Television at London Radio Show

By Mander Barnett

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For about $175.00 Mr. London Radio Listener can now buy a television receiver and view the programs radiated daily by the B.B.C. from the Alexandra Palace.

At the radio exhibition held recently at Olympia, London, many manufacturers were showing new television receivers, all designed to receive the daily transmissions from the ultra short wave television transmitter at the Alexandra Palace. These receivers ranged in price from $175.00 for a table model receiver with a small size screen to about $5000.00 for a large console model. The average screen (image) size on most of the console models was about 8 x 10 inches. The table-model television receiver shown by the English General Electric Company, is scarcely any larger than a large size table-model radio receiver; the picture on this receiver is viewed directly on the cathode ray tube screen.

Most of the larger receivers have the tube mounted vertically and the picture is viewed on a glass or polished steel screen mounted in the lid of the console. It is estimated that some 6,000 television receivers are now in use within the transmission range of the Alexandra Palace transmitter. Public demonstration receivers are located in several of the big London stores and in numerous radio and music shops, where the radio listener can decide whether to invest in a receiver (Continued on page 376)

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Receiver now or wait until bigger and better pictures (as the movie producers say) are available.

Most of the radio receivers seen at this year's show were of the all-wave type, the majority of receivers having at least one short-wave tuning band, which would cover most of the short-wave broadcasting stations. A number of receivers had two and three short-wave bands, a feature of many of the new sets being the use of large, clear tuning dials marked with wavelength and station names. Owing to the fact that European stations on the 200-550 meter band are not separated by definite ten kilocycle channels, dials are rarely marked in kilocycles.

Very few short-wave receivers were to be seen at this show, the majority of receivers used by hams and short-wave listeners in the British Isles either being home-made or imported from America, although there are now one or two signs that British firms are beginning to pay attention to this type of receiver. However, the all-wave receiver, using one or more short-wave bands, a medium wave band (200-550 m.) and a long wave band (1,000-2,000 m.) has now definitely come to stay, and many British firms are producing these receivers in large quantities.