them to producers, engineers and administrative staff throughout the Corporation. Particular importance is attached to this policy in the field of programme output, providing as it does a large number of alternative channels to the microphone for artists and contributors of all kinds.

The responsibility for the catering service was decentralised at the beginning of the year so as to bring it under the various area administrations, e.g., London and the Regions, and under the engineering administration for transmitting stations and other engineering establishments outside London.

Decentralisation has thus been the keynote of the year in the field of organisation.

## STAFF ADMINISTRATION

Detailed consideration was given during the year to the various recommendations affecting staff in the Report of the Broadcasting Committee. In particular, the regulations on the subject of the outside activities of staff were revised and were under discussion with the BBC Staff Association at the end of the year. The position of producers was examined. The Corporation's policy of establishment and the superannuation schemes also came under review.

The number of operative staff at 31st March, 1952, was 12,524 (including 612 part-time) as compared with 12,413 (including 609 part-time) a year before. The increase of 111 staff during the year was due mainly to the continued expansion of the Television Service. An analysis of the number of established posts at the end of each financial year from 31st March, 1948, to date is given in Appendix X. In the course of the year, Central Establishment Office have continued with their investigation of departmental staffing requirements and have advised on the matter of salary revisions in the light of information obtained from comparable outside organisations and other factors. Salary increases were negotiated with the BBC Staff Association for both weekly and monthly-paid staff.

In filling staff vacancies, the BBC's policy is to promote existing staff, usually after internal advertisement but sometimes by direct promotion. Where however it is desired to draw on a wider field or where there is reason to doubt the existence within the BBC of a candidate with the requisite qualifications for some specialised post, vacancies are advertised in the Press as well as internally. During the year, out of 691 vacancies in the monthly grades, 599 were filled by promotion from existing staff. The infusion of new blood into the broadcasting service, particularly among creative output staff, is also achieved by engaging a number of such staff on a short-term basis. Seven hundred and twenty-three members of the unestablished staff were established during the year, and the total number of established staff in the Corporation is now 7,743.

*Staff Representation*

Consultation proceeded with the T.U.C. and individual Unions on the basis of Recommendation 93 of the Broadcasting Committee which dealt with recognition of outside Unions under certain conditions. Having expressed its readiness to accept Recommendation 93 as a whole, the BBC went further and made certain concessions in connection with the qualifying conditions for recognition in the effort to reach a working agreement. At the end of the year, Unions other than the Staff Association had not felt able to accept the Broadcasting Committee's Recommendation.

Meanwhile, the Corporation continued to recognise the Staff Association as the appropriate body for the discussion of staff matters. The revised procedure for negotiation and joint consultation both centrally and locally worked satisfactorily. The Arbitration Agreement concluded between the Association and the BBC was invoked on one occasion during the year by the Association.

The right of individual members of the staff to join or not to join the Staff Association or any other Union has always been freely acknowledged and made known to all concerned. Artists and others engaged on *ad hoc* contracts or as members of the BBC's orchestras, choruses, etc. are not admitted to membership of the Staff Association but are eligible for membership of their appropriate Unions or other representative bodies, e.g. The Musicians' Union, Equity, The Variety Artistes' Federation, The

Incorporated Society of Musicians, etc. For such staff these organisations are recognised by the BBC as the appropriate negotiating bodies in their respective spheres.

### *Welfare*

While welfare is regarded by the Corporation as an integral part of the administration of staff, a Central Welfare Department is maintained in order to give advice on all aspects of welfare to the different divisions and to co-ordinate medical services, canteens, hostels, facilities for training and education, etc.

The group insurance scheme, to cover certain types of medical expenses, which was started in the previous year, continued to be well supported; the number of staff who are members rose to about 1,350. In September, 1951 an overseas group under this scheme was formed to cater for staff and their families posted overseas. In addition, staff membership of the Hospital Savings Association amounted to 1,150.

The central and local catering joint advisory committee continued to provide valuable opportunities for discussion of catering problems with representatives both of the Staff Association and of the divisions using each canteen. There was consultation with the Staff Association on various aspects of welfare.

### *Staff Training*

The most important new development in the sphere of staff training (other than engineering staff training, which has been mentioned already on page 78) was the beginning of television training. A special instructor was appointed for this purpose. Three general courses were held and were attended by twenty-four members of the BBC staff and fifteen guest students. These courses form part of a larger scheme lasting six months in each individual case, for training potential producers, designers and writers for television. Week-end courses were held for BBC education officers and for outside writers, respectively; in both cases, a large proportion of the students attended from the Regions.

The general course, which is the main feature of the work of the Staff Training Department, has as its object to give practical help to broadcasting staff in their own department of work and to relate it to the work of broadcasting and of the BBC as a whole. Six general courses, each lasting for five weeks, were held during the year. They were attended by a total of over a hundred members of the BBC's staff, drawn from all parts of the organisation. Thirty students from overseas, the majority of them from Commonwealth countries, attended as guests. In addition to the lectures and demonstrations, a large proportion of the time available in the general course was given up to exercises in which the students took part. The amount of time devoted to television problems has been progressively increased.

Seven special courses were arranged during the year. They included an experimental course for administrators and a week-end conference for visiting American teachers. A colonial course was held, principally for the benefit of trainees for the broadcasting service of the Nigerian Government.

The Senior Training Reserve, including producers, announcers and certain other staff, averaged thirty-six in number. One hundred and twelve girls attended the four-weekly secretarial courses, and another sixty attended special refresher courses for more senior secretaries. Evening classes and special instruction also continued, and a system of proficiency tests was instituted to operate throughout the Corporation. A new booklet was

compiled on Corporation secretarial practice. Under the provisions for further education and training, twenty-two junior staff were released for education in working hours, and grants were given to two hundred and four members of staff to enable them to attend various external courses.

#### *Accommodation*

Western House, a modern block of offices near Broadcasting House, was acquired at the beginning of 1952 and it is hoped, as a result of this acquisition, to relinquish the larger part of the residential property at present occupied by the BBC in Portland Place. One set of requisitioned offices elsewhere in the West End of London was relinquished in 1951 and a further set will be surrendered in the course of the present year. A much greater concentration of London-based staff is aimed at—this remains an urgent need from the point of view of economical and efficient working—but it will not be possible to make further progress until suitable property becomes available.

With regard to accommodation outside London, progress in a number of directions can be reported. Sites were acquired in Birmingham and Cardiff for the erection of future Regional headquarters. Broadcasting House, Swansea, which was gutted by fire bombs during the war, was rebuilt and has now been opened; i.e. by the time the Report appears. The work on the completion of Broadcasting House, Belfast, which was suspended at the outbreak of war in 1939, has been taken up again.

## Publications and Publicity

Radio Times continued to be published in eight editions. The Audit Bureau of Circulations' certified average weekly net sales for 1951 were 7,880,718 copies.

With the opening of the television transmitters at Holme Moss in October, 1951, and Kirk o'Shotts in March, 1952, full television programmes were added to the North of England and Scottish editions of Radio Times. Full details of television programmes are published in 5,404,000 copies for viewers in the four television service areas and all other copies carry a full page summary.

A selection of the week's broadcast talks are reprinted in *The Listener* and in addition there are regular book reviews, articles and criticisms on broadcasting, art, music and literature. The Audit Bureau of Circulations' certified average weekly net sales for 1951 were 137,910 copies.

The net sales of Radio Times from 1927 and of *The Listener* from 1929 to date are given in Appendix XI.

The BBC Quarterly is a journal for those interested in the art and science of broadcasting and contains articles by leading writers, broadcasters and technicians. The average distribution for 1951 was 2,400 copies an issue. A list of the articles published during the year is given in Appendix XII.

London Calling, the Corporation's weekly programme journal of the Overseas Services, was published in two editions for the Western and Eastern hemispheres. In addition to advance programme details, it contains reprints of talks broadcast in the Overseas Services and interesting articles with illustrations. The Audit Bureau of Circulations' certified average weekly distribution for 1951 was 14,597 copies.

The Arabic Listener was published monthly throughout the year but has since been discontinued.

The BBC Hymn Book was published for the Corporation by the Oxford University Press in October, 1951. There are two editions ; words and music and words only.

Publications produced for the School Broadcasting Council included the Annual Programme 1951-52, termly Teachers' leaflets, Programmes Schedules, and two special pamphlets "English and Broadcasting in Secondary Schools" and "English and Broadcasting in Primary Schools".

Sales of Pupils' Pamphlets published by the BBC in connection with broadcasts to schools continued to increase and reached 1,445,000 copies for Spring Term, 1952.

Amongst numerous Supplementary Publications produced were the BBC Year Book 1952, BBC Television Service Booklet—3rd edition, "Listen and Learn"—further education leaflets, and the Welsh Annual Lecture, 1952 -- "Y Clasuron Yng Nghymru" (The Classics in Welsh).

### *Publicity*

The British Press devoted more space in the year to sound and television broadcasting probably than ever before. Many newspapers which had not previously employed radio or television correspondents responded to the quickening of public interest in the BBC's activities and by the time the new television stations in the North of England and Scotland had been opened there was a record number of journalists employed solely on writing about broadcasting. Welcoming this interest, the BBC's Publicity Department maintained a comprehensive service of news and photographs about sound and television programmes.

Besides programmes, great interest was shown in technical developments, such as the introduction of the first unattended high-power transmitter at Daventry. Visits were arranged, for technical and lay writers, to this and other centres, including the television station at Holme Moss and the television studios at Lime Grove.

Overseas, also, great interest was shown, not only in the BBC's various overseas services but in the development of sound and television broadcasting in the United Kingdom. For instance, articles on the Third Programme appeared in many overseas journals and detailed technical descriptions and pictures of the Holme Moss television transmitter were published in at least one American technical magazine.

Action taken to obtain greater publicity for the BBC's Far Eastern Services included the production of quarterly illustrated pamphlets in eight Far Eastern languages and the distribution to the vernacular Press of photographs and plastic blocks of subjects with which BBC broadcasts to the Far East were concerned. Information about the broadcasts was also made available in news items and special articles. Special pamphlets and leaflets were prepared in Arabic, Hebrew, Hindi and Urdu, drawing attention to the programmes and to listener competitions.

These measures to increase the number of listeners to certain Overseas services were in addition to the regular weekly distribution, by airmail to all parts of the world outside Europe, of the Overseas Press Bulletin, which is an up-to-date schedule of the overseas programmes specially prepared in four separate editions for the overseas Press, and of London Letter, a weekly compilation of general BBC news. As a result, newspapers and radio magazines in all parts of the world were able to print details of the BBC programmes.

In the same way, a service of programme information was supplied to radio papers in all the European countries not under Communist control, with the result that in most of the countries the public could obtain information about the BBC's European broadcasts. Press services in various languages—*Echos de Londres* for France, *Londoner Funkbote* for Germany and *Servizio Stampa* for Italy—produced many references in the European Press to the BBC programmes. A fortnightly Press service of programme information for Turkey, *Londranin Sesi*, was begun on 31st August and was well received.

The circulation of the weekly programme bulletin "London Calling Europe" in two editions was about 45,000 at the end of the year. The circulation of "Ici Londres" reached 24,000, and "Hier Spricht London" 12,000. It was decided to accept paid advertisements for publication in all these weeklies except "London Calling Europe" Edition B.

"Better listening" leaflets in English, French, German, Spanish, Italian and Dutch were sent to listeners who complained of difficulty in receiving BBC broadcasts.

A new edition of a booklet printing selected BBC talks in Russian was published under the title, "Govorit London".

## Finance

The Accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1952, as reported upon by the Corporation's Auditors, are attached. Corresponding figures for the preceding year are given for comparison.

The following information is also given:—

An analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31st March, 1952 (Statement 5).

Summarised Balance Sheets and summarised Net Revenue and Grant-in-Aid Accounts for the accounting period from 1st January, 1947, to 31st March, 1952 (Statement 6).

### BALANCE SHEET

#### HOME SERVICES—SOUND AND TELEVISION

##### *Fixed Assets*

##### *Sound Broadcasting*

Gross additions to Fixed Assets amounted to £414,603. Assets taken out of service amounted to £40,312 and the net increase in Fixed Assets for the year was, therefore, £374,291, making the total at 31st March, 1952, £7,008,448. After deducting depreciation accrued to date £4,445,506, the net value of Fixed Assets at 31st March, 1952, was £2,562,942, as shown in Statement 4.

Expenditure was incurred on improvements to transmitter, studio and recording equipment; the acquisition and adaptation of additional premises, including a site for future headquarters at Cardiff, and the equipment of the reconstructed studio premises at Swansea. Progress was made with the conversion of transmitters to unattended working. Development charges totalling £55,000 were incurred in respect of two properties.



*Television Service*

Gross additions amounted to £1,020,505. Assets taken out of service amounted to £8,762. Net additions for the year amounted, therefore, to £1,011,743, increasing the total of Fixed Assets to £3,068,404. After deducting depreciation accrued to date, £529,403, the net value of Fixed Assets at 31st March, 1952, was £2,539,001, as shown in Statement 4.

A large part of this expenditure was on the construction and equipment of relay stations. The station at Holme Moss for the North of England was completed and came into service on the 12th October, 1951; the Scottish station at Kirk o' Shotts was opened on the 14th March, 1952, and good progress was made on the station at Wenvoe for Wales and the West of England. Regional Outside Broadcast units were provided. Further expenditure was incurred on the extension of studio facilities at Lime Grove and on first stage development of the White City site.

*Capital Account*

The balance on Capital Account remained unchanged at the 31st March, 1952, at £8,000,000, it having been decided that no further appropriation of revenue for future capital requirements could be made in the meantime. The total amount provided to 31st March, 1952, for capital purposes, including the accrued depreciation provisions amounting to £4,974,909 (Sound £4,445,506, Television £529,403) was, therefore, £12,974,909. Of this provision there remained unspent at 31st March, 1952, £2,898,057, represented on the assets side of the Balance Sheet by investments, local loans and bank deposits, a reduction of £942,034, as compared with 31st March, 1951.

| <i>Current Assets and Credit Balances</i>                                       | £         | £                |
|---|-----------|------------------|
| Current Assets amounted at 31st March, 1952, to                                 |           | 4,480,887        |
| against which have to be set the following liabilities and reserves:—           |           |                  |
| Specific reserves for contingent payments to staff and future Income Tax ... .. | 1,125,000 |                  |
| Creditors ... ..  | 1,643,650 | 2,768,650        |
| Net Current Assets at 31st March, 1952, were therefore ... ..                   |           | <u>1,712,237</u> |

representing the balance of Unappropriated Net Revenue carried forward.

