

1952.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.



FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING CONTROL BOARD.

YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1952.

PRESENTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 6P—BROADCASTING ACT 1942-1951.

By Authority:

L. F. JOHNSTON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.
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CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
PART I.—INTRODUCTORY	3
Membership of the Board	3
Functions of the Board	3
PART II.—ADMINISTRATION	3
Meetings of the Board	3
Consultation with the Australian Broadcasting Commission, Representatives of Commercial Broadcasting Stations, and the Broadcasting and Electrical Industries	3
Staff of the Board—Head Office	4
State Organization	4
Licensing of Commercial Broadcasting Stations	4
Grant of New Licences	4
Renewal of Licences	5
Current Licences for Commercial Broadcasting Stations	5
Fees for Licences for Commercial Broadcasting Stations	6
Commercial Broadcasting Stations—Financial Results of Operations	6
Transfer of Licences and Leasing of Stations	6
Ownership of Commercial Broadcasting Stations—	6
M.P.A. Productions Pty. Ltd.	7
Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia) Ltd.	8
Commonwealth Broadcasting Corporation Pty. Ltd., Sydney and (Q'ld.) Ltd., Brisbane	8
Findlays Pty. Ltd., Tasmania	8
Nicholsons Ltd., Perth	8
Whitfords Interests, Perth	8
Newspaper Companies	8
Networks of Commercial Broadcasting Stations	9
Australian UNESCO Committee for Radio	9
State Broadcasting Advisory Committees	10
Defamation by Means of Broadcasting	10
PART III.—TECHNICAL SERVICES	10
Plans for the Development of the National Broadcasting Service	10
Use of High Power by National Stations	12
Australian Broadcasting Commission—Request for Additional Programme Channels	12
Shortwave Stations	13
Plans for the Development of Commercial Broadcasting Service—Increased Power for Country Stations on Shared Channels	13
Increased Power for Capital City Stations	14
Clear Channel Stations in Country Districts	14
Additional Commercial Broadcasting Stations	14
Standards for the Technical Equipment and Operation of Broadcasting Stations	15
Unattended Operation of Broadcasting Stations	15
Allocation of Frequencies	15
Meetings of the C.C.I.R. (Comite Consultatif International des Radiocommunications)	16
British Commonwealth Broadcasting Corporation	16
Very High Frequency Broadcasting	17
Synchronized Operation of Broadcasting Stations	18
Television	18
Television Standards	19
Television Receiver Intermediate Frequencies	19
PART IV.—PROGRAMME SERVICES	19
General Considerations	19
Variety of Programmes	20
Religious Broadcasts	21
Political Broadcasts—Provision of Equitable Facilities	21
Broadcasts in connexion with Referendum Campaign	21
Broadcasts from Commercial Stations by Party Leaders in the Referendum Campaign	21
Other Broadcasts by Parliamentary Parties and Members of such Parties from Commercial Stations	21
Broadcasts from Commercial Stations by other Organizations and Persons	22
Total Time for Referendum Broadcasts from Commercial Stations	22
Referendum Broadcasts from Stations of the National Broadcasting Service	22
Programme Standards	22
Advertising	22
Sunday Advertising	23
Medical Advertisements	23
Hours of Service	23
Broadcasts in Foreign Languages	24
Provision of Community Services by Broadcasting Stations	24
Provision of Special Facilities for Broadcasting News	24
Broadcasting of Objectionable Matter	25
Encouragement of "Local Talent"	25
Observation of Broadcast Programmes	26
Ministerial Broadcasts	26
PART V.—GENERAL	26
Financial Accounts of the Board	26
Development of Broadcasting in Australia: Statistics	26
Listeners' Licences	26
Cost of the National Broadcasting Service	26
Acknowledgments	27
APPENDICES.	
" A "—Commercial Broadcasting Stations in Operation on 30th June, 1952	28
" B "—National Broadcasting Stations in Operation on 30th June, 1952	30
" C "—Commercial Broadcasting Stations—Increases in Operating Power determined by the Board	31
" D "—Statement of Receipts and Payments for Year ended 30th June, 1952	32

AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING CONTROL BOARD.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT.

The Honorable the Postmaster-General:

In conformity with the provisions of section 6p of the *Broadcasting Act* 1942-1951, the Australian Broadcasting Control Board has the honour to furnish its Report, being the Fourth Annual Report of the Board, on its operations during the year ended 30th June, 1952, together with financial accounts in the form approved by the Treasurer, and the report of the Auditor-General on those accounts.

2. This report is arranged as follows:—

- Part I.—Introductory.
- Part II.—Administration.
- Part III.—Technical Services.
- Part IV.—Programme Services.
- Part V.—General.

PART I.—INTRODUCTORY.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD.

3. Section 6B of the Act provides that the Board shall consist of three members appointed by the Governor-General, one of whom shall be Chairman. The Board was constituted on 15th March, 1949, when Mr. Lawrence Bede Fanning was appointed Chairman for a period of three years, and Messrs. Clive Ogilvy and Robert Gumley Osborne, B.A., LL.B., were appointed members for a period of seven years. Mr. Ogilvy resigned from the Board on 31st July, 1951, but the vacancy on the Board was not filled until 3rd December, 1951, from which date Mr. Robert Bruce Mair, B.E.E., A.M.I.E. (Aust.), S.M.I.R.E. (Aust.), the Director of Technical Services on the staff of the Board, was appointed as a member of the Board for the period expiring on 14th March, 1952. The Chairman (Mr. L. B. Fanning) was granted leave of absence on account of ill health from 3rd December, 1951, until 14th March, 1952, the date of expiry of his term of office.

4. Mr. R. G. Osborne, who had been appointed to be Acting Chairman of the Board during Mr. Fanning's absence from 3rd December, 1951, to 14th March, 1952, was appointed as Chairman of the Board for a period of five years commencing on 15th March, 1952. Mr. Mair was re-appointed as a member of the Board for a period of three years commencing on the 15th March, 1952, but at the time of writing this report, an appointment of a third member had not been made.

FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD.

5. The principal functions of the Board are set out in section 6k of the Act, as follows:—

- (a) to ensure the provision of services by broadcasting stations, television stations and facsimile stations, and services of a like kind, in accordance with plans from time to time prepared by the Board and approved by the Minister;
- (b) to ensure that the technical equipment and operation of such stations are in accordance with such standards and practices as the Board considers to be appropriate;
- (c) to ensure that adequate and comprehensive programmes are provided by such stations to serve the best interests of the general public.

6. The Board has other functions relating to broadcasting, television, and other services, and details of these are set out in paragraphs 42-45 of its First Annual Report. (They are also referred to, where appropriate, in this report.) In particular, the Board is required to determine the location, operating power, and frequency of all broadcasting and television stations, and to advise the Minister on all matters relating to the licensing of commercial broadcasting stations.

7. The first three reports of the Board contained a historical review of the development of the Australian broadcasting system and a description of the National and Commercial Broadcasting Services, and also particulars of the operations of the Board during the first two years and three months of its existence, during which it had devoted much attention to the preparation of plans for the improvement of those services. The organization of the Board is now firmly established, and a stage has been reached when it is in a position to report definite progress in the implementation of many of its proposals, designed, in pursuance of its statutory responsibilities, to ensure the provision of a satisfactory service for all the people of the Commonwealth. This is the subject of a large part of this report.

PART II.—ADMINISTRATION.

MEETINGS OF THE BOARD.

8. It is the normal practice of the Board to hold meetings every week at its office in Melbourne for the transaction of business requiring the attention of the Board, as distinct from the day-to-day control of the conduct of its affairs by the individual members of the Board. Special meetings of the Board were held in Sydney on three occasions, and once in Brisbane, during the year.

9. As has been mentioned in previous reports, the Board recognizes that, for the proper discharge of its functions, an intimate knowledge of the requirements of the various parts of the Commonwealth is essential. For this reason, it is continuing the practice, as far as circumstances permit, of making periodical visits to all the States, accompanied by senior officers. Following the meeting of the Board in Brisbane, the Chairman, accompanied by the Director, Programme Services, and the State Representative of the Board, visited many centres in Queensland, embracing not only districts where reasonably satisfactory services are already available but others where, on the information available to the Board, listeners are not yet being adequately served. Visits to other States have been made by members and officers of the Board for the purpose of investigations into specific matters.

CONSULTATION WITH THE AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING COMMISSION, REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING STATIONS, AND THE BROADCASTING AND ELECTRICAL INDUSTRIES.

10. The Board has continued to consult with the Australian Broadcasting Commission, not only in respect of matters relating to programmes, as it is required by the *Broadcasting Act* 1942-1951 to do, but also in regard to more general aspects of broadcasting and, in particular, to the provision of technical facilities needed to ensure more satisfactory reception

of the programmes produced by the Commission. (These matters are dealt with later in the report—see paragraphs 51-60.)

11. Throughout the year, there has been close association between the Board and the Australian Federation of Commercial Broadcasting Stations. The Liaison Committee appointed by the Federation to confer with the Board had formal meetings with the Board on four occasions and, between these meetings, the Executive of the Federation has frequently consulted the Board. Whilst in the case of the Commercial Broadcasting Service, as in that of the Commission, the Board is obliged by the Act to confer with representatives of the commercial broadcasting stations on questions relating to programmes, discussions with the Federation have been on much more general lines. The powers of the Board in relation to the Commercial Broadcasting Service are very extensive, but the procedure which is being followed has produced the result that major changes can be introduced, as in the case of the Board's technical standards (see paragraph 73) with the complete endorsement of the industry, notwithstanding that in many cases they involve licensees of stations in considerable expense. The Board, and its senior officers, were present at some of the functions connected with the Federation's Annual Convention, which was held in Katoomba, New South Wales, in November, 1951, and the representatives of many of the commercial stations availed themselves of the opportunity of discussing outstanding matters with the Board or its officers.

12. The Board also had discussions with representatives of advertisers (the Australian Association of Advertising Agencies and the Australian Association of National Advertisers) and manufacturers (the Federal Council of the Electrical, Radio and Telephone Manufacturers of Australia) on matters affecting the particular branches of the broadcasting industry in which they are interested.

STAFF OF THE BOARD—HEAD OFFICE.

13. There has been no substantial change in the Head Office organization of the Board, which consists of three Divisions, namely the Administrative Division, the Technical Services Division, and the Programme Services Division. Following the direction of the Government that reductions were to be made in the number of persons employed in the Commonwealth Public Service, the staff of the Board was reduced by three officers and the total staff employed by the Board on 30th June, 1952, in conformity with the organization approved by the Public Service Board, numbered 40. On 27th March, 1952, Mr. D. McDonald, B.Sc., Assistant Director, Technical Services Division, was appointed as Director of that Division in place of Mr. R. B. Mair, who had been appointed a member of the Board.

STATE ORGANIZATION.

14. Details were given in the Third Annual Report of the arrangements which have been made for officers of the Postmaster-General's Department to undertake, on behalf of the Board, various duties which have to be performed in the States in the discharge of the Board's functions. Whilst the Board still feels that the most effective arrangement would be for it to have a small staff in each State under its direct control, it is glad to report that the arrangement, under which certain technical duties are entrusted to officers of the Engineering Branch of the Department, and the Superintendent (Wireless Branch), acting as the State Representative of the Board, attends to other aspects of the Board's activities is producing, on the whole, satisfactory results. This state of affairs is due to the generous co-operation of the Director-General,

Post and Telegraphs (Mr. G. T. Chippindall), and his officers, to whom the Board desires to express its gratitude for the assistance they have rendered during the year. The Representatives of the Board in the States are:—

New South Wales ..	Mr. T. Armstrong
Victoria	Mr. J. M. Dobbyn
Queensland	Mr. W. H. Conry
South Australia ..	Mr. H. K. Burbury
Western Australia ..	Mr. E. L. Greig
Tasmania	Mr. P. E. L. Dunne

LICENSING OF COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING STATIONS.

15. The statutory provisions relating to the licensing of commercial broadcasting stations are contained in Part III. of the *Broadcasting Act 1942-1951*. The power to grant, renew, suspend or revoke licences is conferred upon the Minister and, without his consent, a licence may not be transferred nor may the licensee sub-let or otherwise dispose of his licence. Section 52A of the Act provides that before exercising any of his powers in relation to the licensing of stations, the Minister shall take into consideration any recommendations which have been made by the Board as to the exercise of those powers.

16. Subject to any direction of the Minister, the Board determines the location, operating power and frequency of each commercial broadcasting station. With the authority of and on behalf of the Minister, the Board undertakes the detailed administration of the provisions of the Act relating to the licensing of commercial broadcasting stations and of the *Commercial Broadcasting Stations Licence Fees Act 1942*. The succeeding paragraphs contain further particulars relating to the licensing procedure, and information concerning the stations which were operating during the year in pursuance of licences granted or renewed by the Minister.

GRANT OF NEW LICENCES.

17. There are still many areas in the Commonwealth in which listeners cannot rely on consistently reliable reception of programmes from any existing commercial broadcasting station, and the Board is continuing its investigations into the possibility of expanding the effective coverage of the Commercial Broadcasting Service by the establishment of new stations. In this connexion, the Board has adopted the general attitude that it should not recommend to the Minister that a licence for a new commercial station should be granted, unless—

- (a) a frequency channel is available for the station;
- (b) because of the shortage of frequencies, the need for the establishment of the proposed station on technical grounds has been clearly established by a careful engineering survey of the area concerned;
- (c) the ability of the proposed station to earn sufficient income to permit of its satisfactory operation in accordance with the provisions of the *Broadcasting Act 1942-1951* has been established;
- (d) the effect of the operation of the proposed station on the existing stations has been determined;
- (e) the suitability of the applicants to provide a broadcasting service for the locality has been established;
- (f) generally, the licensing of the proposed station is, in the widest sense, in the public interest, having regard, in particular, to the broadcasting services already available.

The limitation on the number of frequency channels for broadcasting purposes is referred to in paragraphs 76-81, and in respect of the first two items it is sufficient to say here that frequencies can now be allocated for new stations in eastern States only on conditions which would severely restrict their coverage and consequently their earning capacity. Experience has demonstrated the need for careful investigation of the economic aspects of each proposal for a new station because a commercial broadcasting station can provide a satisfactory service only if it is able to earn sufficient income to maintain a reasonably high standard of operation and provide a fair return on the capital investment, which in these days is very substantial. There should also be evidence of some local enthusiasm for the proposed station in order to ensure that, if established, it will provide a comprehensive community service for the district in which it is to be located.

18. On the recommendation of the Board, which had examined each case having regard to the considerations mentioned in the preceding paragraph, the Minister gave approval during the year for the grant of licences for four additional stations, one in New South Wales and three in Western Australia. The new station in New South Wales will be located in the vicinity of Taree and will operate on a frequency of 1,560 kilocycles and power of 500 watts. The licence will be granted to a company consisting of residents of Taree. Particulars of the stations projected in Western Australia are given hereunder:—

- (a) a licence will be granted for a station in the Bridgetown-Manjimup area to W.A. Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., which already operates stations 6IX Perth, 6WB Katanning and 6MD Merredin. The company has selected a site at Yornup and is proceeding with the establishment of the station, which will operate on a frequency of 900 kilocycles and power of 2,000 watts. It is expected to commence operations early in 1953.
- (b) a licence will be granted for a station in a location to be selected in the Northern Wheat Belt to Nicholson's Ltd., which already operates stations 6PR Perth, 6TZ Bunbury and 6CI Collie. It will operate on a frequency of 1,350 kilocycles and power of 2,000 watts.
- (c) a licence will be granted for a station at Albany to a licensee yet to be selected. It will operate on a frequency of 1,370 kilocycles and a power of 2,000 watts.

19. Nineteen applications were received during the year for licences for new commercial stations, distributed among the States as follows:—

New South Wales	..	..	..	7
Victoria	..	..	..	2
Queensland	..	..	..	3
South Australia	..	..	..	2
Western Australia	..	..	..	4
Tasmania	..	..	..	0
Northern Territory	..	..	..	1
Total	..	..	..	19

The total number of applications now recorded by the Board totals 1,001. Many of these applications date from the early years of broadcasting and the Board is satisfied, from investigations it has made in respect of applications for certain localities, that it would be misleading to accept the view that there are at the present time any very substantial number of subsisting applications. In the cases examined by the Board, some of the applicants could not be traced and others indicated that they were no longer interested in the matter. Moreover, many of the applications are for stations in areas which are already well served and, in respect of

which there is, on present indications, little prospect of additional stations being authorized. For example, there are 269 recorded applications for licences for stations in metropolitan areas, in each of which listeners have already the choice of a number of programmes, varying from four in the case of Hobart to eight in Sydney. Each new application is considered by the Board and, in any case where the circumstances are clearly such as not to justify the grant of a licence on the basis indicated in paragraph 17, the applicant is informed of the reasons why the Board cannot recommend to the Minister that a licence should be granted for the station he desires to establish. In other cases, further investigations are made by the Board as a preliminary to the preparation of a report and recommendation to the Minister.

RENEWAL OF LICENCES.

20. Section 46 (2.) of the *Broadcasting Act 1942-1951* provides that—

The Minister, if he deems it desirable, may from time to time renew a licence for any period not exceeding one year from the date of expiration of the current licence or renewal.

The Board is required to advise the Minister on each application for renewal of a licence and, as was explained in its Third Annual Report, it takes the opportunity so afforded to make a complete review of the operations of each station during the previous twelve months.

21. The Board regards this duty as one of its most important responsibilities because constant vigilance is required, in the public interest, to ensure that every licensee maintains a high standard of service, both in respect of the technical performance of his station and the quality of its programmes. For this reason, the Board some time ago instituted a procedure in accordance with which each aspect of the service of a station is critically examined by the Board shortly before the expiration of the current licence. It is evident that the general standard of service is being raised as a result of the close attention which is being paid by the Board to the various aspects of the operations of each station. The Board has not had occasion to recommend to the Minister that the renewal of any existing licence should be withheld. However, in several cases, licensees have, with the approval of the Minister, been informed that the renewal of their licences has been approved subject to appropriate measures being taken promptly to effect improvements in specified directions. In general, it may be said that the licensees concerned have made genuine efforts to improve their services in directions indicated by the Board.

CURRENT LICENCES FOR COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING STATIONS.

22. On the 30th June, 1952, there were 103 licences for commercial broadcasting stations in force. A list of licensees is contained in Appendix "A". A map of Australia showing the location of all broadcasting stations is included after Appendix "D". The disposition of the licences according to States is shown hereunder:—

State.	Metropolitan area.	Country districts.	Total.
New South Wales (including Australian Capital Territory)	7	29	36
Victoria	6	13	19
Queensland	4	16	20
South Australia	3	5	8
Western Australia	4	8	12
Tasmania	2	6	8
Commonwealth	26	77	103

FEES FOR LICENCES FOR COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING STATIONS.

