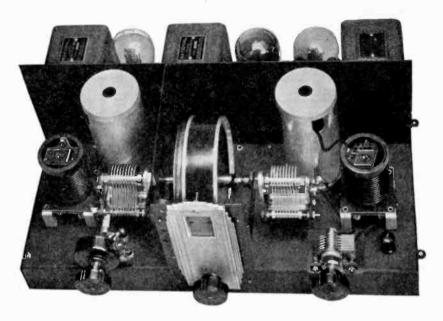
MODERN RADIO

EDITED BY ROBERT S. KRUSE

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Now Still Further



NATIONAL CO. has made use of the remarkable UY 235 Variable Mu Screen Grid Tube, giving even better performance on the THRILL-BOX than ever before.

The short waves give a quality of daylight reception and a daylight distance that is amazing. Signals come in in mid-day from England so loud that they can be clearly heard all over a large house.

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NATIONAL THRILL-BOX SW5

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We now announce a special broadcast receiving model of the THRILL-BOX, equipped with 245 tubes in Push-Pull for audio output. This gives very fine quality with large volume. For technical and amateur communication we recommend the Push-Pull 227 model. Write us for particulars and prices, using coupon below.

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The THRILL-BOX is built with NATION-AL Precision-Made Radio Products. NA-TIONAL Precision-Made Radio Products are used by: General Electric Co.; Westinghouse Electric & Mfg. Co.; R. C. A.; Tropical Radio (United Fruit Co.); Federal Tel. & Tel. Co.; American Tel. & Tel. Co.; Canadian Marconi; U. S. Naval Research Laboratories; U. S. Navy; Signal Corps, U. S. Army; Jenkins Television Corp.; Press Wireless, Inc.; De Forest Radio Co.; Wired Wireless, Inc.; U. S. Dept. of Commerce (Lighthouse Service); Pan-American Airways; Curtiss-Wright; Boeing Airplane Co.; Western Air Express; Roosevelt Field, Inc.; Southern Air Transport, and by thousands of leading Amateurs, Experimenters, Colleges, Universities, Schools and Research Laboratories the world over.



A S S
Q
NATIONAL CO., Inc.
61 Sherman St., Malden, Mass. Gentlemen: (Check which)
() Please send me complete information and prices on your new Improved THRILL-BOX, with 227 Push-Pull

- () Please send me complete information about new Special Broadcast Receiving Model of THRILL-BOX, with 245 Push-Pull Output.
- () I enclose 50c (stamps or coin) for your 64-page Handbook of Short-Wave Radio, describing in full the latest and best short-wave receiving circuits, adapters, meters, etc.

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Television Possibilities

"Modern Radio" believes thoroughly in television as a most enchanting game for the radio amateur, both because it is a change from the same old things he has been doing for ten years, and also because it is in just such a stage of development as must appeal to the amateur. Some one of the next years will see it a commercial and household device and it is too bad that this change is being delayed by exaggerated news stories which cause everyone to lose confidence in a very real development.

There is no excuse for hailing each new transmitter as "solving the problems of television". The actual problems are rather basic and not to be answered by a mere change in the machinery. Thus the newspapers have just recently carried a series of items to the effect that the problem of television has once again been solved by replacing the ancient and familiar Nipkow scanning disc with an electron tube—an idea which is at least 23 years old! Please do not take such excited reports too seriously for they do not touch on the real problems at all.

The basic difficulties are those of transmitting a huge number of impulses per second in an undistorted manner. The manner of scanning a picture at the rate of 16 to 20 times per second has been so much discussed that it is needless to repeat the explanation of the causes of the appearance of high frequencies, that is to say a large number of pulses per second. The intention here is merely to show the seriousness of the effect on the problem of transmissionaltogether aside from the particular set of cams, gears, levers, lenses, tubes and batteries which the designer is using at the transmitter and receiver.

Assuming that both transmitter and receiver were altogether perfect we must still consider how the pictures are to go from one to the other—and that's where the rub comes in! Suppose we consider the accompanying photographs, reproduced by courtesy of Mr. Paul B. Findley, Managing Editor of Bell Lab-

oratories Record. The pictures were, except for Fig. 1, sent over a high grade laboratory circuit. Fig. 1 is the original photo. If a really high-grade picture is to be transmitted, and only 16 pictures per second are to be sent, we find it necessary to use a transmitter and receiver which can work at 8,000,000 impulses, or 4,000,000 cycles per second! Can it be done by wire? Certainly not over any present public-service lines and probably not at all-until we have learned to build much better lines. Can it be done by radio? Possibly-but it will take 400 ordinary broadcasting channels of 10 kc each, or in other words everything from 66 meters to 545 meters. How does one make a transmitter to radiate such a band of frequencies? How does one make a receiver to take it all in? How does one persuade a number of governments to push a few thousand stations off the air to make room for the one picture? The thing is clearly ridiculous and we must decide that-

- A—To transmit a picture as good as Fig. 1 by radio is not practical unless—
- B—We can think of a wholly new basic idea which does NOT require scanning at all in the present sense—that is in the sense of looking at all the little bits of the picture, one after the other.

Very well-what CAN be done. As to that, look at the other pictures, recalling that they show the BEST PRACTICAL POSSIBILITY and that in practice the picture will never be that good, for neither the transmitter nor the receiver are perfection and between them lies the unknown performance of the ether. The ether is not a very reliable errand-boy. Our position is that of having very, very carefully worked out the exact orchestration of a sonata and then having to entrust it to the memory of a careless small boy who may get it straight, but probably will not. The shorter the wave length, the younger and more careless the boy becomes and the worse he mixes



Fig. 1.—Something for the future to aim at. To transmit such pictures at the minimum required rate of 16 per second will take about 8,000,000 pulses or 4,000,000 cycles per second. This is about 400 broadcasting channels or everything from 545 meters down to 66 meters! The pictures have 250,000 "elements" each. The amplifiers must handle all frequencies from 16 cycles to 4,000,000!

Fig. 2—An "88 hole" picture with about 6,250 elements. If sent at the rate of 16 per second this requires 10 broadcasting channels, if sent at the rate of 20 per second it requires 12½ channels. The amplifiers must handle frequencies from 16 to 100,000 cycles in the first case and from 20 to 125,000 cycles in the second.

Fig. 3—If only two ordinary broadcasting channels are to be used one can send 16 such pictures per second, each having 1,250 "elements". This corresponds approximately to the "48 hole pictures", lately considered standard.

Fig. 4.—To get television into a single broadcast channel one would need to tolerate such things as this, even when sending but 16 pictures per second.

the music. If he is a 660 kc boy he will bring us the music from WEAF and WTIC in very good order, but if he is one of these little 6,000 kc boys or one of the other little boys he will make an awful mess of the music from G5SW, W2XE, or almost any other high-frequency broadcasting station. Is it likely that he will do better when it comes to carrying pictures? Of course not if he has to go very far with them. I personally have seen a number of pictures that illustrated perfectly Boyd Phelps' description of "Looking like a dirty thumb print". This is an argument for local stations.

It looks then as if we must for the moment expect from radio television something not quite so good as Fig. 3 when everything is just right. Fading and apparatus deficiencies will make it

worse, static will cause it to look like a Nebraska rural mailbox that someone has used for a shotgun target, electrical noise will cause it to be overlaid with hailstorm effects like an old-fashioned movie-none of which will for a single moment discourage a real radio amateur, for what's the fun if the thing is easy? It is easy to make decent music from the European shortwave broadcast signals? Is it easy to understand an amateur radiophone through the horrible interference in the little 'phone strip at the top of the 80 meter band? Well-this is no worse-and it's newer.

Besides, a moving picture always looks a good deal better than the single pictures that make it up. By way of illustrating that, just stop a movie projector sometime and see how inferior the "still" picture seems, how full of defects and haze. "There is hope".

Stuart Ballantine Receives I. R. E. Award

At the June convention of the Institute of Radio Engineers the Morris Liebermann Award for 1930 was given to Stuart Ballantine, of the Boonton Research Corporation for "outstanding theoretical and experimental investigation of numerous radio and acoustic devices."

The work of Stuart Ballantine has been of major importance in bringing about many of the important developments in radio broadcasting, notably automatic volume control, high-voltage detection, linear detection, single-control

tuning and the variable-mu tetrode. He has for many years been a prolific contributor to the literature of radio but has not confined his attention to that art alone, having made extensive excursions into acoustics, chemistry and other branches of natural science. In the more modest field of amateur transmission he contributed the book "Radio Telephony for Amateurs", and to commercial transmission the cross-neutralized push-pull radio-frequency amplifier which is so essential to the modern high-power station.

Editor
ROBERT S. KRUSE

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Anti-Noise Receiving Aerials

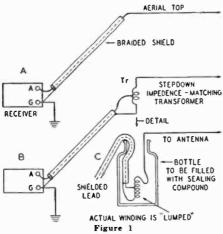
By L. W. Hatry

The working theory of any anti-noise effort must be based on experience. If any of the following statements seem unorthodox it should be remembered that they represent experience rather than theory.

The use of a long antenna, although not the only means discussed, has been given prominence because of its extreme simplicity. There appears to be a very general conviction that long aerials aggravate noise while short ones reduce it. This is contrary to the facts, a point which may as well be settled before going any further.

The Short-aerial Fallacy

The short-aerial rule was born in the days of the regenerative broadcast receiver—and should have been buried with those same "bloopers". It was perfectly true that with the obsolete 1, 2 and 3 tube receivers a short aerial DID reduce both noise and interference.



The reduction in interference was due to a general lowering of the noise and signal input level which permitted effective use of the regeneration control and thus increased the selectivity. The reduction in noise was a product of this same lowering of input levels, which prevented the regenerative tube from being jarred into blocking or irregular oscillation. Neither of these reasons applies to present receivers.

The Cause and the Cure

Man-made electrical noise is almost always strongest near lighting, power or trolley wires and dies off very rapidly as one goes away from the wires. It is this fact which permits the use of long aerials to reduce noise. One needs only to extend the antenna into a comparatively quiet region where it is possible to collect ample signal without so much noise. If it develops that the leadin wire and ground wire by themselves collect too much noise they must receive the simple treatment described later.

Frequently the long aerial is a sufficient solution. When a 50 or 100 foot aerial is noisy, stretch the top out for 200 or 300 feet—not necessarily as one span but avoiding wirelines and houses which are full of wires that is not in conduit. It has been my experience that in some very severe cases a 300 foot aerial gave such an improvement that the customer was perfectly certain that "There warn't no more noise".

Of course long aerials can change other things besides the noise level. In one case an 80 foot aerial was replaced by a 250 footer for noise abatement. The interference from the local station at once decreased greatly. In this case the local station was operating at a rather high frequency to which the antenna circuit of the receiver had been semiresonant when connected to the short antenna. That particular part of the result could of course have been obtained with a simple loading coil, but loading coils suppress no noise. In other cases, particularly with receivers built around the 224 tubes, very long aerials may tend to increase cross-talk. The cure is usually a wave-trap tuned to the local station. Today's receivers do not have this fault. The cross-talk tendencies of the early screen-grid sets (both T. R. F. and Superheterodyne) have been overcome by the Snow-Ballantine variablemu (or multi-mu or super-control) screen grid tubes such as the types 551 and 235. Selectivity has been made ample in all the better designs, a long aerial can be used without extra interference and the noise-vs.-signal question can now be considered without complications. (Should your set be one of the types using 224 tubes in all the screengrid sockets add a good wavetrap and then follow the rest of the argument with us.)

Antenna Locations

In the usual residential location, that is, one that consists of a lot facing a street with the light-line passing down the street, the anti-noise work is at its minimum. The center of the "block" or square will very likely be the quietest area in that it is farthest removed from the light-lines parallel to its four sides. If the lighting wires are so placed as to halve the square by running down what is technically known as an alley, a passageway or small street between the rear ends of lots facing parallel streets, the problem is unchanged basically.

In brief if the long aerial is to be of any use it must be properly placed. Run it down the street parallel to the light-wires and make it a liability; run it back across lots keeping on all sides the maximum distance from the A. C. lines and it will do its best.

The Worthless Waterpipe

In a location so extremely noisy that a long aerial does not permit one to drown out the noise completely the next reasonable precaution is to use one of the other special leading-in systems mentioned later. This will be comparatively unprofitable if the receiver is grounded to a waterpipe or radiator for such piping covers a large area inside the house (noisy region), is not necessarily of low resistance and probably of high reactance, causing a high noise-voltage. Also other devices, such as the telephone, may be grounded on the piping and be causing it to carry noises not otherwise heard in the receiver. Add a highly reactive, ground circuit to the capacity feeds from the lighting wires into an A. C. receiver and the result is a high-pickup loop effective chiefly on noise-in fact already containing most of the noise sources. A good independent ground tends to end this, particularly in receivers carrying built-in bypasses. Thus the good ground makes it possible to gain some good from the special leadins about to be described. Sometimes it is the sole change necessary.