The increase during the year in Current Assets, £1,076,617, was due to increases in stores, £392,482, and in cash resources, £860,129, less a decrease in sundry debtors, etc., of £175,994. Creditors increased by £511,440, mainly due to a larger outstanding on capital schemes, and specific reserves were reduced by £500,000, the liability for future Income Tax being lower by that amount.

## EXTERNAL SERVICES

*Fixed Assets and Capital Account*

Gross capital expenditure amounted to £141,975. Assets of a value of £13,717 were taken out of service. Fixed Assets were, therefore, increased by £128,258 to £4,221,159 at 31st March, 1952, as shown in Statement 4. No depreciation has ever been provided in respect of these assets, replacements being charged to Grant-in-Aid when incurred.

The additions included the completion of the high power transmitting station in Malaya, the replacement of monitoring receiving and recording equipment, magnetic recording equipment, and the acquisition of new premises.

Capital Account has been increased during the year by the above amount of £128,258 to £4,221,159 at 31st March, 1952.

| <i>Current Assets and Credit Balances</i>       | £       | £       |
|---|---------|---------|
| Current Assets amounted at 31st March, 1952, to |         | 143,573 |
| against which have to be set the following      |         |         |
| liabilities and reserves:—                      |         |         |
| Reserve for future Income Tax ... ..            | 10,000  |         |
| Creditors ... ..                                | 113,668 | 123,668 |
|   |         |         |
| Net Current Assets at 31st March, 1952, were    |         |         |
| therefore ... ..                                |         | 19,905  |

representing the unexpended balance of Grant-in-Aid issues carried forward at 31st March, 1952.

Current Assets decreased during the year by £131,514. The cash balance fell by £150,816, and debtors, etc., by £10,698, but these reductions were set off to the extent of £30,000 by an allocation of stores from the Home Services. Creditors were reduced during the year by £257,351, mainly because of the completion of the transmitting station at Malaya and the settlement of outstanding accounts for Overseas hired transmitters. The reserve of £10,000 for future Income Tax, reflecting the excess of the year's income over expenditure, replaces the estimated credit of £86,000 at 31st March, 1951, for Income Tax relief.

## NET REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT

### HOME AND TELEVISION SERVICES

#### *Licence Income*

The gross income from the sales of broadcast receiving licences in 1951-52 amounted to £13,996,362, made up of:—

|  | £          |
|--|------------|
| Licences for Sound only at £1 ... ..                 | 11,083,719 |
| Licences for Sound and Television combined at £2 ... | 2,912,643  |
|  | 13,996,362 |

In accordance with Clause 18 of the Licence and Agreement dated 29th November, 1946, a deduction was made by the Post Office for expenses of collection, interference investigation, etc. The amount so deducted during this year was 7½ per cent. of gross receipts: ... ..

1,049,727

and net licence income was therefore ... ..

12,946,635

From 1st April, 1950, to 31st December, 1951, the Corporation received 100 per cent. of net licence income but from 1st January, 1952, the Treasury retained 15 per cent., which for the three months ended 31st March, 1952, amounted to...

679,249

leaving as the net licence income payable to the Corporation ... ..

12,267,386

The corresponding amount for the previous year was ...

12,094,198

and the net increase in 1951-52 was therefore ... ..

173,188

The following summary shows how this net increase is divided between Sound and Television, the latter service being credited with the net income from £1 of the combined Sound and Television licences :—

|   | <i>Sound</i><br>£ | <i>Television</i><br>£ | <i>Total</i><br>£ |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Net Licence Income (after allowing for Post Office expenses)        |                   |                        |                   |
| for year ended 31st March, 1952 ... ..                              | 11,599,538        | 1,347,097              | 12,946,635        |
| for year ended 31st March, 1951 ... ..                              | 11,387,552        | 706,646                | 12,094,198        |
| <i>Increase</i> ... ..  | 211,986           | 640,451                | 852,437           |
| <i>Deduct—</i>  |                   |                        |                   |
| Retained by Treasury for three months ended 31st March, 1952 ... .. | 594,540           | 84,709                 | 679,249           |
| <i>Net Increase or Decrease (—)</i> ...                             | -382,554          | 555,742                | 173,188           |

### *Income*

The net licence income receivable by the Corporation for the year to 31st March, 1952, was £12,267,386, an increase of £173,188, as shown above. Net revenue from Publications amounted to £1,138,044, an improvement of £182,814. Other income increased by £23,940 to £107,437, interest amounting to £76,253 and profit on sale of investments to £31,184. Total income for the year was £13,512,867, an increase of £379,942 over the preceding year.

### *Revenue Expenditure*

Revenue expenditure for the year on Sound Services was £8,750,945, and on the Television Service £2,329,159, a total of £11,080,104. £474,608 was provided for depreciation, details of which are shown in Statement 4. The Corporation's liability for Schedule D Income Tax, based on the results for the year ended 31st March, 1952, and assessable for 1952-53, is estimated at £885,000, of which £10,000 relates to the External Services. After charging tax deducted from investment income, £22,736, and crediting an adjustment of £4,758 for a prior year, the Home Services Income Tax liability for the year amounted to £892,978. These charges total £12,447,690, leaving a balance of income for the year of £1,065,177. This balance, together with the balance of unappropriated net revenue brought forward from the preceding year, £647,060, making a total of £1,712,237, has been carried forward at 31st March, 1952. As a result of the 15 per cent. reduction in the Corporation's licence income this balance may be required in future years to meet rising costs and developments.

\* In consequence, Current Assets earmarked for capital purposes had, as mentioned earlier, to be used to the extent of £942,034, and if this is set against the balance of income for the year of £1,065,177 mentioned above, the net excess of income over expenditure for the year was £123,143. It will be borne in mind that the 15 per cent. reduction in income was effective for one quarter of the year only.

### *Expenditure on Television*

Capital expenditure on Television for the year amounted to £1,020,505 and revenue expenditure to £2,329,159, a total of £3,349,664. The total income accruing to Television was £1,263,037, consisting of the net licence revenue attributable to Television, £1,262,388, and £649 receipts from the sale of assets taken out of service. The balance of expenditure, £2,086,627, was met out of reserves and other income.

GRANT-IN-AID  
EXTERNAL SERVICES

*Income*

Grant-in-Aid receipts amounted to £4,740,000 and other income to £9,254, making a total income for the year of £4,749,254.

*Expenditure*

Total expenditure amounted to £4,719,417, consisting of revenue expenditure £4,517,442, capital expenditure £141,975, a contribution of £50,000 to the New Staff Pension Scheme on account of the ante-dating of pensionable service for staff established up to 31st March 1952, and a provision of £10,000 for Income Tax on the excess of Grant-in-Aid receipts over expenditure to date after crediting the appropriate allowances.

The excess of Income over Expenditure, amounting to £29,837, has been applied to the extent of £9,932 in extinguishing the deficit of that amount brought forward at 31st March 1951, leaving £19,905 to be carried forward at 31st March, 1952.

STATEMENTS OF REVENUE EXPENDITURE

HOME SERVICES—SOUND AND TELEVISION

Revenue expenditure on Sound and Television is given in detail in Statements 1 and 2, together with comparative figures for the previous year. The statements show that expenditure increased during the year as follows:—

|   | Sound<br>£ | Television<br>£ |
|---|------------|-----------------|
| Programmes ... ..                                     | 373,473    | 258,241         |
| Engineering ... ..                                    | 199,484    | 288,903         |
| Premises ... ..                                       | 226,038    | 8,241           |
| Regional and Area Establishments ... ..               | 55,681     | 25,078          |
| Management and Central Services ... ..                | 21,346     | 19,873          |
| Pension Schemes Contributions and Governors' Fees ... | 14,040     | 10,245          |
|   | 890,062    | 610,581         |

The increase in revenue expenditure on Sound (11·3 per cent.) was largely due to three main factors, the chief of which was rising costs which included a revision of salary and wage scales affecting all staff. Special programmes in connection with the Festival of Britain gave rise to a substantial non-recurrent expenditure. Expenditure on building maintenance, the reconditioning of equipment and the alteration and improvement of existing and new premises was also high.

While rising costs also affected Television, the increase in expenditure on that Service (35·5 per cent.) mainly represented development. The studio centre at Lime Grove was further developed, the relay stations for the North of England and Scotland were brought into service and there was a considerable expansion in outside broadcasts and newsreels.

## EXTERNAL SERVICES

Revenue and expenditure on the External Services is given in detail in Statement 3 together with comparative figures for the previous year. There was a net increase in expenditure of 1·1 per cent. during the year as follows:—

|   |         |
|---|---------|
|   | £       |
| Programmes ... ..                       | 22,038  |
| Engineering (decrease) ... ..           | -21,130 |
| Premises ... ..                         | 363     |
| Regional and Area Establishments ... .. | 18,689  |
| Management and Central Services ... ..  | 15,256  |
| Pension Schemes Contributions ... ..    | 11,659  |
|   | 46,875  |

The effect of rising costs, which was considerable, was offset largely by reductions in services made necessary by limitation of the Grant-in-Aid. In Programmes, the reductions in services led to a substantial decrease in the amount spent on artists, speakers, etc., and offset to a considerable extent the effect of increases in salaries scales. Engineering expenditure on the whole was reduced below the level of the previous year. While a full year's expenditure was incurred on operating the high power station at Tebrau, the relay service from Ceylon ceased and non-recurrent expenditure fell considerably. Under other headings the variations were caused by rising costs.

## GENERAL

Within the limits imposed by national restriction of capital investment the Corporation's developments in the Television Service have made good progress during the year. Three regional relay stations are now in operation, the station for Wales and West of England will be opened, it is expected, in August next and outside broadcast units for regional use have also been made available. A further stage in the provision of extra studios at Lime Grove has been put in hand and work has started on the associated scenery block and offices at the White City. In Sound broadcasting a scheme for the improvement of transmitter coverage for the Home Services is in hand. Other schemes regarded as essential by the Corporation for its continued development have had to be postponed because of the limitation of capital investment. These include the erection of medium-power Television relay stations, further development of the White City site for Television studios without which only the studios at Lime Grove will be available when the lease of Alexandra Palace expires in 1956, the building of new regional headquarters and the completion of the research centre. Only a limited sum will be available for the construction of VHF transmitters for the Home Services.

Hitherto the Corporation has financed the whole of its capital development from Capital and Depreciation Reserves set aside out of current income. Not only will this not be possible in the future, owing to the Government's decision to retain 15 per cent. of the net licence revenue, but income may be insufficient to meet revenue expenditure and depreciation. For this reason no appropriation of revenue to Capital Account has been made for the year ended 31st March, 1952, as the unexpended income, together with that brought forward at the beginning of the year, may be required for revenue purposes during the following years. Capital reserves will consequently have to be drawn on for current capital expenditure, and in due course no

provision will remain for development schemes which have been postponed only because of the present national restriction of capital investment. If and when it is possible to proceed with the schemes now postponed, the Corporation will be forced to borrow and the present prudent policy of meeting both revenue and capital expenditure out of income will have to cease. This means that, as a result of the retention of licence revenue by the Government during the present period when major capital expenditure is strictly limited, listeners will later have to suffer the effect of uneconomic loan charges, which will decrease the amount of income available for expenditure on broadcasting services.

THE BRITISH BROADCASTING  
CORPORATION

**BALANCE SHEET**

AT 31st MARCH 1952

*with relative*

**REVENUE ACCOUNTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st MARCH 1952

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## BALANCE SHEET

|   | 31st March 1952 |            | 31st March 1951 |            |
|---|-----------------|------------|-----------------|------------|
|   | £               | £          | £               | £          |
| <b>HOME SERVICES</b>  |                 |            |                 |            |
| <b>CAPITAL ACCOUNT</b>  |                 |            |                 |            |
| Balance of Appropriation for Capital Expenditure at date ... ..                                 |                 | 8,000,000  |                 | 8,000,000  |
| <b>REVENUE APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT</b>  |                 |            |                 |            |
| Balance (unappropriated Net Revenue) at 31st March 1952 carried forward—per account annexed     |                 | 1,712,237  |                 | 647,060    |
| <b>SPECIFIC RESERVES</b>  |                 |            |                 |            |
| Reserve for contingent contractual payments to staff  | 250,000         |            | 250,000         |            |
| Reserve for estimated future Income Tax Assessable 1952-53—per Net Revenue Account annexed ...  | 875,000         |            | 1,375,000       |            |
|   | 1,125,000       |            | 1,625,000       |            |
| <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>  |                 |            |                 |            |
| Creditors ... ..  | 1,643,650       |            | 1,132,210       |            |
|   |                 | 2,768,650  |                 | 2,757,210  |
| <b>TOTAL HOME SERVICES</b> ...  |                 | 12,480,887 |                 | 11,404,270 |
| <b>EXTERNAL SERVICES</b>  |                 |            |                 |            |
| <b>CAPITAL ACCOUNT</b>  |                 |            |                 |            |
| Balance of Appropriation for Capital Expenditure at 31st March 1951 ... ..                      | 4,092,901       |            | 3,820,790       |            |
| Appropriation from Grant-in-Aid Account for the year to 31st March 1952 ... ..                  | 141,975         |            | 283,748         |            |
|   | 4,234,876       |            | 4,104,538       |            |
| <i>Less:</i> Plant etc. taken out of service during the year to 31st March 1952—at Cost ... ..  | 13,717          |            | 11,637          |            |
|   |                 | 4,221,159  |                 | 4,092,901  |
| <b>GRANT-IN-AID ACCOUNT</b>   |                 |            |                 |            |
| Balance of receipts over expenditure at 31st March 1952 carried forward—per account annexed ... |                 | 19,905     |                 |            |
| <b>SPECIFIC RESERVE</b>   |                 |            |                 |            |
| Reserve for estimated future Income Tax Assessable 1952-53 ... ..                               | 10,000          |            |                 |            |
| <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>  |                 |            |                 |            |
| Creditors ... ..  | 113,668         |            | 371,019         |            |
|   |                 | 123,668    |                 | 371,019    |
| <b>SIMON OF WYTHENSHAWE } <i>Governors.</i></b>   |                 |            |                 |            |
| <b>TEDDER } <i>W. J. HALEY—Director-General.</i></b>  |                 |            |                 |            |
| <b>TOTAL EXTERNAL SERVICES</b> ...  |                 | 4,364,732  |                 | 4,463,920  |
| <b>TOTAL HOME AND EXTERNAL SERVICES</b> ...   |                 | 16,845,619 |                 | 15,868,190 |

- NOTES: 1. No provision has been made for Depreciation of External Services Fixed Assets. Payments from Grant-in-Aid do not include any such provision but only the cost of the renewal of these assets.
2. No provision has been made in the above accounts for dilapidations and deferred maintenance of premises and equipment still to be carried out.
3. The balance of uncompleted work on contracts for Capital Expenditure amounted at 31st March 1952 approximately to £975,000 (1951 £660,000).