23. Under section 48 of the Act, the licensee of each commercial broadcasting station is required to pay an annual licence-fee, assessed in accordance with the *Commercial Broadcasting Stations Licence Fees Act 1942*, which provides for an annual fee of £25 per annum, plus one-half of 1 per centum of the gross earnings of any station which in the preceding year has made a profit. The total amount of licence-fees payable during 1951-52 was £19,361, made up as under:—

State.	Fees Paid by—		Total.
	Metropolitan Stations.	Country Stations.	
	£	£	£
New South Wales	4,454	3,653	8,107
Victoria	3,238	1,748	4,986
Queensland	1,432	1,739	3,171
South Australia	1,004	192	1,196
Western Australia	488	544	1,032
Tasmania	395	474	869
Commonwealth	11,011	8,350	19,361

COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING STATIONS—FINANCIAL RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

24. The following particulars, which have been extracted from statements submitted by the licensees of commercial broadcasting stations since 1942, in pur-

suance of the provisions of section 67 (1.) (c) of the Act, show the financial results from the operations of such stations during the past ten years:—

Year.	Number of stations in operation.	Stations making a profit.	Stations showing a loss.	Total revenue.	Total expenditure.	Total profit.
				£	£	£
1941-42	97	53	44	1,330,000	1,248,188	81,812
1942-43	96	66	30	1,298,297	1,157,294	141,003
1943-44	98	87	11	1,871,851	1,491,967	379,884
1944-45	100	89	11	2,184,686	1,758,905	425,781
1945-46	100	86	14	2,279,719	1,851,042	428,677
1946-47	101	85	16	2,388,587	2,013,363	375,224
1947-48	102	86	16	2,774,371	2,278,319	496,052
1948-49	102	90	12	3,212,253	2,619,474	592,779
1949-50	102	84	18	3,178,360	2,748,594	429,766
1950-51	102	88	14	3,607,498	3,092,259	515,239

TRANSFER OF LICENCES AND LEASING OF STATIONS.

25. Section 50 (1.) of the Act provides that—

Except with the consent in writing of the Minister, a licensee of a commercial broadcasting station shall not transfer the licence or assign, sublet or otherwise dispose of the licence or admit any other person to participate in any of the benefits of the licence, or to exercise any of the powers or authorities granted by the licence.

No licence for a commercial broadcasting station was transferred during the year ended 30th June, 1952.

26. At the 30th June, 1952, the following five stations were, with the consent of the Minister, being operated by persons other than the licensees:—

Station.	Licensee.	Date of original consent.	Date of expiry of existing consent.	Operating company.
2CH Sydney ..	New South Wales Council of Churches Service	14.4.36	31.12.56	Amalgamated Wireless (A/asia.) Ltd.
3CV Maryborough..	Central Victoria Broadcasters Pty. Ltd. ..	17.12.41	30.6.53	J. R. Birt Pty. Ltd.
3SH Swan Hill ..	Swan Hill Broadcasting Co. Pty. Ltd. ..	5.4.37	31.12.56	Central Murray Broadcasters Pty. Ltd.
3KZ Melbourne ..	Industrial Printing and Publicity Co. Ltd. ..	10.2.32	30.6.53	3KZ Broadcasting Co. Pty. Ltd.
3XY Melbourne ..	Station 3XY Pty. Ltd. ..	17.5.35	1.5.56	Eftee Broadcasters Pty. Ltd.

27. During the year, the Minister gave his consent for a continuance until 30th June, 1953, of the agreement between Central Victoria Broadcasters Pty. Ltd. and J. R. Birt Pty. Ltd., in respect of station 3CV, and approved the purchase of all shares in the latter company by 3AW Broadcasting Company Pty. Ltd., licensee of station 3AW Melbourne.

28. On 31st March, 1952, River Murray Broadcasters Ltd., licensee of commercial broadcasting station 5RM, terminated an arrangement under which Hume Broadcasters Ltd. (licensee of 5DN Adelaide) had, with the consent of successive Ministers, operated station 5RM since 1937. During this period, the 5DN programmes were broadcast on continuous relay to 5RM. River Murray Broadcasters Ltd. resumed control of 5RM on 1st April, 1952; its decision to do so had been the subject of strong protests to the Minister, and to the Board, by Hume Broadcasters Ltd., and a substantial section of the shareholders in the 5RM company, who felt that the discontinuance of the association between stations 5RM and 5DN would be detrimental to the interests both of listeners and station 5DN. A further ground of objection was that River Murray Broadcasters Ltd. proposed to enter into an arrangement with 5KA Broadcasting Co. Ltd. for the relaying of programmes from station 5KA Adelaide. The majority shareholding in River Murray Broadcasters Ltd. and 5KA Broadcasting Co. Ltd. is in the same hands.

29. After careful investigation, during which the Chairman accompanied by the Director of Programme

Services, visited Renmark and the adjoining districts for the purpose of discussing the matter with all the parties concerned, the Board came to the conclusion that no reasonable objection could be taken to the company's decision to discontinue the relay of programmes from station 5DN and enter into a relay arrangement with 5KA. There was no evidence that the programmes of 5RM would not be adequate after the change was made and, in fact, River Murray Broadcasters Ltd. had given an undertaking in relation to the future programmes of the station, with particular reference to the requirements of the residents of the districts, which the Board considered a desirable statement of programme policy for any station serving rural areas. The Board submitted a report on the subject to the Minister, who decided not to intervene in the matter, having regard particularly to the fact that the decision to discontinue the previous arrangements had been made by a majority of the shareholders in the company holding the licence for Station 5RM. The Board is pleased to state that no serious reports of dissatisfaction with the programmes of 5RM have been received since the new arrangement became effective.

OWNERSHIP OF COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING STATIONS.

30. Section 53 (1.) of the *Broadcasting Act 1942-1951* reads—

A person shall not own, or be in a position to exercise control, either directly or indirectly, of, more than—

(a) one metropolitan commercial broadcasting station in any State;

- (b) four metropolitan commercial broadcasting stations in Australia;
- (c) four commercial broadcasting stations in any one State; or
- (d) eight commercial broadcasting stations in Australia.

For the purposes of this section, it is necessary for reliable information concerning the ownership and control of commercial broadcasting stations to be available to the Board, in order that the Minister may be advised whether the statutory limitations on the ownership and control of stations are being observed.

31. Any contemplated changes in the ownership or control of stations by any of the methods mentioned in section 50 of the Act (*see* paragraph 25) are carefully examined by the Board, which in each case makes a report to the Minister, indicating whether, on the information available to the Board, the proposal would result in any infringement of section 53. There are no provisions in the Act regulating the transfers in shares in companies holding licences for commercial broadcasting stations, but some control over these transactions has been effected since 1946 by the administrative process of requiring—

- (a) each prospective licensee company to submit a complete list of shareholders to the Minister as a pre-requisite to the grant of a licence;
- (b) each licensee company to submit an up-to-date list of shareholders with its annual application for renewal of its licence; and
- (c) each licensee company to consult the Minister or the Board before any substantial transaction affecting the shareholding or control of the company is completed.

In its Third Report, the Board stated that this procedure had, on the whole, proved effective in ensuring that the Minister is kept informed by licensees of contemplated changes in the control of stations, but, after further considering the matter during the past year, the Board recommended to the Minister that a special condition should be included in every licence that "the control of the station shall not be varied in any manner whatsoever, directly or indirectly, without the permission of the Minister". The Minister approved the recommendation and each licence is now granted subject to this condition. In addition, licensees are now required to supply complete lists of their directors and to keep the Board informed of any changes in the Memorandum and Articles of Association of their company. In the succeeding paragraphs, details compiled from information supplied by licensees are given of the principal changes in the ownership and control of stations during the year, and of companies or persons who have a controlling interest in several stations.

32. *M.P.A. Productions Pty. Ltd.*—On 24th October, 1951, M.P.A. Productions Pty. Ltd. informed the Minister that it had acquired all the shares in Broadcasting Associates Pty. Ltd., a company which is a substantial shareholder in several companies holding licences for commercial broadcasting stations, but does not hold any licence in its own name. The transaction, therefore, was not subject to the provisions of the Act nor the administrative requirements mentioned in the preceding paragraph. M.P.A. Productions Pty. Ltd. is a company incorporated in Victoria in 1949, the issued capital in which was, at the time of the purchase of these broadcasting interests, held equally by or on behalf of two public companies registered and carrying on business in England, namely, The Daily Mirror Newspapers Limited and Sunday Pictorial Newspapers (1920) Limited. As a result of its purchase of all the shares in the capital of Broadcasting Associates Pty.

Ltd., M.P.A. Productions Pty. Ltd. acquired the following interests in commercial broadcasting stations in the Commonwealth:—

SHARES HELD BY BROADCASTING ASSOCIATES PTY. LTD.

Company.	Station of which company is licensee.	Total shares issued.	Shares held by Broadcasting Associates Pty. Ltd.
Broadcasting Station 2GB Pty. Ltd.	2GB Sydney ..	49,685	32,234
Canberra Broadcasters Ltd.	2CA Canberra ..	23,000*	22,798*
		2,050†	450†
Young Broadcasters Pty. Ltd.	2LF Young ..	8,557	2,140
Hunter River Broadcasters Pty. Ltd.	2HR Lochinvar	5,500	2,000
Lithgow Broadcasters Pty. Ltd.	2LT Lithgow ..	3,744	750
Mudgee Broadcasting Company Pty. Ltd.	2MG Mudgee ..	3,418	854
Parkes Broadcasting Company Pty. Ltd.	2PK Parkes ..	1,000	165
Wollongong Broadcasting Pty. Ltd.	2WL Wollongong	11,000	5,500

* Ordinary. † Preference.

SHARES HELD BY BROADCASTING STATION 2GB PTY. LTD.

(Controlled by Broadcasting Associates Pty. Ltd.)

Company.	Station of which company is licensee.	Total shares issued.	Shares held by Broadcasting Station 2GB Pty. Ltd.
Young Broadcasters Pty. Ltd.	2LF Young ..	8,557	2,139
Lithgow Broadcasters Pty. Ltd.	2LT Lithgow ..	3,744	749
Mudgee Broadcasting Company Pty. Ltd.	2MG Mudgee ..	3,418	856
3AW Broadcasting Company Pty. Ltd.	3AW Melbourne	6,000	1,500
Hume Broadcasters Ltd. ..	5DN Adelaide ..	12,405	7,000

The company also acquired a temporary interest in station 5RM Renmark, which, at the time the transaction was completed, was being operated by Hume Broadcasters Limited (which is controlled by Broadcasting Station 2GB Pty. Ltd.), in accordance with the terms of a lease between Hume Broadcasters Limited and the licensee of the station. This arrangement terminated on 31st March, 1952 (*see* paragraph 28). The English companies which, as mentioned above, control M.P.A. Productions Pty. Ltd., are also in a position, through their interest in the Argus and Australasian Ltd., to control stations 3SR Shepparton, 3UL Warragul and 3YB Warrnambool.

33. The purchase of the shares in Broadcasting Associates Pty. Ltd. by M.P.A. Productions Pty. Ltd. was discussed in both Houses of the Parliament on 28th November, 1951, on which date the following resolution was passed in each House:—

That, in the opinion of this House (the Senate), it is undesirable that any person not an Australian should have any substantial measure of ownership or control over any Australian commercial broadcasting station, whether such ownership or control be exercisable directly or indirectly.

The Chairman and Managing Director of the Daily Mirror Newspapers Ltd. and Sunday Pictorial Newspapers (1920) Limited (Mr. C. H. King) interviewed the Minister in Canberra on 22nd February, 1952, for the purpose of discussing the resolution, and the Minister subsequently made a public statement concerning the meeting in which he said that Mr. King had informed him that the companies concerned were

anxious and willing to give effect to the resolution of the Parliament and would take the necessary steps to comply with the resolution. At the end of the period to which this report relates, there had not, to the knowledge of the Board, been any further change in the ownership of the shares in Broadcasting Associates Pty. Ltd. In connexion with the renewal of the licences for certain of the stations affected by the M.P.A. Productions transaction (namely, stations 2GB, 2CA, 2WL, 2LF, 2MG, 5DN) the Minister directed that the period of renewal should be limited to three months (instead of the customary period of twelve months), pending completion of action to conform with the resolution of Parliament.

34. *Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia) Ltd.*—The Commonwealth Government, which had previously held a controlling interest in Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia) Ltd., sold its shares in the company during the year to a large number of individual shareholders. This company has the following interests in commercial broadcasting stations:—

- (a) it holds the licences for 2AY Albury, 3BO Bendigo, 4CA Cairns and 4TO Townsville;
- (b) it owns all the shares in the companies which operate 2GF Grafton and 2GN Goulburn, and has a controlling interest (4,400 shares in a total of 5,000) in the company which operates 4WK Warwick;
- (c) by agreement with the licensee, it conducts the service of 2CH Sydney;
- (d) it holds 800 shares (in a total of 6,500) in 2SM Sydney; 400 shares (in a total of 4,975) in 3HA Hamilton; and 5,500 shares (in a total of 11,000) in 7LA Launceston;
- (e) it holds 1,000 preference shares (in totals of 3,643 £1 preference, 3,604 £1 ordinary and 14,000 5s. ordinary shares) in Transcontinental Broadcasting Corporation Ltd., which controls 2KA Ltd., licensee of 2KA Katoomba.

35. *Commonwealth Broadcasting Corporation Pty. Ltd., Sydney, and Commonwealth Broadcasting Corporation (Qld.) Ltd., Brisbane.*—The shares in these two companies are owned by the same interests. The former is the licensee of 2UW Sydney, and the latter which is the licensee of 4BC Brisbane, has a controlling interest in 4GR Toowoomba (1,663 shares in a total of 3,300), 4MB Maryborough (1,060 shares in a total of 2,000 shares) and 4RO Rockhampton (holds the total shares—2,000). Commonwealth Broadcasting Corporation (Qld.) Ltd. also holds 1,000 ordinary shares in totals of 3,395 ordinary and 2,405 preference in 4SB Kingaroy.

Findlays Pty. Ltd., Tasmania.—Findlays Pty. Ltd. has a quarter interest in 7HO Hobart, a quarter interest in 7LA Launceston, hold all the shares in 7DY Derby, and members of the Findlay family hold 9,205 shares (in a total of 10,000) in station 7AD Devonport and a controlling interest in station 7BU Burnie (4,150 shares in a total of 4,270).

Nicholsons Ltd., Perth.—Nicholsons Ltd. holds licences for 6PR Perth, 6CI Collie and 6TZ Bunbury, and has been authorized to establish a station in the Northern Wheat Belt.

Whitfords Interests, Perth.—Mr. and Mrs. A. P. H. Whitford and Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Whitford hold all the shares in the companies holding the licences for 6AM Northam, 6KG Kalgoorlie, and 6PM Perth, and have a controlling interest in 6GE Geraldton.

36. *Newspaper Companies.*—The principal newspaper interests in broadcasting stations are set out below:—

CAPITAL CITY NEWSPAPERS.

2UE Sydney	..	Controlling interest held by Associated Newspapers Ltd. (the <i>Sydney Sun</i>).
3DB Melbourne	..	Licences held by Herald and Weekly Times Ltd. (the Melbourne <i>Herald</i>).
3LK Lubeck	..	
3SR Shepparton	..	Controlling interest held by the Argus and Australasian Ltd. (the Melbourne <i>Argus</i>) which holds all the shares in the licensee company.
3UL Warragul	..	
3YB Warrnambool	..	
3AW Melbourne	..	Quarter interest held by David Syme & Co. Ltd. (the Melbourne <i>Age</i>).
4AK Oakey	..	Licences held by Queensland Newspapers Pty. Ltd. (the Brisbane <i>Courier-Mail</i>).
4BK Brisbane	..	
5AD Adelaide	..	Licence for 5AD held by Advertiser Newspapers Ltd. (the Adelaide <i>Advertiser</i>) which controls the companies holding the licences for the other three stations. News Ltd. (the Adelaide <i>News</i>) owns 2BH Broken Hill, has 3,405 ordinary and 2,000 preference shares (in totals of 8,405 ordinary and 4,000 preference shares) in the company which holds the licence for 5DN Adelaide, and 1,501 shares (in a total of 8,176 shares) in the company which holds the licence for station 5RM Renmark. West Australian Newspapers Ltd. (the <i>West Australian</i> , Perth) has a half interest in W.A. Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., which controls stations 6IX Perth, 6WB Katanning, 6MD Merredin, and has been authorized to establish a station at Bridgetown.
5MU Murray Bridge	..	
5PI Crystal Brook	..	
5SE Mount Gambier	..	
2BH Broken Hill	..	
5DN Adelaide	..	
5RM Renmark	..	
6IX Perth	..	Davies Bros. Ltd. (the Hobart <i>Mercury</i>) has a third interest in the station.
6MD Merredin	..	
6WB Katanning	..	
7HO Hobart	..	

OTHER NEWSPAPERS OWNING OR CONTROLLING COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING STATIONS.

2AD Armidale	..	The Armidale Newspaper Co. Ltd. owns the station.
2LT Lithgow	..	Western Newspapers Ltd. (conducting country newspapers in New South Wales) has 2,248 shares (in a total of 3,747) in Lithgow Broadcasters Pty. Ltd. which holds the licence for 2LT Lithgow, and has 4,221 shares (in a total of 8,557 shares) in Young Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., which holds the licence for 2LF Young.
2LF Young	..	
2LM Lismore	..	Northern Star Ltd. holds 4,000 shares (in a total of 7,125 shares) in Richmond River Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., which holds the licence for the station.
2RG Griffith	..	Irrigation Area Newspapers Pty. Ltd. holds the licence for the station. (NOTE.—Western Newspapers Ltd. —see 2LF Young and 2LT Lithgow —has 3,000 shares in a total of 4,507 shares in Irrigation Area Newspapers Pty. Ltd.)
3BA Ballarat	..	The Ballarat Courier Pty. Ltd. holds 1,700 shares (in a total of 2,000 shares) in Ballarat Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., which holds the licence for the station.
3GL Geelong	..	The Geelong Advertiser Pty. Ltd. owns the station.
7EX Launceston	..	W. R. Rolph and Sons Pty. Ltd. (the <i>Examiner</i> , Launceston) holds 1,800 shares (in a total of 2,500 shares) in 7EX Pty. Ltd., which holds the licence for the station.

The above particulars do not take into account shareholdings of individuals who are substantial shareholders in both broadcasting and newspaper companies. Newspaper companies, or persons substantially

interested in newspapers, owned nineteen of the 103 stations in operation on 30th June, 1952, and held shares in 38 other stations.

37. According to the information supplied by licensees to the Board during the year, 31 of the 103 stations then in service were being operated by persons or organizations which were in a position to control only one station, and ten persons or organizations which were in a position to control, or were substantially interested in two stations. The remaining stations, 62 in number, are controlled by persons or organizations which are in a position to control, directly or indirectly, or have substantial interests in, three or more stations, but in no case did it appear to the Board, from the information in its possession, that there had been any infringement of section 53 of the Act during the year under review.

NETWORKS OF COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING STATIONS.

38. Section 6k(4.) of the Act empowers the Board "to regulate the establishment of networks of broadcasting stations and the making of agreements or arrangements by licensees of commercial broadcasting stations for the provision of programmes or the broadcasting of advertisements". In addition, the licensee of each commercial broadcasting station is required to obtain the Board's consent before entering or becoming a member of any network by a condition of his licence, which reads as under:—

The licensee shall not, without the consent in writing of the Australian Broadcasting Control Board, enter or become a member of any network of broadcasting stations, or any other association or organization of broadcasting stations formed for the purpose of making arrangements for the provision of programmes or the broadcasting of advertisements, or acquire, by itself or any person or company on its behalf, any shares or other interest in any such network, association or organization.