Trick Leadins

Special leadins for anti-noise aerials are all arranged to prevent them from picking up either signals or noise, so that the top of the aerial is essentially the sole source of pickup. If this top is properly placed outside the noise area improvement is automatic.

All these special leadins cause some loss of signal strength. This loss may be rendered harmless by the simple scheme of starting out with a lot of signal—which is to say a large antenna, or if that is impractical it may be minimized by some of the devices described later. I suggested the long aerial first because it is so simple, and usually cheapest.

Shielded Leadins

The simplest of the special leadins is that shown in Fig. 1A. It is a length of rubber-covered wire over which is a metallic braid that is grounded at the receiver. Such wire may be bought



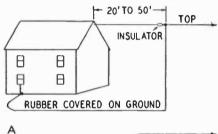
ready-made, but one should avoid the sort that has only cotton or silk insulation as it is soon spoiled by the weather.

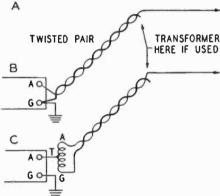
The losses in such a system are rather high because the leadin is in effect a rubber-insulated condenser shunted across the receiver terminals, and soft rubber is pretty poor stuff at radio frequencies. One may, as has been suggested, anticipate this loss by providing a large antenna with plenty of signal so that one can stand the loss. If that is not possible one may use another remedy suggested, I believe, by W. F. Cotter. This arrangement will be understood when its theory is suggested.

The losses in a low-grade condenser go down very rapidly as the voltage on it is lowered. Thus if we could reduce the R. F. voltage on our rubber-insulated leadin we would save precious signalpower. This may be done by using a small very simple home-made stepdown R. F. transformer as suggested at Tr. in Fig. 1B (dimensions later). The signal is then sent along the shielded line at lower voltage and higher current. When it reaches the receiver it must be stepped up once more though this does not necessarily call for any additional machinery, as will be shown.

A Detour on Transmission Lines

It may be simpler to think of the whole thing in this way—The antenna is a high-impedance system; the line is of low impedance. One must accordingly match the impedances by means of a stepdown "impedance-matching" trans-





former between them to avoid reflection losses. At the other (receiver) end of the line one must step up again because the first tube in the receiver is a voltage-operated device. If the original antenna transformer in the set does not do this job one must make the changes or additions just suggested.

Getting Down to Practice

In practice the transformer is a magnificent help, if one has time to spend on getting it right for the particular antenna, so that the entire broadcast (or other desired) band is received well. If too many turns are used (or if the

antenna is too long for that transformer) the long waves will come through well but the other end will be missing.

Because of the cut-and-try effort required to approximate proper conditions for various lengths of antennas and leading the use of the transformer proves expensive in commercial installation and service work. That is why for such work it is more practical to anticipate the losses by means of a very long antenna. The impedance matching transformer should, however, be used unhesitatingly when no other solution is possible, and the time expended in finding a correct size is justified. Its use is most logical when the location permits only a short aerial top, and therefore necessitates making that top as effective as possible, in spite of the need for a shielded leadin. Specifically, if the top is shorter than 70 feet it is usually desirable to use the transformer with a shielded or other special leadin.

In designing the transformer keep in mind that one-half the winding will give one-quarter the total impedance, and so on. Practice has shown that with leadins up to 50 feet long the tap should be made at three-quarters to about onehalf way from the grounded side. For broadcast reception the coil L is so wound that, with antenna and receiver connected it will have a resonance point (broad) at about 700 Kc. Long wave (low frequency) stations are aided by this resonance while the high frequency stations are helped out by the increased sensitivity of most receivers at 1500 Kc. However, this can be no rule. The purchaser of the aerial might be interested chiefly in one station or a group of them about one frequency. Make the transformer in any case so that its resonant point aids the requirements of the user.

As a good start here are the dimensions of a transformer for use with 35 feet of shielded leadin and 100 feet of top:

Total—150 turns No. 30 D. S. C., lumped on 1 inch diameter.

Tap-90 turns from grounded end.

These dimensions apply only to a particular aerial. Different shielded wire

with less capacity per foot or different conditions surrounding the aerial top will affect the resonant point and the placing of the tap. The chap interested in satisfying all needs in the matter had best make up several sizes and on every size provide himself with at least two taps, the most useful taps being at one-half and three-quarters of the number of turns from the grounded end.

For higher frequencies the number of turns is reduced, keeping the proportions the same as long as the antenna remains the same. Thus for a transformer to work in the 80 meter amateur band the number of turns would be about half that stated, and the diameter about % inch outside.

Simulating the Shielded Leadin

In many cases it is possible to imitate the shielded leadin without using a shielded wire. In no case are these trick leadins to be regarded as effective as the shielded type although they serve excellently when interferences are not too vigorous. Their chief value is to be got in locations not permitting an adequate top for a shielded leadin without a matchup transformer, or in locations where facilities are hopeless for the installation of the matchup transformer and the cut and try procedure necessary to get it to correct dimensions.

One imitation is extremely simple. In Fig. 2A simply drop the leadin before the aerial top has reached the house and bring it to earth. There lay it on the ground and have it follow the ground to the point of approximate entry into the house. Of course this sort of leadin can be improved with a matchup transformer connected in place where the leadin begins to travel on its stomach.

A second imitation is the twisted leadin Fig. 2B: if one side of the twisted leadin is connected to the aerial top and the aerial post on the receiver and the other side is connected to ground and hanging free at the aerial top the leadin is strictly a semi-shielded one. If, however, this leadin instead is connected as in Fig. 2C it becomes slightly different; for the dead wire (not connected to the top) is running at exactly opposite potential (180 degrees out of

phase) to the live wire and consequently the two wires cancel each other as pickups, the top alone getting signal (and noise). A variation of the twisted leadin idea is shown in Fig. 3. This aerial counter-poise system has the same requirements as any other. Logically the top two wires, should be matched to the leadin by a transformer TR3. tenna-counterpoise systems, being usually house-top or sideyard affairs are more uniform as to size. Most broadcast receiving needs will be met if TR3 has 150-160 turns of No. 34 D.S.C. lumped on a three-quarter inch insulating rod or spool and tapped 8 or 10 turns each side of center. And likewise, because the parallel nature of the two wires, neither of which are to be connected to ground, a second transformer must feed into the receiver for the receiver is inevitably grounded either

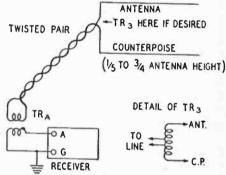


Figure 3

through the A. C. line or (as is preferable) to a good independent ground. The second transformer TRA is simple enough; it works into a low impedance (the antenna winding of the receiver) and consequently need only be 1-1 ratio to match up with the low impedance leadin; two windings about 30 turns each and lumped over each other on 1 inch tubing will serve.

These antenna-counterpoise schemes must not enclose the source of noise; do not put the antenna above a house and the counterpoise alongside. Put both or neither on the roof.

The Worst Locations

Business, apartment house, and similar locations crowded with unknown quantities of noise-making equipment from the telephone to the loose fuse are

subject to the same general practices as better and less generally noisy ones. Here, however, frequently the only manner in which reduction of noise is possible is height of the top. The top cannot be extended beyond the noise so it must be raised above it. A high aerial with a good shielded leadin is the answer and since here the leadin must be long a matching transformer is imperative.

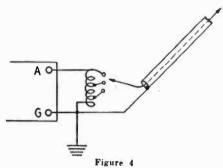
Obviously by lengthening the top we are in a sense faking the action of the matchup transformer; in other words we are attempting by mere length to achieve an impedance similar to a shielded leadin. That is why in previous cases I have so insistently suggested the long top as the means of overcoming the apparent signal loss in the leadin.

The Receiver End of the Line

It was suggested that there should be a stepup transformer at the lower, or receiving-set end of the line. This is not essential but adds to the results. One may use a transformer exactly like that at the antenna end (reversed) or one may add to the receiver a new antenna coil with a very few turns (about one-tenth to one-quarter the usual number). If the receiver originally used a tap on a tuned winding one need only tap further down toward the ground end of the coil. Before making any changes in the receiver, or providing any transformer at this point, see how matters work out if the leadin is connected to the "long antenna" terminals of the set. In some cases this gives a good enough

Did you ever hear of a screen-grid B eliminator? We know an apiarist that wears one over his head whenever he is working around his beehives.

Electrad has a new volume-control folder on a good-grade of cardboard. It describes five volume controls and specifies 343 different receivers which these volume controls will fit for repairs, service and replacement. They send these cards on request; it is useful whether one has their controls on hand or not.



In general, as long as the match. shielded leadin does not get much above 75 feet long, the receiver matches it fairly well. But when the shielded leadin gets into lengths of unusual magnitude it will drop to an impedance appreciably lower than that of the input of the receiver and will likewise have to be matched, in this case the matching of course is in the opposite direction to that of the matchup of top to leadin, that is stepup instead of stepdown. A thirty turn winding with taps at 15, 20, 25 turns will usually fit nearly any condition; the winding being lumped on one inch diameter tubing. Again one has a case however of being able to alter the sensitivity at different portions of the waveband by getting the inductance in Fig. 4 resonant at some point in it. One has to experiment to satisfy the needs of a particular case.

A properly installed pair of 40 to 80 foot iron pipe poles and a shielded leadin aerial to fit will often make possible store demonstrations selling receivers which otherwise would have to be carried to the customer's home to prove that the radio is adequate.

International Resistance, makers of I. R. C. resistors, are providing customers with celuloid "slide rules" of the disc variety for determining the size of a resistor by its color-coding. The color coding of resistors is now being done according to R. M. A. standards, the specifications of which were recently settled. The I. R. C. resistor "slide-rule" can be got from I. R. C. directly or any one of their distributors by anyone purchasing five of their small one-half or one watt pig-tail resistors. Any serviceman will find the chart useful daily.

The Successful Metal-chassis Receiver

By Robert S. Kruse

The mere presence of much sheet metal is not an assurance that one may be careless in the design or construction of a receiver. On the contrary, departures from standard design require more care than was necessary in the days of wooden baseboards and 201A tubes. This is only partly due to the higher amplification now used; it is quite as much due to the ability of voltages to wander about and to cross trails with circuits for which they are not intended.

All ordinary electrical circuits are closed circuits. A current does not stop when dumped into a metal chassis but continues back to the point from which it came, contriving (like a boy let out of school) to get into deviltries on the way home. To anticipate, and head off, these pranks the designer seeks out safe routings. He does not do this blindly, but in accordance with plain principles. If the reader's patience survives the following elementary circuit description I may be able to show what some of these principles are.

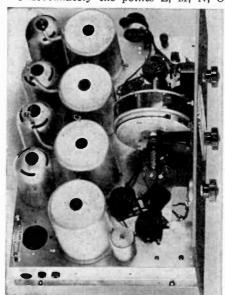
A Bad Example

Let us talk about the circuit shown in Figure 1, which is a perfectly ordinary stage of screen-grid r-f amplifier followed by a triode detector. This circuit looks off-hand as if everything had been "fully bypassed and shielded". Nevertheless, it is quite impossible to tell from the diagram whether the stage will be workable, though we can say with a good deal of assurance that the diagram shows enough bad mistakes in design so that we can hardly expect satisfactory fidelity, amplification, selectivity and stability simultaneously. Unless the circuit is improved one or several of these faculties will be deficient.

It is very evident that the designer of this circuit has made the common error of assuming that all parts of the chassis are at the same r-f voltage, probably that of the ground. To be more exact, he assumed that the points L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T and U are all of the same r-f voltage. The tuned circuits have been completed by connecting the lower

ends of the coils and tuning condensers to the chassis, because this seems to be just as good as connecting them together with a bit of wire—and simpler to boot. In the same way it seemed safe to connect the emitter E1 of the screen-grid tube to its tuned circuit by simply grounding the condenser C1 at some convenient point on the chassis.

Unfortunately the points L, M, N, O,



Coil and tube shields must not touch each other.