AT 31st MARCH 1952

|   | 31st March 1952 |                   | 31st March 1951 |                   |
|---|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
|   | £               | £                 | £               | £                 |
| <b>HOME SERVICES</b>  |                 |                   |                 |                   |
| FIXED ASSETS AT COST, LESS DEPRECIATION—per statement 4   |                 |                   |                 |                   |
| Sound ... ..  | 2,562,942       |                   | 2,468,651       |                   |
| Television ... ..   | 2,539,001       |                   | 1,691,258       |                   |
|   |                 | 5,101,943         |                 | 4,159,909         |
| CURRENT ASSETS— earmarked for Capital purposes  |                 |                   |                 |                   |
| Unexpended Balance on Capital Account represented by:   |                 |                   |                 |                   |
| £1,500,000 British Government Securities at par (Market Value £1,427,500)   | 1,500,000       |                   | 2,500,000       |                   |
| Loans to Local Government Authorities ...   | 930,000         |                   | (2,531,250)     |                   |
| Deposit with Bankers ... ..   | 468,057         |                   | 1,340,091       |                   |
|   |                 | 2,898,057         |                 | 3,840,091         |
| CURRENT ASSETS—Other  |                 |                   |                 |                   |
| Stores on Hand:   |                 |                   |                 |                   |
| At Cost or under less allocation to External Services (see below) ... ..  | 1,218,308       |                   | 825,826         |                   |
| Debtors and Unexpired Charges:  |                 |                   |                 |                   |
| Sundry Debtors ... ..   | 626,585         |                   | 816,835         |                   |
| War Damage Claim Part II as agreed without interest, and reinstatement costs recoverable  |                 |                   |                 |                   |
| Part I ... ..   | 214,949         |                   | 216,143         |                   |
| Unexpired Charges ... ..  | 123,434         |                   | 107,984         |                   |
| Tax Reserve Certificates ... ..   | 800,000         |                   | 1,000,000       |                   |
| Loans to Local Government Authorities ...   | 550,000         |                   |                 |                   |
| Balances with Bankers and Cash in Hand on General Account ... ..  | 947,611         |                   | 437,482         |                   |
|   |                 | 4,480,887         |                 | 3,404,270         |
| <b>TOTAL HOME SERVICES ...</b>  |                 | <b>12,480,887</b> |                 | <b>11,404,270</b> |
| <b>EXTERNAL SERVICES</b>  |                 |                   |                 |                   |
| FIXED ASSETS AT COST—per statement 4 ... ..   |                 |                   |                 |                   |
|   |                 | 4,221,159         |                 | 4,092,901         |
| CURRENT ASSETS  |                 |                   |                 |                   |
| Stores on Hand—amount allocated from Home Services ... ..   |                 |                   |                 |                   |
|   | 30,000          |                   |                 |                   |
| Debtors and Unexpired Charges:  |                 |                   |                 |                   |
| Sundry Debtors ... ..   | 70,845          |                   | 77,188          |                   |
| War Damage Claim Part II as agreed without interest and reinstatement costs recoverable   |                 |                   |                 |                   |
| Part I ... ..   | 3,223           |                   | 3,264           |                   |
| Unexpired Charges ... ..  | 14,113          |                   | 18,427          |                   |
| Balances with Bankers and Cash in Hand on General Account ... ..  | 25,392          |                   | 176,208         |                   |
|   | 143,573         |                   | 275,087         |                   |
| INCOME TAX  |                 |                   |                 |                   |
| Estimated credit to External Services for relief of future Income Tax by reason of taxation deficit of External Services ... .. |                 |                   |                 |                   |
|   |                 | 143,573           | 86,000          | 361,087           |
| GRANT-IN-AID ACCOUNT  |                 |                   |                 |                   |
| Excess of expenditure over receipts at 31st March 1951 carried forward ... ..   |                 |                   |                 |                   |
|   |                 |                   |                 | 9,932             |
| <b>TOTAL EXTERNAL SERVICES ...</b>  |                 | <b>4,364,732</b>  |                 | <b>4,463,920</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL HOME AND EXTERNAL SERVICES ...</b>   |                 | <b>16,845,619</b> |                 | <b>15,868,190</b> |

## REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION

We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion proper books of account have been kept by the Corporation so far as appears from our examination of those books. We have examined the above Balance Sheet and annexed Net Revenue and Appropriation Account and Grant-in-Aid Account which are in agreement with the books of account. In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given us the Balance Sheet with the notes thereon gives a true and fair view of the state of the Corporation's affairs as at 31st March 1952, and the Net Revenue and Appropriation and Grant-in-Aid Accounts give a true and fair view of the income, expenditure and appropriations for the year ended that date.

Deloitte, Plender, Griffiths & Co., Auditors.  
Chartered Accountants.

5, London Wall Buildings, London, E.C.2.  
19th June, 1952.

HOME AND  
NET REVENUE AND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED

|   | Year ended<br>31st March 1952 |            | Year ended<br>31st March 1951 |            |
|---|-------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------|------------|
|   | £                             | £          | £                             | £          |
| Revenue Expenditure:  |                               |            |                               |            |
| Sound—as per Statement 1 ... ..                                   | 8,750,945                     |            | 7,860,883                     |            |
| Television—as per Statement 2 ... ..                              | 2,329,159                     |            | 1,718,578                     |            |
|   |                               | 11,080,104 |                               | 9,579,461  |
| Depreciation:   |                               |            |                               |            |
| Sound—as per Statement 4 ... ..                                   | 302,495                       |            | 278,754                       |            |
| Television—as per Statement 4 ... ..                              | 172,113                       |            | 110,245                       |            |
|   |                               | 474,608    |                               | 388,999    |
| Premiums on Investments written off ...                           |                               |            |                               | 45,178     |
| Special Contribution to New Staff Pension Scheme ... ..           |                               |            |                               | 150,000    |
| Income Tax:   |                               |            |                               |            |
| On surplus for year (assessable 1952-53) ...                      | 875,000                       |            | 1,375,000                     |            |
| Deducted from Investment Interest etc. ...                        | 22,736                        |            | 25,001                        |            |
|   | 897,736                       |            | 1,400,001                     |            |
| <i>Less:</i> Adjustment for prior year ... ..                     | 4,758                         |            | 118,799                       |            |
|   |                               | 892,978    |                               | 1,281,202  |
|   |                               | 12,447,690 |                               | 11,444,840 |
| Balance available for appropriation carried down                  |                               | 1,065,177  |                               | 1,688,085  |
|   |                               | 13,512,867 |                               | 13,132,925 |
| Transfer to Capital Account for future Capital Expenditure ... .. |                               |            |                               | 1,500,000  |
| Balance (unappropriated Net Revenue) carried forward              |                               | 1,712,237  |                               | 647,060    |
|   |                               | 1,712,237  |                               | 2,147,060  |

TELEVISION SERVICES  
 APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT  
 31st MARCH 1952

|   | Year ended        | Year ended        |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
|   | 31st March 1952   | 31st March 1951   |
|   | £                 | £                 |
| Licence Income:   |                   |                   |
| Net Licence Income from Sound-only Licences ... ..                    | 9,742,610         | 10,680,906        |
| Net Licence Income from Combined Sound and Television Licences ... .. | 2,524,776         | 1,413,292         |
|   | <b>12,267,386</b> | <b>12,094,198</b> |
| Net Revenue from Publications ... ..                                  | 1,138,044         | 955,230           |
| Interest on Loans, Bank Deposit, Tax Reserve Certificates etc. ...    | 28,368            | 13,708            |
| Interest on Investments ... ..  | 47,885            | 54,155            |
| Profit on Sale of Investments ... ..                                  | 31,184            | 15,634            |
|   | <b>13,512,867</b> | <b>13,132,925</b> |
| Balance available for appropriation brought down ... ..               | 1,065,177         | 1,688,085         |
| Balance brought forward as at 31st March 1951 ... ..                  | 647,060           | 458,975           |
|   | <b>1,712,237</b>  | <b>2,147,060</b>  |

EXTERNAL

GRANT-IN-AID ACCOUNT FOR THE

|  | Year<br>ended<br>31st March<br>1952 | Year<br>ended<br>31st March<br>1951 |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|  | £                                   | £                                   |
| Balance, being excess of Net Expenditure over Grant-in-Aid, at<br>31st March 1951 ... ..               | 9,932                               |                                     |
| Revenue Expenditure for the year as per Statement 3 ... ..   | 4,517,442                           | 4,470,567                           |
| Special Contribution to New Staff Pension Scheme ... ..  | 50,000                              | 50,000                              |
| Income Tax:<br>On surplus for year (assessable 1952-53) ... ..   | 10,000                              |                                     |
| Transfer to Capital Account representing Capital Expenditure for<br>the year ... ..                    | 141,975                             | 283,748                             |
| Balance, being excess of Grant-in-Aid Receipts over Net Expenditure<br>to date, carried forward ... .. | 19,905                              |                                     |
|  | <b>4,749,254</b>                    | <b>4,804,315</b>                    |

SERVICES  
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 1952

|  | Year ended<br>31st March 1952 |           | Year ended<br>31st March 1951 |           |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------|
|  | £                             | £         | £                             | £         |
| Balance of Grant-in-Aid as at 31st March<br>1950 ... ..  |                               |           |                               | 68,007    |
| Grant-in-Aid Receipts for the year ... ..  | 4,740,000                     |           | 4,634,500                     |           |
| Interest on Bank Deposit ... ..  | 1,308                         |           | 475                           |           |
| Receipts from sales of assets taken out of<br>service ... ..   | 7,946                         |           | 5,401                         |           |
|  |                               | 4,749,254 |                               | 4,640,376 |
| Income Tax:  |                               |           |                               |           |
| Credit to External Services for relief of<br>Income Tax by reason of taxation deficit<br>of External Services ... .. |                               |           |                               | 86,000    |
| Balance, being excess of Net Expenditure<br>over Grant-in-Aid Receipts at 31st March<br>1951 ... ..                  |                               |           |                               | 9,932     |
|  |                               | 4,749,254 |                               | 4,804,315 |

## STATEMENT 1

STATEMENT OF REVENUE EXPENDITURE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 1952

## HOME SERVICES—SOUND

|  | Year ended<br>31st March 1952 |                        | Year ended<br>31st March 1951 |                        |
|--|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
|  | Amount                        | Percentage<br>of Total | Amount                        | Percentage<br>of Total |
| <b>PROGRAMMES</b>  |                               |                        |                               |                        |
| Artists, Speakers, Copyright, Recording<br>and Reproduction Fees, etc. ... ..    | £ 2,386,258                   | 27·27                  | £ 2,232,673                   | 28·40                  |
| Permanent Orchestras ... ..  | 341,641                       | 3·90                   | 332,585                       | 4·23                   |
| Performing Rights ... ..   | 547,400                       | 6·26                   | 543,425                       | 6·91                   |
| News Royalties ... ..  | 113,167                       | 1·29                   | 108,625                       | 1·38                   |
| Publicity and Intelligence ... ..  | 71,501                        | ·82                    | 58,520                        | ·75                    |
| Salaries and Wages ... ..  | 1,250,290                     | 14·28                  | 1,082,560                     | 13·77                  |
| Sundry Expenses including Travelling,<br>Stationery, Postage, Cables, etc. ...   | 144,874                       | 1·66                   | 123,270                       | 1·57                   |
|  | 4,855,131                     | 55·48                  | 4,481,658                     | 57·01                  |
| <b>ENGINEERING</b>   |                               |                        |                               |                        |
| S.B. and Intercommunication Lines ...  | 173,851                       | 1·98                   | 168,453                       | 2·14                   |
| Power, Lighting and Heating ... ..   | 249,109                       | 2·85                   | 226,782                       | 2·89                   |
| Plant Maintenance ... ..   | 181,015                       | 2·07                   | 159,688                       | 2·03                   |
| Transport ... ..   | 112,336                       | 1·28                   | 92,250                        | 1·18                   |
| Salaries and Wages ... ..  | 1,211,097                     | 13·61                  | 1,101,348                     | 14·01                  |
| Sundry Expenses including Travelling,<br>Stationery, Postage, Cables, etc. ...   | 121,446                       | 1·39                   | 100,849                       | 1·28                   |
|  | 2,048,854                     | 23·41                  | 1,849,370                     | 23·53                  |
| <b>PREMISES</b>  |                               |                        |                               |                        |
| Rent, Rates and Taxes ... ..   | 291,029                       | 3·32                   | 271,780                       | 3·46                   |
| Telephones ... ..  | 45,817                        | ·52                    | 43,800                        | ·56                    |
| Insurance ... ..   | 28,634                        | ·33                    | 24,889                        | ·31                    |
| Household Maintenance ... ..   | 57,707                        | ·66                    | 49,551                        | ·63                    |
| Alterations to and Maintenance of<br>Buildings, Services and Masts, etc. ...     | 353,271                       | 4·04                   | 160,400                       | 2·04                   |
|  | 776,458                       | 8·87                   | 550,420                       | 7·00                   |
| <b>REGIONAL AND AREA ESTABLISH-<br/>MENTS</b>                                    |                               |                        |                               |                        |
| Billeting, Hostels and Catering ... ..   | 69,642                        | ·79                    | 65,707                        | ·83                    |
| Salaries and Wages ... ..  | 393,484                       | 4·50                   | 350,291                       | 4·46                   |
| Sundry Expenses including Travelling,<br>Stationery, Postage, etc. ... ..        | 37,696                        | ·43                    | 29,143                        | ·37                    |
|  | 500,822                       | 5·72                   | 445,141                       | 5·66                   |
| <b>MANAGEMENT AND CENTRAL SER-<br/>VICES</b>                                     |                               |                        |                               |                        |
| Salaries and Wages ... ..  | 294,707                       | 3·37                   | 279,002                       | 3·55                   |
| Sundry Expenses including Travelling,<br>Stationery, Postage, etc. ... ..        | 50,107                        | ·57                    | 44,466                        | ·57                    |
|  | 344,814                       | 3·94                   | 323,468                       | 4·12                   |
| <b>CONTRIBUTIONS TO STAFF PENSION<br/>SCHEMES AND BENEVOLENT<br/>FUND ... ..</b> | 220,949                       | 2·53                   | 207,476                       | 2·64                   |
| <b>GOVERNORS' FEES ... ..</b>  | 3,917                         | ·05                    | 3,350                         | ·04                    |
|  | 8,750,945                     | 100·00                 | 7,860,883                     | 100·00                 |