The two principal networks in existence at present are the Macquarie Broadcasting Network and the Major Broadcasting Network.

39. The Macquarie Broadcasting Network is a proprietary company (Macquarie Broadcasting Service Pty. Ltd.), in which the following member stations were shareholders on 30th June, 1952:—

Macquarie Broadcasting Network.

New South Wales—	Victoria—
2CA Canberra.	3AW Melbourne.
2GB Sydney.	South Australia—
2HR Lochinvar.	5DN Adelaide.
2LF Young.	Western Australia—
2LT Lithgow.	6LX Perth.
2MW Murwillumbah.	6MD Merredin.
2PK Parkes.	6WB Katanning.
Queensland—	Tasmania—
4BH Brisbane.	7HO Hobart.
4BU Bundaberg.	7LA Launceston.
4GY Gympie.	

Stations 2MG Mudgee and 3CV Maryborough were member stations but not shareholders.

40. Macquarie Broadcasting Service Pty. Ltd. has an arrangement with a number of other stations in accordance with which they may co-operate with the network on agreed terms in the sale of station time for the broadcasting of Macquarie programmes.

41. The Major Broadcasting Network is not a company, but is an association of stations of which the following were members on 30th June, 1952:—

New South Wales—	Victoria—
2KO Newcastle.	3DB Melbourne.
2UE Sydney.	3LK Lubeck.
2GZ Orange.	

4300.—2

Queensland—

4AK Oakey.

4BK Brisbane.

South Australia—

5AD Adelaide.

5MU Murray Bridge.

5PI Crystal Brook.

5SE Mount Gambier.

Western Australia—

6CI Collie.

6PR Perth.

6TZ Bunbury.

Tasmania—

7EX Launceston.

7HT Hobart.

During the year station 2GZ Orange became a member station of the Major Network.

42. There are also the following associations of stations or groups of stations in the same ownership which are described as networks, but their operation is confined to one State:—

Victorian Broadcasting Network—Stations 3HA Hamilton, 3SH Swan Hill and 3TR Sale.

The Queensland Broadcasting Network—Stations 4BC Brisbane, 4GR Toowoomba, 4MB Maryborough, 4RO Rockhampton and 4SB Kingaroy.

The *Advertiser* Broadcasting Network—Stations 5AD Adelaide, 5MU Murray Bridge, 5PI Crystal Brook and 5SE Mount Gambier.

Whitford's Broadcasting Network—Stations 6PM Perth, 6AM Northam, 6GE Geraldton and 6KG Kalgoorlie.

The Tasmanian Coastal Broadcasting Network—Stations 7AD Devonport, 7BU Burnie, 7DY Derby and 7QT Queenstown.

43. In the Second Report of the Board will be found some discussion of the functions of networks of broadcasting stations and their significance in the Australian broadcasting structure. The Board is satisfied from its observations of existing networks that on the whole their activities are beneficial to listeners because they permit programmes to be produced on a scale which could not be undertaken by an individual licensee. The networks also facilitate the business arrangements of their members providing as they do for the sale of time to advertisers on a joint basis by a number of stations. It is, however, important in the public interest that individual stations should retain complete freedom to conduct their services in accordance with the requirements of the Act, and it is therefore necessary that a proper balance should be maintained between the interests of the networks and their members in order that the independence of the individual stations should be preserved. Due regard will be paid by the Board to these considerations in any matter involving the exercise of its powers under section 6k(4.) (d) of the Act to regulate the operation of networks.

AUSTRALIAN UNESCO COMMITTEE FOR RADIO.

44. During the year the Unesco National Co-operating Body for Radio was renamed the Australian Unesco Committee for Radio, a change which was made with a view to the simplification of the title only and did not imply any alteration in the structure or functions of this body. The purpose of the Committee is still to advise on Australian policy in relation to the general programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and to advise and assist in the carrying out of Unesco projects in Australia and other Unesco activities. The Board is represented on the Committee by one of its members, the other organizations represented being the Australian Broadcasting Commission, the Australian Federation of Commercial Broadcasting Stations, the Musicians' Union, Actors' and Announcers' Equity and the Professional Radio Employees Institute.

45. One of the functions of Unesco is to act as a clearing house for information on the use of the radio and other means of mass communication throughout the world, particularly in relation to the development

of understanding between peoples and the bringing of education to less developed areas. In this connexion, the Organization has conducted a world wide survey of facilities in mass communications. To keep this survey up to date the co-operation of National Committees is essential, and the Australian Unesco Committee for Radio has undertaken the responsibility of keeping Unesco informed of radio developments in Australia. To date a survey of Australian radio facilities has appeared in Unesco's *Reports on the Facilities of Mass Communications: Press, Film, Radio*, Vol. IV.; a section relating to the same subject has appeared in the more popular publication *World Communications: Press, Radio, Film*; relevant information on Australian broadcasting is to be found in Unesco's *Trade Barriers to Knowledge and Legislation for Press, Film and Radio*; the Organization's publication *Broadcasting to Schools* includes a useful chapter on school broadcasting in Australia, and its publication *Radio in Fundamental Education* contains an interesting chapter on broadcasting in Papua and New Guinea. Three other Unesco publications which have aroused some interest in Australia are *Low-cost Radio Reception, Training for Radio and Education by Radio*.

46. The Unesco Radio Division of the Unesco Secretariat has continued to produce written and recorded material for the use of Member Nations. During the year a series of eight quarter-hour dramatized programmes produced by the Organization to further its purpose was broadcast in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia by about 30 stations. Typical titles and subjects are—

Across the Frontiers, dealing with tariff restrictions;

Men Against the Desert, on problems of the world's arid zones;

Start the Presses, on the world shortage of newsprint; and

Behind a Song, which deals with racial prejudice.

On certain occasions, also, such as United Nations Day, both the Australian Broadcasting Commission and commercial stations have broadcast special programmes. While Unesco continues to show this awareness of the importance of broadcasting in relation to the development of understanding and friendly relations between peoples, an interesting development was foreshadowed by the convening of a Committee of Experts on Television during April. On the recommendation of this Committee, plans are now being made for an extension of similar Unesco activity into the related mass communication field of television.

STATE BROADCASTING ADVISORY COMMITTEES.

47. The State Broadcasting Advisory Committees, whose previous term of appointment expired on 30th September, 1950, have not since been reconstituted in conformity with the provisions of section 6q of the Act.

DEFAMATION BY MEANS OF BROADCASTING.

48. In its Second Annual Report, the Board drew attention to the fact that it receives complaints from time to time from persons who allege that defamatory statements have been made about them in broadcasts. In the course of its remarks on this subject, the Board referred to the well-known legal difficulties which arise in the application to broadcasting of the law of defamation and to the following statement on the subject which was contained in a report (Cmd. 7536) made by the English Committee on the Law of Defamation in September, 1948—

A defamatory statement transmitted over the radio in a broadcast, reaching, as it may, an audience of many millions, is calculated to cause as much, if not more, damage than a written report in a newspaper however large its circulation.

The existing law as to defamatory broadcasts is not wholly clear and has not been the subject of any English decision. The view generally accepted in this country is that a broadcast which is read from a written script—as is the practice in the great majority of broadcasts—amounts to libel, while a broadcast spoken extempore amounts only to slander. For so artificial a distinction, there can be little justification. We consider that all defamatory broadcast statements should be treated as libels and we accordingly recommend that statements or images broadcast by radio-transmission and capable of reception by means of radio-receivers should be deemed to be published in writing by the person, firm or corporation responsible for the broadcasting of such statements or images.

The Board has observed that a Defamation (Amendment) Bill has been introduced into the House of Commons of the United Kingdom for the purpose, *inter alia*, of giving effect to the recommendation made by the Committee. Clause 1 of the Bill reads as follows:—

For the purposes of the law of libel and slander, the broadcasting of words by means of wireless telegraphy shall be treated as publications in permanent form.

The Bill passed through all stages of the House of Commons on 27th June, 1952. The Board understands that this matter is also receiving consideration by certain of the State Governments, whose attention was drawn by the Prime Minister to the Board's previous observations on the subject.

49. The Defamation (Amendment) Bill referred to in the preceding paragraph also provides for the extension to broadcasting stations of the qualified privilege of newspapers to publish a fair and accurate report of many matters of public interest. This proposal is of great interest to Australian broadcasters, most of whom include several news sessions daily in their programmes. The matter is one which, in the opinion of the Board, also merits consideration by the State Governments.

PART III.—TECHNICAL SERVICES.

50. The Board is required by section 6k of the Act to "ensure the provision of services by broadcasting stations, television stations and facsimile stations, and services of a like kind, in accordance with plans from time to time prepared by the Board and approved by the Minister". The Board has interpreted this provision of the Act, insofar as broadcasting is concerned, as imposing on it an obligation to improve and expand the services, both National and Commercial, which were in existence at the time of its establishment, so as to ensure satisfactory reception for listeners throughout the Commonwealth. In a country like Australia, with its large area and uneven distribution of population, the provision of adequate services presents many difficult problems, and although the matter was covered at some length in the Third Annual Report, it is of such importance to the general efficiency of the broadcasting system that the Board proposes in this Part to recapitulate its plans for improving the existing services and to make some observations on possible means of supplementing them in future years. Reference will also be made in this Part to the question of the introduction of television into the Commonwealth.

PLANS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING SERVICE.

51. On 30th June, 1952, the National Broadcasting Service was being provided by 41 medium frequency stations, and nine shortwave stations. During the past year, an additional medium wave station (4GM Gympie) commenced operations and a new transmitter was installed at station 5CK Crystal Brook, which now operates on 10,000 watts instead of its previous power of 7,500 watts. A new transmitter, designed for operation on 10,000 watts, was installed at station 6WN Perth (previous power 1,000 watts) but its power will be restricted to 6,000 watts until a new radiating system (at present on order) has been erected. A list

of national broadcasting stations in operation on 30th June, 1952, is contained in Appendix "B", which is followed by a map showing the locations of all Australian medium frequency stations.

52. In conformity with the Board's plan for developing the National Service, some progress was made during the year in connexion with the establishment of other new stations and with the modernization and increase of power of several existing stations. As was mentioned in the Board's Third Report, its objective in respect of the National Service is—

- (a) to extend the coverage of the medium frequency national stations so as to provide satisfactory day and night reception of at least one such station for listeners throughout the Commonwealth, except those in the distant isolated areas for whom transmissions are provided in the shortwave (high frequency) bands;
- (b) to enable the great majority of listeners, who are outside the primary coverage of the two national stations in each of the capital cities and Newcastle, to obtain from medium frequency stations satisfactory night-time reception of alternative programmes of the Australian Broadcasting Commission;
- (c) to provide a higher signal to noise ratio in order to ensure a better service for listeners, particularly in industrial areas, where interference from electrical equipment is prevalent and also in the large areas of the Commonwealth which are subject to high atmospheric noise levels during summer months;
- (d) to protect the service to Australian listeners against interference from very high powered stations which are being erected in neighbouring countries.

53. Details of the plan which the Board had prepared to achieve these ends were contained in the Third Report; but, as a result of further investigations, it has been considered advisable to provide for higher power for some of the proposed new stations, and it is now intended that stations to be established at Canberra, Australian Capital Territory, Wollongong, New South Wales, and Renmark, South Australia, should operate on 2,000 watts instead of 200 watts. On the other hand, the station to be erected at Queenstown on the West Coast of Tasmania will operate on 200 watts instead of 2,000 watts as was stated in the Third Report. The coverage of this station will not be decreased, however, because of the more favorable propagation conditions of the lower frequency on which it is now intended that the station should operate. The complete plan of the Board in respect of the National Service envisages the establishment of the seventeen new stations and an increase in the operating power of the 26 existing transmitters listed below:—

PROPOSED NEW REGIONAL STATIONS.

Proposed location.	Power (watts).
<i>New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory—</i>	
Bega	10,000
Glen Innes	10,000
Smithtown	10,000
Canberra	2,000
Wollongong	2,000
<i>South Australia—</i>	
Penola	2,000
Renmark	2,000

PROPOSED NEW LOW-POWER STATIONS.

Proposed location.	Power (watts).
<i>New South Wales—</i>	
Armidale	200
Murwillumbah	200
<i>Victoria—</i>	
Bendigo	200
Warrnambool	200
<i>Queensland—</i>	
Southport	200
<i>South Australia—</i>	
Mount Gambier	200
Woomera	50
<i>Western Australia—</i>	
Albany	200
Northam	200
<i>Tasmania—</i>	
Queenstown	200

PROPOSED INCREASES IN POWER TO 50,000 WATTS.

Proposed location.	Power (watts).
<i>New South Wales—</i>	
2CR Cummoock	from 10,000
2NR Grafton	7,000
2BL Sydney	10,000
2FC Sydney	10,000
<i>Victoria—</i>	
3WV Doon	10,000
3AR Melbourne	10,000
3LO Melbourne	10,000
<i>Queensland—</i>	
4QR Brisbane	10,000
4QN Townsville	2,000
<i>South Australia—</i>	
5CL Adelaide	5,000
<i>Western Australia—</i>	
6WF Perth	3,400
6WA Wagin	10,000

PROPOSED INCREASES IN POWER TO 10,000 WATTS.

Proposed location.	Power (watts).
<i>New South Wales—</i>	
2CO Corowa	from 7,500
2NA Newcastle	2,000
2NC Newcastle	2,000
<i>Victoria—</i>	
3GI Sale	7,000
<i>Queensland—</i>	
4QL Longreach	200
4QB Pinalba	2,000
4RK Rockhampton	2,000
<i>South Australia—</i>	
5AN Adelaide	2,000
<i>Western Australia—</i>	
6WV Perth	6,000
<i>Tasmania—</i>	
7ZL Hobart	2,000
7ZR Hobart	500
7NT Kelso	7,000

PROPOSED INCREASES IN POWER TO 2,000 WATTS.

Proposed location.	Power (watts).
5DR Darwin	from 200
9PA Port Moresby	500

54. At the time of writing of the Third Report, the plan, after having been discussed with the Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs, whose Department is responsible for the establishment and operation of national stations, and with the Australian Broadcasting Commission, which provides the programmes for the National Service, had been submitted for the Minister's consideration, and on 12th February, 1952, the Minister gave his formal approval for the proposals in conformity with section 6k (4.) of the Act. At the suggestion of the Board, the Post Office and the Commission agreed to the formation of a Committee whose duty would be to review, at regular intervals, the progress which was being made in giving effect to

the approved proposals. The Committee, which consists of Mr. R. B. Mair, a Member of the Board, Mr. E. M. Dowse, Assistant Director-General (Planning and Organization) representing the Post Office, and Dr. Keith Barry, Controller of Programmes, representing the Commission, had met on two occasions before the close of the year.

55. The Post Office is now proceeding with the extensive programme of works, involved in the implementation of the plan, which it was at first anticipated would be completed within six years. Some modification of the programme was found to be necessary in view of the prevailing economic conditions, and on present indications it seems unlikely that the whole of the proposals can be completed before 1960. Considerable progress has already been made in the selection and acquisition of suitable sites for new stations, and plans for the construction and installation of technical equipment are at an advanced stage. The delay in the provision of the necessary buildings is causing some concern but every effort is being made to overcome this difficulty.

USE OF HIGH POWER BY NATIONAL STATIONS.

56. The need to protect Australian listeners against interference from very high-powered stations in neighbouring countries has been emphasized by developments in Southern Asia and the region north of Australia, where according to the latest available information, the number of stations operating or planned for operation on 50,000 watts or greater is as under:—

Stations with power of 150,000 watts ..	..	6
Stations with power of 100,000 watts ..	..	22
Stations with power of 50,000 watts ..	..	10

In addition, two New Zealand stations operate on 60,000 watts. The general trend towards the use of higher power increases the possibility of interference from overseas stations to Australian services, particularly in those areas in which listeners, because of their great distance from local stations, must rely on comparatively weak signals. The increase in the power of Australian stations, which is part of the Board's plan, will do much to minimize this potential source of annoyance to listeners.

AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING COMMISSION—REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL PROGRAMME CHANNELS.

57. The existing plan for the development of the National Broadcasting Service does not provide for the establishment of an additional network of stations, through which the Australian Broadcasting Commission could transmit a third programme (in addition to the present "national" and "interstate" programmes). In the course of its discussions with the Board concerning the plan, the Commission expressed its agreement with the Board's proposals on the understanding that further consideration would be given to the possibility of providing technical facilities for this expansion of the Commission's activities. The Commission's views were expressed in its report for the year ended 30th June, 1951, in the following terms:—

... the Commission has been forced to recognize that there are two serious gaps in its service to the community occasioned by the circumstances which reduce metropolitan programmes to one instead of two for periods of the year, and country programmes to one at all times. The Commission has always regarded Parliamentary broadcasts as of the utmost importance and has been concerned that it has been possible to carry them on only one metropolitan station if we were not to leave country listeners with no alternative programme. During the periods of the year in which Parliament is broadcast, however, the two metropolitan programmes are reduced to one, which compels a reversion to the impossible task of providing a single programme which will be acceptable to the widely differing tastes of the community.

The Commission has given a great deal of thought to this problem, which it regards as fundamental to its

task, and has reached the conclusion that the only satisfactory solution is to provide a third channel in the National Service. This channel would have the dual role of carrying Parliamentary broadcasts not only to metropolitan listeners and to a wider audience in the country than is possible at present, but also when Parliament is not in session of carrying a great deal of programme material of the higher quality type which at present the Commission is unable to use. It would at the same time provide a second programme for country listeners which they do not at present enjoy. On the other hand, provision of the third channel would leave intact the two metropolitan programmes without the serious interruption which now takes place during Parliamentary sessions. Accordingly the Commission has requested the Broadcasting Control Board, which under the Act is the statutory authority controlling the allocation of frequencies, to explore the possibilities of such a development. The Commission expresses the strong hope that this advance will prove possible, as it regards the solution of its problem in this matter as being the most urgent of all its difficulties. The transmission of Parliamentary broadcasts to country areas is of equal importance to its availability in metropolitan areas. Equally, we feel that the country dweller, for whom radio is of much greater significance than for the urban population, is entitled to the choice of the two types of national programmes now enjoyed in our cities.

58. The Board appreciates the earnest desire of the Commission for a "third channel" for its programmes, and, in compliance with the request of the Commission, it is examining the technical problems which are involved in the proposal because it is obviously desirable that the position should be clarified before the matter is submitted for the consideration of the Government. The investigations which the Board has made so far suggest that it would be necessary to establish a number of high-power stations to ensure a wide coverage for the third programme. An analysis of all frequency channels has revealed that it is clearly impracticable to provide the required number of clear channels in the medium frequency broadcasting band, either below 1,500 kc/s. or between 1,500 and 1,600 kc/s. without very serious limitations being imposed on existing National and Commercial Services, and on proposals for the establishment of additional stations, both national and commercial, which the Board considers are essential for the development of the broadcasting services as they exist to-day.