P, Q, R, S, T and U are NOT at the same r-f voltage, for even a heavy metal chassis has some r-f impedence. Thus there must be small r-f voltages between the 10 points we are speaking of whenever a signal enters the receiver. If the chassis were being used for one r-f circuit only there might be no harm in this, but even in this simple one-stage circuit the chassis is being used to complete at least 7 r-f circuits, listed below to make the point clear:

- 1. The tuned circuit S1, L, M, C5.
- 2. The circuit from the tetrode input grid to the cathode.
- 3. The circuit from the tetrode screen to the cathode.
- 4. The circuit from the tetrode plate to the cathode.

Page Twelve

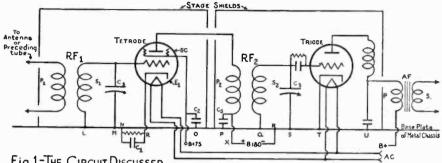


Fig. 1-THE CIRCUIT DISCUSSED

Connections to chassis at points L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. as shown, make direct, short wiring but can cause much trouble. Grounding to shield correctly will cause longer leads, better performance and, in most cases, will reduce tunable hum on short-waves. Yet this circuit, as shown, seems adequately by-passed, shielded and filtered.

- 5. The circuit from detector grid to cathode.
- 6. The circuit from the detector plate to cathode.
- 7. The tuned circuit S2, Q, S, C3.

Coupling between these circuits can produce the following effects:

- 1. Poor selectivity at one end of the tuning range.
- 2. Poor amplification at one end of the tuning range.
- Poor fidelity at one or both ends of the audio range.
- 4. Instability.
- "Hum on carrier" under some circumstances.
- 6. Vulnerability to local signals.
- Tendency to change performance considerably as to most of the foregoing when line voltage changes.

The list is not complete but is surely adequate to show that the state of affairs is very unsatisfactory if the couplings through the chassis are sufficient so that any of the difficulties actually appear. Experience shows that they are quite thoroughly sufficient and that it is accordingly most necessary to avoid these "chassis couplings" as far as possible. The first and last of the r-f circuits just listed are tuned circuits and carry much larger r-f currents than do other parts of the system. The first precaution is accordingly to complete them as in Figure 2, each secondary having the lead run to its own tuning condenser with a view to making the leads short, direct, and well shielded from the leads in some other stage. It

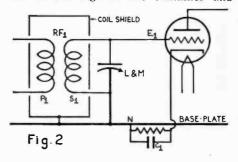
decidedly not satisfactory most merely to ground the coil to any place on the frame of a multiple gang condenser. This is about the worst thing that could be done. If gang condensers are used there should be a separate lowresistance low-inductance jumper to each rotor. This may be a good wiping contact or a flexible "pigtail". At the same time something should be done to prevent the relatively large r-f current in the coil and its leads from inducing (by a transformer action) voltages in other circuits. A long step has been made when the coil itself is surrounded by a coil shield as in Figure 2. Satisfactory coil shields are of aluminum or better of copper, have a length and diameter perhaps twice that of the coil and no openings except the eyele's through which the wires emerge. The leads to both primary and secondary windings should obviously be shielded from other leads. It is helpful to place the coil cans close to the tuning condenser and to use "fences" or outright stage shield? to prevent couplings between the leads running from coil to condenser and tubes. In sets using but one stage of r-f amplifier a little forethought permits the coil shields to be dispensed with by simply placing the coils far apart, and with a "fence" between them. Several short-wave tuners use this dodge, which is perfectly legitimate and satisfactory.

Bypass Cautions

More remains to be done to the input system of the tetrode. We have combined the points L. and M in Figure 2 but there is left the path between L-M and

the point N. This is obviously used by the r-f grid current, which is fortunately much smaller than the current in the tuned circuit. One's first thought is that the return to cathode should be made as in Figure 3. This is satisfactory enough for the r-f grid circuit alone but unfortunately the cathode is next to a 60-cycle filament from which it picks up a small 60-cycle voltage which tends to cause 60cycle hum, even in r-f stages. arrangement of Figure 2 generally permits the use of a sufficiently large condenser to minimize this hum voltage whereas the arrangement of Figure 3 either demands that this condenser be put above the base or else that the lead be brought up through the base, both of which are arrangements of dubious value. It is distinctly desirable to keep the lead between the cathode and C1 short and well shielded and to make C1 itself of low resistance and inductance. In the broadcast range a "non-inductive" condenser of .2 or .3 mufd.* is satisfactory if it has a metal container which may be grounded by attaching to the chassis near the cathode terminal of the socket. For high frequency receivers such a condenser is not satisfactory in all cases and it may be necessary to use a .01 mufd.* mica condenser in the connection of Figure 3 supplemented by extending the dotted lead to a .3 mufd. condenser which is expected to bypass a 60-cycle hum. This arrangement must be used with considerable caution because it is manifestly a series-tuned circuit and will cause strange things to occur if its resonance point lies inside the tuning range of the receiver. A general caution on the use of metal clad bypass condensers may be in order. In factory types the condenser is usually made to suit the job, the leads being brought out where most convenient. When working with stock condensers one is robbed of this convenience and exposed leads will result unless thought is given to placing and turning the condenser so that the exposed terminals are away from other wires though near the cathode or other point

to be bypassed. Several condensers can sometimes be stacked with terminals pointing in different directions or a single one may have its terminals partly shielded by utilizing a corner or angle of the chassis. The idea is, of course, to shield the lead, not merely the condenser terminal. Incidentally, when it is necessary to ground one side of a bypass condenser to chassis, a convenient way is to solder one terminal down to one of the lugs of the container and



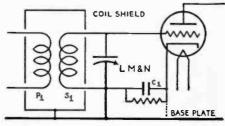


Fig. 3

Fig. 2.—This circuit shows how two chassis connections L and M can be combined. Theory calls for this change, and practice proves its need. Fig. 3.—A variation of the circuit of Fig. 2. Proper choice of C1 as described in text is necessary.

then to make sure that one of the fastening screws goes through that part of the container into the chassis. This seemingly unimportant point sometimes makes a large difference in stability because the tin condenser cans have fairly high r-f resistance. Another old dodge that is sometimes useful is to employ the bypass condensers themselves as fences between adjacent tube sockets. For this purpose they are mounted under the base where the tube terminals are somewhat exposed. A most fruitful way of getting into a lot of difficulties is to crowd a group of bypasses into the same tin can or even the same stage shield.

^{*} mufd., meaning microfarad since mu is the usual abbreviation for "micro" or "millionth". The abbreviation is more logical than "mfd", which does not really mean "microfarad" but "millifarad".

It is true that some broadcast receivers have "gotten away with" just that construction but only after much careful work. It is only fair to recall that several of them were so regenerative that their sensitivity was non-uniform and both their fidelity and selectivity rather poor.

In August, Part II of this story will cover the common difficulties due to incorrect bypass condensers, also the use of decoupling resistors, the proper allowance for condenser tolerance, and the avoidance of "hum on carrier".

Remarkable New A. C. Meters

The shortcomings of low-priced a. c. meters are too well known to require much comment. It must therefore be most gratifying to all of our readers to discover a line of a. c. meters which take no more power than a high-sensitivity d. c. meter, can work at any reasonable frequency, are moderate in price and—perhaps best of all—have scales practically as free from cramping as those

PRITOLITIES TOUR

PRITOLITIES

Fig. 1. A rectifier-type voltmeter showing the absence of the usual a. c. cramping at the left end of the scale.

of a good d. c. instrument. The last point is illustrated by the accompanying photograph of one of the new Weston rectifier-type voltmeters. The scales of the microammeters, and milliammeters are similar in this regard. The voltmeters can be had with either 1000 or 2000 ohms resistance per volt, thus drawing ½ or 1 milliampere at full scale, as compared to some 20 to 300 times as much for the usual a. c. voltmeter.

As made by Weston this meter is called Model 301. A similar G. E. meter is Type DO 14X.

As has been suggested, these meters are actually d. c. instruments, connected to a very small rectifier, which is placed inside the case, so that the device is self-contained and as compact as any other

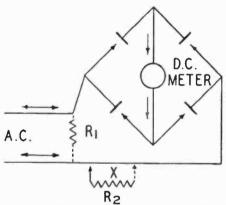


Fig. 2. Scheme of connections. The resistor R1 is a shunt and appears only in current meters. The resistance R2 is the "multiplier" and appears only in voltmeters.

of the familiar 3¼" Model 301 switchboard meters. The rectifier is of the copper-oxide type and is connected as shown in Fig. 2, which will be recognized as the usual "bridge" form of full-wave rectifier. The combination tends to operate on average, rather than r. m. s. values but it is so calibrated that readings are correct when the wave form is pure.

Errors

Such a battery of advantages cannot usually be gained without some disadvantages, and these must in fairness be listed.

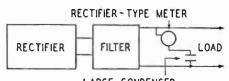
The temperature error is less than 2% for low voltage ranges (under 20 volts) as long as the temperature does not go above 95 degrees Fahrenheit. In using voltage ranges above 20 the temperature

should not be above 85 degrees. Above these temperatures the error rises rather fast because of effects in the oxide rectifier.

When using microammeters or milliammeters one must-of course-take the usual care in making sure that the meter resistance is not too large as compared to the other resistances of the circuit, otherwise conditions are upset by the insertion of the meter. This is, however, an effect which takes place with all sorts of meters-even such meters as are inserted in the r. f. circuits of transmitters. The only difference is that rectifiertype meters may under such conditions, suffer a change in their own rectifier resistance and show a varying error as the current shifts. The effect is of no consequence in high-resistance circuits such as are usual in radio work.

Frequency Effects

The meters are useful through the entire audio range and on up into the "supersonic" range. The reading of the meter decreases about one-half of 1% for each 1,000 cycles. Thus at 10,000 cycles the reading would be 5% low and need to have that much added to it.



LARGE CONDENSER
Fig. 3. Using a rectifier-type meter to measure the a. c. ripple of a filter system.

This effect, of course, causes further errors in reading when measuring a. c. with odd wave forms—anything but pure sinusoids—and in some cases such errors may be rather large though it must be noted that other meters are also affected very adversely by such bad waveforms.

The O-1 A. C. milliammeter has a resistance of about 1,000 ohms. A 9,000 ohm I. R. C. Precision or Super-Akraohm resistor will convert it into a 10 volt meter, correct on A. C. and equally correct on D. C. if the readings are divided by 1.1—or multiplied by .9

Further details on this line of meters can be had from the makers, who also supply a pamphlet, "Rectifier Type Instruments" in which the aforementioned effects are more fully explained. The address is, Weston Electrical Instrument Corporation, Newark, N. J.

Modulation Improvement

By Robert S. Kruse

In the last year there have come under the writer's observation a number of broadcasting stations, as well as amateur voice transmitters in which attempts at high-percentage modulation have resulted in a considerable assortment of unsatisfactory effects.

The purpose here is to suggest the cause of some of the shortcomings of the average moderate-power radiophone, including those shortcomings that are not suspected by the operator. The story will not be complete, but may be helpful. The story has been told "around" a transmitter using the '10 and the '50, but applies almost equally well to other power levels.

However, no other tube combination is so full of grief, hence it is an ideal example.

'50 Tube Troub'es

It is possible that I have met the worst members of the tribe, but my

opinion of the '50 tube as a modulator is not favorable. One of the most widely distributed makes has an inadequate plate and is un-uniform as well. Most of the makes seem inclined to produce more audio distortion than is nice, for various reasons that need not be detailed here but seem inherent in the design. Fortunately most of these difficulties can be overcome in a pushpull scheme, as suggested later. The tubes are decidedly NOT suited to parallel operation.

Now Then-!

Small-power radiophones of the better grade aiming at 100% modulation do not modulate the oscillator but instead modulate a "linear" R. F. amplifier.

The general principle is shown in Fig. 2.

The circuit of Fig. 3 is met frequently, and seems to be a good deal of a trouble-breeder, because the '50 tube

Page Sixteen

is being run on over-voltage and without any push-pull connection. Both things tend to bring out the worst of the tube, including a tendency toward sudden demise when a hard audio bump comes through. Even in the 50 watt class, the modulators are run at voltages above rating when using this circuit. The '10 is being run at about the right level, but a 500 volt supply is needed.

But a Way Out

Fig. 4 manages to get around nearly everything that has been mentioned. Here the '50 tubes are being run UNDER normal voltage, (which is much





Fig. 1. A Pushpull step-up modulation transformer suitable for working from a pair of 250 audio tubes into the plate circuit of a 210 r. f. modulated amplifier. For comparison there is shown a step-down pushpull transformer for working from the same audio tubes into a 2000 ohm speaker.

easier on the tube and condenser budget), no coupling condenser or resistor (Fig. 3) is needed, the final filter condenser need be only large enough to serve as an A. F. bypass around the filter, and the curious distortions encountered when trying to use a single '50 are largely cancelled out by the push-pull arrangement-which is really the best part of the whole thing. The plate input to the '10 tube is adjusted by lowering the r. f. input. It must be remembered that this tube has so high a bias that if the r. f. input is removed the plate current stops altogether. This method is used in some high-quality transmitters.