## STATEMENT 2

STATEMENT OF REVENUE EXPENDITURE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 1952

## HOME SERVICES—TELEVISION

|   | Year ended<br>31st March, 1952 |                        | Year ended<br>31st March, 1951 |                        |
|---|--------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
|   | Amount                         | Percentage<br>of Total | Amount                         | Percentage<br>of Total |
|   | £                              |                        | £                              |                        |
| <b>PROGRAMMES</b>   |                                |                        |                                |                        |
| Artists, Speakers, Copyright, Recording<br>and Reproduction Fees, etc. ... ..     | 607,911                        | 26·10                  | 474,361                        | 27·60                  |
| Performing Rights ... ..  | 12,660                         | ·54                    | 6,034                          | ·35                    |
| Publicity and Intelligence ... ..   | 4,899                          | ·21                    | 2,376                          | ·14                    |
| Salaries and Wages ... ..   | 378,251                        | 16·24                  | 268,747                        | 15·64                  |
| Sundry Expenses including Travelling,<br>Stationery, Postage, Cables, etc. ...    | 21,034                         | ·90                    | 14,996                         | ·87                    |
|   | <b>1,024,755</b>               | <b>43·99</b>           | <b>766,514</b>                 | <b>44·60</b>           |
| <b>ENGINEERING</b>  |                                |                        |                                |                        |
| S.B. and Intercommunication Lines ...   | 91,534                         | 3·93                   | 60,755                         | 3·54                   |
| Power, Lighting and Heating ... ..  | 55,954                         | 2·40                   | 38,656                         | 2·25                   |
| Plant Maintenance ... ..  | 256,206                        | 11·00                  | 173,750                        | 10·11                  |
| Transport ... ..  | 58,638                         | 2·52                   | 40,069                         | 2·33                   |
| Salaries and Wages ... ..   | 387,467                        | 16·64                  | 265,221                        | 15·43                  |
| Sundry Expenses including Travelling,<br>Stationery, Postage, Cables, etc. ...    | 50,302                         | 2·16                   | 32,747                         | 1·90                   |
|   | <b>900,101</b>                 | <b>38·65</b>           | <b>611,198</b>                 | <b>35·56</b>           |
| <b>PREMISES</b>   |                                |                        |                                |                        |
| Rent, Rates and Taxes ... ..  | 77,621                         | 3·33                   | 65,923                         | 3·84                   |
| Telephones ... ..   | 8,407                          | ·36                    | 6,420                          | ·37                    |
| Insurance ... ..  | 15,011                         | ·65                    | 9,215                          | ·54                    |
| Household Maintenance ... ..  | 11,134                         | ·48                    | 8,836                          | ·51                    |
| Alterations to and Maintenance of Build-<br>ings, Services and Masts, etc. ... .. | 82,632                         | 3·55                   | 96,170                         | 5·60                   |
|   | <b>194,805</b>                 | <b>8·37</b>            | <b>186,564</b>                 | <b>10·86</b>           |
| <b>REGIONAL AND AREA ESTABLISH-<br/>MENTS</b>                                     |                                |                        |                                |                        |
| Billeting, Hostels and Catering ... ..  | 18,434                         | ·79                    | 13,919                         | ·81                    |
| Salaries and Wages ... ..   | 71,568                         | 3·07                   | 53,295                         | 3·10                   |
| Sundry Expenses including Travelling,<br>Stationery, Postage, etc. ... ..         | 6,689                          | ·29                    | 4,399                          | ·26                    |
|   | <b>96,691</b>                  | <b>4·15</b>            | <b>71,613</b>                  | <b>4·17</b>            |
| <b>MANAGEMENT AND CENTRAL<br/>SERVICES</b>  |                                |                        |                                |                        |
| Salaries and Wages ... ..   | 59,108                         | 2·54                   | 40,259                         | 2·34                   |
| Sundry Expenses including Travelling,<br>Stationery, Postage, etc. ... ..         | 6,608                          | ·28                    | 5,584                          | ·33                    |
|   | <b>65,716</b>                  | <b>2·82</b>            | <b>45,843</b>                  | <b>2·67</b>            |
| <b>CONTRIBUTIONS TO STAFF PENSION<br/>SCHEMES AND BENEVOLENT<br/>FUND ... ..</b>  |                                |                        |                                |                        |
|   | <b>47,091</b>                  | <b>2·02</b>            | <b>36,846</b>                  | <b>2·14</b>            |
|   | <b>2,329,159</b>               | <b>100·00</b>          | <b>1,718,578</b>               | <b>100·00</b>          |

## STATEMENT 3

STATEMENT OF REVENUE EXPENDITURE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 1952

## EXTERNAL SERVICES

|   | Year ended<br>31st March 1952 |                        | Year ended<br>31st March 1951 |                        |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
|   | Amount                        | Percentage<br>of Total | Amount                        | Percentage<br>of Total |
| <b>PROGRAMMES</b>   |                               |                        |                               |                        |
| Artists, Speakers, Copyright, Recording<br>and Reproduction Fees, etc. ... ..     | £ 601,557                     | 13·32                  | £ 716,550                     | 16·03                  |
| Permanent Orchestras ... ..   | 41,652                        | ·92                    | 42,681                        | ·95                    |
| Performing Rights ... ..  | 130,022                       | 2·88                   | 127,504                       | 2·85                   |
| Publicity and Intelligence ... ..   | 77,400                        | 1·71                   | 65,112                        | 1·46                   |
| Salaries and Wages ... ..   | 1,542,928                     | 34·16                  | 1,419,738                     | 31·76                  |
| Sundry Expenses including Travelling,<br>Stationery, Postage, Cables, etc. ...    | 130,184                       | 2·88                   | 130,120                       | 2·91                   |
|   | 2,523,743                     | 55·87                  | 2,501,705                     | 55·96                  |
| <b>ENGINEERING</b>  |                               |                        |                               |                        |
| S.B. and Intercommunication Lines ...   | 106,794                       | 2·36                   | 92,633                        | 2·07                   |
| Power, Lighting and Heating ... ..  | 286,751                       | 6·35                   | 288,928                       | 6·46                   |
| Plant Maintenance ... ..  | 144,183                       | 3·19                   | 180,764                       | 4·05                   |
| Transport ... ..  | 47,565                        | 1·05                   | 45,258                        | 1·01                   |
| Salaries and Wages ... ..   | 534,419                       | 11·83                  | 538,826                       | 12·05                  |
| Sundry Expenses including Travelling,<br>Stationery, Postage, Cables, etc. ...    | 37,820                        | ·84                    | 32,253                        | ·72                    |
|   | 1,157,532                     | 25·62                  | 1,178,662                     | 26·36                  |
| <b>PREMISES</b>   |                               |                        |                               |                        |
| Rent, Rates and Taxes ... ..  | 228,631                       | 5·06                   | 253,095                       | 5·66                   |
| Telephones ... ..   | 19,002                        | ·42                    | 17,756                        | ·40                    |
| Insurance ... ..  | 24,151                        | ·53                    | 17,833                        | ·40                    |
| Household Maintenance ... ..  | 27,346                        | ·61                    | 18,841                        | ·42                    |
| Alterations to and Maintenance of Build-<br>ings, Services and Masts, etc. ... .. | 95,714                        | 2·12                   | 86,956                        | 1·94                   |
|   | 394,844                       | 8·74                   | 394,481                       | 8·82                   |
| <b>REGIONAL AND AREA ESTABLISH-<br/>MENTS</b>                                     |                               |                        |                               |                        |
| Billeting, Hostels and Catering ... ..  | 28,632                        | ·63                    | 28,927                        | ·65                    |
| Salaries and Wages ... ..   | 151,231                       | 3·35                   | 134,389                       | 3·01                   |
| Sundry Expenses including Travelling,<br>Stationery, Postage, etc. ... ..         | 10,824                        | ·24                    | 8,682                         | ·19                    |
|   | 190,687                       | 4·22                   | 171,998                       | 3·85                   |
| <b>MANAGEMENT AND CENTRAL<br/>SERVICES</b>  |                               |                        |                               |                        |
| Salaries and Wages ... ..   | 112,347                       | 2·49                   | 100,258                       | 2·24                   |
| Sundry Expenses including Travelling,<br>Stationery, Postage, etc. ... ..         | 16,418                        | ·36                    | 13,251                        | ·30                    |
|   | 128,765                       | 2·85                   | 113,509                       | 2·54                   |
| <b>CONTRIBUTIONS TO STAFF PENSION<br/>SCHEMES AND BENEVOLENT<br/>FUND ... ..</b>  | 121,871                       | 2·70                   | 110,212                       | 2·47                   |
|   | 4,517,442                     | 100·00                 | 4,470,567                     | 100·00                 |



STATEMENT 4  
STATEMENT OF FIXED ASSETS

|  | At 31st March 1952 |            |                   | At 31st March 1951 |            |                   |
|--|--------------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|
|  | Home Services      |            | External Services | Home Services      |            | External Services |
|  | Sound              | Television |                   | Sound              | Television |                   |
|  | £                  | £          | £                 | £                  | £          | £                 |
| <b>FREEHOLD AND LEASEHOLD LAND AND BUILDINGS</b>           |                    |            |                   |                    |            |                   |
| At 31st March 1951—at Cost... ..                           | 3,218,104          | 740,784    | 1,344,812         | 3,362,889          | 442,425    | 1,175,403         |
| <i>Net Additions</i> during the year—at Cost               | 106,159            | 520,151    | 37,487            | -144,785           | 298,359    | 169,409           |
|  | 3,324,263          | 1,260,935  | 1,382,299         | 3,218,104          | 740,784    | 1,344,812         |
| <i>Deduct</i> Depreciation accrued to date ...             | 1,957,381          | 80,424     |                   | 1,823,381          | 35,424     |                   |
|  | 1,366,882          | 1,180,511  | 1,382,299         | 1,394,723          | 705,360    | 1,344,812         |
| <b>PLANT</b>   |                    |            |                   |                    |            |                   |
| At 31st March 1951—at Cost... ..                           | 2,760,616          | 1,246,026  | 2,630,339         | 2,567,379          | 831,370    | 2,538,182         |
| <i>Net Additions</i> during the year—at Cost               | 188,714            | 475,588    | 57,275            | 193,237            | 414,656    | 92,157            |
|  | 2,949,330          | 1,721,614  | 2,687,614         | 2,760,616          | 1,246,026  | 2,630,339         |
| <i>Deduct</i> Depreciation accrued to date ...             | 2,008,793          | 424,114    |                   | 1,890,793          | 313,114    |                   |
|  | 940,537            | 1,297,500  | 2,687,614         | 869,823            | 932,912    | 2,630,339         |
| <b>FURNITURE AND FITTINGS</b>                              |                    |            |                   |                    |            |                   |
| At 31st March 1951—at Cost... ..                           | 481,031            | 65,618     | 117,750           | 435,362            | 40,445     | 107,205           |
| <i>Net Additions</i> during the year—at Cost               | 54,973             | 16,153     | 33,496            | 45,669             | 25,173     | 10,545            |
|  | 536,004            | 81,771     | 151,246           | 481,031            | 65,618     | 117,750           |
| <i>Deduct</i> Depreciation accrued to date ...             | 351,956            | 23,258     |                   | 330,956            | 16,258     |                   |
|  | 184,048            | 58,513     | 151,246           | 150,075            | 49,360     | 117,750           |
| <b>MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, MUSIC AND BOOKS</b>                |                    |            |                   |                    |            |                   |
| At 31st March 1951—at Cost... ..                           | 174,406            | 4,233      |                   | 158,179            | 1,600      |                   |
| <i>Net Additions</i> during the year—at Cost               | 24,445             | - 149      |                   | 16,227             | 2,633      |                   |
|  | 198,851            | 4,084      |                   | 174,406            | 4,233      |                   |
| <i>Deduct</i> Depreciation accrued to date ...             | 127,376            | 1,607      |                   | 120,376            | 607        |                   |
|  | 71,475             | 2,477      |                   | 54,030             | 3,626      |                   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   |                    |            |                   |                    |            |                   |
| At 31st March 1951—at Cost... ..                           | 6,634,157          | 2,056,661  | 4,092,901         | 6,523,809          | 1,315,840  | 3,820,790         |
| <i>Net Additions</i> during the year—at Cost               | 374,291            | 1,011,743  | 128,258           | 110,348            | 740,821    | 272,111           |
|  | 7,008,448          | 3,068,404  | 4,221,159         | 6,634,157          | 2,056,661  | 4,092,901         |
| <i>Deduct</i> Depreciation accrued to date ...             | 4,445,506          | 529,403    |                   | 4,165,506          | 365,403    |                   |
|  | 2,562,942          | 2,539,001  | 4,221,159         | 2,468,651          | 1,691,258  | 4,092,901         |
| <b>PER BALANCE SHEET—AT COST, LESS DEPRECIATION ... ..</b> |                    |            |                   |                    |            |                   |
| <b>PER BALANCE SHEET—AT COST ...</b>                       |                    |            | 4,221,159         |                    |            | 4,092,901         |

DEPRECIATION FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1952

|  | Year ended<br>31st March, 1952 |            | Year ended<br>31st March, 1951 |            |
|--|--------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------|------------|
|  | Sound                          | Television | Sound                          | Television |
|  | £                              | £          | £                              | £          |
| Freehold and Leasehold Buildings ... ..                    | 134,000                        | 45,000     | 81,000                         | 25,000     |
| Plant ... ..   | 118,000                        | 111,000    | 108,000                        | 74,000     |
| Furniture and Fittings ... ..                              | 21,000                         | 7,000      | 20,000                         | 4,000      |
| Musical Instruments, etc.... ..                            | 7,000                          | 1,000      | 5,000                          |            |
|  | 280,000                        | 164,000    | 214,000                        | 103,000    |
| <b>Amount written off for assets taken out of service:</b> |                                |            |                                |            |
| At Cost... ..  | 40,312                         | 8,762      | 282,539                        | 9,025      |
| <i>Less: Receipts from Sales</i> ... ..                    | 17,817                         | 649        | 217,785                        | 1,780      |
|  | 22,495                         | 8,113      | 64,754                         | 7,245      |
| <b>PER NET REVENUE ACCOUNT ... ..</b>                      | 302,495                        | 172,113    | 278,754                        | 110,245    |

## STATEMENT 5

## HOME SERVICES

## ANALYSIS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR 1951-52

The Home Services are integrated and much of the expenditure cannot be specifically charged to any one of the programme services. The programme services as a whole are only made possible by the combined use of the licence income and publications revenue from all Regions including London. No Region could support the complete service of Home, Light and Third Programmes it received out of the income arising from the Region. It is considered, therefore, a reasonable basis of analysis of income and expenditure for each Region to meet the expenditure on its own programme service and to contribute to shared services in accordance with its licence income. The analysis given below is based on these assumptions.