59. The Board is therefore now considering the possibility of establishing a chain of high-power stations, one in each capital city (other than Canberra and Hobart) synchronized on one channel in the 1,500–1,600 Kilocycles portion of the medium frequency band. This proposal gives rise to problems of a complex character, involving further theoretical study and considerable practical experimentation, which the Board is arranging in co-operation with the Post Office. (See paragraph 96.) Another possible solution of the problem lies in the introduction of broadcasting in the very high frequency band, but this is a longer term project, consideration of which must await a decision on the general question of the use of the very high frequencies for broadcasting purposes. (See paragraphs 87–92.) It should be indicated, however, that apart from these technical considerations the "third network" proposal raises financial, economic and other problems of great importance. It may involve, for example, the making of a judgment on the question whether frequency channels should be used to provide additional services to the thickly populated areas of the Commonwealth, which are already relatively well served, or to extend the services to remote areas which are at present inadequately served. Fundamental issues also arise as to the scope and functions of the National Broadcasting Service, and also of the Commercial Broadcasting Service. All these, and many other, aspects of the matter have been discussed, on an informal basis, with the Commission during the year. It seems unlikely that there is any quick or easy solution to the problems which have been mentioned.

SHORTWAVE STATIONS.

60. Although the increase in power to 50,000 watts of certain national stations will improve night-time listening conditions in the very thinly populated areas of the Commonwealth remote from the city areas, the only practicable means of providing a continuous service for such areas is by means of shortwave (high frequency) transmitters, and nine stations are provided for this purpose, details of which are given in Appendix "B". The frequencies used for the shortwave service are capable of reception over long distances, but as they are used also by other countries, it is necessary to reach international agreement for their co-ordinated use if a reliable service is to be assured. During the year under review, an international conference was held in Geneva at which the Board was represented by Mr. D. McDonald, Director of Technical Services. At this conference, consideration was given to the means which should be adopted to ensure a satisfactory basis for the world-wide use of the frequency bands available for shortwave broadcasting services. (This matter is discussed in more detail in paragraph 76-81). Until recent years the lowest frequency band used for internal broadcasting services in Australia was 6-6.2 megacycles per second, but in order to provide night-time service to some listeners not being adequately served by either medium frequency or existing high frequency stations, it has been decided to utilize the 5 and 3 megacycles per second bands. Stations at Perth and Brisbane are already operating at frequencies in the former band and transmissions will be commenced in the latter band at a future date. The number of receivers capable of reception of these transmissions is unfortunately limited at the present time as the majority of receivers manufactured in the past have been designed to receive 6 megacycles per second and higher frequencies. However, as programmes become available in the lower bands it is expected that an increasing number of receivers will be produced which will be capable of tuning in to the lower frequencies.

PLANS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING SERVICE.

Increased Power for Country Stations on Shared Channels.

61. One of the most notable developments during the past year was the great improvement in the Commercial Broadcasting Service in rural areas, which resulted from the Board's decision to authorize a substantial increase in the power of many commercial broadcasting stations in country districts.

62. Soon after the Board was established, it commenced a review of the operating conditions of broadcasting stations, and decided that, as the first stage in its plans for the development of the Commercial Service, it would increase the operating power of the shared channel country stations. The reasons for adopting this course, which were fully explained in the Board's Second Report (paragraphs 80-91) may be briefly stated as under:—

- (a) the Board felt that it was desirable that prompt action should be taken to improve the grade of service for listeners in areas which were being served by low-powered stations operating on shared channels; and
- (b) the pressing representations which had been made by many licensees of these stations had clearly indicated the desirability of improving their operating conditions because of the disadvantages which they suffered in comparison with stations operating on clear channels.

63. The Board approached the problem of power for the shared channel stations with a desire to authorize the maximum possible power, consistent with technical requirements and other relevant considerations, and decided to proceed on the basis that—

- (a) the existing ceiling of 2,000 watts for commercial stations would, for the time being, be retained;
- (b) increases would be granted with as little disturbance as possible to existing frequency allocations;
- (c) equitable operating relationships between competing stations would, as far as possible, be preserved; and
- (d) protection against co-channel interference would be afforded to the 2.5 millivolt/metre contour.

For the purpose of allocating higher power to stations operating on shared channels in country districts in accordance with this plan, it was necessary for the Board to adopt certain provisional standards for the allocation of power and frequencies, particulars of which were supplied to the Australian Federation of Commercial Broadcasting Stations.

64. During the past two years, the Board made formal determinations in pursuance of section 56 of the Act, increasing the power of 59 of the 103 commercial broadcasting stations, details of which are contained in Appendix "C". All of these stations are operating on shared channels (or channels which will be shared) in country districts except stations 7HO Hobart, 7HT Hobart and 3AK Melbourne, all of which share channels with stations in country areas. Summarized, the position is that increased power has been authorized to the extent indicated hereunder:—

From	To	Number of stations.
100 watts	500 watts	2
200 "	500 "	7
300 "	500 "	2
100 "	1,000 "	2
200 "	1,000 "	11
300 "	1,000 "	3
500 "	1,000 "	12
100 "	2,000 "	1
200 "	2,000 "	5
300 "	2,000 "	1
500 "	2,000 "	10
1,000 "	2,000 "	(1 day time only) 3

65. As stated above, the Board, in determining the power increases, proceeded in accordance with provisional standards for power and frequency allocations under which protection against co-channel interference is afforded to the 2.5 millivolt/metre contour. Co-channel interference is evident only during hours of darkness, and generally it is practicable to permit higher power during daylight hours without causing interference with reception of other stations. The Board has advised licensees that it will consider applications for the use of higher power during daylight hours, and has authorized twelve stations to operate under these conditions as follows:—

- Ten stations normally using 1,000 watts to use 2,000 watts during daylight hours.
- One station normally using 500 watts to use 2,000 watts during daylight hours.
- One station normally using 500 watts to use 1,000 watts during daylight hours.

(Details of these authorizations are also contained in Appendix "C".)

66. The action which has been taken by the Board has met with the general approval of the licensees concerned. Most of them took immediate steps to give effect to the Board's decision, which involved nearly all of them in an expenditure of several thousand pounds on the purchase of new equipment, and many

others in an additional outlay on the purchase of new sites and the erection of new buildings. The Board wishes to express its appreciation of their enthusiastic efforts to improve their service with the least possible delay and it is gratified to report that by 30th June, 1952, 38 of the 59 stations for which increases have been approved were operating on the power determined by the Board, and two others had effected increases to an intermediate level pending the installation of new equipment. Although there has been some delay on the part of a few licensees, who were at first reluctant to incur the expenditure which was involved, satisfactory progress is being made by most of the other 21 licensees with their plans to increase the power of their stations, and the Board is confident that the first stage of its plan for improving the Commercial Broadcasting Service will be completed during the present year.

67. There is abundant evidence that, in the areas served by stations already operating on higher power, listeners are enjoying much improved reception, and the extent of the improvement in the commercial service in country districts as a whole may be gauged from the fact that—

- (a) instead of 37 such stations operating with power below 500 watts, there will be only one such station (and in that case the lower power is due solely to a restriction caused by the agreement with the New Zealand Administration which is referred to in paragraph 77);
- (b) instead of four stations operating with 1,000 watts, there will be 31 using that power and an additional station using 1,000 watts during daylight hours;
- (c) instead of four shared channel stations (located in Western Australia) operating with 2,000 watts, there will be 22 such stations, and eleven others using 2,000 watts during daylight hours.

68. The use of higher power improves reception for listeners because it enables a stronger signal to be laid down within the service area of a station and, to some extent, it enlarges the coverage of the station, although in the case of shared channel stations the increase in coverage is limited to daylight hours. The benefits which have been conferred on listeners by the power increases mentioned above have, however, been greatly enhanced by the fact that at most of the stations concerned, new equipment conforming with the Board's technical standards has been installed and in many cases more efficient radiators have been erected. The Board has no precise information as to the total cost of these improvements but it is estimated to be some hundreds of thousands of pounds.

Increased Power for Capital City Stations.

69. Having almost completed the first stage of its plans for developing the Commercial Broadcasting Service, the Board has, during the past year, proceeded to a consideration of the second stage, which is directed to improving the grade of service available to listeners from commercial broadcasting stations in the capital cities, other than stations 7HO Hobart, 7HT Hobart and 3AK Melbourne, the power of which has, as indicated in paragraph 64, already been increased. Following the procedure adopted in the case of the shared channel country stations, the Board invited the licensees of the capital city stations to submit their views concerning the operating power of their stations, and these are now being considered by the Board in connexion with the review which is being made of the question of the power of stations serving the metropolitan areas and surrounding districts. This is now an urgent matter, because since the war there has been rapid outward expansion of the capital cities resulting

from the erection of thousands of homes and many factories in new districts. There has been also an appreciable rise in the noise level in consequence of the increase in the use of electrical appliances over the past few years. The operating power of stations in the capital cities varies from 500 watts to 1,000 watts, and in the opinion of the Board this is quite inadequate to ensure the grade of service which listeners are entitled to expect.

70. Provision was made in the frequency list prepared at the Geneva conference (referred to in paragraph 77) and in the agreement between the Australian and New Zealand Administration (see paragraph 77) for the use of substantially higher power by Australian stations on the frequencies occupied by the capital city stations, and the technical problems associated with proposals to increase the power of these stations are not so acute as those associated with the power of shared channel stations. There are, however, some involved economic factors which have to be considered in relation to this question because of the necessity for maintaining the stability of the commercial service as a whole. Considerable progress had been made with the Board's investigation of this matter at the time this report was being prepared and the Board hopes to be in a position at an early date to determine its policy in regard to the power of all the capital city stations.

Clear Channel Stations in Country Districts.

71. As is mentioned in paragraph 63, the Board has considered the question of the power of shared channel stations in country districts on the basis that the existing ceiling of 2,000 watts for commercial stations would be retained for the time being. Accordingly, the Board does not at present propose to authorize any increase in the power of clear channel stations in country districts which are already operating on 2,000 watts. It will be necessary, however, in due course for the Board to consider the effect which its plans for increasing the power of capital city stations might have on the operations of the clear channel country stations.

Additional Commercial Broadcasting Stations.

72. In its Third Report, the Board after indicating that it was proposed to establish three additional commercial broadcasting stations in Western Australia, stated in paragraph 66—

The Board has also reached tentative conclusions concerning the most suitable locations for additional commercial stations in the eastern States and at the end of the period to which this report relates was pursuing its investigations into the matter, which has to be very carefully studied from many angles in order that the few available channels may be put to the best use in the public interest.

During the past year, engineers attached to the staff of the Board conducted field investigations in several districts for the purpose of obtaining precise information concerning the grade of service available from commercial stations, and as a result of one such investigation the Board decided to recommend the grant of a licence for a station at Taree, New South Wales, in which district it was ascertained that there was a very large number of persons not assured of consistently satisfactory reception from any commercial station. As has been explained, it is extremely difficult to provide frequency channels for new stations and for this reason the Board feels that they must be used only to enable a service to be provided in localities, such as Taree, where a technical investigation clearly establishes the need for a station. Under the technical conditions authorized for Taree, it is estimated that 17,000 people will receive a first-class service when the station is brought into use. The possibility of providing other new commercial stations is still being examined by the Board, which feels obliged to point out the probability that any additional station which

might be licensed in the eastern States in the medium frequency band would be required to operate on technical conditions which would severely restrict its coverage at night. (This question is also referred to in paragraph 17.) The same difficulties do not arise in Western Australia in respect of the allocation of frequencies due to its distance from the eastern States and the time difference of two hours.

STANDARDS FOR THE TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION OF BROADCASTING STATIONS.

73. In pursuance of section 6K (1.) of the *Broadcasting Act 1942-1951*, which requires the Board to ensure that the technical equipment and operation of all broadcasting stations are in accordance with such standards and practices as the Board considers to be appropriate, the Board, on 17th March, 1952, formally adopted technical standards as a guide to its requirements in the administration of such of the provisions of the Act as relate to technical aspects of the broadcasting services. The draft standards were, as was mentioned in the Third Report, discussed with Post Office engineers and the Technical Committee of the Australian Federation of Commercial Broadcasting Stations, before being formally adopted and they have been well received by the licensees of stations and manufacturers of broadcasting equipment, to whom copies have been supplied. The purpose of the standards is to ensure that Australian broadcasting stations are installed, maintained and operated in conformity with modern engineering practices, and the Board is satisfied that this objective will be achieved. A considerable number of new transmitters conforming with the Board's requirements have been installed and there is a general desire on the part of the broadcasters to comply with the high standards set by the Board.

UNATTENDED OPERATION OF BROADCASTING STATIONS.

74. In paragraphs 73-74 of its Third Report, the Board indicated that it was prepared to approve of the unattended operation of broadcasting transmitters, provided the following safeguards were observed:—

- (a) the equipment to be used must be satisfactory with respect to supervision and control devices and protection against faults;
- (b) stand-by transmitters with satisfactory arrangements for changeover in the event of a fault must be provided, except in special cases approved by the Board;
- (c) a qualified technician must be available at short notice to attend to any fault which occurs.

Full particulars of the Board's requirements are contained in the Technical Standards issued by the Board and, subject to compliance with these standards, the licensees of ten commercial broadcasting stations have been authorized to operate their transmitters "on remote control". Several other applications for approval for unattended operation were under consideration when this report was being prepared.

75. Five transmitters have been operated on, an unattended basis for some time and their operation has been so satisfactory that the Board is satisfied that there is very little risk of "remote control" operation under the conditions laid down in the Board's standards resulting in interruptions to the service of a transmitter of modern design. The major radio manufacturing firms have specially developed control equipment to comply with the Board's standards and this equipment is being installed at most of the stations where unattended operation has been approved. The Board has taken steps to ensure that an adequate staff of qualified technicians will continue to be employed by licensees employing this system of operation.

ALLOCATION OF FREQUENCIES.

76. As has been mentioned in the Board's previous reports, one of the most difficult problems associated with the development of the broadcasting services arises from the fact that there is only a limited number of frequency channels available in the medium frequency and high frequency bands for broadcasting purposes. Bands of frequencies for all classes of radio stations are allocated in accordance with the provisions of the regulations and international agreements made under the International Telecommunications Convention, and the bands of medium and high frequencies which are reserved for broadcasting stations are as follows:—

535- 1,605	kilocycles per second	per	Medium frequency band, world-wide use.
2,300- 2,495	kilocycles per second	per	Restricted to use in tropical regions, which for Australia under the International Telecommunications Convention covers the region north of latitude 35 degrees south.
3,200- 3,400	kilocycles per second	per	" " " "
4,750- 4,995	kilocycles per second	per	" " " "
5,005- 5,060	kilocycles per second	per	" " " "
3,900- 4,000	kilocycles per second	per	High frequency band.
5,950- 6,200	kilocycles per second	per	High frequency band, world-wide use.
7,150- 7,300	kilocycles per second	per	High frequency band for world-wide use, except for American region.
9,500- 9,775	kilocycles per second	per	High frequency band, world-wide use.
11,700-11,975	kilocycles per second	per	" " "
15,100-15,450	kilocycles per second	per	" " "
17,700-17,900	kilocycles per second	per	" " "
21,450-21,750	kilocycles per second	per	" " "
25,600-26,100	kilocycles per second	per	" " "

77. There has been a tremendous expansion in the use of radio stations for many purposes in recent years and because of the increasing demands by all nations for additional frequencies, several international conferences have been held in an endeavour to secure world-wide agreement for the co-ordinated use of the radio frequency spectrum for broadcasting and radiocommunication services. Another such conference was held in Geneva during the year, commencing in August, 1951, to review the work of the previous conferences and to establish a procedure which would permit of the orderly development of all radio services throughout the world. Mr. D. McDonald, Director of Technical Services, represented the Board at the Geneva conference which lasted until December, 1951. One of the subsidiary duties of the conference was to seek agreement between nations in certain defined regions concerning their use of frequencies, and it is of special interest to the Commonwealth that agreement was reached between the representatives of countries in Region 3 (which includes Australia, New Zealand, and countries in Southern Asia and to the north of Australia) with respect to their use of frequencies in the medium frequency band of 535 to 1,605 kilocycles per second. A list of existing and proposed broadcasting stations in Region 3, showing their power and assigned frequency, was prepared, and it was agreed that it should be operative as from 1st February, 1953. Provision was made for the use of frequencies in conformity with the plans for the development of the Australian broadcasting services which are explained in this report, and it is worthy of

note that the conference between representatives of the Australian and New Zealand broadcasting authorities, which was held in Wellington in October, 1950 (and was commented upon in paragraphs 69 and 70 of the Board's Third Report), greatly facilitated the work of Region 3 sub-committee of the Geneva conference.

78. The medium frequency list prepared at Geneva confirmed the trend towards high power operation of broadcasting stations, which is referred to in paragraph 56, as the following countries which operate stations in Region 3 have made provision in the list for stations of power of 50,000 watts or greater: Japan, 10 stations; China, 4 stations; Korea, 1 station; India, 12 stations; Ceylon, 4 stations; Iran, 1 station; Philippines, 3 stations; United States of America, 4 stations; New Zealand, 2 stations; Australia, 12 stations. Subsequent to the Geneva conference, it was necessary for the Board to make some minor variations in the frequency and power of Australian stations, but these changes would not affect any of the countries in Region 3, except perhaps New Zealand, whose administration has agreed to the alterations which have been made.

79. The allocation of medium frequencies to individual stations is, as has been explained in the Board's previous reports, an extremely complex problem, especially when, as is the case in Australia, it is necessary to require two or more stations to use the same channel. There are 107 channels in the medium frequency band mentioned in paragraph 76, and all of them (with the exception of one which, under its agreement with New Zealand, Australia has undertaken not to use) have been assigned to the 145 stations already in operation and other stations which are projected. It will therefore be appreciated that any additional stations, either national or commercial, can be provided for only by the extension of the shared channel system. This method of providing channels for additional stations must however be used with great caution because of the need for avoiding any substantial reduction in the coverage of existing stations. In this connexion the synchronous operation of stations which radiate identical programmes would facilitate the allocation of frequencies for additional stations and the practicability of this method of operation, as applied to Australian conditions, is, as mentioned in paragraphs 93-96, being examined by the Board.

80. Whilst there are at present no Australian broadcasting stations in the frequency band, 2,300-2,495 kilocycles per second and 3,200-3,400 kilocycles per second, the Board considers that these frequencies should be used in order to provide night time reception in certain localities which cannot be served by medium frequency stations. Accordingly, provision was made in the frequency lists prepared at the Geneva conference for five stations in Australia and one in New Guinea. These bands are at present used by services other than broadcasting, and it will be necessary for some of these services to be transferred to other portions of the frequency spectrum before they can be used by broadcasting stations. As the range of transmissions in these bands is greater than in the medium frequency band, it will be necessary to collaborate with New Zealand and countries to the north of Australia in regard to the use of these frequencies in order to prevent interference. The Geneva conference was not able to prepare frequency lists for the frequency bands 4,750-4,995 kilocycles per second and 5,005-5,060 kilocycles per second, and operation of broadcasting stations and other services in this portion of the frequency spectrum will continue as at present. As these are very congested frequency bands in which numerous stations are operating, it will be extremely difficult to secure additional channels for the extension of the service now being provided by stations operating at Perth and Brisbane.