Other Tubes

As was stated initially, the worst available tube combination is in discussion, which means we bring out nearly every difficulty at once. With other class C tubes one has less grief, but in nearly every case it will be found that

the use of a push-pull output stage will still reduce troubles all around, mainly through:

Less feedback in audio system;

Less distortion in final audio stage (or modulator);

Lower plate voltage;

Permitting omission of R and Cc.

The push-pull output transformer itself does not cause distortions of importance if well designed—which in effect means—if enough good material

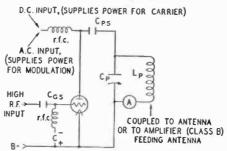


Fig. 2. Basic circuit of the plate-modulated "class C" amplifier. This may be followed by a "final" or "class B" amplifier.

is used. When working at higher powers it is sometimes advantageous to use the modulator (final audio) tubes in parallel instead of push-pull and to employ 3 of them. For instance, three 845 tubes might be used in parallel on an 800 volt supply to modulate a single 211, also running at 800 volts. The plate current of the 845 tubes would then be run through the primary of a "straight" transformer, whose secondary carried the plate current of the 211.

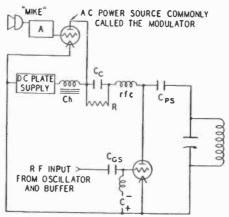


Fig. 3. The usual modulation circuit which appears to cause the trouble.

The direction of these currents can be chosen so that their magnetizing effect on the core is opposite and usually the required turn ratio is such that the resultant magnetizing effect is small. Some designs for such transformers have been worked out and we hope to show them in "Modern Radio". The arrangement was called to my attention by Mr. C. J. Franks of Radio Frequency Laboratories.

The Push-Pull Transformer

As seen from Fig. 1 the push-pull modulating transformer is larger than one designed to work from a pair of 250 tubes into a loudspeaker. This is mainly because the secondary of the trans-

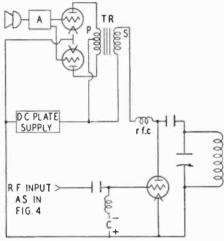


Fig. 4. A circuit which permits the same results as Fig 3 with lower plate voltages, less filter condenser, better audio quality and less tendency toward audio feedbacks.

former must carry the plate current of the r. f. tube and allowance must be made (in the core design) for the resulant magnetizing effect. How this is done will be discussed in following paper, as will the other details of the transformer design. Another cause for the bulk of the transformer is that it is a step-up device for the secondary must have enough turns to feed 10 watts into the rather high resistance of the 210 tube. instead of feeding a 10 ohm voice coil as does the small stepdown transformer also shown in Fig. 1. The transformer shown was "aimed at" the operating conditions of Fig. 4. Since the '10 is in this case to draw 20 watts at 425 volts it must evidently have a normal (non-modulated) plate current of 47 ma. Its plate resistance is then 425/.047 = 9050 ohms. Now it chances that a pushpull pair of '50 tubes will deliver its maximum undistorted output when working into a load of about 8000 ohms. Thus there should be a ratio of 9/8 between the secondary and primary, that is the secondary should have 9/8 as many turns as the primary. The actual number in each winding depends on the core design and material-of which more later as promised. Meanwhile-the pushpull input transformer feeding the '50 tubes (or whatever is used) is a perfectly normal one, therefore not discussed.

The reader is undoubtedly aware of the inability of one type '50 tube (audio) to impose 100% modulation on a type '10 tube (radio) unless the latter is run at a pathetically low level—even when the '50 is overloaded. He may therefore be a bit puzzled when 425 volts is suggested for use on all three tubes in Fig. 4, and 100% modulation promised, without overloading the '50 tubes—which are below normal voltage.

This is quite sound and proper. Even imperfectly matched tubes (such as the '50's may easily be) can nicely be loaded to 2½ times the output which could be had from a single tube. If the pair is well matched the thing can be carried further. Usually the matching need be carried no further than to pick two tubes which will draw the same plate current when tested at the operating bias and plate voltage.

Short Circuits at W2BP

If it is proper to speak of a filament heating transformer, why isn't the other one a plate-heating transformer?

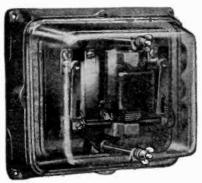
Speaking of heating; we burned out a grid today while using an exactly correct grid bias—reversed as to polarity. We then went out to bias a new tube.

Quite a few manufacturers have had forced landings lately. Distributor trouble.



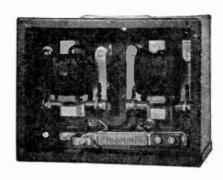
A.C. Keying Relay

- 1. Keys directly from 110 volt A.C. Lines.
- 2. A two pole relay, one pole for plate circuit, one for the grid circuit.
- 3. It follows a key up to 40 words a minute.
- 4. Totally shielded by cast aluminum case.



Time Delay Relay

- Protection to Mercury Vapor Rectifier tubes by a definite time delay between filament and plate voltages.
- 2. 15 to 60 seconds' time delay setting.
- Dimensions 4-7/8" x 6-1/8" x 3-1/16" (enclosed).
- 4. Arranged with back connection for panel mounting.



WARD LEONARD ELECTRIC CO.

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Send for the revised Circular 507

An Adapter for Adapters

By L. W. Hatry, Associate Editor

It seems to this writer that, since the first, the average short-wave converter or adapter of the super-heterodyne type has had one large and glaring fault. The most of them use '24 tetrode detectors in either space-charge or screengrid connections and invariably allow the plate circuit (R. F.) to feed directly into the antenna circuit of the receiver they are attached to. This is all right in practically no case. It is wrong mostly because of the excessively poor impedance match resulting. The '24 tube as an R. F. amplifier has an impedance of 400,000 ohms, as a detector it travels up from there to as high as 4 megs.

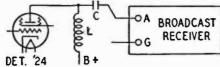


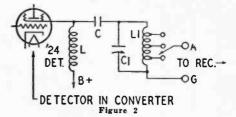
Figure 1

The measly 1,000 to 10,000 ohms of the antenna circuit of the average receiver is far from fitting this. As a consequence, (though the owner seldom suspects it), adapters fall below the possible performance and by no means give results proportional to the 8 to 13 tubes in use. A feeble attempt is sometimes made to cure the disease by using a space-charge 224. The only reason for using the space-charge connection for a tetrode as a detector is to lower its impedance; for the space-charge arrangement always gives a lower one than the screengrid although both impedances are considerably out of proportion to the load impedance got from between a pair of aerial and ground posts on a receiver.

In general the only thing with enough impedance to begin to make a near match with the tetrode plate circuit is a tuned circuit as load. This of course could be got from a receiver by tapping into the first tuned circuit but so doing in a ganged outfit would throw the first circuit well out of gang; such adaptation if not permanent is highly inconvenient and impractical.

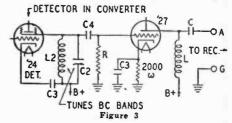
Fig. 1 shows the usual connections in a converter from detector to receiver.

Fig. 2 shows an improvement in which the detector tube is given a tuned circuit and then a step-down feed arranged to



allow a match to the usual step-up antenna transformer in the receiver.

But the best arrangement, and one I have built into a number of adapters, is shown in Fig. 3. There the tuned-circuit is used to "match" the tetrode detector and is followed with a '27 tube. By changing the output tube to a '27 in this fashion we gain a couple of things; first the impedance of the '27 is only between a 50th and a 200th of the tetrode detector so that almost any receiver has a highly improved chance of matching up and second we gain the added selectivity

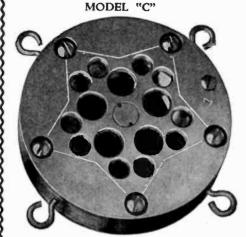


of the tuned circuit as well as some amplification from the '27, the overall gain being vastly desirable.

Of course the '27 on some receivers may show a tendency to oscillate although I have yet to meet a case of it. Should that happen we can add three or four turns at the bottom of the tuned circuit feeding the '27 and wire them through an insulating condenser of say 500 picofarads or larger in series with a 35 pfd. neutralizing condenser connected to the plate of the '27. This is the familiar Rice neutralizing scheme.

Although adding a tuned circuit seems to complicate the converter there is no

Page Twenty



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A Super-Quality Instrument—Priced Right Satisfaction Assured, Sold on Money-Back Guarantee

THE GAVITT MICROPHONE has the following features:

- Non-metallic diaphragm, not under tension.
- Output level 12 to 20 D. B.'s higher than average microphone.
- 3. Flat output curve within voice frequencies.
- Minimum carbon hiss due to nonmetallic diaphragm.
- 5. Requires only 8 mils per button.

- 6. 200 Ohms per button impedance.
- 7. Solid brass construction, chromium plated.
- 8. Sufficient weight to damp out microphonics.
- 9. Diameter 31/4; 3/4 thick.
- 10. Packed in attractive plush-lined, steel pocket-carrying case.
- 11. Shipping weight four pounds.

Matched microphone transformer	\$6.00
Six foot three conductor moisture-proof shielded micro-	
phone cord	1.50
Table type stand with springs	8.00

GAVITT MFG. CO., Inc. BROOKFIELD, MASS.

operating complication for the tuned circuit is a set-and-forget proposition. The receiver to which the converter is attached is simply set on a clear, or reasonably clear, frequency and the tuned circuit adjusted for maximum volume, its tuning being quite uncritical as is usually noticeable in a tuned circuit followed by a lot of amplication.

Where the usual converter may give G5SW with the volume control on the BC outfit set full, the "adapted" one with its '27 matcher will give the same volume with the receiver volume control moved back from two-thirds to three-quarters of the full turn.

MONEY SAVERS

The impatience of the user has taken many hours from the lives of '66 mercury-containing rectifiers—not to speak of the slow-heating '72 type. If the plate voltage is applied before the filament is thoroughly warm—fssst!—there went some of the oxide from the filament! With more haste one may even cause direct arc-backs which quickly ruin the rectifier tube altogether.

It isn't possible to estimate the time closely enough before throwing the plate supply switch, and one doesn't always trouble to count seconds. An automatic device formerly was too costly but two varieties at reasonable prices are now available. One is a relay-switch under thermostatic control, the thermostat being heated at the same time as the filament and not allowing the relay-switch to operate until full electron-emission is available. This is made by Ward Leonard Electric Co. of Mount Vernon, N. Y., and is shown in their advertisement in this issue. The time-lag is adjustable from 15 to 60 seconds and the device itself is meant for panel mounting.

The other device is intended for mounting in an ordinary steel switch-box such as is used in housewiring and in most transmitter control circuits. It may also be mounted through an opening in a transmitter panel or control-table top. This device, called the "Marktime Switch" is shown in the photograph herewith and has a fixed time-lag between the throwing of the switch-handle and the closing of the second (plate)

supply circuit. This lag is provided by a simple clockwork mechanism whose driving spring is wound by throwing the switch handle. When the clockwork has driven the release device to the proper point the second switch operates, and at



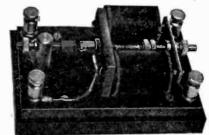
The Mark-time Switch

the same moment the word "ON" appears in a small opening in the switch-plate. Standard models of the Marktime switch provide for relays of 15 and 30 seconds, also 3, 4 and 7 minutes. The prices range from \$4.85 to \$9.85. Variations of this principle are used in other types of switches.

The devices are made by M. H. Rhodes, Inc., 1010 American Industrial Building, Hartford, Conn.

A KEYING RELAY

The magnetic key shown herewith is designed for use in amateur transmitters of moderate power. It is stated by the



manufacturer to have a maximum keying speed of 35 to 40 words per minute when actuated at 6 volts and drawing a current of one-half ampere with the key closed. At this speed about 100 volt-amperes can be "busted" satisfactorily. The contacts are renewable at 50c per pair and the price of the device as a whole to amateurs is \$5.00.

The manufacturer is Wireless Egert Engineering, Inc., 179 Greenwich Street, New York City.

Page Twenty-Two

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The 'Amateur' Transmitter—
The 'Amateur' Pocketbook

Easy access to terminals. 11/4 in. flexible lugs for easy soldering.

Secondary 10,000 Volt insulation.

Absolute 3 yr. guarantee against breakdown

High insulation safety factor.

EXACT C. T. Sec



Taps to allow compensation for line voltage variation.