Income from licences and publications is analysed among the Regions, including London, on the basis of net licence income and Radio Times circulation respectively. The cost of the Television Service for the year exceeded the net income from one half of the £2 Sound and Television licences by an amount equivalent to 18.96 per cent. of the net licence revenue attributed to Sound. This excess expenditure on Television has been shared among Regions in proportion to their net licence revenue, and the amounts reserved for Capital expenditure, depreciation, pension schemes contributions and income tax have been shared in proportion to total income leaving the net income available for revenue expenditure by each Region.

Since there is no Regional Service for London as such, it has been assumed that a service has to be provided for London for a period equivalent to the average time of the direct programme services in the other Regions, and the appropriate part of the shared Home Service cost has been charged to London as direct expenditure. The costs of transmitting the Light and Third Programmes to the London Region have also been treated as direct London expenditure. The balance of the shared services has been allocated among Regions, including London, in proportion to net licence revenue and the hours of shared service provided.

The analysis shows that three Regions provide an excess of income over expenditure to meet the deficiency on the other four Regions, as follows:—

|  |            |               |
|--|------------|---------------|
| London, Midland and North Regions ... ..               | Excess     | £000<br>1,201 |
| Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and West Regions ... | Deficiency | —1,201        |

|   | London | Midland | North | N. Ireland | Scotland | Wales | West | Total Sound | Television | Total  |
|---|--------|---------|-------|------------|----------|-------|------|-------------|------------|--------|
|   | £000   | £000    | £000  | £000       | £000     | £000  | £000 | £000        | £000       | £000   |
| Net Licence Income ...  | 3,391  | 1,672   | 3,248 | 182        | 992      | 529   | 991  | 11,005      | 1,262      | 12,267 |
| 18.96 per cent. of Sound<br>Income applied to<br>Television ... ..      | —643   | —317    | —616  | —34        | —188     | —100  | —188 | —2,086      | 2,086      |        |
|   | 2,748  | 1,355   | 2,632 | 148        | 804      | 429   | 803  | 8,919       | 3,348      | 12,267 |
| Net Revenue from Pub-<br>lications and Interest<br>received etc. ... .. | 443    | 178     | 365   | 19         | 87       | 54    | 99   | 1,245       |            | 1,245  |
| Total Income ... ..   | 3,191  | 1,533   | 2,997 | 167        | 891      | 483   | 902  | 10,164      | 3,348      | 13,512 |
| Less: Provision for<br>Capital and other<br>Reserves ... ..             | 444    | 213     | 417   | 23         | 124      | 67    | 125  | 1,413       | 1,019      | 2,432  |
| Available for Revenue<br>Expenditure ... ..                             | 2,747  | 1,320   | 2,580 | 144        | 767      | 416   | 777  | 8,751       | 2,329      | 11,080 |
| Revenue Expenditure:  |        |         |       |            |          |       |      |             |            |        |
| Television ... ..   |        |         |       |            |          |       |      |             | 2,329      | 2,329  |
| Home Service—   |        |         |       |            |          |       |      |             |            |        |
| Direct Costs ... ..   | 381    | 456     | 640   | 310        | 597      | 481   | 506  | 3,371       |            | 3,371  |
| Shared Costs ... ..   | 644    | 322     | 625   | 37         | 175      | 98    | 190  | 2,091       |            | 2,091  |
| Light Programme—  |        |         |       |            |          |       |      |             |            |        |
| Direct Costs ... ..   | 72     | 14      | 78    | 43         | 103      | 4     | 26   | 340         |            | 340    |
| Shared Costs ... ..   | 638    | 314     | 611   | 34         | 187      | 100   | 186  | 2,070       |            | 2,070  |
| Third Programme—  |        |         |       |            |          |       |      |             |            |        |
| Direct Costs ... ..   | 21     | 8       | 27    | 3          | 12       | 1     | 19   | 91          |            | 91     |
| Shared Costs ... ..   | 243    | 120     | 232   | 13         | 71       | 38    | 71   | 788         |            | 788    |
| Total Revenue Expendi-<br>ture ... ..                                   | 1,999  | 1,234   | 2,213 | 440        | 1,145    | 722   | 998  | 8,751       | 2,329      | 11,080 |
| Excess or deficiency of<br>Income available over<br>Revenue Expenditure | 748    | 86      | 367   | —296       | —378     | —306  | —221 |             |            |        |

STATEMENT 6  
SUMMARISED BALANCE SHEETS  
FROM 1st JANUARY 1947  
TO 31st MARCH 1952

|  | 1st Jan.,<br>1947 | 31st Mar.,<br>1947 | 31st Mar.,<br>1948 | 31st Mar.,<br>1949 | 31st Mar.,<br>1950 | 31st Mar.,<br>1951 | 31st Mar.,<br>1952 |
|--|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|  | £                 | £                  | £                  | £                  | £                  | £                  | £                  |
| <b>HOME SERVICES</b>   |                   |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>  |                   |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| Revenue ... ..   | 1,496,204         | 2,627,421          | 2,120,501          | 2,505,660          | 2,723,712          | 3,404,270          | 4,480,887          |
| Capital ... ..   |                   |                    | 2,348,172          | 2,702,336          | 2,874,260          | 3,840,091          | 2,898,057          |
|  | 1,496,204         | 2,627,421          | 4,468,673          | 5,207,996          | 5,597,972          | 7,244,361          | 7,378,944          |
| <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES AND SPECIFIC RESERVES</b>                         |                   |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| NET LIQUID SURPLUS ...   | 315,780           | 1,453,032          | 2,390,833          | 3,061,799          | 3,333,235          | 4,487,151          | 4,610,294          |
| <b>FIXED ASSETS AT COST</b>  |                   |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| Sound ... ..   | 5,612,742         | 5,639,382          | 5,896,161          | 6,189,534          | 6,523,809          | 6,634,157          | 7,008,448          |
| Television ... ..  | 218,409           | 229,488            | 283,576            | 512,039            | 1,315,840          | 2,056,661          | 3,068,404          |
|  | 5,831,151         | 5,868,870          | 6,179,737          | 6,701,573          | 7,839,649          | 8,690,818          | 10,076,852         |
| <b>NET TOTAL ASSETS</b> ...  | <b>6,146,931</b>  | <b>7,321,902</b>   | <b>8,570,570</b>   | <b>9,763,372</b>   | <b>11,172,884</b>  | <b>13,177,969</b>  | <b>14,687,146</b>  |
| Represented by:—   |                   |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| Capital Account ... ..   | 2,849,022         | 3,936,369          | 4,850,000          | 5,500,000          | 6,500,000          | 8,000,000          | 8,000,000          |
| Provision for Depreciation:  |                   |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| Sound ... ..   | 3,114,806         | 3,191,206          | 3,478,506          | 3,683,506          | 3,951,506          | 4,165,506          | 4,445,506          |
| Television ... ..  | 183,103           | 186,703            | 199,403            | 220,403            | 262,403            | 365,403            | 529,403            |
| Unappropriated Net Revenue carried forward ... ..                        |                   | 7,624              | 42,661             | 359,463            | 458,975            | 647,060            | 1,712,237          |
| <b>TOTAL RESERVES</b> ... ..   | <b>6,146,931</b>  | <b>7,321,902</b>   | <b>8,570,570</b>   | <b>9,763,372</b>   | <b>11,172,884</b>  | <b>13,177,969</b>  | <b>14,687,146</b>  |
| <b>EXTERNAL SERVICES</b>   |                   |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b> ... ..   |                   |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
|  | 141,501           | 500,638            | 551,498            | 519,232            | 579,572            | 361,087            | 143,573            |
| <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b> ... ..  |                   |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
|  | 141,501           | 391,501            | 350,000            | 387,000            | 511,565            | 371,019            | 123,668            |
| <b>NET LIQUID SURPLUS OR DEFICIENCY (-)</b> ... ..                       |                   |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
|  |                   | 109,137            | 201,498            | 132,232            | 68,007             | - 9,932            | 19,905             |
| <b>FIXED ASSETS AT COST</b> ... ..                                       |                   |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
|  | 3,412,926         | 3,414,334          | 3,412,689          | 3,686,220          | 3,820,790          | 4,092,901          | 4,221,159          |
| <b>NET TOTAL ASSETS</b> ...  | <b>3,412,926</b>  | <b>3,523,471</b>   | <b>3,614,187</b>   | <b>3,818,452</b>   | <b>3,888,797</b>   | <b>4,082,969</b>   | <b>4,241,064</b>   |
| Represented by:—   |                   |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| Capital Account... ..  | 3,412,926         | 3,414,334          | 3,412,689          | 3,686,220          | 3,820,790          | 4,092,901          | 4,221,159          |
| Excess or Deficiency (-) of Grant-in-Aid Receipts carried forward ... .. |                   |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
|  |                   | 109,137            | 201,498            | 132,232            | 68,007             | - 9,932            | 19,905             |
|  | 3,412,926         | 3,523,471          | 3,614,187          | 3,818,452          | 3,888,797          | 4,082,969          | 4,241,064          |

- NOTES: 1. The increase in the Home Services Capital Account for the year ended 31st March, 1949 differs from the amount appropriated in the Net Revenue Account by a credit resulting from the settlement of War Damage Claim Part 2 less an adjustment in respect of Fixed Assets apportioned to the External Services.
2. The increases in the Home Services Depreciation Reserve at the end of the periods shown above differ from the amounts charged to the Net Revenue Accounts by the value of assets taken out of service less receipts from sales.
3. The increases in the External Services Capital Account at the end of the periods shown above differ from the amounts appropriated in the Grant-in-Aid Accounts by the value of assets taken out of service during each period and by the adjustment in respect of Fixed Assets apportioned to External Services referred to in 1.
4. The apportionments of the Current Assets and Liabilities of the Corporation at 31st March 1947, 31st March 1948 and 31st March 1949, as between the Home and External Services are approximations only.

## STATEMENT 6—continued

SUMMARY OF NET REVENUE AND  
GRANT-IN-AID ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD  
1st JANUARY 1947 TO 31st MARCH 1952

