

No. 34.

Mr. S. IRWIN CROOKES, Auckland, to the Right Hon. the PRIME MINISTER, Wellington.

SIR,— 15 Palmerston Buildings, Queen Street Auckland, 29th October, 1909.

I am directed to inquire under what conditions the New Zealand Government would be prepared to permit an all-red wireless telegraphy company (British-owned) to erect one long-distance station in New Zealand.

In connection with such a scheme the New Zealand Government would be able to have control of the station under circumstances which they considered of vital importance to this country.

I should be pleased to be able to send forward to my principals in London your reply to this, as soon as the Government has been able to arrive at any decision. I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. Sir Joseph Ward, Wellington.

S. IRWIN CROOKES.

[Tel. 09/344(26).]

No. 35.

The Hon. the PRIME MINISTER OF THE COMMONWEALTH, Melbourne, to the Right Hon. the PRIME MINISTER, Wellington.

SIR,— Prime Minister's Office, Melbourne, 29th October, 1909.

With reference to proposals which have been made from time to time for the establishment or wireless-telegraphy installations in the Commonwealth and New Zealand, to insure, amongst other things, the maintenance of communication in time of war should the cables be damaged, I have the honour, at the instance of my colleague the Postmaster-General, to inform you that, in connection with the question, which is now under consideration, of the erection of wireless-telegraph stations at Fremantle (W.A.) and Sydney, a suggestion has been made by the Vice-Admiral in command of the Australian Squadron that the station at Sydney be a high-power station, having a range of not less than 1,000 miles, and therefore probably capable of communicating with New Zealand at night. A proposal has been made that alternative tenders be invited on this basis.

My colleague is of opinion that the reasons for providing wireless communication between Australia and New Zealand would be for defence, for communication in time of war, and to keep in touch with shipping, and that there is no present justification for providing wireless stations to handle ordinary commercial telegraphic traffic.

To give effect to the proposal, it would, of course, be necessary for New Zealand to establish similar stations, and, when tenders are received, for steps to be taken by both Governments to insure that the systems employed in the stations in New Zealand and Sydney shall, when erected, be capable of communicating with each other at least by night.

An expression of your views on this important subject is desired, and for your information I enclose copies [not printed] of forms for the tenders which we are about to invite.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. the Prime Minister, Wellington.

ALFRED DEAKIN.

[Tel. 09/344(29).]

No. 36.

The Right Hon. the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 4th November, 1909.

I have the honour to transmit to you, to be laid before your Ministers, copy [not printed] of a note from the Belgian Legation relative to the International Congress on Radiology and Electricity to be held at Brussels in 1910. I also enclose copies of documents [not printed] furnishing particulars of the Congress.

2. I should be glad to learn whether your Ministers desire to be officially represented at the Congress. I have, &c.,

Governor the Right Hon. Lord Plunket, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., &c.

CREWE.

[New Zealand was not represented.]

[Tel. 09/344(31).]

No. 37.

The Hon. the PRIME MINISTER OF THE COMMONWEALTH, Melbourne, to the Right Hon. the PRIME MINISTER, Wellington.

(Telegram.)

Melbourne, 10th November, 1909.

With reference to your letter of 3rd December [not printed]: Propose Conference upon wireless telegraphy, especially in Pacific. Glad to know if you will appoint representative. Pacific Cable Board agree. Am inviting Admiralty send expert.

[Tel. 09/344(28).]

No. 38.

The Hon. the MINISTER OF TELEGRAPHS, Wellington, to Mr. S. IRWIN CROOKES, Auckland.

SIR,—

Wellington, 19th November, 1909.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, asking under what conditions the All-red Wireless Telegraphy Company (British-owned) would be permitted to erect one long-distance wireless station in New Zealand.