Bakelite term strip. Correct core for fine regulation.

Wrought iron clamps and mounting feet crystaline finish.

No. 866 2½V-10 Amp

Special Net Price to Amateurs—\$4.65 DEALERS INQUIRIES INVITED

TRANSFORMERS FOR RECTIFIERS

866—10 Amp, 2½V 872—20 Amp, 5V

281 (new Mercury)

5 Amp, 7½V

TRANSFORMERS FOR TRANSMITTING TUBES

7½V, 5 Amp 10V, 7½ Amp 11V, 7½ Amp

11V, 7½ Amp 12V, 6 Amp 14V, 6 Amp Spec. Comb. Windings 7½, 7½ V 4 Amps each 7½, 7½, 7½, 7½, 3½ Amps per sec winding

These transformers are on sale at:

Leeds, New York City; Egerts, New York City; Hatry & Young, Hartford, Conn.;
M. & H. Sporting Goods, Philadelphia
Wholesale Radio, N. Y. C.; Ben's Tremont Elec., Boston, Mass.

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62 Court St., Newark, N. J. EXPORT BUSINESS SOLICITED

"Short-Circuits" at W2BP

If a big bass note ever gets stuck crosswise of the loudspeaker of some of these midget receivers there will be a serious explosion.

A kilovolt is a thousandth of a megavolt, which makes it sound less shocking.

Recently a steam-turbine-driven generator was built which can deliver 160,000,000 watts. Why not connect all the low-quality broadcasting stations to that generator? The trifling 1,000 kilowatt load will not move the meter needle off the "0" mark—whereupon the operator will think the line is open and will shut down the generator.

Why hasn't the Federal Radio Commission thought of this?

Wanted: Vacuum cleaner with noisy commutator to be used in an apartment house for discouraging late-blooming radio receivers.

After seeing some 2½ kilowatt aircooled Mullard tubes we have decided that the English have a fine sense of humor.

We are told that NBC once forgot to stop Floyd Gibbons. 20 minutes later he was 3 days ahead of the news.

In pawing through the list of U. S. Government publications we find "Federal Radio Commission" listed between "feathers" and "fertilizer".

After that we dare to revive the memory of the receiver which was named a "Chlorodyne"—and to wonder if the transformers inside were chloroformers. The set was made at about the same time as the Super-Iodyne which became a drug on the market.

Use your receiver twice a day; see your serviceman twice a year.

Page Twenty-Four

According to Ralph Schlagle of WOR the phone at the station rang just after an SOS shutdown and a Nice Old Lady asked what was wrong. On being told she said, "Well if there is anything I can do, just let me know."

If a woman shuts off a radio set, that is not news. On the other hand if a radio set———

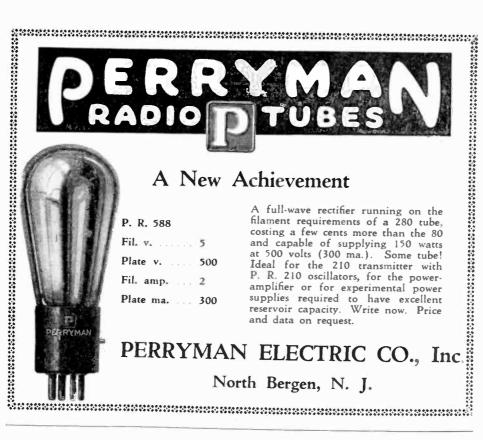
Now that International Broadcasting is with us we need a linguaformer with an American secondary and a number of primaries of proper impedence to match various foreign languages. We would like to try putting static into the Chinese primary.

We can't afford to overload the plate until groceries are cheaper.

A small broadcasting station was transmitting a phonograph program spattered with invitations for requests. The telephone rang, and a tired voice from the receiver said: "I have a request; pull the big switch!"

A visitor at a high-power code transmitting station was asking questions. "Is it all-electric?" and "Do you use screen-grid tubes?" were answered in the affirmative, but the operator was almost cornered when asked if it had automatic volume control. Just in time he thought of the automatic key—which has just 100% effect on the volume!

Howard Mason seems to have set up something of a radio travel record by now. Seattle, Alaska, Wilkins Arctic Expedition, New England and way stations, Seattle again, Little America with Byrd via the East Coast and New Zealand, returning over the same route with a detour to San Francisco. If Seattle can get a man back from all those places it is time the Chamber of Commerce made a noise about it.





DISTRIBUTORS OF

National, Tobe. Aerovox, Polymet. Pilot, Electrad, Yaxley, Frost. Sprague, Flechtheim, Siemens-Halske. Hammarlund. Thordarson, Sangamo, Clarostat. Aalcoa, Spalding. Insuline, Cardwell. Perryman, Gavitt. Readrite, Beede, Birnbach, Ward-Leonard. International Resistance. ORDER IT We do the rest.

MORE THAN AN ACCIDENT

As designers and makers of special receiving equipment it is no accident that H. & Y. is the concern made well-known by the HY-7 short-wave super-heterodynes. Pioneering in recognizing the fundamental requirements of short-wave super design, H. & Y. have adhered closely to correct principles.

H. & Y. offer this special receiver service and supplement it with a standard line of Hy-7's for amateur and broadcast shortwave use, adding as further completion a sales service including National, Pilot, Insuline, Baird and other nationally known shortwave receivers. Also a varied line of radio parts for transmitters, receivers, repairs, etc., and test equipment of the leading makes as well as meters and transformers.



Hairy & Young Hartford



A "TUBE-SELLER"

Tube testing equipment that also provides display value is offered the radio dealer in two new Tube-Sellers, announced by the Jewell Electrical Instrument Company of 1642-U Walnut Street, Chicago, Illinois. The Pattern 535 Tube-Seller has a black panel 30 inches high by 28 inches wide, on which are mounted an 81/2-inch meter for indicating tube test readings, a smaller meter to show when the line voltage adjustment is properly set, and several sockets for preheating tubes to reduce testing time. There is a separate socket for testing each type of tube, so that filament voltage readjustment is avoided. A shortcircuit-test socket with indicating lights is provided.

The Pattern 535 Tube-Seller is suited for wall mounting. Dealers' price-\$111.00. The glass sign is \$12.00 extra.

AMATEUR RADIOPHONE CHANGES RECOMMENDED

In its annual session the Board of Direction of the American Radio Relay League made certain recommendations as to further restrictions upon amateur radiophone transmitters, and reduction of the channels assigned to them. These recommendations are for the consideration of the Federal Radio Commission. Omitting the unused "5 meter band" these recommendations may be summarized as follows: the channels marked (*) being restricted as explained helow:

Table I-Channel Changes

Present Frequencies 1715- 2000 kc 3500- 3550 kc 14100-14300 kc*

Recommended Increase Decrease 1875- 2000 kc 3900- 4000 kc* 50 kc* 160 kc 14150-14250 kc* 100 kc*

Net reduction 210 kc Licensing changes have also been recommended whereby amateur radiophone operation will be permitted only on the 1875-2000 kc band for those holding a regular amateur operator's license, the "80 meter band" being closed to general amateurs. Considered in this way the changes have the following form:

Table II-Changes in Restrictions

Present Recommended

Open to all amateurs... 335 kc 125 kc
Open only to holders of extra-class operator's lic. 200 kc 200 kc
Thus the proposed 210 kc decrease would affect all but the special-license amateurs.

The Wire Gage Simplified

It was surprising to find that in a group of 5 radiomen, none knew the following rough but convenient rules about the American Standard, or Brown and Sharps, wire gage, commonly called A. W. G. or B. & S.

- 1-Number 10 A. W. G. copper wire "runs" 10 ohms per 1000 feet.
- 2-Number 10 has a diameter of 1/10 of an inch (.1019).
- 3-Number 10 has a cross section of 10,000 circular Mils (10,380).
- 4-The area doubles every 3 numbers, thus No. 7 has about 20,000 c. m. area, No. 10-10,000, No. 13-5,000. The resistance varies in the same manner, of course.
- 5-The diameter doubles every 6 numbers, thus No. 16 has a diameter of about 50 mils, No. 10 of 100 mils. and No. 4 of about 200 mils.

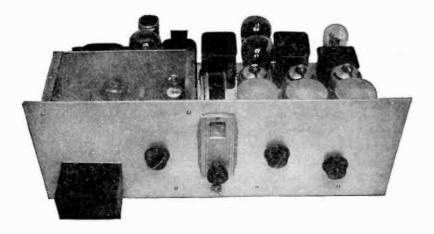
RALPH R. BATCHER

Radio Engineering Consultant Radio Receiver Designs, Testing and Laboratory Equipment, Special Apparatus and Models Developed To Order Member I. R. E. 113-35 198th St., St. Albans, L. I.

Page Twenty-Six

A Real Amateur Phone Receiver

We have designed coils for our new S W S 9 to give full dial spreads on all amateur bands. Here is a receiver which not only pulls in your stations but separates them.



Employs a 227 oscillator, 224 first detector, 2-224 intermediates and a 224 second detector, and has a regeneration control. The set is entirely free from hum. The interchangeable coils are arranged on the front of the receiver

For more information send for our FREE catalogue "A" describing this receiver along with a standard line of monitors, relays, oscillators and other calibration equipment.

WIRELESS EGERT ENGINEERING, Inc.

179 Greenwich St., New York City

NOBEL PRIZE TO

SIR C. V. RAMAN

The Nobel prize for physics for 1930 has been awarded to Sir Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman in recognition of the importance of the "Raman Effect" discovered by him. Briefly, the Raman effect may be described thus: When a one-color (i.e., single-frequency) light is sent into a transparent substance there come out a number of other frequencies in addition to the original one. If the original frequency (color) is changed, these extra frequencies change with it, keeping the same relation. Raman's discovery is that the arrangement of these lines is systematic and that, like radio sidebands, they tend to appear on both sides of the original frequency. He further found that while those on the high-frequency side of the original are invariably found to have mates on the low-frequency side, the reverse by no means follows. The effect appears to be a wholly universal one affecting all transparent substances, whether solids, liquids or gases. It is this very universality which gives the effect its great importance to the physicist, for it adds one more to his small supply of basic effects by which the universe may in some degree be understood. An excellent simple discussion of the Raman effect, and its relation to the two usual theories of light appears in the April issue No. 8, Vol. 9 of the "Bell Laboratories Record", from which most of the foregoing is taken. The radio man must almost automatically turn to speculation upon similarities between the Raman effect and some radio transmission effects.

A Vestpecket Volt-ohm-meter, and Polarity Indicator

The simple little pocket neon lamp of Fig. 1, called a "Testolite" is good for more than mere voltage indicating. When one end is put into a plug receptacle and the other held in the hand the little lamp will indicate when the ungrounded side of the line is being touched, for even at 60 cycles and only 110 volts the charging current to the user's body lights the lamp dimly. While the lights are not especially uniform,

a little observation on any one of them will soon familiarize the user with the way it glows at different voltages, so that he can with a good deal of certainty distinguish between 100, 200, 300, 400 and 500 volt supplies, locate the various "B" voltages in a set and, if the set is of a familiar sort, have a pretty good

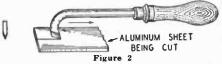


Figure 1

idea if the voltages are far wrong. On a. c. the two prongs in the bulb glow alike, on d. c. one only glows, and polarity is thereby indicated. Finally, with a known voltage available the extent and brightness of the glow gives a rough gage of the resistance connected in series for test. It all sounds very crude, but is very useful on a field job where one hasn't the shop along. Reminds one of the serviceman who said that he needed just three things to fix a radio receiver, his toolkit, an ashtray, and for the Lady of the House to leave.

A Useful Tool

Some anonymous person recently donated the ingenious tool of Fig. 2. It is made from an ordinary screwdriver bent, sharpened and re-hardened. Possibly it is a panel-cracker, possibly a graver—it is a pity that a real mechanic isn't here to name it. At any rate the use of the tool is this; when a sheet of aluminum is to be cut a steel straightedge (or an ordinary carpenter's square) is laid along the proper line and the



what-is-it drawn along the straightedge while being pressed firmly against the aluminum. The result is a well-defined groove, straight and deep. This cut is made on both sides of the sheet. The panel is easily cracked off by bending back and forth along the cuts. The edge is then dressed up with a file and a strip of abrasive paper tacked on a flat surface. Time saved over a hacksaw—95%.

USE THE CARDWELL MID WAY

For tuning receivers and transmitters, as neutralizing capacities in intermediate stages of transmitters—in any position where a small, compact variable condenser is needed. Not a midget but a smaller CARDWELL, identical in design to the larger CARDWELLS, not skimped and not cheapened—a real job.