|   | Quarter<br>ended<br>31st March<br>1947 | Year ended         |                    |                    |                    |                    |
|---|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|   |  | 31st March<br>1948 | 31st March<br>1949 | 31st March<br>1950 | 31st March<br>1951 | 31st March<br>1952 |
| <b>HOME SERVICES (NET REVENUE)</b>  | £                                      | £                  | £                  | £                  | £                  | £                  |
| <b>INCOME</b>   |  |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| Licence Income:   |  |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| Net Licence Income from Sound-<br>only Licences ... ..  | 2,893,896                              | 8,854,551          | 9,242,216          | 9,393,423          | 10,680,906         | 9,742,610          |
| Net Licence Income from Combined<br>Sound and Television Licences ...                               | 11,334                                 | 72,812             | 202,256            | 545,494            | 1,413,292          | 2,524,776          |
|   | 2,905,230                              | 8,927,363          | 9,444,472          | 9,938,917          | 12,094,198         | 12,267,386         |
| Publications Revenue, etc. ... ..   | 204,642                                | 1,059,057          | 1,032,275          | 1,102,852          | 1,038,727          | 1,245,481          |
|   | 3,109,872                              | 9,986,420          | 10,476,747         | 11,041,769         | 13,132,925         | 13,512,867         |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>  |  |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| Revenue:  |  |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| Sound ... ..  | 1,515,745                              | 6,556,293          | 7,073,883          | 7,498,788          | 7,860,883          | 8,750,945          |
| Television ... ..   | 137,515                                | 716,666            | 906,685            | 1,172,714          | 1,718,578          | 2,329,159          |
| Depreciation:   |  |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| Sound ... ..  | 78,041                                 | 300,131            | 218,013            | 290,676            | 278,754            | 302,495            |
| Television ... ..   | 3,600                                  | 14,662             | 22,705             | 47,601             | 110,245            | 172,113            |
| Appropriations:   |  |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| Revenue ... ..  | — 20,000                               | 250,000            | 255,890            | 109,978            | 195,178            |                    |
| Capital ... ..  | 1,087,347                              | 913,631            | 620,141            | 1,000,000          | 1,500,000          |                    |
|   | 2,802,248                              | 8,751,383          | 9,097,317          | 10,119,757         | 11,663,638         | 11,554,712         |
| Income Tax ... ..   | 300,000                                | 1,200,000          | 1,062,628          | 822,500            | 1,281,202          | 892,978            |
|   | 3,102,248                              | 9,951,383          | 10,159,945         | 10,942,257         | 12,944,840         | 12,447,690         |
| <b>UNAPPROPRIATED NET REVENUE FOR<br/>YEAR ... ..</b>   | 7,624                                  | 35,037             | 316,802            | 99,512             | 188,085            | 1,065,177          |
| <b>UNAPPROPRIATED NET REVENUE BROUGHT<br/>FORWARD ... ..</b>  |  | 7,624              | 42,661             | 359,463            | 458,975            | 647,060            |
| <b>UNAPPROPRIATED NET REVENUE CARRIED<br/>FORWARD ... ..</b>  | 7,624                                  | 42,661             | 359,463            | 458,975            | 647,060            | 1,712,237          |
| <b>EXTERNAL SERVICES (GRANT-IN-AID)</b>   |  |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| <b>INCOME</b>   |  |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| Grant-in-Aid Receipts ... ..  | 1,020,000                              | 4,025,000          | 4,050,000          | 4,365,000          | 4,634,500          | 4,741,000          |
| Other Receipts ... ..   | 407                                    | 12,895             | 12,726             | 8,242              | 5,876              | 9,254              |
|   | 1,020,407                              | 4,037,895          | 4,062,726          | 4,373,242          | 4,640,376          | 4,749,254          |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>  |  |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| Revenue ... ..  | 909,399                                | 3,878,049          | 3,865,248          | 4,220,553          | 4,470,567          | 4,517,442          |
| Appropriations:   |  |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| Revenue ... ..  |  | 50,000             |                    | 50,000             | 50,000             | 50,000             |
| Capital ... ..  | 1,871                                  | 17,485             | 266,744            | 161,914            | 283,748            | 141,975            |
|   | 911,270                                | 3,945,534          | 4,131,992          | 4,432,467          | 4,804,315          | 4,709,417          |
| Income Tax ... ..   |  |                    |                    | 5,000              | — 86,000           | 10,000             |
|   | 911,270                                | 3,945,534          | 4,131,992          | 4,437,467          | 4,718,315          | 4,719,417          |
| <b>EXCESS OR DEFICIENCY (—) OF GRANT-<br/>IN-AID RECEIPTS FOR YEAR ... ..</b>                       | 109,137                                | 92,361             | — 69,266           | — 64,225           | — 77,939           | 29,837             |
| <b>UNEXPENDED BALANCE OF GRANT-IN-AID<br/>RECEIPTS BROUGHT FORWARD ... ..</b>                       |  | 109,137            | 201,498            | 132,232            | 68,007             | — 9,932            |
| <b>UNEXPENDED BALANCE OR DEFICIENCY<br/>(—) OF GRANT-IN-AID RECEIPTS<br/>CARRIED FORWARD ... ..</b> | 109,137                                | 201,498            | 132,232            | 68,007             | — 9,932            | 19,905             |

## Licences Issued for the Calendar Years 1927 to 1951

|      |     |     |     | <i>Licences at 31st December</i> |  |                                    |   |
|------|-----|-----|-----|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---|
|      |     |     |     | <i>Total</i>                     | <i>Issued free<br/>for<br/>Blind Persons</i> | <i>Issued for Payment</i>          |   |
|      |     |     |     |                                  |  | <i>Licences for<br/>Sound only</i> | <i>Licences for<br/>Sound and<br/>Television<br/>Combined</i> |
| 1927 | ... | ... | ... | 2,395,183                        | 11,448                                       | 2,383,735                          | —   |
| 1928 | ... | ... | ... | 2,628,392                        | 14,068                                       | 2,614,324                          | —   |
| 1929 | ... | ... | ... | 2,956,736                        | 15,964                                       | 2,940,772                          | —   |
| 1930 | ... | ... | ... | 3,411,910                        | 19,460                                       | 3,392,450                          | —   |
| 1931 | ... | ... | ... | 4,330,735                        | 28,981                                       | 4,301,754                          | —   |
| 1932 | ... | ... | ... | 5,263,017                        | 34,854                                       | 5,228,163                          | —   |
| 1933 | ... | ... | ... | 5,973,758                        | 38,246                                       | 5,935,512                          | —   |
| 1934 | ... | ... | ... | 6,780,569                        | 41,187                                       | 6,739,382                          | —   |
| 1935 | ... | ... | ... | 7,403,109                        | 43,782                                       | 7,359,327                          | —   |
| 1936 | ... | ... | ... | 7,960,573                        | 46,067                                       | 7,914,506                          | —   |
| 1937 | ... | ... | ... | 8,479,600                        | 48,600                                       | 8,431,000                          | —   |
| 1938 | ... | ... | ... | 8,908,900                        | 51,900                                       | 8,857,000                          | —   |
| 1939 | ... | ... | ... | 8,947,570                        | 53,988                                       | 8,893,582                          | —   |
| 1940 | ... | ... | ... | 8,904,177                        | 51,814                                       | 8,852,363                          | —   |
| 1941 | ... | ... | ... | 8,625,579                        | 48,225                                       | 8,577,354                          | —   |
| 1942 | ... | ... | ... | 9,139,426                        | 48,007                                       | 9,091,419                          | —   |
| 1943 | ... | ... | ... | 9,435,617                        | 47,790                                       | 9,387,827                          | —   |
| 1944 | ... | ... | ... | 9,649,475                        | 47,338                                       | 9,602,137                          | —   |
| 1945 | ... | ... | ... | 9,987,276                        | 47,066                                       | 9,940,210                          | —   |
| 1946 | ... | ... | ... | 10,769,957                       | 49,520                                       | 10,712,970                         | 7,467   |
| 1947 | ... | ... | ... | 11,054,286                       | 51,207                                       | 10,970,085                         | 32,994  |
| 1948 | ... | ... | ... | 11,460,242                       | 53,008                                       | 11,314,450                         | 92,784  |
| 1949 | ... | ... | ... | 12,170,279                       | 55,566                                       | 11,875,368                         | 239,345   |
| 1950 | ... | ... | ... | 12,347,317                       | 57,943                                       | 11,711,520                         | 577,854   |
| 1951 | ... | ... | ... | 12,602,826                       | 59,489                                       | 11,380,978                         | 1,162,359   |

APPENDIX II

**Distribution of Wireless Licences at 31st December, 1951**

| Counties   | Estimated Population (millions) | Estimated Number of families (millions) | Licences at 31.12.51 |                         |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------|---|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
|  |                                 |   | Total                |                         | Television Licences included in total |
|  |                                 |   | Number               | Number per 100 families |                                       |
| <b>LONDON REGION</b>   |                                 |   |                      |                         |                                       |
| Bedford ... ..   |                                 |   | 79,720               |                         | 12,875                                |
| Berkshire and South Oxford   |                                 |   | 167,776              |                         | 19,403                                |
| Buckingham ... ..  |                                 |   | 94,793               |                         | 15,704                                |
| Cambridge and Huntingdon...  |                                 |   | 88,223               |                         | 8,334                                 |
| Hampshire (North East) ...   |                                 |   | 35,055               |                         | 3,932                                 |
| London and Home Counties (Essex, Hertford, Kent, Middlesex and Surrey) ... |                                 |   | 3,010,751            |                         | 571,585                               |
| Norfolk (except North East)  |                                 |   | 41,067               |                         | 535                                   |
| Suffolk (except Lowestoft) ...   |                                 |   | 96,946               |                         | 3,079                                 |
| Sussex ... ..  |                                 |   | 250,841              |                         | 14,747                                |
|  | 14·77                           | 4·22                                    | 3,865,172            | 91·59                   | 650,194                               |
| <b>WEST REGION</b>   |                                 |   |                      |                         |                                       |
| Channel Islands ... ..   |                                 |   | 25,949               |                         | 18                                    |
| Cornwall and Devon ... ..  |                                 |   | 315,349              |                         | 209                                   |
| Dorset and Wiltshire ... ..  |                                 |   | 151,806              |                         | 2,837                                 |
| Hampshire (except North East)  |                                 |   | 323,904              |                         | 2,591                                 |
| Somerset and South Gloucester  |                                 |   | 324,551              |                         | 6,248                                 |
|  | 4·30                            | 1·23                                    | 1,141,559            | 92·81                   | 11,903                                |
| <b>MIDLAND REGION</b>  |                                 |   |                      |                         |                                       |
| Hereford ... ..  |                                 |   | 29,455               |                         | 2,325                                 |
| Leicester and Rutland ... ..   |                                 |   | 165,267              |                         | 29,399                                |
| Northampton ... ..   |                                 |   | 122,770              |                         | 14,389                                |
| North Gloucester and North Oxford ... ..                                   |                                 |   | 81,179               |                         | 8,671                                 |
| North East Norfolk (and Lowestoft) ... ..                                  |                                 |   | 115,894              |                         | 447                                   |
| Shropshire ... ..  |                                 |   | 72,582               |                         | 6,856                                 |
| South Derby and South Nottingham ... ..                                    |                                 |   | 317,275              |                         | 47,537                                |
| Stafford and Warwick ... ..  |                                 |   | 873,327              |                         | 166,520                               |
| Worcester ... ..   |                                 |   | 146,106              |                         | 21,483                                |
|  | 7·27                            | 2·08                                    | 1,923,855            | 92·49                   | 297,627                               |
| <b>NORTH REGION</b>  |                                 |   |                      |                         |                                       |
| Cheshire, Lancashire and Isle of Man ... ..                                |                                 |   | 1,619,246            |                         | 108,855                               |
| Cumberland and Westmorland   |                                 |   | 82,105               |                         | 525                                   |
| Lincoln and North Nottingham   |                                 |   | 204,101              |                         | 13,956                                |
| Northumberland and Durham  |                                 |   | 495,837              |                         | 3,170                                 |
| Yorkshire and North Derby...   |                                 |   | 1,335,827            |                         | 68,543                                |
|  | 14·96                           | 4·27                                    | 3,737,116            | 87·52                   | 195,049                               |
| <b>ENGLAND—TOTAL</b> ...   | <b>41·30</b>                    | <b>11·80</b>                            | <b>10,667,702</b>    | <b>90·40</b>            | <b>1,154,775</b>                      |

| Counties  | Estimated Population (millions) | Estimated Number of families (millions) | Licences at 31.12.51 |                         |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------|---|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
|   |                                 |   | Total                |                         | Television Licences included in total |
|   |                                 |   | Number               | Number per 100 families |                                       |
| <b>SCOTLAND</b>   |                                 |   |                      |                         |                                       |
| Aberdeen and Kincardine ...   |                                 |   | 75,530               |                         | —                                     |
| Angus and Perth ... ..  |                                 |   | 97,402               |                         | 12                                    |
| Argyll and Bute ... ..  |                                 |   | 16,431               |                         | 2                                     |
| Ayr, Dumbarton, Lanark and Renfrew ... ..   |                                 |   | 519,794              |                         | 54                                    |
| Banff, Inverness, Moray and Nairn ... ..  |                                 |   | 40,352               |                         | —                                     |
| East Central Scotland (Clackmannan, East Lothian, Fife, Kinross, Midlothian, West Lothian and Stirling) ... |                                 |   | 284,103              |                         | 36                                    |
| North Scotland (Caithness, Orkney, Ross and Cromarty, Shetland and Sutherland) ...                          |                                 |   | 24,000               |                         | 1                                     |
| Border Counties (Berwick, Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, Peebles, Roxburgh, Selkirk and Wigtown) ... ..           |                                 |   | 61,655               |                         | 104                                   |
|   | 5.10                            | 1.46                                    | 1,119,267            | 76.66                   | 209                                   |
| <b>WALES</b>  |                                 |   |                      |                         |                                       |
| Mid-Wales (Cardigan, Merioneth, Montgomery and Radnor) ... ..   |                                 |   | 33,406               |                         | 393                                   |
| North Wales (Anglesey, Caernarvon, Denbigh and Flint)   |                                 |   | 105,161              |                         | 4,914                                 |
| South Wales (Brecon, Carmarthen, Glamorgan and Pembroke) and Monmouth ...                                   |                                 |   | 468,689              |                         | 2,041                                 |
|   | 2.60                            | 0.74                                    | 607,256              | 82.06                   | 7,348                                 |
| <b>NORTHERN IRELAND</b>   |                                 |   |                      |                         |                                       |
| Antrim and Down ... ..  |                                 |   | 149,480              |                         | 29                                    |
| Armagh ... ..   |                                 |   | 17,579               |                         | —                                     |
| Fermanagh and Tyrone ...  |                                 |   | 22,987               |                         | —                                     |
| Londonderry ... ..  |                                 |   | 18,555               |                         | —                                     |
|   | 1.37                            | 0.39                                    | 208,601              | 53.49                   | 29                                    |
| <b>GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND</b>   |                                 |   |                      |                         |                                       |
|   | 50.37                           | 14.39                                   | 12,602,826           | 87.58                   | 1,162,359                             |