81. The Geneva conference did not prepare a plan for the high frequency broadcasting bands above 5,950 kilocycles per second, but agreed that the final international arrangement for the use of these frequencies should be the responsibility of the International Frequency Registration Board (I.F.R.B.), which is a permanent technical body of the International Telecommunications Union located in Geneva. To aid the I.F.R.B. in the preparation of plans, information prepared by the Board has been supplied to that body concerning the Australian high frequency broadcasting requirements. The use of high frequencies for broadcasting purposes has increased rapidly throughout the world in recent years, and as such frequencies have a very great transmission range, the task of preparing plans for successful operation of the services of all countries is extremely difficult. The progress made by the I.F.R.B. on the development of a plan for high frequency broadcasting is to be reviewed by the Administrative Council of the International Telecommunications Union in 1953.

MEETINGS OF THE C.C.I.R. (COMITÉ CONSULTATIF INTERNATIONAL DES RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS).

82. During the year, the Board was represented by Mr. A. J. McKenzie, Assistant Director, Technical Services Division, at the British Commonwealth Broadcasting Conference held in London in June and July, 1952, and also at meetings of the undermentioned study groups of the International Radio Consultative Committee (C.C.I.R.) of the International Telecommunications Union, which were held in Stockholm during May, 1952:—

- Study Group V.—Tropospheric propagation.
- Study Group VI.—Ionospheric propagation.
- Study Group XI.—Television.

The Board was especially interested in the deliberations of Groups V. and XI., which were concerned primarily with the correlation of data to assess—

- (a) the probable magnitude of interfering tropospheric signals on the very high frequencies between 40 Mc/s and 200 Mc/s; and
- (b) the magnitude of interfering signal which may be tolerated in the case of either a very high frequency sound broadcasting signal, or of a television signal.

The data on these two subjects were prepared in connexion with the European V.H.F. (Very High Frequency) Broadcasting Conference which was subsequently held in Stockholm in June and July, 1952, at which a plan was prepared for the allocation of frequencies in European countries for V.H.F. sound broadcasting and television.

83. Although prepared for European conditions, the work of the Committee in these fields will be of considerable use for preliminary planning in connexion with the Australian V.H.F. sound broadcasting and television systems. A point of considerable interest is that the tropospheric propagation data presented by European administrations and the United States delegation was in substantial agreement, a fact which leads to the conclusion that conditions would be much the same throughout the world, and that the available data may reasonably be used for planning in Australia. However, the Board feels that it is desirable to obtain precise information concerning Australian conditions and with this end in view it proposes to conduct some experiments in collaboration with the Postmaster-General's Department.

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH BROADCASTING CONFERENCE.

84. The second British Commonwealth Broadcasting Conference was held in London during June and July, 1952, and was attended by delegations from the

United Kingdom, Canada, South Africa, New Zealand, India, Pakistan, Ceylon and Australia. (A previous conference was held in 1945.) The Australian delegation consisted of Messrs. C. J. A. Moses, General Manager of the Australian Broadcasting Commission, R. Bronner, Director of Youth Broadcasting on the staff of the Commission, R. V. McKay, Australian Post Office Representative in London, and A. J. McKenzie, Assistant Director, Technical Services Division, on the staff of the Board. The main object of the conference was to seek closer co-operation between the various broadcasting organizations of the British Commonwealth and considerable progress was made in connexion with plans for the exchange of programmes and information relating to techniques. The representatives of the Commission were concerned primarily with matters relating to programmes, and Messrs. McKay and McKenzie with technical questions coming within the functions of the Post Office and the Board respectively.

85. The subjects on the technical agenda for the conference were—

- Exchange of broadcasting programmes within the British Commonwealth.
- High frequency programme circuits.
- Diversity reception for re-broadcasting.
- Frequency allocations.
- Sound recording reproduction.
- Very high frequency broadcasting.
- Studio acoustics.
- Studio, outside broadcast and control room equipment.
- Television.
- Suppression of electrical interference.
- Remotely controlled transmitters.

These subjects were considered by a technical committee, which made a number of recommendations which were adopted by the full conference. One proposal of considerable importance was that high frequency relay stations should be established, as a means for ensuring the better reception in many areas of British Commonwealth stations, some of which, because of the great distances involved, cannot lay down a strength of signal comparable with that laid down by the nearer stations of other nations.

86. The conference also recommended that standard procedures should be adopted in connexion with technical arrangements for the exchange of programmes for re-broadcasting and the exchange of information relating to propagation conditions and the quality of reception of stations of the various countries of the British Commonwealth. To facilitate the exchange of transcribed programmes, the conference agreed that the adoption of uniform standards was desirable and in this regard decided to accept, as far as possible, the proposed standards of the C.C.I.R. The conference also considered various questions relating to existing deficiencies and anomalies in the frequency bands assigned for broadcasting purposes by the International Telecommunications Conference held at Atlantic City in 1947. One of the most satisfactory features of the conference was that it provided an opportunity for discussions between representatives of all divisions of the various broadcasting organizations of the British Commonwealth and that it has facilitated the future exchange of information between the various countries concerning developments and techniques in respect of medium and high frequency services which are already well established and also in the newer fields of very high frequency broadcasting and television.

VERY HIGH FREQUENCY BROADCASTING.

87. In its Third Report, the Board stated that whilst it realized the benefits to be derived from the introduction into the Commonwealth of broadcasting services

on the very high frequencies, it intended to concentrate, for the time being, on the improvement of the existing services (medium and high frequencies). There are approximately 2,500,000 receivers in use in the Commonwealth at the present time, designed for reception of the latter services, representing a capital investment of the order of £100,000,000 and, in the opinion of the Board, there is an immediate need to proceed with the implementation of the plans outlined earlier in this report for improving the quality of the service which is being provided on the medium and high frequencies. It has been suggested that these plans should be reconsidered in view of the effect which the introduction of V.H.F. broadcasting may have on them, but, having reviewed the requirements of Australian listeners, especially in country districts, the Board has come to the conclusion that the present plans for the improvement of the broadcasting services should proceed, and that decisions to be made with respect to the introduction of V.H.F. broadcasting should be made on the basis that the medium frequency services will continue to operate.

88. The question of the use of very high frequencies is one which has to be considered both from the technical and the economic aspects including the effect which the introduction of television may have on V.H.F. broadcasting development and the effect of V.H.F. broadcasting on the existing medium frequency service. In so far as the technical aspects are concerned, the Board has investigated the relative merits of the various forms of modulation and is of the opinion that, if V.H.F. broadcasting is introduced into Australia, frequency modulation (F.M.) should be employed.

89. Although the problem must be considered in the light of Australian conditions and without undue regard for developments in other countries, where, in general, conditions are different, it is of interest to consider the status of V.H.F. broadcasting overseas. In the United States there are about 8,000,000 V.H.F. receivers compared with 18,000,000 television receivers and 100,000,000 medium frequency receivers. It is thought by many qualified persons in the United States that the development of V.H.F. broadcasting in that country has been handicapped because it was introduced about the same time as television, and that progress with the former has been retarded by the popularity of the latter. On the other hand, it is possible that the development of V.H.F. broadcasting has been retarded because in many cases the programmes on V.H.F. stations are merely duplicating those broadcast by the existing medium frequency stations.

90. No decision has yet been reached in Great Britain concerning the use of the very high frequencies, notwithstanding that the Broadcasting Committee of 1949 (the Beveridge Committee) expressed the view that the exploitation of these frequencies could improve broadcasting in Britain in two important directions, "that of securing more nearly complete coverage of the present programmes of the British Broadcasting Corporation and that of increasing the diversity of programmes". The non-availability of medium frequencies for the expansion of existing services in Britain gives rise to problems which are much more acute than is the case in Australia, but great caution is being shown in the British approach to the use of the very high frequencies for the purpose of obtaining the benefits mentioned by the Beveridge Committee. The matter was referred to in a memorandum presented by the Postmaster-General to the Parliament of the United Kingdom in May, 1952, (Cmd. 8550) in which it was stated:—

The rate of development of very high frequency sound broadcasting must necessarily be subject to economic circumstances and the control of capital investment. An Advisory Committee, covering also television, will be asked to consider

the best methods of introducing higher frequency sound broadcasting into the system of this country, including the form of modulation to be adopted, on which consultation with the radio industry will be essential.

91. With regard to Europe, there have been very rapid developments in the V.H.F. field in Western Germany, due, it is thought, to the extreme difficulties which confronted the broadcasting authorities in that country in providing an adequate service on the few medium frequencies allotted to Western Germany by the European Broadcasting Conference in 1948. There are now 27 medium frequency stations in Western Germany operating under conditions which severely restrict their coverage, but there are 60 V.H.F. stations in which provision has been made for approximately 90 transmitters. It is estimated that 40 per cent. of the population is using V.H.F. receivers and that 85 per cent of the broadcast receivers now being sold are capable of receiving V.H.F. transmissions. It is clear that substantial developments in V.H.F. broadcasting are being, or will be, made in most European countries, all of which find it difficult to expand their existing medium frequency services because of the non-availability of channels.

92. The Board is actively continuing its investigation of the possibilities of V.H.F. broadcasting as an adjunct to the existing services in this country where, as previously mentioned, the conditions are different from those in the countries mentioned above. The Board proposes, at an early date, to confer with the manufacturing industry concerning several aspects of the matter.

SYNCHRONIZED OPERATION OF BROADCASTING STATIONS.

93. In previous reports, the Board has referred to the possible application to Australian conditions of synchronized operation of two or more stations on the same frequency channel and in paragraph 59 of this report it suggested that the introduction of this system of operation might facilitate the provision of a network of stations for a third national programme as proposed by the Australian Broadcasting Commission.

94. The visit of Mr. A. J. McKenzie (referred to in paragraphs 82 and 84) to Europe for the purpose of attending the C.C.I.R. and British Commonwealth Broadcasting Conference afforded an opportunity for a close examination of synchronized operation of stations in the United Kingdom and European countries. Because of the fact that so few frequency channels are available, it has been found necessary in Europe for synchronized stations to be located so close to one another that there is mutual interference, with consequential distortion of programme, over fairly wide areas even in daylight hours. It appears that this distortion is comparable with that encountered under normal night-time fading conditions. However, distortion in daylight due to synchronization is of a more regular nature than that caused by normal fading at night time, and occurs at periodic intervals of about one minute, the severity of distortion depending on the ratio of field strengths from the stations concerned and the characteristics of the local receiving aerials.

95. If synchronized operation were introduced into Australia, it is most likely that the synchronized transmitters would be much farther apart than is the case in Europe, but closer together than is normally possible with stations operating on the same frequency channel but transmitting different programmes. There would be no daylight interference between the synchronized transmitters and although there would be some interference, with consequential distortion, at night time in the area normally affected by fading, it is considered that the incidence of such distortion would be less serious than the day-time interference which is ex-

perienced when the stations are relatively close together as in Europe. On the other hand, the longer the distance between synchronized stations, the greater is the difficulty in maintaining the continuity of the interconnecting programme circuits; this is a very important consideration, as any interruption during hours of darkness to the circuits which would necessitate the transmission of different programmes from the synchronized stations would very seriously reduce the service area of those stations.

96. Overseas experience suggests that whilst synchronized operation may be useful in the further development of Australian services, it is essential that some experience of this method of operation must be obtained under actual operating conditions before any decision is reached. As mentioned in the Board's Third Report, the Board has arranged in collaboration with the Post Office for stations 4QN Townsville and 4QS Dalby to be synchronized on an experimental basis, but these tests have unfortunately been delayed as a result of the destruction by fire of the special equipment which was being installed at the former station. New equipment is being manufactured by the Postal Department, and it is now expected that the tests will be commenced early in 1953. The Australian Broadcasting Commission has agreed to co-operate by altering the programme schedules of the two stations slightly in order to ensure that they will be transmitting the same programmes during hours of darkness whilst the tests are proceeding.

TELEVISION.

97. In its Third Annual Report, the Board stated that the Government had, on 27th June, 1950, reached the following decision in respect of television:—

- (a) that television be developed on a gradual scale only in Australia;
- (b) that initially a National Television Service be established in Sydney;
- (c) that one commercial television licence be issued in Sydney and Melbourne and in any other capital city where it is felt that the applicant's capacity to provide a service justified the issue of a licence;
- (d) as experience in the technical and programme aspects of television is obtained, consideration be given to the extension of the National Television Service to other capital cities and to the larger provincial centres.

It also stated that the Minister had established a Television Advisory Committee consisting of the Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs, the Chairman of the Australian Broadcasting Commission, and the Chairman of the Board; that tenders had been invited for the station it was intended to establish in Sydney; and that a small committee of officers, comprising Mr. C. J. A. Moses, General Manager of the Australian Broadcasting Commission, Mr. J. M. Donovan, Assistant Secretary (Television), Australian Broadcasting Control Board, and Mr. J. H. T. Fisher, Divisional Engineer of the Postmaster-General's Department, had been sent overseas for the purpose of obtaining information on matters relating to the establishment of the proposed national television station in Sydney and its operations during the experimental period.

98. On 1st November, 1951, the report of the Committee was submitted by the Television Advisory Committee to the Minister. In view of the economic situation which had arisen in the Commonwealth, the question of the introduction of television was reconsidered by the Government, which, on 12th March, 1952, decided to hold the matter in abeyance for the time being. Announcing this decision, the Minister said that the Government had felt obliged to review its

policy in many matters, including television, because of the very drastic change which had taken place in the Australian economy as a result primarily of alterations in the balance of overseas payments. In this connexion, the Government, whilst recognizing that the introduction of television could confer many benefits on the community, was obliged to pay due regard to many projects possessing a higher priority than television, notably those relating to defence, and also to the overall economic situation. The Government had accordingly reached the conclusion that, although it was anxious that television services should be provided for the people of the Commonwealth as soon as possible, the time was inopportune to embark upon the introduction of television. The Minister emphasized that this decision was reached by the Government with considerable reluctance and that it should not be taken as indicating that the establishment of television services in this country had been deferred indefinitely. On the contrary, he said, the question would be kept under constant review, as it was the desire of the Government that the services should be commenced as soon as circumstances permitted.

TELEVISION STANDARDS.

99. Full particulars of the standards determined by the Board for application to television services in Australia were contained in Appendix "D" of the Board's Second Report. The standards, which are under constant review in the light of developments overseas, provide that the number of scanning lines per picture shall be 625. It has been noted that at the plenary meeting of the C.C.I.R. at Geneva late in 1951, it was impossible to obtain international agreement on this subject and the C.C.I.R. deferred the question for further consideration at its next plenary meeting in 1953.

100. Varying standards have been adopted overseas, in England 405 lines, in the United States 525 lines, in Europe (except France) 625 lines, and in France 819 lines. It appears likely that the European standard—625 lines—will be extensively used following the allocation, by the European V.H.F. conference in June, 1952, of frequency channels for approximately 550 television stations in Europe in the bands 41-68 Mc/s and 162-216 Mc/s.

101. Because of the development in Europe, the Board has thought it desirable to compare the Australian standards with the European standards generally, and it has noted that, apart from the proposed use in Australia of a 7.5 Mc/s channel width (as against 7 Mc/s European), the 25 Mc/s frequency deviation of the sound carrier (50 kC/s. European), and a difference in tolerance of frequency stability of the waveform generator, the differences between the two sets of standards lie in a number of minor details in the standard waveform of the television signals. As these minor differences in detail, if adopted by Australia at the time of introducing television, would not inconvenience manufacturers in any plans they may have made for the manufacture of receivers, the Board is giving consideration to the relative merits of the two waveforms to see whether, on this point of comparatively minor detail, it would be wise to conform with C.C.I.R. standards. On one detail regarding waveform suggested by the Swiss Administration, and to which no other administration has objected, Australia has agreed to conform if no difficulty arises in doing so at the time of introduction of television. It appears likely that the C.C.I.R. waveform would have certain advantages over that proposed in the Australian standards, if at any time a colour

system were developed (such as that under consideration by the National Television System Committee of the United States). On the other hand, the frequency stability tolerance provided for in the Australian standards is more stringent than the C.C.I.R. standard and, as in the case of the channel width, would be more suitable than the C.C.I.R. standard if such a colour system were introduced.

102. The C.C.I.R. plenary meeting recommended further study of the question of interchange of programmes between transmissions utilizing the four different line standards referred to in paragraph 100. The United Kingdom delegation at the 1952 meeting of the C.C.I.R. television study group at Stockholm expressed the view that this problem had been overcome by the recent experiments carried out by the B.B.C. in conjunction with the French broadcasting organization, in transmissions over the 405-line system of programme picked up from an 819-line system.

TELEVISION RECEIVER INTERMEDIATE FREQUENCIES.

103. In the Board's Third Report, the question of the selection of intermediate frequencies for television receivers was discussed and the view was expressed that intermediate frequencies in the 30-40 Mc/s band were most suitable for recommendation to the manufacturing industry. It is realized that no intermediate frequency can be entirely satisfactory from every point of view, and that at best a compromise between the various conflicting requirements is necessary. The Board has tentatively determined the specific values for sound and picture carriers and its views will be notified to manufacturers when a decision is made to proceed with the introduction of television. It is of interest to note that a technical committee of the British Radio Equipment Manufacturer's Association has been formed to study the possibility of adopting a standard intermediate frequency for television receivers in the United Kingdom. The British manufacturers have in the past favoured low intermediate frequencies, but there is now a tendency for them to favour the future use of higher intermediate frequencies in the 30-40 Mc/s band, and a number of them are already using this band.

PART IV.—PROGRAMME SERVICES.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS.

104. The Board's responsibilities in relation to broadcast programmes are described in general terms in section 6k (1.) of the Act as an obligation to ensure that adequate and comprehensive programmes are provided by broadcasting stations "to serve the best interests of the general public". Parliament has directed, in section 6k (2.) of the Act, that in the exercise of this function the Board shall consult the Australian Broadcasting Commission and representatives of the licensees of commercial broadcasting stations in relation to the programmes of the National and Commercial Broadcasting Service respectively.

105. The Board recognizes that the primary responsibility for the production of programmes rests with the Commission and the licensees of commercial stations. As the British Broadcasting Committee of 1949 (the Beveridge Committee) said, "The framing and producing of programmes is the characteristic specialized work of a broadcasting station". The Board's concept of its duty in regard to programmes is therefore that it should consider whether the programmes which are broadcast are broadly "adequate and comprehensive" and that it should suggest improvements in principle rather than intrude into the specialized field of programme production. It is,

however, necessary for the Board to pay attention also to the specific requirements of the Act (section 6k (2.)) that the Board shall, in particular—

- (i) ensure reasonable variety of programmes;
- (ii) ensure that divine worship or other matter of a religious nature is broadcast for adequate periods and at appropriate times and that no matter which is not of a religious nature is broadcast by a station during any period during which divine worship or other matter of a religious nature is broadcast by that station;
- (iii) ensure that facilities are provided on an equitable basis for the broadcasting of political or controversial matter;
- (iv) determine the extent to which advertisements may be broadcast in the programme of any commercial broadcasting station; and
- (v) fix the hours of service of broadcasting stations, television stations and facsimile stations.

