

6. The use of Rugby for the world-wide service described above has been discussed by the Committee on Imperial Wireless Services, and fears have been expressed by certain of the Dominion representatives (i) that the conditions proposed would not ensure effective control over reception, and (ii) that the scheme would divert traffic from the beam wireless services which are shortly to be opened.

7. With regard to the first point, His Majesty's Government are advised—and this view is confirmed by experience of the service from Northolt—that the prescribed conditions will afford adequate safeguards against illicit reception. It will obviously be in the interests of the agencies to make their coded messages as difficult as possible for unauthorized persons to decipher, and His Majesty's Government propose also to require agencies to undertake not to supply copies of their special codes to any persons other than those authorized for the purpose in each receiving country. Any news messages which may be transmitted in clear language will necessarily be exposed to the same risk of illicit reception as normally attends the wireless transmission of such messages, and if they should be picked up and published without authority the question of infringement of copyright would arise.

8. With regard to the second point, His Majesty's Government are advised that the beam stations which are being erected in this country would not be suitable for a broadcasting service of a world-wide range such as is to be conducted from Rugby. It is understood, however, that the views of the Dominion wireless companies which are represented on the Committee would be met to a considerable extent if the Dominion Governments should decide that the reception of the messages in question in their territory should be entrusted exclusively to those companies. This is, of course, a matter which is solely for each Government to decide, but your Ministers may like to know that the weight of opinion on the Committee was in favour of limiting reception, wherever possible, to the beam stations.

9. His Majesty's Government propose that the service should be inaugurated early in the new year.

I have, &c.,

L. S. AMERY.

Governor-General His Excellency General Sir C. Fergusson, Bart.,
LL.D., G.C.M.G., K.C.B., D.S.O., M.V.O., &c.

No. 6.

New Zealand, Dominions No. 562.

SIR,—

Downing Street, 31st December, 1925.

With reference to Mr. Churchill's despatch, Dominions No. 316, of the 29th August, 1922, and to the Duke of Devonshire's despatch, Dominions No. 25, of the 22nd January, 1924, I have the honour to request Your Excellency to inform your Ministers that the arbitration convention with Denmark, which was signed at London on the 25th October, 1905, and was last renewed, both in respect of Denmark and Iceland, by the conventions signed at London on the 1st May, 1922, for a period of five years, will, unless further renewed, reach a termination on the 4th May next.

2. His Majesty's Government propose, in accordance with the established policy, which they understand is in harmony with the views of your Ministers, to take steps for the renewal of the convention, both in respect of Denmark and Iceland, at the proper time, by means of an exchange of notes or other formal instrument. It is, however, proposed, as in other recent cases, to substitute the Permanent Court of International Justice for the Permanent Court of Arbitration as the Court to which reference shall be made. In this connection I would invite reference to my despatches, Dominions No. 285, of the 10th July, and Dominions No. 298, of the 18th July, regarding the renewal of arbitration conventions with Sweden and Norway.

3. I shall be glad to learn whether your Ministers concur in the proposed action.

I have, &c.,

L. S. AMERY.

Governor-General His Excellency General Sir C. Fergusson, Bart.,
LL.D., G.C.M.G., K.C.B., D.S.O., M.V.O., &c.