APPENDIX III

Analysis of Programme Output in the three Home Sound Services, 1948-52

|                           | Combined Output—London Home Services |     |         |     |         |     |         |     | Analysis of 1951/52 by Services |      |                 |      |                 |      |        |     |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------------------------------|------|-----------------|------|-----------------|------|--------|-----|
|                           | 1948/49                              |     | 1949/50 |     | 1950/51 |     | 1951/52 |     | London Home Service             |      | Light Programme |      | Third Programme |      | Total  |     |
| Serious Music ...         | 2,743                                | 20  | 2,517   | 18  | 2,669   | 20  | 2,767   | 20  | 1,121                           | 18·8 | 522             | 9·4  | 1,124           | 52·0 | 2,767  | 20  |
| Light Music ...           | 2,979                                | 22  | 2,939   | 21  | 2,937   | 21  | 2,732   | 20  | 1,048                           | 17·6 | 1,676           | 30·2 | 8               | ·4   | 2,732  | 20  |
| Features and Drama        | 1,653                                | 12  | 1,686   | 12  | 1,638   | 12  | 1,690   | 12  | 557                             | 9·3  | 580             | 10·4 | 553             | 25·6 | 1,690  | 12  |
| Variety ...               | 1,173                                | 9   | 1,228   | 9   | 1,240   | 9   | 1,180   | 9   | 579                             | 9·7  | 600             | 10·8 | 1               | —    | 1,180  | 9   |
| Dance Music ...           | 1,128                                | 8   | 1,242   | 9   | 1,021   | 7   | 978     | 7   | 253                             | 4·2  | 725             | 13·1 | —               | —    | 978    | 7   |
| Talks and Discussions ... | 1,218                                | 9   | 1,209   | 9   | 1,324   | 10  | 1,344   | 10  | 504                             | 8·4  | 442             | 8·0  | 398             | 18·4 | 1,344  | 10  |
| News ...                  | 1,049                                | 8   | 1,044   | 8   | 998     | 7   | 1,029   | 8   | 583                             | 9·8  | 437             | 7·9  | 9               | ·4   | 1,029  | 8   |
| Schools ...               | 360                                  | 3   | 417     | 3   | 405     | 3   | 461     | 3   | 446                             | 7·5  | 15              | ·3   | —               | —    | 461    | 3   |
| Children's Hour ...       | 326                                  | 2   | 381     | 3   | 446     | 3   | 441     | 3   | 330                             | 5·5  | 111             | 2·0  | —               | —    | 441    | 3   |
| Religion ...              | 338                                  | 2   | 363     | 3   | 380     | 3   | 410     | 3   | 272                             | 4·6  | 120             | 2·1  | 18              | ·9   | 410    | 3   |
| Outside broadcasts        | 468                                  | 3   | 390     | 3   | 379     | 3   | 404     | 3   | 123                             | 2·1  | 280             | 5·0  | 1               | —    | 404    | 3   |
| Miscellaneous ...         | 255                                  | 2   | 264     | 2   | 250     | 2   | 241     | 2   | 148                             | 2·5  | 43              | ·8   | 50              | 2·3  | 241    | 2   |
|                           | 13,690                               | 100 | 13,680  | 100 | 13,687  | 100 | 13,677  | 100 | 5,964                           | 100  | 5,551           | 100  | 2,162           | 100  | 13,677 | 100 |
| Presented by:             |                                      |     |         |     |         |     |         |     |                                 |      |                 |      |                 |      |        |     |
| London ...                | ...                                  | ... | ...     | ... | ...     | ... | ...     | ... | 5,049                           | 85   | 4,811           | 87   | 2,046           | 95   | 11,906 | 87  |
| Regions ...               | ...                                  | ... | ...     | ... | ...     | ... | ...     | ... | 915                             | 15   | 740             | 13   | 116             | 5    | 1,771  | 13  |
|                           |                                      |     |         |     |         |     |         |     | 5,964                           | 100  | 5,551           | 100  | 2,162           | 100  | 13,677 | 100 |



### Analysis of Regional Home Services Output, 1951-52

|                        | <i>Midland</i> | <i>North</i> | <i>West</i> | <i>Scotland</i> | <i>Wales</i> | <i>Northern<br/>Ireland</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|------------------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Serious Music ... ..   | 203            | 180          | 161         | 231             | 220          | 74                          | 1,155        |
| Light Music ... ..     | 152            | 100          | 193         | 189             | 50           | 85                          | 683          |
| Features and Drama ... | 95             | 64           | 107         | 121             | 145          | 69                          | 601          |
| Variety ... ..         | 35             | 127          | 26          | 78              | 36           | 31                          | 333          |
| Dance Music ... ..     | 15             | 7            | 13          | 11              | 8            | 8                           | 62           |
| Talks and Discussions  | 108            | 127          | 196         | 176             | 93           | 71                          | 771          |
| News ... ..            | 120            | 151          | 96          | 146             | 207          | 106                         | 826          |
| Schools ... ..         | —              | —            | —           | 98              | 79           | —                           | 177          |
| Children's Hour ...    | 88             | 165          | 53          | 154             | 138          | 75                          | 673          |
| Religion ... ..        | 65             | 69           | 67          | 127             | 124          | 29                          | 481          |
| Outside Broadcasts ... | 86             | 46           | 37          | 81              | 75           | 50                          | 375          |
| Miscellaneous ... ..   | 74             | 59           | 80          | 76              | 46           | 24                          | 359          |
|                        | 1,041          | 1,095        | 1,029       | 1,488           | 1,221        | 622                         | 6,496        |

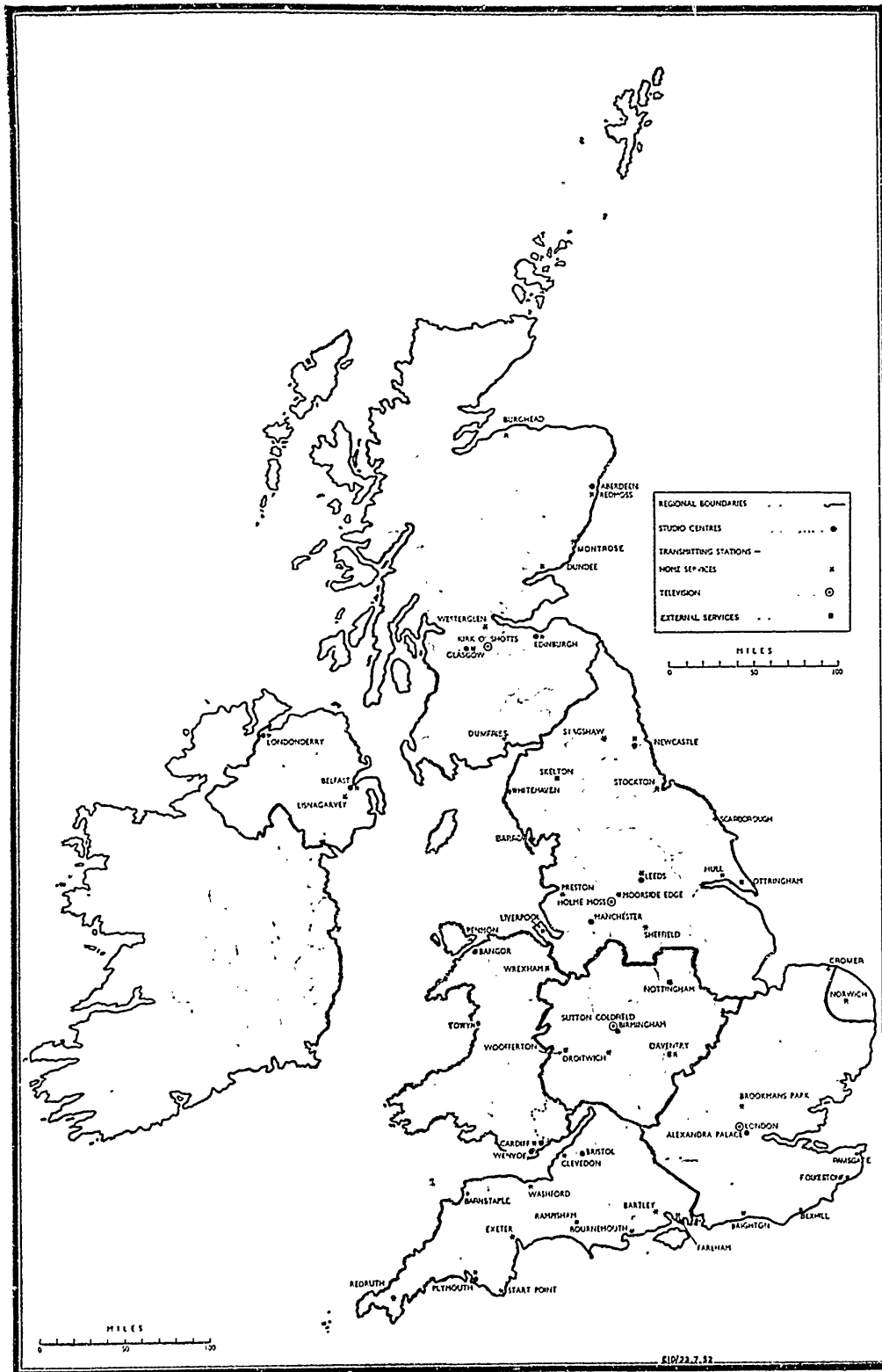
## APPENDIX V

### S.O.S. and Police Messages Broadcast from 1st January, to 31st December, 1951

|   | <i>Successful</i> | <i>Unsuccessful</i> | <i>Not Known</i> |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| S.O.S. messages broadcast from London                     | 156               | 102                 | 34               |
| S.O.S. messages broadcast from Regions                    | 53                | 49                  | 45               |
|   | 209               | 151                 | 79               |
| <i>Total number broadcast ... 439</i>                     |                   |                     |                  |
| Police messages for witnesses of accidents,<br>etc.:      |                   |                     |                  |
| London ... ..   | 121               | 118                 |                  |
| Regions... ..   | 46                | 62                  |                  |
|   | 167               | 180                 |                  |
| <i>Total number broadcast ... 347</i>                     |                   |                     |                  |
| Police messages for lost drugs and<br>"Special messages": |                   |                     |                  |
| London ... ..   | 4                 | 13                  |                  |
| Regions ... ..  | 11                | 31                  |                  |
|   | 15                | 44                  |                  |
| <i>Total number broadcast ... 59</i>                      |                   |                     |                  |

APPENDIX VI

Map showing BBC Regional boundaries, studio centres and transmitting stations



## Summary of Transmissions in the External Services

## EUROPEAN

| Service                                    | Programme Hours per week<br>(as at 31st March) |      |      |      |      |
|--|--|------|------|------|------|
|  | 1952   | 1951 | 1950 | 1949 | 1948 |
| ENGLISH ... ..                             | 39   | 60   | 58½  | 60   | 47½  |
| WEST EUROPEAN                              |  |      |      |      |      |
| French ... ..                              | 22½  | 31½  | 33½  | 35   | 38½  |
| Belgian ... ..                             | —  | 3½   | 3½   | 3½   | 3½   |
| Dutch ... ..                               | 4½   | 7    | 7    | 7    | 7    |
| Luxemburgish... ..                         | —  | ½    | ½    | ½    | ½    |
| CENTRAL EUROPEAN                           |  |      |      |      |      |
| Czech (Czech and Slovak) ... ..            | 9½   | 9½   | 12½  | 12½  | 8½   |
| Hungarian ... ..                           | 10½  | 8½   | 7    | 10½  | 8½   |
| Polish ... ..                              | 14   | 14   | 14   | 14   | 14   |
| SOUTH EUROPEAN                             |  |      |      |      |      |
| Italian ... ..                             | 13½  | 13½  | 15½  | 15½  | 12½  |
| Portuguese ... ..                          | 3½   | 5½   | 5½   | 5½   | 5½   |
| Spanish ... ..                             | 13½  | 10½  | 10½  | 10½  | 7    |
| GERMAN                                     |  |      |      |      |      |
| German for Austria ... ..                  | 3½   | 5½   | 7    | 8½   | 10½  |
| German ... ..                              | 30½  | 36½  | 33½  | 33½  | 33½  |
| EAST EUROPEAN                              |  |      |      |      |      |
| Albanian ... ..                            | 3½   | 3½   | 3½   | 1½   | 1½   |
| Bulgarian ... ..                           | 7½   | 9½   | 9½   | 7    | 8½   |
| Greek ... ..                               | 8  | 8    | 7    | 7    | 8½   |
| Rumanian ... ..                            | 8½   | 7½   | 7½   | 7    | 8½   |
| Russian ... ..                             | 10½  | 10½  | 10½  | 8½   | 8½   |
| Turkish ... ..                             | 7  | 7    | —    | —    | —    |
| Yugoslav (Serbo-Croat and Slovene) ... ..  | 11½  | 14½  | 14½  | 10½  | 10½  |
| SCANDINAVIAN                               |  |      |      |      |      |
| Danish ... ..                              | 3½   | 5½   | 5½   | 5½   | 5½   |
| Finnish ... ..                             | 7½   | 7½   | 4½   | 4½   | 4½   |
| Norwegian ... ..                           | 4½   | 6½   | 5½   | 5½   | 5½   |
| Swedish ... ..                             | 3½   | 3½   | 3½   | 3½   | 3½   |
| TOTAL HOURS WEEKLY IN EUROPEAN SERVICE ... | 240  | 288½ | 278½ | 276½ | 262½ |

## APPENDIX VII (continued)

## NON-EUROPEAN

| Service  | Programme Hours per week<br>(as at 31st March) |      |      |      |      |
|--|--|------|------|------|------|
|  | 1952.  | 1951 | 1950 | 1949 | 1948 |
| GENERAL OVERSEAS SERVICE ...   | 147  | 168  | 168  | 168  | 168  |
| PACIFIC  |  |      |      |      |      |
| Australia, New Zealand and<br>South Pacific ... ..                             | 7  | 12½  | 12½  | 12½  | 12½  |
| SOUTH AFRICAN  |  |      |      |      |      |
| English for South Africa and<br>Southern Rhodesia... ..                        | ¾  | 2½   | 2½   | ¾    | ¾    |
| Afrikaans ... ..   | 1¾   | 4½   | 4½   | 4½   | 4½   |
| NORTH AMERICAN (including<br>French for Canada) ... ..                         | 38½  | 33   | 52½  | 52½  | 52½  |
| COLONIAL   |  |      |      |      |      |
| English for West Africa and<br>West Indies ... ..                              | 8¾   | 8¾   | 8¾   | 8¾   | 8¾   |
| English for East Africa ... ..   | ½  | ½    | ¼    | —    | —    |
| English for Falkland Islands<br>Maltese and English for Malta<br>Cypriot... .. | 1  | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    |
| LONDON CALLING ASIA ... ..   | 5½   | —    | —    | —    | —    |
| EASTERN  |  |      |      |      |      |
| English for India ... ..   | —  | 2½   | 2½   | 3½   | 7    |
| Hindi ... ..   | 4¼   | 4¼   | 4¼   | 5    | 5    |
| Tamil ... ..   | ½  | ½    | ½    | ½    | ½    |
| Marathi ... ..   | ½  | ½    | ½    | ½    | ½    |
| Bengali ... ..   | 1  | 1    | 1    | ½    | ½    |
| Sinhalese ... ..   | ½  | ½    | ½    | ½    | ½    |
| Urdu ... ..  | 4¾   | 4¾   | 4¾   | —    | —    |
| Arabic ... ..  | 31½  | 29¾  | 19¾  | 19¾  | 19¾  |
| Hebrew ... ..  | 3½   | 3½   | 3½   | —    | —    |
| Persian ... ..   | 7  | 5¼   | 5¼   | 5¼   | 5¼   |
| Turkish ... ..   | —  | —    | 7    | 7    | 7    |
| FAR EASTERN  |  |      |      |      |      |
| English for Far East ... ..  | 3½   | 5¼   | 3½   | 5¼   | 5¼   |
| Cantonese ... ..   | 1¾   | 1¾   | 1¾   | 1¾   | 1¾   |
| Kuoyu ... ..   | 3½   | 3½   | 3½   | 3½   | 3½   |
| Burmese ... ..   | 1¾   | 1¾   | 1¾   | 1¾   | 1¾   |
| Malay ... ..   | 1¾   | 5¼   | 5¼   | 1¾   | 1¾   |
| Thai ... ..  | 3½   | 3½   | 3½   | 1¾   | 1¾   |
| Japanese ... ..  | 3½   | 3½   | 3½   | 3½   | 3½   |
| French for South-East Asia ... ..  | 1¾   | 1¾   | 1¾   | 1¾   | 1¾   |
| Dutch for Indonesia ... ..   | —  | 1¾   | 1¾   | 1¾   | 1¾   |
| Indonesian ... ..  | 3½   | —    | —    | —    | —    |
| Vietnamese ... ..  | 1¾   | —    | —    | —    | —    |
| LATIN-AMERICAN   |  |      |      |      |      |
| Spanish ... ..   | 21   | 40¼  | 40¼  | 40¼  | 40¼  |
| Portuguese ... ..  | 8¾   | 24½  | 24½  | 24½  | 24½  |
| WEEKLY TOTAL HOURS ...   | 320½   | 377  | 390½ | 378  | 381½ |