106. The Board is more concerned with the programmes of the commercial broadcasting stations than with those of the Australian Broadcasting Commission because licensees are obliged to provide programmes "in such manner as to ensure as far as practicable" that they are "to the satisfaction of the Board". On the other hand, the Commission has been given the widest powers, under Part II. of the Act, to "take in the interests of the community all such measures as, in the opinion of the Commission, are conducive to the full development of suitable broadcasting programmes" for transmission from the national stations.

107. The proper performance of its duties in relation to programmes requires that the Board shall be fully and reliably informed concerning programmes which are broadcast. The Board has, therefore, taken steps to secure information concerning the general trend of Australian programmes and the quality of programme service being provided by individual stations. The Board is indebted to the Commission for much information concerning the national programmes, and regular meetings with the Liaison Committee of the Australian Federation of Commercial Broadcasting Stations have provided an opportunity for a very useful exchange of ideas concerning many matters of general policy and practice in the provision of the programmes of the Commercial Service. Further investigations have been made into the programmes of individual commercial stations, 34 of which were visited by officers of the Programme Services Division during the year. Extensive observations of programmes were also made by these officers, whose efforts have been supplemented by the Board's State Representatives. The Board has continued to undertake research into various aspects of programmes and has arranged for some co-ordination of its activities in this field with the Commission on a basis which, it is confident, will be beneficial to both organizations.

108. The impression gained by the Board from the studies which it has been making during the year is such as to justify the general conclusion that both the Commission and the licensees of commercial broadcasting stations are in fact providing "adequate and comprehensive programmes" and that, although it is necessary to invite attention in succeeding paragraphs to some deficiencies, the broadcasters are making praiseworthy efforts "to serve the best interests of the general public". It will be appreciated that, in this field, it is impracticable to make any except the broadest judgments on the general issue which has

been discussed, and that these judgments must be made having regard to the accepted current standards of radio entertainment and programme content generally, a subject on which it is notorious that opinions differ very greatly indeed.

VARIETY OF PROGRAMMES.

109. As indicated above, one of the Board's obligations is to ensure a "reasonable variety of programmes". In its Third Report, the Board reported that it is the practice of the Commission and the licensees of most of the commercial broadcasting stations to frame their programmes in such a way that the differing tastes of listeners may, as far as practicable, be reasonably satisfied throughout the day. Most Australian listeners are assured of reliable reception from several broadcasting stations and the discriminating listener who plans his listening after reference to the details of forthcoming programmes, which are published by stations has, at most times, a variety of items from which to make his choice.

110. A careful selection of his programmes enables the listener to obtain the maximum enjoyment from the broadcasting service, a view which was interestingly expressed in the following passage in *Good Listening* (by Elkan and Dorothea Allan: London, 1951):—

The enthusiastic listener uses it [i.e. the *Radio Times*, which publishes details of the B.B.C. programmes] as a sort of engagement book ticking off each day the programmes he wishes to hear. In the matter of listening to the radio, some measure of planning is even more necessary than in most activities, for the air is crowded with competing services and programmes, which must be tuned into at just the right moment or be lost for ever. An efficient gadget which tuned into the right station for one, and turned the set on and off at the proper times, would be a boon; and a machine which recorded the programmes for one while one was out or busy at something else would be of even greater value. Lacking these future conveniences, however, we have to be wide awake to catch all the programmes we should like to hear.

The act of planning, of deciding to hear the talk at half-past seven and the play after the news, makes listening much more pleasurable simply because the decision to listen puts one in the right mood. It is our positive contribution to our enjoyment, in the same way as is the act of *going* to the theatre.

111. The Board feels that in connexion with the general question of variety in programmes, it should invite attention to what appears to be a lack of originality in the approach of many stations to the development of new programmes and a tendency to imitate, frequently without great success, a new idea which has been introduced by a competitor. Examples of this tendency may be seen in the numerous "quiz" sessions, with their variants towards higher or lower standards of knowledge, the extension of the practice of "give-away" awards or prizes in connexion with such programmes, and in the number of sessions of the thriller type which range from mystery drama to police court documentaries, the desirability of some of which the Board has had occasion to question. It is open to doubt whether these trends really reflect the public taste; they certainly appear to the Board to merit serious consideration by the broadcasters if for no other reason than to ensure the provision of the widest possible choice of programmes for listeners. It is the fact that there are still occasions when a number of stations in the same locality broadcast the same type of programme. There have been complaints in particular that too many stations simultaneously broadcast descriptions of boxing, horse races and other sporting events, but the Board is glad to report that some stations have already revised their policy in this regard and are now providing alternative musical programmes instead of racing descriptions. This matter is under constant review.

COUNTRY STATIONS.

	Commonwealth.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.
For ..	63.0	69.5	78.5	43.0	56.6	60.0	62.3
Against	37.0	30.5	21.5	57.0	43.4	40.0	37.7
	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

METROPOLITAN AND COUNTRY STATIONS COMBINED.

	Commonwealth.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.
For ..	60.3	68.0	63.8	43.2	55.9	58.3	59.2
Against	39.7	32.0	36.2	56.8	44.1	41.7	40.8
	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Broadcasts from Commercial Stations by other Organizations and Persons.

119. Broadcasts in this category occupied an additional 191 hours from 92 commercial stations and represented approximately 24 per cent. of the total time (including party leaders' initial speeches) devoted by commercial stations to broadcasts connected with the referendum. The majority of broadcasts by organizations took place from stations in country towns. The division of the total time involved between metropolitan and country areas was as follows:—

Metropolitan	..	..	..	..	..	33
Country	..	..	..	..	..	158
Total	..	..	..	..	..	191

These broadcasts, which were widely spread throughout the Commonwealth, were made by 32 organizations of which only five used 7 per cent. or more of the total time so occupied. The following table sets out the division of time between these organizations:—

BROADCASTS BY ORGANIZATIONS AND PERSONS OTHER THAN PARTIES REPRESENTED IN PARLIAMENT AND MEMBERS OF SUCH PARTIES: ALLOCATION OF TIME (PERCENTAGES).

Combined Federal Trade Unions ..	..	37
Australian Council of Trades Unions ..	..	16
Trades and Labour Council (Queensland) ..	..	16
Peoples' Union Party ..	..	13
Communist Party ..	..	7
Other Groups (27) ..	..	11
Total (32) ..	..	100

NOTE.—The above statement does not take into account any part of any programmes sponsored by any of the above organizations which did not consist of political matter.

Total Time for Referendum Broadcasts from Commercial Stations.

120. The total time allocated to broadcasts of political matter by commercial stations during the Referendum amounted to 796 hours, made up as follows:—

Party Leaders' initial speeches ..	..	191
Parliamentary Parties and Members of parties (excluding leaders' initial speeches) ..	..	414
Organizations and persons other than Parliamentary parties and their members ..	..	191
Total ..	..	796

The time allotted to the Referendum broadcasts was considerably less than was involved in the campaign for the Federal Elections held in April, 1951. The total of 796 hours represented an average of approximately 7.7 hours per station, whereas time allocated to election broadcasts aggregated 1,256 hours, an average of approximately 12.3 hours per station. The referendum broadcasts by Parliamentary parties and their members occupied less than half the time similarly occupied in the election campaign, but the time used by other organizations was over two and a half times as great for the referendum.

Referendum Broadcasts from Stations of the National Broadcasting Service.

121. The total time made available by the Australian Broadcasting Commission for broadcasts for and against the referendum proposal was 246 hours. This time was allocated equally between both sides of the case, and was distributed on a basis of six hours for each State capital city and Newcastle, and six hours per station elsewhere. The distribution of the 34 stations serving the country areas was as follows:—

- New South Wales—ten (including one medium wave in the Australian Capital Territory and one shortwave).
- Victoria—three (including one shortwave).
- Queensland—eleven (including two shortwave).
- South Australia—four (including two medium-wave in Northern Territory).
- Western Australia—five (including two shortwave).
- Tasmania—one.

The broadcasts were given by members of the political parties in Parliament, speakers for the proposal being drawn from the Liberal and Country Parties, and speakers against being drawn from the Labour Party. In each case, the option was given of using the whole of the allotted time (three hours) on simultaneous national relay, or of using two hours on national relay and the balance separately within each State. There was no restriction on the duration of any one broadcast, but a minimum of 10 minutes was suggested by the Commission. Speakers for the proposal utilized national relays as well as separate state-wide broadcasts; those against the proposal used only the national relay facility.

PROGRAMME STANDARDS.

122. In previous reports, the Board indicated its intention of publishing a set of programme standards for the guidance of licensees of commercial broadcasting stations. Further consideration has been given to this matter and it is now thought preferable to proceed on the basis of determining specific issues in relation to various questions of programme service in consultation with the Liaison Committee of the Australian Federation of Commercial Broadcasting Stations and to promulgate them in the form of circular instructions to each licensee. Considerable progress was made along these lines during the past year, and in succeeding paragraphs reference is made to the more important of the subjects which have been already discussed with the Liaison Committee.

ADVERTISING.

123. The Commercial Broadcasting Service depends almost entirely on advertising for its income and, as is indicated in paragraph 24, advertisers paid approximately £3,600,000 to the licensees of commercial stations during the year. Whilst advertising is therefore a very important element in the Commercial Service, a proper balance must be maintained in the public interest between the duty which licensees of

stations owe to the advertisers who purchase time on their stations and the fundamental obligation which they have under their licences to provide "adequate and comprehensive programmes" for the community.

124. Provision for the regulation of advertising is contained in the *Broadcasting Act 1942-1951*. Section 6K (2.) requires the Board to "determine the extent to which advertisements may be broadcast in the programmes of any commercial broadcasting station", and section 6I provides—

(1.) Subject to this Act, the licensee of a commercial broadcasting station may broadcast advertisements.

(2.) A licensee desiring to broadcast advertisements shall publish a tariff of advertising charges, and, except as prescribed, shall make his advertising service available without discrimination to any person.

(3.) A licensee shall not broadcast advertisements on a Sunday except in such manner and in accordance with such conditions as the Board determines.

(4.) Except as prescribed, an advertisement relating to any medicine shall not be broadcast unless the text of the proposed advertising matter has been approved in writing by the Director-General of Health, or, on appeal to the Minister under this section, by the Minister.

(7.) Any person may appeal to the Minister from any decision of the Director-General of Health or a delegate of the Director-General of Health.

The provision that the Board should "determine the extent to which advertisements may be broadcast" is directed towards the avoidance of excessive advertising. There are frequent complaints that such excesses are a source of irritation to the listener and if uncontrolled they might well reduce the value of commercial broadcasting as an advertising medium. The Board has made an examination of the existing practices of licensees both in respect of the amount and distribution of time devoted to advertising, and it has also considered the rules adopted by the Australian Federation of Commercial Broadcasting Stations in relation to advertising, as well as the rules and practices observed in the United States, where commercial broadcasting stations operate on much the same basis as they do in this country. As a result of its examination, which disclosed a trend towards excessive advertising, particularly in sessions before and after the main morning and evening news broadcasts, the Board came to the conclusion that it was desirable that licensees should observe certain standards designed to limit the length of any advertisement and the number of advertisements which may be broadcast consecutively in one group. At the time this report was being prepared, consultations were proceeding between the Board and the Liaison Committee of the Federation, the Australian Association of Advertising Agencies, and the Australian Association of National Advertisers as a preliminary to the determination of the precise terms of the proposed standards in conformity with section 6K (2.) of the Act.

SUNDAY ADVERTISING.

125. As indicated in paragraph 124, advertisements may not be broadcast on Sundays except "in such manner and in accordance with such conditions as the Board determines". As an interim arrangement until it could give consideration to the question, the Board, in March, 1949, adopted the conditions governing Sunday advertising which had been determined by the Postmaster-General prior to the establishment of the Board.

These provided broadly—

- (a) that Sunday advertising should be confined to the general character of the advertiser's activities and products, without any reference to prices;
- (b) that there should be not more than two advertising announcements in any period of fifteen minutes;

- (c) that not more than 150 words of advertising matter should be included in any period of fifteen minutes;
- (d) that no liquor advertisements should be broadcast; and
- (e) that there should be no distasteful or blatant advertising.

126. During the year, the Board reviewed the matter, with particular reference to the views which had been expressed by the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Wireless Broadcasting (the Gibson Committee) in 1942 and to the recommendation of that Committee, which gave rise to the legislative requirement that special conditions should apply to Sunday advertising. The Board agrees with the view of the Committee that in a Christian community special attention should be given to the programmes which are broadcast on Sundays and it feels that, because of this general consideration, licensees of stations should present programmes which are in keeping with the nature of the day and faithfully observe the restrictions on commercial announcements which are imposed in conformity with the Act. The Board is glad to report that the representatives of the commercial broadcasting stations (the Liaison Committee of the Australian Federation of Commercial Broadcasting Stations), with whom it discussed this matter during the year, were in general agreement with this attitude.

127. In the course of its discussions with the Liaison Committee, the Board was asked to consider some relaxation of the prohibition on the mention of prices in advertisements broadcast on Sunday. It was claimed that this restriction greatly reduced the value of some advertisements and that, in certain instances, not only the advertisers but also the public suffered from the omission of any reference to the cost of the commodity or service which was being advertised. The Board gave careful consideration to this request and came to the conclusion that it would be justified in permitting prices to be mentioned once in each advertising announcement, the number of such announcements still being restricted to two in each quarter of an hour.

The Board also decided (a) that in lieu of the previous limitation on advertising matter to 150 words in any period of fifteen minutes, stations would in future be permitted to devote a maximum of six minutes in any period of one hour to the broadcasting of advertisements, and (b) to allow the broadcasting of one group of advertisements, in the form of a shopping guide, for a maximum duration of fifteen minutes, at a time not later than 6 p.m. and not between 11 a.m. and 12.15 p.m. (the time usually accepted by the majority of the Churches for divine worship). The prohibition on the broadcasting of advertisements relating to alcoholic liquor has been retained as well as the general restriction on advertisements of a distasteful or blatant character.

MEDICAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

128. It will have been observed that section 6I (7.) of the Act provides for a right of appeal to the Minister from any decision of the Director-General of Health, concerning the text of an advertisement relating to any medicine. During the year, one such appeal was made to the Minister, who, after considering carefully the script and the views of the Director-General, and after obtaining the opinion of Professor R. Douglas Wright, Professor of Physiology of the University of Melbourne, dismissed the appeal.

HOURS OF SERVICE.

129. The Board is pleased to be able to report a considerable increase in the hours of service observed by commercial stations, 31 permanent increases having

been approved during the year. A remarkable development was the request from four stations for permission to provide a 24-hour programme service. For many years Sydney has had such a service from station 2UW, and continuous services are now also available from stations 2DU Dubbo, 2KO Newcastle, 4BC Brisbane and 5KA Adelaide. An all-night service is also available to Melbourne listeners from station 3AK, the licence for which was granted under unusual conditions for service outside the normal operating hours of other broadcasting stations in Melbourne. The licensee of this station applied during the year for a substantial extension of transmission time, but after examination of all the relevant factors the Board could not see its way clear to agree to the desired extension which would amount in fact to a major change in the very special conditions on which the licence for 3AK was originally granted.

130. All except 23 of the 103 commercial stations in operation on 30th June, 1952, were observing hours of service in excess of 96 hours per week, which the Board has adopted as a general guide to its requirements. At 30th June, 1952, the transmitting time of the 103 commercial stations aggregated 11,140 hours per week, or 333 hours per week more than at the close of the previous year. Temporary variations of hours were authorized during the past year on 663 occasions. The 51 stations of the National Broadcasting Service were, at the 30th June, 1952, operating for a total of 5,995 hours per week, an increase of 195 hours for the year. Transmission hours of each national and commercial station are shown in Appendices "A" and "B".

BROADCASTS IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES.

131. As a result of the influx of migrants from various European countries in recent years, many questions have arisen concerning broadcasts in foreign languages. The basic consideration appears to the Board to be that the spoken word which is transmitted by Australian broadcasting stations should normally be in the English language in order that it may be intelligible to the great majority of listeners. Another consideration of very great importance is that the broadcasting services should be one of the means of helping those who have migrated to Australia from foreign countries to become assimilated into the Australian nation rather than of encouraging their segregation into non-English speaking communities. On the other hand, the judicious use of foreign languages in special circumstances may be necessary and desirable.

132. The Board, after examining this matter carefully and consulting the Australian Broadcasting Commission, the Australian Federation of Commercial Broadcasting Stations, the Department of Immigration and the Commonwealth Office of Education, determined that the following general rules should apply to the use of foreign languages in programmes from commercial broadcasting stations:—

- (a) broadcasts should be in English, except in special circumstances;
- (b) where it is necessary to use one or more foreign languages in the course of a programme, the matter conveyed in foreign languages should be preceded or followed by an adequate translation into English;
- (c) special programmes designed for use in schools, or for other educational purposes, may include matter in foreign languages where necessary;
- (d) the use of foreign languages should normally be avoided in advertisements, except where the introduction of foreign words or phrases can be of educational as well as advertising value;

- (e) in certain circumstances, including periods of emergency, foreign languages appropriate to the occasion may be used where it is considered to be in the interests of a reasonable proportion of listeners to the station concerned;
- (f) brief incidental dialogue in dramatised or similar programmes, where development of the programmes demands the use of a language other than English, may be permitted.

These rules apply only to the "spoken word" and not to musical items. Provision is made in item (a) for a relaxation of the general rule "in special circumstances", which would permit broadcasts in a foreign language on the National Day of another country, provided the programme was not wholly unintelligible to the English-speaking audience. It should be noted that the term "foreign language" in the above rules does not apply to languages other than English which are employed in religious services.

PROVISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES BY BROADCASTING STATIONS.

133. The Board has in previous reports drawn special attention to the obligation of commercial broadcasting stations in country districts to promote the welfare of the communities in the districts in which they are situated, and in the Third Report stated:—

... the Board feels that country stations should broadcast local and general news, and information such as daily weather reports and forecasts; announcements of mail and transport arrangements and other matters bearing on rural and domestic convenience and the social life of the community. They should also keep listeners fully informed during periods of danger to life or property from floods, fire, or other emergencies. In addition, country broadcasters should make time available for an adequate advertising service for their local business communities and give publicity to the activities of local civic authorities and other organizations of various kinds.

The Board is glad to report that there has been a considerable expansion of this type of community service by commercial stations, and that during the year there were some excellent examples of the great benefits which may be conferred on the general public in times of emergency, such as result from fire and floods, by the licensees of stations who are fully alive to their responsibilities to promote the public good. There are unfortunately still a few stations which appear to be reluctant to provide a wholly satisfactory standard of community service, and the Board will take appropriate measures to ensure that they effect improvements.

PROVISION OF SPECIAL FACILITIES FOR BROADCASTING NEWS.

134. One of the most important community services which a broadcasting station can offer is the provision of news services, and in the opinion of the Board, regular news sessions are an essential ingredient in the programmes of any station. The Board considers that each station should broadcast at least two sessions daily and that they should embrace overseas, Australian, district and local news. In its Third Report the Board stated—

One of the problems associated with the provision of adequate news services by stations is that those which are situated in localities far removed from the sources of the news would, under ordinary circumstances, be required to pay substantial charges for the telephone channels needed for the relays. These charges undoubtedly constitute an obstacle to the provision of this very important service, and accordingly the Board and the Postmaster-General's Department have, with the approval of the Minister, been investigating the problem for the purpose of determining whether an acceptable formula can be devised for substantial relief in the charges.