For receivers and low power transmitters using '10 type tubes—7 sizes—26 to 365 mmfds.

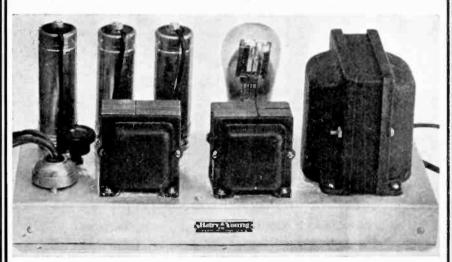
* For transmitters using up to 75 watt tube— 6 sizes—22 to 150 mmfds.

* Plates have well rounded edges and are highly polished overall. Send for literature describing these and other CARDWELL condensers. The range covers condensers suitable for Broadcasting down to midget balancing capacities.

THE ALLEN D. CARDWELL MFG. CORP.

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Have you information on the new variablemu-pentode HY-7's? Write for circular, its yours on request.

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THE STAFF OF "MODERN RADIO"

Collectively the staff of "Modern Radio" has:

Designed five successful receivers.

Designed and built 22 transmitting stations.

Contributed to every major American radio magazine.

The articles have been reprinted in all principal countries of the world.

Has operated 29 commercial, broadcast, amateur and experimental stations.

Had 12 years' experience in radio retailing and jobbing.

Had over 14 years' experience in radio service work.

Has participated in many sorts of radio experimental work.

Has had 42 years of experience in radio transmission.

EDITOR—Robert S. Kruse, E.E.—Formerly with Western Electric Co., International Tel. & Tel., Radio Section of the Bureau of Standards, Hammond Radio & Research Corp., Technical Editor QST for five years. Editor Sterling's Radio Manual and of several books now in preparation. Designer of a number of broadcasting and high-frequency transmitters, co-designer of National's S. W. 5 Thrill Box, Pilot's Wasp and Super-Wasp, also other commercial receivers. Has contributed to Radio News, Radio Design, Radio Broadcast, Popular Radio, Radio, Short-Wave Craft. His writings have been reprinted in all continents. At present Consulting Radio Engineer.

ASSOCIATE EDITOR—L. W. Hatry—Best-known during 1920-24 as owner and operator of 5XV at Port Arthur, Texas; also three other calls. Articles contributed to Radio, Radio News, QST, Radio Journal, Popular Radio, Radio Broadcast, Short-Wave Craft, Radio Craft, Wireless Age, Radio News Canada, many having been reprinted in the major countries of the world. Was department Editor and Information-service QST, Radio Editor the Hartford Times, recently active in short-wave super-heterodyne design. Participant in short-wave and amateur radio operator of broadcasting station and station engineer.

BUSINESS AND ADVERTISING MANAGER—Nicholas T. Young—Experimenter and radio operator since 1912 (starting with a coherer and decoherer) until 1917, amateur station in Brooklyn, N. Y. Graduate of School for Enlisted Specialists, Radio Section, Fortress Monroe, Va. Radio Sergeant U. S. A., in charge Fort Winfield Scott radio station WUO at San Francisco, California; Instructor in radio to commissioned officers and enlisted men in France; Ship operator, stations KMS, KIP, KMA and KMX; Broadcast station operator WDAK; 9 years managing experience in retail and wholesale radio.

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In the short-wave receiver.

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HOOKUP WIRE

WIRE —

Birnbach specializes in wire for aerials, stranded, stranded enameled, stranded tinned, or solid and solid enameled wires. All the way from the husky, strong cable using seven strands of No. 20 wire to the light one using 7/26, an aerial wire to suit any requirement of strength or economy.

Birnbach has hookup wire for all purposes: No. 12 flexible, rubber covered, tinned for heater hookup, or No. 18 for ordinary hookup uses. Sizes in between or larger if you want.

Birnbach complete aerial kits are sold by thousands of dealers, find out about them. Birnbach arresters, leadin strips, ground clamps, or insulators can be gotten separately. Use the coupon now.

Please send me your 1931 Catalog of Birnbach aerial kits and accessories, and hookup wire.	kii	5	S	E 4	5.0	- 21	per chi	5 9	4 0	S	200	20	6 5	ທົ	_	O 4	w E	~70	-	2	130	2 -2	= 2	0 0	Pro.	3	0	. 0	ñ	See .	-	0	9	2
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100 ft. 7/22 Tinned Copper List .80 1,000 ft. 7/22 Tinned Copper List \$7.00 100 ft. 7/22 Enameled95 1,000 ft. 7/22 Enameled . 9.50 100 ft. 7/20 Tinned 1.40 100 ft. 7/20 Enameled ... 1.50



617-A new Leadin Strip with screw, self-locking terminal, copper strip, weatherproof. List, each09



615-Ground Clamp. Sturdy, good-looking, screw-point, makes positive connection through scale or paint, cadmium finish.



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Flexible, heavy, rubber-covered hookup wire for ground, a.c. heater, and similar uses. Rubber has bright finish, comes in several colors.

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BIRNBACH RADIO CO.

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The Most Complete Line of Screw Mounting DRY Electrolytic Condensers in the Radio and Electrical Industries

Available in a wide variety of sizes, capacities, voltage characteristics and mounting features. These units are Dry, Low in Cost per Microfarad per Volt Rating, Low in Leakage, Compact, Light in Weight, Safe, Surge-Proof, Self-Healing, and provide Long Life, Stable Operation and High Filtering Efficiency. They may be mounted in any position—Upright, Inverted, Horizontal or at any other angle.

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A new extra small size mica condenser available in capacities up to .0005 mfds., rated at 500 d.c. volts retest voltage and 250 d.c. working voltage. Especially adapted for use in very small spaces.

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Type 1120
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A compact condenser made to meet manufacturers' requirements for an all-around efficient, high quality and low cost condenser. These units are hermetically sealed in special tubes and provided with wire leads.

Write for our new 40-page 1931 Condenser and Resistor Manual and Catalog. Also, the Aerovox Research Worker sent free upon request.

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Set-Testing Reduced to Simplicity

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These new test-kits are equipped with a practical selector-switch simplifying testing operations and speeding the work of circuit analysis. The scale readings are 0.60.300.600 volts D. C., 0.10.140.700 A. C. and 0.20.100 dc. ma. Both A. C. and D. C. filament voltages are measured on one meter. Tube-tests by grid-shift. 4½ v. battery provided for continuity tests. Capacity and resistance charts are provided for capacity checks on condensers and ohmmeter checks on fixed resistors. The eight scales of the meters may be used separately by plugging into the proper jacks. Housed in a strong case with leatherette covering. Attractive, compact and complete. Fills the needs of either the expert serviceman or the beginner at a price that makes not owning a test-kit an absurdity.

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EDITED BY ROBERT S. **KRUSE**

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5 ISSUES-50c

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MODERN RADIO, edited by Robert S. Kruse, is a radio magazine you will want. Subscribe now on the introductory offer above, or at \$1.25 for 13 issues beginning with August.

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In order that we may be certain it reaches only those who can make good use of it, please request your copy on the coupon.

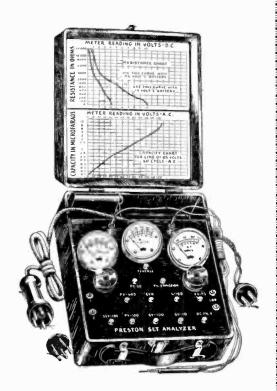
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The Preston
Set Analyzer
New and
Complete

\$25.00 List \$15.00 to Servicemen



Designed for quick and simple operation so that circuit tests or tube tests can be made instantly. No rotary switches are used, as each particular test has its own individual push button.

Three meters are used with scale readings of 0-10-100-600 DC, 0-10-150 AC, and 0-20-100 milliamperes.

Ideal for testing voltages of plate, grid, screen grid and cathode, as well as plate current, filament voltages and line voltage. Has continuity test for set circuits, choke and transformer windings, etc.

Resistance measurements and capacity measurements can be quickly taken. Calibrated chart is provided.

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 Used, reclaimed, surplus or bankrupt items must be so described under penalty of the postal laws, and the customer must be guaranteed full protection.

protection.

4. Please PRINT your name and address.

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policies.

An advertisement may be all capitals, be spaced or otherwise designed to stand out from its fellows at extra cost; all capitals at 8c per word. Unfilled space calculated at \$1.50 per inch.

7. No discount to agencies.

GENERAL RADIO 358 Wavemeter, \$14.50. Has seen little use. John Rumbalow, 68 Deerfield Ave., Hartford.

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Ave., Hartford.

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FOR SALE—ESCO Motor-Generator, 500v, 200 ma., two bearings. \$35. G. W. Strickland, Corapolis, Pa.

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Corapolis, Pa. SELL FOUR NEW, unused, DeForest 510 15 watt tubes, \$5.40 each. One used one, \$2.00. The one I used ran cool on 850v., 100 ma., 85 watt input. Have changed to 852's, crystal controlled. Harold Chamberlain, 81 Walden St., West Hartford Corp.

Harold Chamberlain, 81 Walden St., West Hartford, Conn.
FOR SALE—W. E. 250 watt sockets and good imitations, \$3; 1000v, 300 ma, double commutator Esco generator coupled to ½ horsepower 110-220v. single phase Westinghouse motor, both units good condition, cost \$175, make offer; Camera, improved Seneca view, 6½" x 8", bellows and racks extend 27", lens f.6.3 Zeiss convertible anastigmat, B. & L. shutter 1/100th to 3 sec. and time. Has levels, reversible back, many adjustments, bright nickel finish, 6 double cut-film holders, focusing cloth and carrying case. Ideal for model, portrait or scenic work. Complete, \$40. Quartz blanks cut to size or high precision crystals any reasonable frequency, reasonable prices. Boyd Phelps, Box 247, Hicksville, L. I.

New Jork.

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MODERN RADIO

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Number 2

August

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EDITED

BY ROBERT

KRUSE



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Short waves give a quality of daylight reception and a daylight distance that is amazing. Signals come in at mid-day from England so loud that they can be clearly heard all over a large house. Reception at night is just as good.

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In the NATIONAL SW-5 THRILL-BOX there is a definitely better signal-to-noise ratio than in any other commercially available shortwave receiver.

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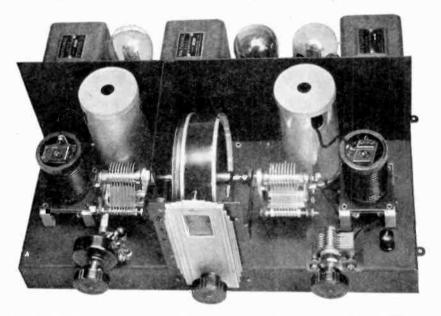
The THRILL-BOX is built with NATIONAL Precision-Made Radio Products. NATIONAL Precision-Made Radio Products are used by: General Electric Co.; Westinghouse Electric & Mfg. Co.; R. C. A.; Tropical Radio (United Fruit Co.); Federal Tel. & Tel. Co.; American Tel. & Tel. Co.; Canadian Marconi; U. S. Naval Research Laboratories; U. S. Navy; Signal Corps, U. S. Army; Jenkins Television Corp.; Press Wireless, Inc.; U. S. Dept. of Commerce (Lighthouse Service); Pan-American Airways; Curtiss-Wright; Boeing Airplane Co.; Western Air Express; Roosevelt Field, Inc.; Southern Air Transport, and by thousands of leading Amateurs, Experimenters, Colleges, Universities, Schools and Research Laboratories the world over.



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The Service Gentleman—An Editorial

By Harold S. Johnson

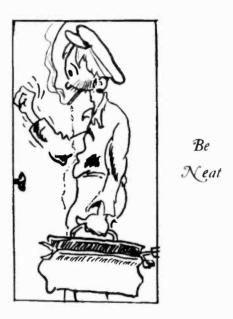
Only in the past five years has any great amount of systematic, intelligent radio service work been done. Radio service deals with a product strictly a luxury, yet owned by every fourth family in the United States. Unlike service to such utilitarian products as refrigerators, oil burners, vacuum cleaners, washing machines, etc., radio service puts the repair man into definite, intimate contact with the family as a whole, all of whom use the radio receiver. The service man must be not only repairman but often salesman, frequently diplomat, collector sometimes, and always a gentleman. What a combination!

The routine of a service call runs smoothly enough if common sense is applied. Assuming that the service man knows his job (i. e. radio repairing) that part is simple. However, questions regarding guarantees, price changes trade-in allowances will often All information regarding these and allied subjects will be valuable tools for the service man. He should read local newspaper advertising to keep in touch with other service organizations; subscribe to a trade journal to keep one jump ahead of the technically minded customer; join the local radio dealers organization. All these will help make the job easier and the customer better satisfied.

