

and Fanning Island, or indeed, should a break occur anywhere or at any time on the Pacific Cable, telegraph intercourse would be interrupted between Australia, New Zealand and Canada for an indefinite period.

To ensure freedom from interruption a second cable should be provided. The second cable need not however be laid side by side with the first cable. The object to be gained could be much better effected in another way.

Taking advantage of the spheroidal form of the earth and the other conditions presented by the problem to be solved, there is every reason why the second cable should be provided by the establishment of the *second division* of the Globe-girdling chain; that is to say by the cables projected from Australasia to England by way of the Indian Ocean, South Africa and the Atlantic.

By the completion of the whole circle of the Globe-girdling scheme of state-owned cable, a vast strategic benefit would be achieved. Obviously if a breakdown were to interrupt telegraph transmission by one route, messages could be sent by means of the cable leading in the opposite direction until the broken cable could be restored.

Thus it will be seen that, with the complete Globe-girdling circle of State-owned cables established, we would find ourselves in possession of a duplicate scheme of submarine communications. Every single point in the circle would practically have two ways of