These investigations were completed during the year and, on the joint recommendation of the Post Office and the Board, the Minister approved an arrangement

under which news services may be relayed to all commercial broadcasting stations for the same landline charge, irrespective of the location of the station.

135. The basis of the approved plan is as follows:—

- (1) The three daily news sessions, each of up to fifteen minutes' duration, now broadcast by the majority of stations in the eastern States at 7.45 a.m., 12.30 p.m. and 7 p.m. on week-days, and 8.45 a.m., 12.30 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Sundays, and at comparable times in South and Western Australia, have been adopted as the basic news sessions. The actual times of broadcasting may be altered in individual cases, subject to joint agreement by the Board, the Post Office and the station concerned, where such alteration is considered to be in the public interest.
- (2) Intra-state relay facilities for all, or any, of the 21 news sessions weekly will be made available at a flat rate of £52 per annum for each receiving station. In the case of 2BH (Broken Hill), 2QN (Deniliquin) and 2MW (Murwillumbah), each of which serves a district closely linked in community of interest with an adjoining State, lines may be provided from Adelaide, Melbourne and Brisbane respectively.
- (3) The landline facilities for all other relays of news sessions will be provided by the Post Office under the prescribed conditions laid down for the provision of trunk lines for broadcasting purposes.
- (4) The above conditions refer only to charges for the use of Post Office landline facilities and do not affect any charges which may be made by the Australian Broadcasting Commission or a commercial station to another station for the right to participate in news sessions.

The Board believes that this plan will enable the essential services of overseas and general news to be provided in a satisfactory manner throughout the Commonwealth wherever broadcasting stations are in operation, but licensees of commercial stations will have to make their own special arrangements to ensure that their news services include also local and district items. In this connexion it is worthy of note that extensions and improvements are being made to some of the regional news services of the National Broadcasting Service by the Australian Broadcasting Commission.

BROADCASTING OF OBJECTIONABLE MATTER.

136. The Board is pleased to be able to report again that there was no serious breach during the past year of the provisions of section 91 of the Act, which prohibits the broadcasting of any matter which is blasphemous, indecent, or obscene. Several complaints were received, the nature of which suggests that some broadcasters were tending to overlook the fact that their audience includes mixed age and sex groups in the family circle. Several instances were noticed of some licence on the part of individual broadcasters, particularly in audience-participation programmes where, on some occasions, the reaction of the audience appears to have encouraged quips of a suggestive nature. Appropriate action has been taken in each case.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF "LOCAL TALENT".

137. Both the Australian Broadcasting Commission and the licensees of commercial broadcasting stations are obliged by the Act to give encouragement to local talent. Section 88 of the Act reads:—

(1.) The Commission and the licensee of each commercial broadcasting station shall, as far as possible, give encouragement to the development of local talent and endeavour to

obviate restriction of the utilization of the services of persons who, in their opinion, are competent to make useful contributions to broadcasting programmes.

(2.) Not less than two and one-half per centum of the total time occupied by the National Broadcasting Service and not less than two and one-half per centum of the total time occupied by any commercial broadcasting station in the broadcasting of music shall be devoted to the broadcasting of works of Australian composers, produced either on sound records made in Australia or by artists actually present in the studio of the broadcasting station concerned.

In the opinion of the Board, the Commission is fully discharging its general responsibility under section 88 (1.). During 1950-51, 47.9 per cent. of the National programmes were "live" programmes and it is reasonable to assume that some proportion of the recorded programme material would have been the work of Australian artists and musicians. The Commission engaged 16,037 artists during the year, nearly all of whom were Australian residents. In regard to the specific requirement of section 88 (2.), the Commission exceeded the statutory quota of 2½ per cent for Australian compositions, having devoted 4.37 per cent. of the time occupied by national stations in broadcasting music to works of Australian composers. Detailed statistics relating to the employment of Australian artists and musicians are not available in respect of the commercial stations, but as the result of the investigations made during the year, the Board feels that many of the licensees have made little effort to encourage the development of local talent as required by the Act. The Board proposes to pursue this matter in consultation with the Liaison Committee of the Australian Federation of Commercial Broadcasting Stations.

138. During the year, the Board examined proposals made by the Musicians' Union, and other organizations, for the purpose of obtaining greater opportunities for employment of musicians and other performers by commercial stations. The Board has submitted a special report to the Minister on these proposals, which involve many complex issues, most of which are entirely outside the scope of the Board's functions.

139. The great majority of licensees are complying with the requirements of section 88 (2.) of the Act as the following table shows:—

PERCENTAGE OF TIME DEVOTED TO BROADCASTING AUSTRALIAN COMPOSITIONS.

Australian Broadcasting Commission.		Commercial Stations.		
Period.	Average percentage of all national stations.	Period.	Average percentage of all commercial stations.	Number of stations below 2.5 per cent.
July, 1947- June, 1948	3.44	Jan.-Dec., 1948	3.65	9
1948-49 ..	4.15	July, 1948- June, 1949	4.01	9
1949-50 ..	3.41	1949-50 ..	4.08	7
1950-51* ..	4.08	1950-51 ..	4.11	12
1951-52* ..	4.37	1951-52 ..	4.06	8

* Percentage calculated on Australian compositions broadcast by fourteen metropolitan national stations (i.e., those serving each State capital and Newcastle).

An investigation of the reason for the failure of twelve commercial stations to broadcast the required percentage of Australian compositions during 1950-51 showed that considerable misunderstanding existed as to the items which could be so classified. The Board has therefore re-issued an explanatory statement originally circulated to all broadcasting stations by the Postmaster-General's Department in 1943.

140. In the course of examining the programmes of commercial stations, the Board has observed with regret that in many cases the quota of Australian compositions is ensured by providing blocks of time exclusively for their performance. While this practice is

sufficient to meet the requirements of the Act, it does not appear to be the best means of promoting interest in the works—particularly if the blocks of time are provided at periods of comparatively low audience density. The Board believes that a better appreciation of Australian music would result from the inclusion of at least some part of the quota in general programmes at favorable times.

OBSERVATION OF BROADCAST PROGRAMMES.

141. Observations of programmes have been carried out by the Board's State Representatives as well as by officers of the Board's own staff. Special consideration has been given to certain aspects which have been the subject of attention by the Board (for example, advertising on Sundays; duration and frequency of advertisements; broadcasts in foreign languages, and in code) as well as to the quality of service being provided by the stations. The observations have been generally informative, but have not revealed any serious breaches of the Act. Over 13,000 hours of observations were carried out during the year.

MINISTERIAL BROADCASTS.

142. Under section 65 of the Act, the Minister may, by notice in writing, require the licensee of a commercial broadcasting station to include, without charge, in any programme broadcast from the station, such items of general interest or utility as the Minister, from time to time, determines. During the year under review, no such requirement was made by the Minister but, by agreement with the Prime Minister, the Australian Federation of Commercial Broadcasting Stations has co-operated generously with the Government in arranging for member stations to make time available for the broadcasting of important statements on national affairs.

PART V.—GENERAL.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS OF THE BOARD.

143. In conformity with the provisions of section 6P of the Act, a statement of the financial accounts of the Board for the year ended 30th June, 1952, together with the report of the Auditor-General as to those accounts, appears in Appendix "D" of this report.

Class of Licence.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Commonwealth.
Ordinary	697,054	498,850	264,942	199,451	133,184	64,816	1,858,297
Pensioners	41,591	19,509	13,867	8,231	8,271	3,662	95,131
Blind persons	818	640	246	305	279	147	2,435
School	1,892	1,365	797	704	216	207	5,181
Total	741,355	520,364	279,852	208,691	141,950	68,832	1,961,044
Ratio to 100 of population ..	22.18	22.93	23.10	28.23	24.41	23.67	23.26

COST OF THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING SERVICE.

146. Reference was made in the Third Annual Report to the decision of the Government that the *Broadcasting Act 1942-1950* should be amended to provide for an increase in the fee for a broadcast listener's licence. The amount of fees paid by listeners had for some years proved insufficient to meet the expenditure incurred on the National Broadcasting Service, which had been greatly increased as a result of the expansion of the Service and the rising level of costs of labour and materials. The deficit for 1950-51 was £1,887,919 and it was estimated that the additional amount which would be received from the increase in fees which was to be authorized by the amendment of the Act would be £1,800,000.

DEVELOPMENT OF BROADCASTING IN AUSTRALIA: STATISTICS.

144. The following table shows the progressive development in the number of broadcasting stations and licensed listeners since the inception of broadcasting in 1933:—

Year.	Number of broadcasting stations in operation.		Number of licensed listeners.
30th June, 1924 ..	4		1,206
	Class "A".	Class "B".	
1925	7	6	63,874
1926	8	9	128,060
1927	8	12	225,240
1928	8	12	270,507
1929	8	12	301,199
	National.	Commercial.	
1930	8	13	312,192
1931	9	27	331,969
1932	12	43	369,945
1933	12	48	469,477
1934	12	53	599,159
1935	12	57	721,852
1936	14	73	825,136
1937	20	80	940,068
1938	24	94	1,057,911
1939	24	98	1,131,861
1940	26	100	1,212,581
1941	27	96	1,293,266
1942	27	97	1,320,073
1943	27	96	1,370,000
1944	28	98	1,394,880
1945	29	100	1,415,229
1946	29	100	1,436,789
1947	32	101	1,678,276
1948	33	102	1,703,970
1949	37	102	1,762,675
1950	39	102	1,841,211
1951	41	103	1,884,834
1952	42	103	1,961,044

In addition to the above national stations there were, as at 30th June, 1952, nine shortwave transmitters providing service to listeners in remote areas.

LISTENERS' LICENCES.

145. The following table shows the various classes of broadcast listeners' licences which were current on 30th June, 1952:—

147. The Bill to amend the Act, which was introduced into the House of Representatives on 26th September, 1951, provided—

- for an increase in the ordinary licence-fee from £1 to £2 for listeners in Zone 1 (i.e., those resident within approximately 250 miles of a National broadcasting station);
- for an increase in the ordinary licence-fee from 14s. to 28s. for listeners in Zone 2 (i.e., the remainder of the Commonwealth);
- for the extension to totally and permanently incapacitated soldiers of the concession under which other classes of pensioners may, under certain conditions, be granted listener's licences at a reduced fee of 10s. and 7s. in Zones 1 and 2 respectively; and

(d) for the repeal of the requirement that a separate half-fee licence should be held for each receiver in excess of one in the possession of any licensee.

The Bill having been passed by both Houses of the Parliament, the date of commencement of the amending Act was fixed by proclamation to be the 1st January, 1952. The amount of revenue received from listeners' licence-fees during 1951-52 was £2,812,303 compared with £1,952,787 in 1950-51, but complete figures concerning the cost of the service for the last financial year were not available at the time this report was being prepared.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

148. It will be apparent from various parts of this report that there is a close association between the Postmaster-General's Department and the Board, especially in regard to matters connected with the technical operations of the National broadcasting stations and the performance by the Post Office of certain duties on behalf of the Board in the various

States. Both organizations have important functions to discharge in the broadcasting field and in the opinion of the Board both have benefited during the past year from the spirit of co-operation which has been evident in connexion with the numerous matters on which their officers have been required to collaborate. The Board is glad to have this opportunity of expressing its appreciation of the assistance which it has received from the Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs (Mr. G. T. Chippindall, C.B.E.), and the officers of the Department who, during the year, have so efficiently performed many tasks on behalf of the Board. The Board also gratefully acknowledges the co-operation in many matters which it received from the Australian Broadcasting Commission and the Australian Federation of Commercial Broadcasting Stations.

R. G. OSBORNE, Chairman.

R. B. MAIR, Member.

J. O'KELLY, Secretary,
26th September, 1952.

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APPENDIX A.

COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING STATIONS IN OPERATION ON 30TH JUNE, 1952.

Call sign.	Location of station.	Licensee.	Frequency (kc/s).	Wave-length (m.).	Operating power.†	Hours of service per week (to nearest quarter hour).
					Watts.	
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY.						
2CA	Canberra	Canberra Broadcasters Ltd., 138 Phillip street, Sydney	1,050	286	2,000	119
NEW SOUTH WALES.						
<i>Metropolitan.</i>						
2CH	Sydney	New South Wales Council of Churches Service, 28 Kemp-street, Tennyson, Gladesville	1,170	256	1,000	115
2GB	Sydney	Broadcasting Station 2GB Pty. Ltd., 136-138 Phillip-street, Sydney	870	345	1,000	121
2KY	Sydney	The Trustees, R. H. Erskine and J. H. Thom, and the Secretary, R. A. King, of the Labor Council of New South Wales, Trades Hall, Goulburn-street, Sydney	1,020	294	1,000	119
2SM	Sydney	Broadcasting Station 2SM Pty. Ltd., 60 Hunter-street, Sydney	1,270	236	1,000	118
2UE	Sydney	Radio 2UE Sydney Pty. Ltd., 29 Bligh-street, Sydney	950	316	1,000	132
2UW	Sydney	Commonwealth Broadcasting Corporation Pty. Ltd., 49 Market-street, Sydney	1,110	270	1,000	168
<i>Country.</i>						
2AD	Armidale	New England Broadcasters, 113 Faulkner-street, Armidale	1,130	265	200	88½
2AY	Albury	Amalgamated Wireless (A/asia.) Ltd., 47 York-street, Sydney	1,490	201	200	117
2BE	Bega	J. A. Kerr, Carp-street, Bega	1,480	203	500	72½
2BH	Broken Hill	Radio Silver City Pty. Ltd., cnr. Blende and Sulphide streets, Broken Hill	660	455	200	100
2BS	Bathurst	Bathurst Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., 43 Keppel-street, Bathurst	1,500	200	1,000*	117
2CK	Cessnock	Coalfields Broadcasting Co. Pty. Ltd., Vincent-street, Cessnock	1,460	205	300	80½
2DU	Dubbo	Western Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., Macquarie-street, Dubbo	1,250	240	2,000	168
2GF	Grafton	Grafton Broadcasting Co. Pty. Ltd., 47 York-street, Sydney	1,210	248	1,000	113½
2GN	Goulburn	Goulburn Broadcasting Co. Pty. Ltd., 47 York-street, Sydney	1,380	217	1,000	114
2GZ	Orange	Country Broadcasting Services Ltd., Hosking House, Hosking-place, 84½ Pitt-street, Sydney	990	303	2,000	117
2HD	Newcastle	Airsales Broadcasting Co. Pty. Ltd., c/o Messrs. Taylor and Scott, 117 Pitt-street, Sydney	1,140	263	500	125½
2HR	Lochinvar	Hunter River Broadcasters Pty Ltd., High-street, West Maitland	680	441	300	110½
2KA	Katoomba	2KA Ltd., 77 King-street, Sydney	780	385	1,000*	114
2KM	Kempsey	Radio Kempsey Ltd., 4th Floor, Stanway House, 77 King-street, Sydney	980	306	1,000*	89½
2KO	Newcastle	Newcastle Broadcasting Co. Pty. Ltd., C.M.L. Building, 72 Hunter-street, Newcastle	1,410	213	500	168
2LF	Young	Young Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., A.M.P. Buildings, Young	1,340	224	2,000	115½
2LM	Lismore	Richmond River Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., Northern Star Building, Molesworth-street, Lismore	900	333	1,000	111½
2LT	Lithgow	Lithgow Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., Great Western Highway, Bowenfels	1,370	219	500	107½
2MG	Mudgee	Mudgee Broadcasting Co. Pty. Ltd., Wellington-road, Mudgee	1,450	207	100	104
2MO	Gunnedah	2MO Gunnedah Ltd., 59 Marquis-street, Gunnedah	1,080	278	100	79
2MW	Murwillumbah	Tweed Radio and Broadcasting Co. Pty. Ltd., 19 Church-lane, Murwillumbah	1,470	204	500*	102½
2NZ	Inverell	Northern Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., Hosking House, Hosking-place, 84½ Pitt-street, Sydney	1,190	252	2,000	114
2PK	Parkes	Parkes Broadcasting Co. Pty. Ltd., 307 Clarinda-street, Parkes	1,400	214	500	111½
2QN	Deniliquin	Regent Broadcasting Co., Regent Theatre, McCallum-street, Swan Hill, Victoria	1,520	197	2,000	72½
2RG	Griffith	Irrigation Area Newspapers Pty. Ltd., Ulong-street, Griffith	1,070	280	200	72½
2TM	Tamworth	Tamworth Radio Development Co. Ltd., Peel-street, Tamworth	1,300	231	2,000	116½
2WG	Wagga	Riverina Broadcasting Co., 16 Fitzmaurice-street, Wagga	1,150	261	2,000	108½
2WL	Wollongong	Wollongong Broadcasting Pty. Ltd., Edward-street, Wollongong	1,430	210	2,000	115½
2XL	Cooma	Cooma Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., 134 Sharp-street, Cooma	920	326	500	81
VICTORIA.						
<i>Metropolitan.</i>						
3AK	Melbourne	Melbourne Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., 480 Bourke-street, Melbourne, C.I.	1,500	200	500	54
3AW	Melbourne	3AW Broadcasting Co. Pty. Ltd., 382 Latrobe-street, Melbourne, C.I.	1,280	234	600	121
3DB	Melbourne	Herald and Weekly Times Ltd., 44-74 Flinders-street, Melbourne, C.I.	1,030	291	600	120½
3KZ	Melbourne	Industrial Printing and Publicity Co., Ltd., 24-30 Victoria-street, Carlton, N.3.	1,180	254	600	121
3UZ	Melbourne	Nilsen's Broadcasting Service Pty. Ltd., 45-47 Bourke-street, Melbourne, C.I.	930	323	600	121½
3XY	Melbourne	Station 3XY Pty. Ltd., Charter House, 4 Bank-place, Melbourne, C.I.	1,420	211	600	120
<i>Country.</i>						
3BA	Ballarat	Ballarat Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., 56 Lydiard-street, Ballarat	1,320	227	1,000	115½
3BO	Bendigo	Amalgamated Wireless (A/asia.) Ltd., 47 York-street, Sydney	960	313	1,000	117½
3CS	Colac	Colac Broadcasting Co. Pty. Ltd., 241 Murray-street, Colac	1,130	265	200	104
3CV	Maryborough	Central Victoria Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., 29 Pall Mall, Bendigo	1,470	204	500	106½
3GL	Geelong	Geelong Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., Little Malop-street, Geelong	1,350	222	1,000	117
3HA	Hamilton	Western Province Radio Pty. Ltd., 239 Collins-street, Melbourne, C.I.	1,000	300	1,000	113½
3LK	Lubeck	Herald and Weekly Times Ltd., 44-74 Flinders-street, Melbourne, C.I.	1,090	275	2,000	120½
3MA	Mildura	Sunraysia Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., 22 Deakin Avenue, Mildura	1,360	221	200	106½
3SH	Swan Hill	Swan Hill Broadcasting Co. Pty. Ltd., Campbell-street, Swan Hill	1,330	226	1,000	110½

* Power during day-time—2,000 watts.