Always a gentleman! This applies to everything written thus far; and requires further amplification as well. Be neatly dressed: clean linen, pressed trousers, clean shoes, and hair brushed and face shaved. These must be if the service man hopes for complete satisfaction and success. He must remember that his own future is directly dependent upon that of the concern for whom he works, and conversely. He represents the concern. A very good way to carry this out is to always greet the customer at the door with "Good morning Mrs. Smith, my name is Jones from Real Radio Repairs."

The service man should introduce himself at once; don't force the customer to inquire your business.

Continuing along the same line, the mistake of talking too much on the job should be avoided. There are service men who never seem to improve because they either bore the customer with their garrulousness or create an unpleasant reaction by their know-it-all attitude. By all means he should explain what is necessary and be pleasant, and do the job thoroughly in a minimum of time.



The service gentleman is cautioned against smoking on the job. Waiting for the customer to come to the door with a cigarette in one's mouth creates a most unfavorable impression. The service man should think twice before smoking in the customer's home. If a smoke is offered, that's a different story.

Neatness in working habits should be cultivated. The service man should never hesitate to ask for something to protect a highly polished floor or a valuable rug. After all any damage done may be taken from the service man's salary. Discretion must be used in putting down tools while working. All test equipment should be provided with rubber feet to avoid marring the

Page Four

radio cabinet. Nevertheless don't slam or drop the test kit on the radio receiver or table, no harm may be done materially, yet the impression is bad. If extensive repairs must be done at the customer's home, at the completion of the work things should be left as they are found: chairs in place, loose wires tacked up, all scrap material removed.

Many customers will stand around while the service man is working. Here is an excellent chance to get acquainted with the customer's present set or with his idea about a new one. A small amount of conversation fits in nicely with the job for many times the set owner will lead you to the trouble in the set. Again he may be a prospect for a new radio set, the sale of which often means a commission to the service man. None the less the service man is primarily a service man, not a salesman. A very unfavorable reaction may occur through failure to observe this fact. Unless the customer mentions a trade-in, or unless repairs really warrant mention of a new radio set, a new radio should be forgotten. The customer called for a service man—be one.

As for being a collector, that is usually quite easy. The procedure and terms are generally well outlined to the customer on his first contact with the office when the call is taken. The service man can make his lot an easier one if he sees that the office co-operates in the above practice. He will save much time and avoid the appearance of a professional collector. When a certain tolerance in the matter of charge accounts is allowed by the office, many unpleasant occasions may be avoided by consulting the credit manager before taking a call. The office will sometimes rely on the serviceman's judgment. He must make a decision at the job. Proficiency in this is usually acquired by experience.

Finally, a gentleman keeps his word. If the service man makes an appointment, it should be kept. If, through some unforeseen circumstance an appointment must be broken, the customer must be notified at once.

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Weston has done it! At last we have a volt-animeter that lives through that bad minute when we unintentionally feed it 5 times rated current.

The New Model 540 volt-ammeter is equipped with both voltmeter and ammeter fuses, and spares are carried in a compartment at the back of the meter as shown in the photograph. The ammeter fuses are under the spring clips while the affairs which look like binding posts are actually spare voltmeter fuses. The main objection to a multiple-range meter has always been that one accident spoils the whole group of meters. The fully-fused Model 540 removes this objection and makes real the saving that has always been so tempting in the multiple-range volt-ammeter.

The Model 540 is a direct-current instrument with an accuracy of 1%, a mirror-scale for aiding correct readings, and a switch for permitting any one of the 6 ranges to be used instantly.



Page Five

100% Modulation—??

By Robert S. Kruse

In the July issue of "Modern Radio", under the title of "Modulation Improvement" some shortcomings of the usual "single-sided" modulator system were spoken of, and a less troublesome system described. We will now go back to the ordinary single-sided system, shown again in Diagram A.

The usual assumption that one can set down on paper the conditions for 100% modulation in such a circuit is quite correct—provided one sets down a number of things that are usually not mentioned—and often forgotten. To get 100% of real modulation instead of paper modulation one must do all of the following—

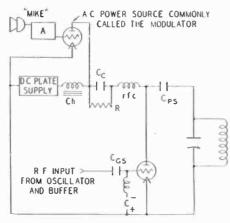


Diagram A. The ordinary single-sided modulation system shown again for further analysis.

A-Provide enough modulator power.

B—Provide this modulator with a correct load which means

- 1—That the audio power really gets to the r.f. tube.
- 2—That the r.f. tube is "linear" as to input and output.

C—Make sure that the sidebands are not pruned off in the tuned circuit. Of these point A was sufficiently discussed in "Modulation Improvement" and may be left alone for the moment.

In Fig. 1 we have the diagram B simplified to the form in which the user ordinarily considers it. The one and only



????

excuse for Fig. 1 is to point out that the audio output can go two ways—not merely one. It may escape through the B supply, or it may go the proper route through the drop-resistor bypass into the r.f. tube's plate circuit. Like all electrical current it will take the easiest route, therefore the arrangement will not

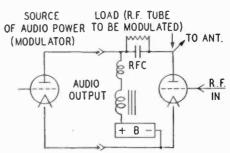


Fig. 1. Diagram B redrawn to make clearer the two paths through which the a.f. output of the audio (modulator) tube may travel. The path through the B supply should have a very high impedance, that through the r[f] tube should have no a.f. impedances except that of the r.f. tube.

fulfill expectations unless the audio impedance through the B supply is very high and the audio impedance of the drop-resistor bypass is very low.

If we go back to our former example of a '10 tube modulated by a '50 tube we will come out with a combination somewhat similar to that of Fig. 2-the particular dimensions shown being typical of a number of small transmitters which have been examined, possibly because 5,000 ohm resistors are in common use as grid leaks and hence easily available!

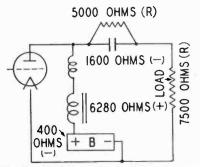


Fig. 2. Typical constants for a low-power transmitter with 500 volt supply to a '50 modulator and '10 r.f. tube. The drop resistor is 5000 ohms, the bypass I microfarad, the 7500 ohm load is the plate resistance of the '10 tube. The 6280 ohm impedance is a B-sub 30 henry choke reduced to 10 henrys by the 90 mil current of the two tubes. The 400 ohm minus reactance in the B supply is due to a 4 microfarad final filter

The 100 cycle modulation possible with this "100%" system is between 50 and 60% at the point of audio overload.

"On paper" the combination looks about

'50 tube operating at 500 volts with 50 Ma. input and a bias of about 100 volts.

'10 tube operating at about 300 volts with about 40 Ma. plate current and a bias of about 90 to 95 volts.

With the '50 grid swung 95 voltstoo much for good quality-the percentage modulation falls near to 95%-on paper.

A very casual examination of Fig. 2 shows that this set would never actually come within a rifle shot of 95% modulation.

In the first place the choke used is inadequate for the job. It was probably an alleged 30 henry choke (which is not enough) and when the 90 Ma. taken by the two tubes were sent through the windings saturation took place to such an extent that the inductance dropped to 10 hy.-exactly what will happen in most B-sub chokes put to such use. Thus the 100 cycle reactance of the choke was only 6280 ohms. The B supply had a final condenser of 4 microfarads, giving a "negative" reactance of 400 ohmswhich must be subtracted from the 6280, giving us something like 5880 ohms through this "wasting path" which we so cheerfully assumed to take no audio power at all. On the other hand the drop-resistor bypass is only 1 microfarad, which gives a 100 cycle reactance of 1600 ohms for the audio to struggle through before it can reach the 7500 ohm load—wasting about 1/6 of the 100 cycle audio voltage at this point alone.

As a result we have this combination: The audio tube is not working into 7500 ohms as it should but is instead working into about 4900 ohms. spoils its efficiency so that only about three-quarters as much 100 cycle audio output power is available as before. The rest is wasted inside the '50 plate circuit.

Of the 100 cycle audio output that does emerge, roughly 60% is wasted through the B supply.

Thus the audio power actually entering the '10 is roughly 45% of what was anticipated-allowing for the drop in the bypass.

And at High Frequencies

Of course 100 cycles is a rather low pitch and things get better at higher

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frequencies—in some ways. Thus at 200 cycles the B sub will take only half as much current and the whole thing will be between one-half and one-quarter as far "down"—which isn't such an awful lot worse than some cone speakers of a few years since and may do for a tenor voice. It is not good enough for a low-pitched voice and certainly not nearly good enough for musical transmission.

Now when the transmitter mentioned in Fig. 2 was examined at 3000 cycles the impedances were found to be as shown in Fig. 3. The bypass had become

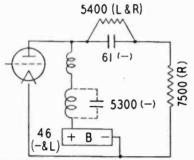


Fig. 3. The system of Fig. 2 as it looks at 3000 cycles. The choke is now ineffective because of its distributed capacity. The possible 3000 cycle modulation percentage is under 50% at audio overload.

harmless-though apparently it was a little inductive, as it should have measured only 53 ohms. The last condenser in the B supply was also harmless though it was apparently quite inductive -or possibly had some resistance, for its purely capacitive reactance should have been down to something like 13 ohms. But what has happened to the modulation choke? Instead of showing an impedance of 30 x 6280 ohms as we expect -which is so high up that it amounts to an open circuit—we find a mere 5300 ohms-worse than the thing was at 100 cycles! As suggested in the diagram the choke is now being bypassed by its own distributed capacity. That is easily possible in the enamel-wire close-wound choke we have been using.

And In Between

So there we are. At 100 cycles this "100% modulation" system may give us 50% modulation when the audio tube is being overloaded, at 3000 cycles it will produce even less. Somewhere in be-

tween, things will be better—but there is nothing to cheer about. Even if we can stand the low percentage the voice will sound queer, and any music going through the system will be short the alto, baritone and bass, not to speak of the upper soprano.

Figure 4 suggests some reorganization of the circuit to permit 100 cycle power to go through the system properly. The values may seem rather high but are in line with good practice. To prevent the accident of Fig. 3 one must evidently keep down the distributed capacity of the choke. This can be done in two ways, which are almost equally effective. One is to build a choke with sectionalized "pancake" windings. The other is simply to use a number of 20 henry chokes in series, preferably not grounding their cores or setting them too close to metal strips or plates. Naturally these chokes should individually have low capacity, for which reason it is a little better to make the winding in sections if one wishes to be particular.

Point 2-The "Linear" r.f. Tube

It is too bad that there has started up a practice of calling class B radio-frequency antenna-feeding amplifiers "lin-

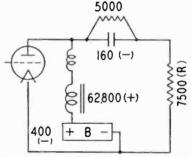


Fig. 4. The system with proper constants. Drop-resistor bypass 10 microfarads, modulation choke 100 henrys in 5 sections of 20 hy. each. Measured modulation at audio overload 90% at 100 cycles, 85% at 5000 cycles, 90% plus from 200 to 2500 cycles.

ear", for almost every type of amplifier is "linear" in one way or another—even those used as frequency doublers. By this I mean that if we look at all the possible sorts of curves for the different classes of amplifiers, each class will be found to contain some "linear" curves—which is to say curves that are nearly straight lines.

In the case of a modulated r.f. tube the particular curve that should be "linear" is the one showing how plate voltage changes the current in the tuned tank circuit of the tube. Such a curve is shown in Fig. 5 for a grid-leak-biased

The tube was neutralized (not shown in diagram) by continuing the plate coil a few turns below the part shown and returning to grid through a high-insulation mica condenser and a 50 micromicrofarad neutralizing condenser.

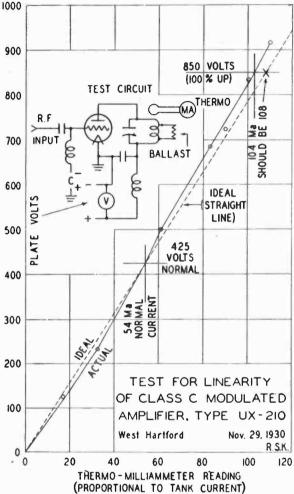


Fig. 5. A test-curve to show whether a modulated r.f. stage is working properly. Any considerable departure from such a curve shows that the transmitter cannot produce good fidelity. The r.f. input during the test is kept normal and constant. the plate voltage is changed bv stens. using any convenient arrangement of generators, batteries or B subs, arranged in various bucking and boosting combinations. with or without series resistances. The points used in making the curve are shown by small circles. A thermogalvanometer may be used with the aid of the calibration curve supplied by the maker.