## Stations Transmitting the Home, Light and Third Programmes HOME SERVICES

| <i>Station</i>  | <i>Frequency<br/>kc/s</i> | <i>Wavelength<br/>metres</i> | <i>Power<br/>kW</i> | <i>Programme</i>             | <i>Main Areas Served</i>   |
|---|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Moorside Edge... }<br>Whitehaven ... }  | 692                       | 434                          | 150                 | Northern                     | Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cheshire,<br>Flint, N. Nottinghamshire,<br>N. Derbyshire, N. Lincoln-<br>shire.<br>Whitehaven District.   |
| Burghead ... }<br>Redmoss ... }<br>Westerglen ... }                                     |                           |                              | 0.25                |                              |  |
| Penmon ... }<br>Washford ... }<br>Wrexham ... }   | 809                       | 371                          | 100                 | Scottish                     |  |
|   |                           |                              | 5                   |                              |  |
|   |                           |                              | 100                 |                              |  |
|   |                           |                              | 8                   |                              |  |
|   | 881                       | 341                          | 100                 | Welsh                        | Wales.   |
|   |                           |                              | 0.2                 |                              |  |
| Brookmans Park  | 908                       | 330                          | 140                 | London                       | London, S.E. England, Home<br>Counties.  |
| Start Point ... }<br>Barnstaple ... }   |                           | 285                          | 120                 | West                         | S. Cornwall, S. Devon, Dorset,<br>Isle of Wight, S. Coast.<br>Barnstaple/Bideford Area.  |
|   |                           |                              | 0.25                |                              |  |
| Droitwich ... }<br>Norwich ... }  | 1,088                     | 276                          | 150                 | Midland                      | Midland Counties.<br>Norwich Area.   |
|   |                           |                              | 7.5                 |                              |  |
| Lisnagarvey ... }<br>Londonderry ... }<br>Scarborough ... }<br>Stagshaw ... }           | 1,151                     | 261                          | 100                 | N. Ireland<br>or<br>Northern | Northern Ireland.<br>Scarborough District, N.E. Eng-<br>land, Scottish Border.   |
|   |                           |                              | 0.25                |                              |  |
|   |                           |                              | 0.25                |                              |  |
|   |                           |                              | 100                 |                              |  |
| Bartley ... }<br>Brighton ... }<br>Clevedon ... }<br>Folkestone ... }<br>Hastings ... } | 1,457                     | 206                          | 10                  | West                         | S. Hampshire, S. Wiltshire.<br>Brighton District.<br>Somerset, S. Gloucestershire.<br>Folkestone District.<br>Hastings District. |
|   |                           |                              | 1                   |                              |  |
|   |                           |                              | 20                  |                              |  |
|   |                           |                              | 0.25                |                              |  |
|   |                           |                              | 0.25                |                              |  |
| Barrow ... }<br>Ramsgate ... }  | 1,484                     | 202                          | 0.25                | Northern<br>London           | Barrow District.<br>Ramsgate District.   |
|   |                           |                              | 0.5                 |                              |  |

### LIGHT PROGRAMME

| <i>Station</i>  | <i>Frequency<br/>kc/s</i> | <i>Wavelength<br/>metres</i> | <i>Power<br/>kW</i> | <i>Main Areas Served</i>  |
|---|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| Main Transmission:<br>Droitwich ...   | 200                       | 1,500                        | 400                 | British Isles.  |
| Auxiliary Service:<br>Brookmans Park ... }<br>Burghead ... }<br>Lisnagarvey ... }<br>Londonderry ... }<br>Moorside Edge ... } | 1,214                     | 247                          | 60                  | London.<br>Moray Firth area of Scotland.<br>} Parts of Northern Ireland;<br>S. Lancashire and S.W. York-<br>shire.<br>Fyneside.<br>Plymouth.<br>Aberdeen.<br>Redruth, Cornwall.<br>Edinburgh and Glasgow. |
|   |                           |                              | 20                  |   |
|   |                           |                              | 10                  |   |
|   |                           |                              | 0.25                |   |
|   |                           |                              | 58                  |   |
| Newcastle ... }<br>Plymouth ... }<br>Redmoss ... }<br>Redruth ... }<br>Westerglen ... }                                       |                           |                              | 2                   |   |
|   |                           |                              | 0.3                 |   |
|   |                           |                              | 2                   |   |
|   |                           |                              | 2                   |   |
|   |                           |                              | 50                  |   |

APPENDIX VIII (continued)

THIRD PROGRAMME

| <i>Station</i>     | <i>Frequency<br/>kc/s</i> | <i>Wavelength<br/>metres</i> | <i>Power<br/>kW</i>            | <i>Main Areas Served</i>  |
|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Daventry ... ..    | 647                       | 464                          | 150                            | Within a radius of approximately<br>100 miles of the transmitter. |
| Edinburgh ... ..   | ”                         | ”                            | 2                              |   |
| Glasgow ... ..     | ”                         | ”                            | 2                              | Local Districts.  |
| Newcastle ... ..   | ”                         | ”                            | 2                              |   |
| Redmoss ... ..     | ”                         | ”                            | 2                              |   |
| Belfast ... ..     | 1,546                     | 194                          | Between<br>0.25<br>and<br>2-kW |   |
| Bournemouth ... .. |                           |                              |                                |   |
| Brighton ... ..    |                           |                              |                                |   |
| Cardiff ... ..     |                           |                              |                                |   |
| Dundee ... ..      |                           |                              |                                |   |
| Exeter ... ..      |                           |                              |                                |   |
| Fareham ... ..     |                           |                              |                                |   |
| Hull ... ..        |                           |                              |                                |   |
| Leeds ... ..       |                           |                              |                                |   |
| Liverpool ... ..   |                           |                              |                                |   |
| Preston ... ..     |                           |                              |                                |   |
| Plymouth ... ..    |                           |                              |                                |   |
| Redruth ... ..     |                           |                              |                                |   |
| Sheffield ... ..   |                           |                              |                                |   |
| Stockton ... ..    |                           |                              |                                |   |

APPENDIX IX

Television Transmitting Stations

| <i>Station</i>  | <i>Frequency</i> |               | <i>Vision<br/>Approx.<br/>Power<br/>kW</i> | <i>Population<br/>served</i> |
|---|------------------|---------------|--|------------------------------|
|   | <i>Sound</i>     | <i>Vision</i> |  |                              |
|   | <i>Mc/s</i>      |               |  |                              |
| Alexandra Palace (North London)                         | 41.5             | 45.00         | 17   | 11,500,000                   |
| Sutton Coldfield (near Birmingham)                      | 58.25            | 61.75         | 50   | 7,800,000                    |
| Holme Moss (near Huddersfield) ...                      | 48.25            | 51.75         | 50   | 11,600,000                   |
| Kirk o'Shotts (between Glasgow<br>and Edinburgh) ... .. | 53.25            | 56.75         | 50*  | 4,000,000                    |
| Wenvoe (near Cardiff) ... ..                            | 63.25            | 66.75         | 50*  | 4,500,000                    |

\* Initially on lower power,

## Analysis of Established Posts

|   | 31st<br>March<br>1948 | 31st<br>March<br>1949 | 31st<br>March<br>1950 | 31st<br>March<br>1951 | 31st<br>March<br>1952 |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>HOME SERVICES—SOUND</b>  |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| (Including establishments common to Sound, Television and External Services)      |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| Programme Services:   |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| Home Service—direction, planning and presentation ... ..                          | 33                    | 33                    | 33                    | 36                    | 36                    |
| Light Programme—direction, planning and presentation ... ..                       | 28                    | 28                    | 27                    | 27                    | 28                    |
| Third Programme—direction, planning and presentation ... ..                       | 16                    | 16                    | 16                    | 16                    | 16                    |
| Programme Production Services:  |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| Entertainment Division ... ..   | 718                   | 732                   | 734*                  | 840*                  | 850                   |
| Talks Division and School Broadcasting Council ... ..                             | 241                   | 242                   | 240                   | 243                   | 246                   |
| News Division ... ..  | 306                   | 301                   | 300                   | 295                   | 286                   |
| Publicity Department ... ..   | 56                    | 53                    | 53                    | 52                    | 52                    |
| Regions—direction, programme planning and production, studio and office services: |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| Midland Region ... ..   | 128                   | 134                   | 134                   | 147                   | 147                   |
| North Region ... ..   | 170                   | 191                   | 196                   | 209                   | 209                   |
| Northern Ireland ... ..   | 80                    | 89                    | 89                    | 97                    | 99                    |
| Scotland ... ..   | 191                   | 196                   | 197                   | 212                   | 214                   |
| Wales ... ..  | 129                   | 137                   | 141                   | 153                   | 167                   |
| West Region ... ..  | 135                   | 131                   | 132                   | 140                   | 144                   |
| Engineering Division ... ..   | 2,394                 | 2,350                 | 2,372*                | 2,248*                | 2,250                 |
| London Area—premises, studio and office services, catering, etc. ... ..           | 1,744                 | 1,663                 | 1,675                 | 1,738                 | 1,718                 |
| Central Administration and General Services ... ..                                | 952                   | 954                   | 953                   | 960                   | 954                   |
| Publications ... ..   | 171                   | 184                   | 190                   | 185                   | 191                   |
|   | 7,492                 | 7,434                 | 7,482                 | 7,598                 | 7,607                 |
| <b>HOME SERVICES—TELEVISION</b>   |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| (Direct establishment only)   |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| Television Service—direction, programme planning and production, etc. ... ..      | 296                   | 318                   | 430                   | 568                   | 620                   |
| Engineering Division ... ..   | 287                   | 318                   | 459                   | 601                   | 707                   |
| London Area—premises, studio and office services, catering, etc. ... ..           | 129                   | 148                   | 221                   | 312                   | 347                   |
| Central Administration and General Services ... ..                                | 24                    | 24                    | 29                    | 42                    | 50                    |
|   | 736                   | 808                   | 1,139                 | 1,523                 | 1,724                 |
| <b>EXTERNAL SERVICES</b>  |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| (Direct establishment only)   |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| External Services—direction, programme planning and production, etc. ... ..       | 1,606                 | 1,686                 | 1,665                 | 1,727                 | 1,613                 |
| Monitoring Service ... ..   | 294                   | 314                   | 314                   | 325                   | 341                   |
| Engineering Division ... ..   | 827                   | 912                   | 853                   | 838                   | 771                   |
| London Area—premises, studio and office services, catering, etc. ... ..           | 545                   | 544                   | 580                   | 608                   | 582                   |
|   | 3,272                 | 3,456                 | 3,412                 | 3,498                 | 3,307                 |
| TOTAL ... ..  | 11,500                | 11,698                | 12,033                | 12,619                | 12,638                |

\* The movements here indicated are mainly accounted for by the transfer of one category of staff from Engineering to Entertainment.

APPENDIX XI

Net Sales of "Radio Times" and "The Listener"

|      |     |     |     |     |     | <i>Average weekly net sales</i> |                       |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
|      |     |     |     |     |     | <i>"Radio Times"</i>            | <i>"The Listener"</i> |
| 1927 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 851,657                         | —                     |
| 1928 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 977,589                         | —                     |
| 1929 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,147,571                       | 27,773                |
| 1930 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,334,063                       | 33,803                |
| 1931 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,575,151                       | 37,586                |
| 1932 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,825,951                       | 38,087                |
| 1933 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,962,047                       | 42,627                |
| 1934 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,155,371                       | 50,670                |
| 1935 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,456,764                       | 52,379                |
| 1936 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,628,757                       | 50,626                |
| 1937 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,821,597                       | 48,180                |
| 1938 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,880,747                       | 50,478                |
| 1939 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,588,433                       | 49,692                |
| 1940 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,302,399                       | 58,554                |
| 1941 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,282,422                       | 80,205                |
| 1942 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,718,654                       | 89,583                |
| 1943 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3,181,095                       | 102,744               |
| 1944 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3,679,859                       | 119,774               |
| 1945 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4,058,650                       | 129,368               |
| 1946 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5,202,937                       | 137,834               |
| 1947 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6,237,926                       | 142,236               |
| 1948 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7,092,280                       | 150,730               |
| 1949 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7,765,361                       | 151,350               |
| 1950 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8,108,431                       | 148,217               |
| 1951 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7,880,718                       | 137,910               |



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(as at 31st March, 1952)

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- (i) *Chairmen of central committees and of Regional advisory councils are ex-officio members of the General Advisory Council.*
- (ii) *Chairmen of Regional Committees are ex-officio members of the appropriate Regional advisory council.*

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