† Power of certain stations to be increased in accordance with Board's determination—see Appendix "C".

COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING STATIONS IN OPERATION ON 30TH JUNE, 1952—continued.

Call sign.	Location of station.	Licensee.	Frequency (kc/s).	Wave-length (m.).	Operating power.†	Hours of service per week (to nearest quarter hour).	
					Watts.		
VICTORIA—continued.							
Country—continued.							
119	3SR .. Shepparton ..	The Argus Broadcasting Services Pty. Ltd., 365 Elizabeth-street, Melbourne, C.1.	1,260	238	2,000	117	
	3TR .. Sale ..	Broadcast Entertainments Pty. Ltd., "The Age", Chambers, 239 Collins-street, Melbourne, C.1.	1,240	242	2,000	113½	
	3UL .. Warragul ..	The Argus Broadcasting Services Pty. Ltd., 365 Elizabeth-street, Melbourne, C.1	880	341	1,000	110½	
115	3YB .. Warrnambool	The Argus Broadcasting Services Pty. Ltd., 365 Elizabeth-street, Melbourne, C.1	1,210	248	1,000	110½	
QUEENSLAND.							
Metropolitan.							
	4BC .. Brisbane ..	Commonwealth Broadcasting Corporation (Qld.) Ltd., 5th Floor, T. & G. Buildings, 189-191 Queen-street, Brisbane	1,120	268	1,000	168	
118	4BH .. Brisbane ..	Broadcasters (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., cnr. Albert and Charlotte streets, Brisbane	1,390	216	1,000	121	
132	4BK .. Brisbane ..	Queensland Newspapers Pty. Ltd., 288-298 Queen-street, Brisbane	1,290	233	1,000	125½	
163	4KQ .. Brisbane ..	The Trustees, H. Boland and S. J. Bryan, of the Queensland Branch of the Australian Labor Party, Dunstan House, 236-238 Elizabeth-street, Brisbane	690	435	1,000	125	
Country.							
88½	4AK .. Oakey ..	Queensland Newspapers Pty. Ltd., 288-298 Queen-street, Brisbane	1,220	246	2,000	125½	
117	4AY .. Ayr ..	Ayr Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., 144 Queen-street, Ayr	960	313	500	110½	
72½	4BU .. Bundaberg ..	Bundaberg Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., 117 Bourbong-street, Bundaberg	1,330	226	1,000*	113½	
100	4CA .. Cairns ..	Amalgamated Wireless (A/asia.) Ltd., 47 York-street, Sydney	1,010	297	300	109½	
117	4GR .. Toowoomba	Gold Radio Service Pty. Ltd., 5th Floor, T. & G. Buildings, Queen-street, Brisbane	860	349	2,000	117	
80½	4GY .. Gympie ..	Gympie Broadcasting Co. Ltd., Smithfield Chambers, Mary-street, Gympie	1,350	222	500	106	
168	4IP .. Ipswich ..	Ipswich Broadcasting Co. Pty. Ltd., 233 Brisbane-street, Ipswich	1,440	208	1,000	113½	
113½	4LG .. Longreach ..	E. B. Connor, Eagle-street, Longreach	1,100	273	1,000	65	
114	4MB .. Maryborough	Maryborough Broadcasting Co. Pty. Ltd., 5th Floor, T. & G. Buildings, Queen-street, Brisbane	1,010	297	300	113½	
117	4MK .. Mackay ..	Mackay Broadcasting Service Pty. Ltd., 85 Sydney-street, Mackay	1,380	217	2,000	112½	
125½	4RO .. Rockhampton	Rockhampton Broadcasting Co. Pty. Ltd., 5th Floor, T. & G. Buildings, Queen-street, Brisbane	1,080	278	200	110½	
115½	4SB .. Kingaroy ..	South Burnett Broadcasting Co. Ltd., Alford-street, Kingaroy	1,060	283	2,000	117½	
111½	4TO .. Townsville ..	Amalgamated Wireless (A/asia.) Ltd., 47 York-street, Sydney	780	385	500	113½	
107½	4VL .. Charleville ..	Charleville Broadcasting Co. Ltd., Alfred-street, Charleville	920	326	500	74½	
104	4WK .. Warwick ..	Warwick Broadcasting Co. Pty. Ltd., Glennie Hall, Albion-street, Warwick	880	341	100	84½	
79	4ZR .. Roma ..	Maranoa Broadcasting Co. Ltd., Bowen-street, Roma	1,480	203	500	59½	
102½	SOUTH AUSTRALIA.						
Metropolitan.							
114	5AD .. Adelaide ..	Advertiser Newspapers Ltd., 11 Waymouth-street, Adelaide	1,310	229	500	119	
111½	5DN .. Adelaide ..	Hume Broadcasters Ltd., C.M.L. Building, 41 King William-street, Adelaide	970	309	500	119	
72½	5KA .. Adelaide ..	5KA Broadcasting Co. Ltd., 43 Franklin-street, Adelaide	1,200	250	500	168	
Country.							
116½	5AU .. Port Augusta	Port Augusta Broadcasting Co. Ltd., 43 Franklin-street, Adelaide	1,400	214	500	119½	
108½	5MU .. Murray Bridge	Murray Bridge Broadcasting Co. Ltd., 11 Waymouth-street, Adelaide	1,460	205	200	119	
115½	5PI .. Crystal Brook	Midlands Broadcasting Services Ltd., 11 Waymouth-street, Adelaide	1,040	288	2,000	119	
81	5RM .. Renmark ..	River Murray Broadcasters Ltd., C.M.L. Building, 41 King William-street, Adelaide	830	361	2,000	119½	
54	5SE .. Mount Gambier	South-Eastern Broadcasting Co. Ltd., 11 Waymouth-street, Adelaide	1,370	219	500	119	
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.							
Metropolitan.							
121	6IX .. Perth ..	W.A. Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., Lyric House, 223 Murray-street, Perth	1,240	242	500	109½	
120½	6KY .. Perth ..	The People's Printing and Publishing Co. of Western Australia Ltd., 38-46 Stirling-street, Perth	1,320	227	500	116	
121	6PM .. Perth ..	6PM Broadcasters Ltd., St. George's House, St. George's Terrace, Perth	1,130	265	500	112	
121½	6PR .. Perth ..	Nicholson's Ltd., 86-90 Barrack-street, Perth	880	341	500	110	
Country.							
115½	6AM .. Northam ..	6AM Broadcasters Ltd., St. George's House, St. George's Terrace, Perth	980	306	2,000	92½	
117½	6CI .. Collie ..	Nicholson's Ltd., 86-90 Barrack-street, Perth	1,430	210	2,000	85	
104	6GE .. Geraldton ..	Great Northern Broadcasters Ltd., E.S. & A. Bank Buildings, 145 Marine Terrace, Geraldton	1,370	219	500	59	
106½	6KG .. Kalgoorlie ..	Goldfields Broadcasters (1933) Ltd., St. George's House, St. George's Terrace, Perth	1,210	248	500	74½	
117	6MD .. Merredin ..	W.A. Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., Lyric House, Murray-street, Perth	1,100	273	2,000	82½	
113½	6NA .. Narrogin ..	The People's Printing and Publishing Co. of Western Australia Ltd., 38-46 Stirling-street, Perth	920	326	2,000	116	
120½	6TZ .. Bunbury ..	Nicholson's Ltd., 86-90 Barrack-street, Perth	1,340	224	2,000	101½	
106½	6WB .. Katanning ..	W.A. Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., Lyric House, 223 Murray-street, Perth	1,070	280	2,000	82½	
110½	* Power during day-time—2,000 watts.						
† Power of certain stations to be increased in accordance with Board's determination—see Appendix "C".							

COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING STATIONS IN OPERATION ON 30TH JUNE, 1952—continued.

Call sign.	Location of station.	Licensee.	Frequency (kc/s).	Wave-length (m.).	Operating power.†	Hours of service per week (to nearest quarter hour).
					Watts.	
TASMANIA.						
<i>Metropolitan.</i>						
7HO ..	Hobart ..	Commercial Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., A.M.P. Buildings, cnr. Collins and Elizabeth streets, Hobart	860	349	500	108½
7HT ..	Hobart ..	Metropolitan Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., 141-143 Elizabeth-street, Hobart	1,080	278	500	108½
<i>Country.</i>						
7AD ..	Devonport ..	Northern Tasmania Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., 29 Paterson-street, Launceston	900	333	500	63
7BU ..	Burnie ..	Burnie Broadcasting Service Pty. Ltd., E.S. & A. Bank Chambers, Paterson-street, Launceston	560	536	500	71
7DY ..	Derby ..	North-East Tasmanian Radio Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., Paterson-street, Launceston	1,450	207	500	54½
7EX ..	Launceston ..	7EX Pty. Ltd., 71 Paterson-street, Launceston	1,010	297	500	108½
7LA ..	Launceston ..	Findlay and Wills Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., 21 Paterson-street, Launceston	1,100	273	500	108½
7QT ..	Queenstown ..	West Coast Broadcasters Pty. Ltd., 21 Paterson-street, Launceston	680	441	300	69½

† Power of certain stations to be increased in accordance with Board's determination—see Appendix "C".

APPENDIX B.

NATIONAL BROADCASTING STATIONS IN OPERATION ON 30TH JUNE, 1952.

Call sign.	Station.	Frequency (kc/s).	Wave-length (m.).	Aerial power (watts).	Hours of service per week (to nearest quarter hour).
MEDIUM WAVE SERVICES.					
<i>Australian Capital Territory.</i>					
2CY ..	Canberra Regional	850	353	10,000	122½
<i>New South Wales.</i>					
<i>(Metropolitan.)</i>					
2BL ..	Sydney	740	405	10,000	118½
2FC ..	Sydney	610	492	10,000	116
<i>(Country.)</i>					
2CO ..	Riverina Regional (Corowa)	670	448	7,500	122½
2CR ..	Central Regional (Cumnock)	550	545	10,000	122½
2LG ..	Lithgow Regional	1,570	191	200	122½
2NA ..	Hunter River Regional No. 2 (Newcastle)	820	366	2,000	116
2NB ..	Broken Hill Regional	760	395	1,000	123
2NC ..	Hunter River Regional (Newcastle)	1,230	244	2,000	118½
2NR ..	Northern Rivers Regional (Grafton)	700	429	7,000	122½
2NU ..	Northern Tablelands Regional (Manilla)	650	462	10,000	122½
2TR ..	Manning River Regional (Taree)	720	417	200	122½
<i>Victoria.</i>					
<i>(Metropolitan.)</i>					
3AR ..	Melbourne	620	484	10,000	116
3LO ..	Melbourne	770	390	10,000	118½
<i>(Country.)</i>					
3GI ..	Gippsland Regional (Sale)	840	357	7,000	122½
3WV ..	Western Regional (Dooen)	580	517	10,000	122½
<i>Queensland.</i>					
<i>(Metropolitan.)</i>					
4QG ..	Brisbane	790	380	10,000	116
4QR ..	Brisbane	590	508	10,000	118½
<i>(Country.)</i>					
4AT ..	Atherton Regional	680	441	500	122½
4GM ..	Gympie Regional	1,540	195	200	122½
4QA ..	Mackay Regional	720	417	2,000	122½
4QB ..	Wide Bay Regional (Pialba)	910	330	2,000	122½
4QL ..	Longreach Regional	540	556	200	122½
4QN ..	North Regional (Townsville)	630	476	7,000	122½
4QS ..	Darling Downs Regional (Dalby)	750	400	10,000	122½
4QY ..	Cairns Regional	890	337	2,000	122½
4RK ..	Rockhampton Regional	940	319	2,000	122½
<i>South Australia.</i>					
<i>(Metropolitan.)</i>					
5AN ..	Adelaide	890	337	2,000	119
5CL ..	Adelaide	730	411	5,000	117½
<i>(Country.)</i>					
5CK ..	North Regional (Crystal Brook)	640	469	10,000	123
5LN ..	Port Lincoln Regional	1,530	196	200	123

NATIONAL BROADCASTING STATIONS IN OPERATION ON 30TH JUNE, 1952—continued.

Hours of service per week (to nearest quarter hour).	Aerial power (watts).	Wave-length (m.).	Frequency (kc/s).	Station.	Call sign.
<i>Western Australia.</i>					
(Metropolitan.)					
	5,000	435	690	Perth	6WF
108½	6,000	375	800	Perth	6WN
(Country.)					
108½	2,000	417	720	Goldfields Regional (Kalgoorlie)	6GF
	2,000	366	820	Geraldton Regional	6GN
63	10,000	536	560	South-West Regional (Wagin)	6WA
<i>Tasmania.</i>					
(Metropolitan.)					
71	2,000	500	600	Hobart	7ZL
54½	500	259	1,160	Hobart	7ZR
(Country.)					
108½	7,000	423	710	North Regional (Kelso)	7NT
<i>Northern Territory.</i>					
69½	50	196	1,530	Alice Springs Regional	5AL
	200	200	1,500	Darwin Regional	5DR
<i>Papua.</i>					
	500	240	1,250	Port Moresby	9PA
SHORT WAVE SERVICES.					
	2,000			Sydney, New South Wales	VLJ
	10,000			Lyndhurst, Victoria	VLG
	10,000			Lyndhurst, Victoria	VLH
	5,000			Lyndhurst, Victoria	VLR
	10,000			Brisbane, Queensland	VLM
	10,000			Brisbane, Queensland	VLQ
	10,000			Perth, Western Australia	VLX
	2,000			Perth, Western Australia	VLW
	2,000			Port Moresby, Papua	VLT
FREQUENCY MODULATION SERVICES (EXPERIMENTAL).					
	2,000		92.100 Mc/s.	Sydney, New South Wales .. .. .	..
	2,000		91.100 Mc/s.	Melbourne, Victoria .. .. .	..
	250		97.300 Mc/s.	Adelaide, South Australia .. .. .	..

* Available only part-time for the National Broadcasting Service; also operates for Radio Australia.

APPENDIX C.
COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING STATIONS.
INCREASES IN OPERATING POWER DETERMINED BY THE BOARD.
Position as at 30th June, 1952.

Call sign.	Location of station.	Power previously authorized (watts).	Power determined by Board (watts).	Call sign.	Location of station.	Power previously authorized (watts).	Power determined by Board (watts).
<i>New South Wales.</i>				<i>Queensland.</i>			
2AD	Armidale	200	1,000	4AY	Ayr	500	1,000*
2AY	Albury	200	2,000	4BU	Bundaberg	500	1,000*
2BE	Bega	500	1,000	4CA	Cairns	300	1,000
2BS	Bathurst	200	1,000*	4GR	Toowoomba	500	2,000
2DU	Dubbo	200	2,000	4GY	Gympie	200	500*
2GF	Grafton	200	1,000	4IP	Ipswich	200	1,000
2GN	Goulburn	200	2,000	4LG	Longreach	1,000	2,000
2KA	Katoomba	1,000	1,000*	4MB	Maryborough	300	1,000*
2KM	Kempsey	300	1,000*	4MK	Mackay	100	2,000
2LF	Young	300	2,000	4RO	Rockhampton	200	2,000
2LM	Lismore	500	1,000*	4TO	Townsville	200	1,000*
2LT	Lithgow	100	500	4VL	Charleville	500	1,000
2MG	Mudgee	100	500	4WK	Warwick	100	1,000
2MO	Gunnedah	100	1,000	4ZR	Roma	500	1,000
2MW	Murwillumbah	500	1,000*	<i>South Australia.</i>			
2PK	Parkes	200	500	5AU	Port Augusta	200	500
2QN	Deniliquin	200	2,000	5SE	Mount Gambier	200	500
2RG	Griffith	200	1,000*	<i>Western Australia.</i>			
2WL	Wollongong	500	2,000	6CI	Collie	500	2,000
2XL	Cooma	500	1,000	6GE	Geraldton	500	2,000
<i>Victoria.</i>				6KG	Kalgoorlie	500	2,000
3AK	Melbourne	200	500	6MD	Merredin	500	2,000
3BA	Ballarat	500	1,000	<i>Tasmania.</i>			
3BO	Bendigo	500	1,000	7HO	Hobart	500	2,000
3CS	Colac	200	1,000	7HT	Hobart	500	2,000
3CV	Maryborough	500	1,000	7AD	Devonport	300	500
3GL	Geelong	500	1,000	7BU	Burnie	200	500
3MA	Mildura	200	1,000	7DY	Derby	200	500
3SH	Swan Hill	200	1,000	7EX	Launceston	500	2,000
3TR	Sale	1,000	2,000	7LA	Launceston	500	2,000
3UL	Warragul	200	1,000	7QT	Queenstown	300	500†
3YB	Warrnambool	200	1,000				

* Approved power during day 2,000 watts.

† Approved power during day 1,000 watts.

APPENDIX D.

AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING CONTROL BOARD.
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1952.

<i>Receipts.</i>				<i>Payments.</i>			
<i>Previous Year.</i>		<i>30th June, 1952.</i>		<i>Previous Year.</i>		<i>30th June, 1952.</i>	
£		£		£		£	£
58,900	Parliamentary Appropriation	60,691		41,144	Salaries and Wages—		
6	Miscellaneous Revenue	11		3,779	Salaries	44,994	
				647	Temporary Assistance	1,696	
58,906		60,702			Extra Duty Pay	551	47,241
				45,570			
				5,075	General Expenses—		
				1,276	Travelling and Subsistence	5,811	
				5,056	Postages, Telephones, &c.	1,907	
					Incidentals	4,037	11,755
				11,407			
				1,415	Stores and Materials—		
				514	Office Requisites	1,454	
					Technical Equipment	252	1,706
				1,929			
58,906		60,702		58,906			60,702

NOTE.—Adjusted to nearest £.

J. O'KELLY, Secretary.

R. G. OSBORNE, Chairman.

The above Statement has been examined and is in agreement with the books. In my opinion it is a correct statement of the cash transactions of the Australian Broadcasting Control Board for the year ended 30th June, 1952.

J. BROPHY,

Auditor-General for the Commonwealth,
9th September, 1952.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1952.

<i>30th June, 1951.</i>	<i>Description of Assets.</i>							<i>30th June, 1952.</i>	
£							£	£	
Nil	Land and Buildings							Nil	
5,155	Office Furniture and Equipment—								
	At cost to 30th June, 1951						5,155		
	Additions during year						711		
							5,866		
792	Less—Depreciation					1,189			
	Item written off						1,189	4,677	
4,363									
	Library—								
725	At cost to 30th June, 1951						725		
	Additions during year						295		
							1,020		
73	Less—Depreciation					168			
	Items written off						168	852	
652									
	Technical Equipment—								
603	At cost to 30th June, 1951						603		
	Additions during year						252		
							855		
69	Less—Depreciation					145			
	Items written off						145		
534									
292	Office Stores and Material on hand							710	
5,841								361	
								6,600	

J. O'KELLY, Secretary.

R. G. OSBORNE, Chairman.

The above Statement has been examined and is in agreement with the books. In my opinion it exhibits a true and fair view of the assets of the Australian Broadcasting Control Board at 30th June, 1952.

J. BROPHY,

Auditor-General for the Commonwealth,
9th September, 1952.

