

regional programme service to the Midlands. The present aim of the British Broadcasting Corporation is to supply every potential listener with a service of two distinct programmes. The distribution scheme which is now approaching completion will make one programme available to 98 per cent of the population and the other programme available to 85 per cent. By virtue of the length of the wave on which it works, and its aerial power of 150 kilowatts, the new long-wave transmitter at Droitwich gives vastly greater possibilities of 'coverage' than any of the other transmitters in the country, all of which work on medium waves. The other Droitwich transmitter covers the densely populated districts in the Midlands. The Droitwich site was found to fulfil the requirements for a station of this type. The subsoil in the immediate neighbourhood is favourable to the propagation of radio waves. Short high-grade telephone circuits connect it with the nearest studio headquarters. It is suitable for building work, and there is plenty of space for the aerial system. Lastly there is a trustworthy and ample water supply.

#### Value of Criticism

PROF. ERWIN SCHRÖDINGER, in an article entitled "Science, Art and Play" (*Philosopher*, 13, No. 1), maintains that the present-day spirit which challenges all authority and allows nothing to be immune from criticism, manifests itself in the 'crisis' now existing in most of the sciences. Science, at any rate research work, together with art and play, provides an outlet for that surplus store of energy which men usually have to spare after satisfying their primary needs. It might be argued that science gives far greater practical benefits than art or play, or that the intellectual joy of the research worker is as nothing to the material value of the results obtained. But the advances of applied science, as exemplified in greater facilities for travel and communication, give not only material benefits but also pleasure for their own sake. Prof. Schrödinger admits that science can rarely give direct joy to the community, but what matters is that the greatest possible number of people should have the opportunity of approach to intellectual pleasures. It is not accidental that at the present moment the sciences are being forced to a complete reassessment of values, for the ideas forming the background of the individual sciences are connected with the ideas of the age, and the dominant spirit will accept nothing on authority. This should not be feared, for what is worth preserving preserves itself, and requires no protection.

#### The Citrus Industry in Jaffa

An article in the *Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Trades' Journal* of February 16 describes "The Jaffa Citrus Industry". Oranges were introduced to Jaffa in the tenth century; they delighted the eyes of the Crusaders and their opponents. An Egyptian devastated the town and the surrounding country in the fourteenth century, and the orange groves were not re-established until the eighteenth century. Palestine exported nearly 1½ million boxes of oranges

before the War; her export trade disappeared during the conflict, but now it has returned and increased. Jaffa is the chief exporter of grape fruit, and second only to Spain in export of oranges. Forty-five per cent of the exportable crop is at present controlled by Jews and the rest by Arabs, but when present plantings mature, the Jews will control 65 per cent. The development of overseas markets is difficult, owing to the imposition of tariffs, and to the fact that Palestine is a mandated territory and can demand no reciprocity of trade. The Government of Palestine has instituted an inspection service, has established a research station and has created a fund for propaganda. Difficulties of transport from Jaffa to the port have still to be overcome; production promises to be increased threefold by 1938. The industry is launching a large scheme of advertisement, in an attempt to cope with this increase in output, and already the consumption of Jaffa oranges in England has increased considerably since the scheme was initiated.

#### Land Utilisation Survey

THE fourth annual report, for 1934, of this Survey shows that great progress has been made. Of the field work, only about ten per cent of the total area of Great Britain has still to be done. The uncompleted areas are mainly in Sutherland, part of the Southern Uplands, the northern and eastern parts of the West Riding, central and southern Wales, and parts of Wiltshire and Cornwall. In preparation of the six-inch sheets for publication, which entails reduction to a one-inch scale, much progress has also been made. Twelve sheets have been published, seven others are in the press and twenty more have been reduced. Further progress has been delayed solely by lack of funds. For many of the sheets published or in process of publication grants, guarantees or advance orders have been obtained, and the Survey is anxious to obtain further help of this kind. The Survey is planning a series of handbooks to accompany the published sheets.

#### Cultivation of Tomatoes

THE imposition of duties on imported tomatoes has naturally stimulated the production of this fruit in Great Britain, although the industry had already assumed large proportions. The home production under glass is estimated at more than 1,140,000 cwt., but even so, this only accounts for less than one third of the total home consumption, imports for 1932 amounting to as much as 2,442,000 cwt. Very considerable knowledge with regard to tomato growing has been obtained at the Cheshunt Research Station, and at the invitation of the Ministry of Agriculture, the director, Dr. Bewley, has prepared a bulletin on the subject which provides growers with a wealth of valuable information (Bull. No. 77, Tomatoes: Cultivation, Diseases and Pests. H.M. Stationery Office. 1s. 6d. net). Soil treatment before planting, manuring, optimum soil and air temperature during growth are among the aspects of the subject discussed in detail, while recommendations as to the