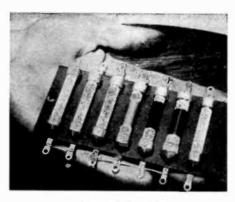
'10 tube. There is a good deal to be said for gridleak biasing as against C battery at this point. The leak-bias is self-adjusting and rises with the r.f. input, making proper adjustment semi-automatic. In this particular case a 25,000 ohm Electrad resistor with one contact moved about 1/3 of the way in was used. Neither this value nor that of the grid condenser was at all critical. The stage, when modulated by a good audio system produced high-quality modulated signals.

Whenever it is found that the top end of the curve is too far to the right the trouble is regeneration and calls for shielding, bypassing and filtering of leads with chokes or (if possible) resistors. If the top end of the curve is not far enough to the right the difficulty may be insufficient r.f. input to the tube (a very common disease), or "degeneration"—which will be explained in another paper which may appear in this or another issue. It is simply a reversed feedback, and cured in a manner similar to the usual sort of feedback.

The Making of Metallized Resistors

By Francis R. Ehle*

Shortly after the inauguration of organized broadcasting a professor of chemistry in one of our larger universities was experimenting with the rare element germanium, a by-product of zinc. At that time this metal sold at from \$8 to \$10 per gram, and its use was largely confined to medicine. The professor was bent on finding new uses for it. In the course of his experiments he discovered that thin, hard deposits of germanium could be formed on other



Color-coded Resistors

materials. These metallic films had very high electrical resistance and it was suggested that they might be used in the making of radio resistors of the order of 100,000 ohms or more, replacing the inked strips of paper which were then used.

The first resistors made up with the new coating consisted of glass tubes with the metallic deposit on the inside. This form did not prove satisfactory, since it was found practically impossible to control the resistance value when applying such an internal coating; and, furthermore, the resistance was not stable but changed gradually with time. Films of germanium on thin insulating rods or glass filaments were also found to be unstable. Since the general construction seemed sound further experiments were made with conducting substances of all types. Better resistance materials were found, which would coat the glass thread with a dependable high-resistance film. Today two colloidal solutions are employed, which have been found satisfactory for both receiver and radio power resistors.

The manufacture of resistors based on such coated coated glass threads has grown rapidly. In 1929 about 2,500,000 feet, or about 470 miles, of metallized filament were produced and shipped to organizations here and abroad which mount the filament and produce completed resistors.

The Manufacture of the Filaments

In the present process the starting point is a thick glass rod, which is fed into an automatic glass-drawing and resistance-coating machine. An operator feeds the glass rods into this machine, checks the resistance per unit length while the process is under way and removes the finished two-foot lengths of filament. The glass rod is pressed against an electrically heated die, in passing through which it is reduced to about 1/15 of the original diameter, or to about the size of the leads used in an automatic pencil. This glass filament passes between cleaning pads, then through coating pads and a baking oven. In some forms of the resistance filaments a varnish is automatically applied at this point. coated filament then passes through mercury contacts spaced the exact distance of the contacts in the ultimate resistance unit, so that the resistance value is continuously indicated on a Plus and direct-reading ohmmeter. minus tolerances are indicated on this meter so that the operator may, at need, adjust the coating device. The filament is finally cut into two-foot lengths and piled in a receiving tray.

Prior to assembly in the completed resistor the filaments are once more run through an ohmmeter in the same manner as in the original manufacture. They are then put into stock for shipment to licensees who manufacture the metal-

^{*} President, International Resistance Company, Philadelphia.



The Size You Want
The Value You Want

The Type You Want The Accuracy You Want

You'll find them all in the stock of any Wholesaler handling

TYPE "K" Metallized RESISTORS

The Metallized line is not only more accurate, more dependable—it is more complete. Say Metallized to your jobber or dealer and look for the I. R. C. trademark. Avoid the weaknesses common to ordinary carbon resistors. Leading radio set manufacturers and servicemen standardize on Metallized units made by the

INTERNATIONAL RESISTANCE COMPANY



Type MF 4 (1 Watt)



Type MF 41/2 (1/2 Watt)

To make capacity bridge meters, ohimmeters, volt-meters and high-reading milliammeters, use

I. R. C. PRECISION WIRE WOUND RESISTORS

They are more accurate and more dependable. Calibrated to an accuracy of 1% or better. Specified for laboratory standards by leading engineers. Write for free charts showing how to make the meters named above.



WW 1



As Specialists in Resistance Units, we provide a complete service for every Resistor need. Consult us on your radio problems.

INTERNATIONAL RESISTANCE CO.

PHILADELPHIA

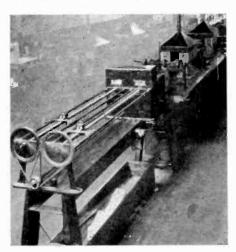
TORONTO

lized resistors. The shipping containers are large glass tubes, corked at both ends.

Making the Units.

In making the final resistance units the two-foot filaments are cut into short legnths, to fit the mounting, which may take the form of a glass tube with metal caps (the familiar visible-filament grid-leak type) or of a ceramic body with cast metal heads ("powerohm" type to dissipate 1/3 to 3 watts).

In making the visible-filament type an ingenious centering device holds the filament in position as the brass caps and glass tubing are assembled over it.



Glass-rod feed at front, next the drawing dies, the coating pads and last the baking oven.

In the case of the "powerohm" type the ceramic tubing contains one or more holes into which the metallized filament will fit closely, permitting rapid transfer of heat to the ceramic body from which it may be radiated. The filament or filaments having been inserted with the end projecting slightly the ceramic body is held in a moulding clamp under a spigot from which molten metal flows into the mould. The metal chills promptly so that the finished casting may be removed a moment later. Usually pigtail connecting wires, touching the ends of the filament, have been included in the cast end, making for good contacts. In the case of the heavier-current, or lower-resistance, units two or more filaments

may be threaded through the ceramic body, arranged in parallel.

For unusually high resistance values the metallized filament, which may then be quite long, is mounted in a heavywalled glass tube with either brass caps or cast ends.

The ceramic body employed in the 1/3 to 3 watt resistors has been developed particularly for that purpose. The material has an exceptional degree of heat conductivity, is non-porous and can be fabricated with extreme accuracy.

Final Tests

The assembled resistors are measured on limit bridges. Tolerance limits are marked on the scale; the needle must come to rest between these limits, otherwise the resistor is rejected. An accuracy of 10% (plus or minus) is required by the Radio Standards of the N. E. M. A.† and the R. M. A.‡ but in production it is found possible to work to closer limits. Following test the resistors are labelled and placed in stock. When accuracies of 3 to 5% are required by an order resistors within the specified tolerance are selected from stock by retest.

Color Coding

With the introduction of a color code for resistors it has become necessary to make provisions for rapid marking in this manner. This is done by placing groups of resistors in frames which leaving a strip at the center exposed. The frame is then set in a spray hood and the paint sprayed on.

All resistors are subjected to a load test. Mounted on cantact boards they are run for 5 minutes under double rated load. The resistors are then measured for final resistance value.

† National Electrical Manufacturer's Association, Radio Division,
‡ Radio Manufacturer's Association.

A CONDENSER BOOKLET

A. M. Flechtheim & Co., 136 Liberty St., New York, supply on request a useful general-information booklet on fixed condensers for the range of 200-7000 volts.

Page Twelve

FREE!

You can get one of these Without Cost FLECHTHEIM, through Modern Radio, is presenting subscribers with transmitting filter condensers. These are given without cost. The condensers to be awarded are two 2 Mfd. 2000v., two 2 Mfd. 1500v., two 2 Mfd.

CARDWELL is giving a Midway transmitting variable condenser of 150 MMfd. capacity. INSULINE is giving several sets of test-leads and neutralizing tools.

READRITE is presenting an ohmmeter, 10,000

ohms maximum. MODERN RADIO on its own behalf is going to allow some fortunate chap his choice of five well-known short-wave receivers, a gift worth having. The choice will be of a National A. C. SW-5 kit with power pack, ready to wire less tubes; a Pilot A. C. Super-Wasp kit and power-pack less tubes; an I. C. A. Conqueror five tube outfit, with power pack but wired and ready to use less tubes; an HY-7, 6 tube A. C. or battery operated super-heterodyne wired and ready for use less tubes, batteries (or power pack).

I want to	obtain without	cost one	of the S	nort-Wave
receivers,	or other equ	ipment,	mentioned	in this
announcem	ient. Please	send inf	ormation,	my sub-
scription is I assume	s herewith (\$1 no obligation b	.25 for 1 y sending	3 issues) this coup	enclosed.

Signed Address

Mail to MODERN RADIO

127 Ann St. Hartford, Conn.

P. R. 588 Fil. v. 5 and capable of supplying 150 watts at 500 volts (300 ma.). Some tube! Plate v. 500 Fil. amp. 2 Plate ma. 300 PERRYMAN ELECTRIC CO., Inc. North Bergen, N. J. Page Thirteen



Keeping Out of the Red

I hope, in these plain-language stories, to pass on to the readers what I regard as vital precautions in a business which is overcrowded and highly competitive.

n T young.

PLANNING A RADIO BUSI-NESS SIMPLY AND SAFELY

By N. T. Young

The newcomer to radio retailing frequently fails to realize that he is a newcomer. As a rule he is a man with several years of experience in radio sales or service for some established organization. He is inclined to feel that he "knows the radio game"—including the running of a radio business.

Afterwards, when the "For Rent" sign is in the window, he realizes that more figuring ahead, would have saved him. Still, he probably doesn't know how it should have been done. For such beginners, and for the man whose small radio business is not prospering this first story of our series is being told.

Groundwork

A year is not much time in which to look ahead toward starting a retail radio store. We will assume that you are a sales-service man with some existing organization. You are making contacts with the service clientele and have appreciated that many of them could be sold new radio sets and that others are prospects for accessories and parts. Knowing that with a little capital and a small stock of parts and sets you can start out yourself this seems tempting. At this point there should be begun a serious attempt to make friendly contact with jobber's representatives whose good will you will absolutely require later on. Jobber's socials, radio shows and set showings should be attended whenever possible and a definite attempt made to learn everything possible about the equipment and about business practices. Do not be afraid to ask questions, but don't be a pest. Introduce yourself to the jobber's representative every time you meet him until he knows you.

Keep a card catalog of prospects for your future store. Needless to say this should not be done at the expense of your employer who may be a future good friend.

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Finances are always the first thing to take stock of. Without some cash it is impossible to start any business. amount of cash necessary depends on the size of the proposed business and usually it is safe to assume that there is not much cash and therefore the business must be small. It is to be hoped that the proprietor of the new business has a fairly good knowledge of servicing radio sets of all types so that he need not buy all of this information at the very first when he cannot afford such a thing, but must work harder than anyone else in the place-and longer hours!



The pencil work now begins. If we can first make the proposed business pay on paper we have gone a long ways! It is necessary for this new business to pay the proprietor's own wages, whatever salary or commission is to go to the service man (if there is one) and also to pay for such current expenses as rent, telephone and light, taxes, the operating costs of the service car or truck and the carrying of the stock One

Page Fourteen

Build Your Own

SHORT-WAVE SET

PARTS FOR THE NATIONAL A.C. SW-5-

Dial with condenser brackets \$	3.54
SE90 tuning condensers	2.21
SE90 CC tuning condensers (One clockwise and one CC for dial.)	2.21
Trimmer, 50 Mmfd	1.33
Voltage divider	.74
S101 screen-grid detector A.F. coupler, \$6.50 list	3.83
Tube-shields	.24
Coil-sockets, 6 prong	.36
Coils, 15-115 meters, four pair required, \$5.00 listpair	2.94
Coils, 9-15, 115-200, 200-350, 350- 550, 550-850, \$5.50 list, pair	3.24
Band-spread, 20-40 or 80, \$6.00	
list , , , , pair	3.53
R.F. chokes for SW5	.42
6 prong coil forms, R-39	.89
5 prong coil forms, R-39	.89
4 prong coil forms, R-39	.89
.01 condensers, Pilot	.42
.01 condensers, Polymet	.49
.01 condensers, Sangamo	.68
551 variable mu. tubes	1.32
235 variable mu. tubes	1.32
227 tubes	.74
224 tubes	1.18
280 tubes	83

All National parts in stock or promptly gotten. Reliable, honest service. Biggest stock in Connecticut of short-wave or repair parts for service or set-building. One-fourth cost as deposit required on all C. O. D. orders. We ship day order arrives.

Include Postage

NATIONAL A.C. SW-5

A.C. Kit \$46.74 D.C. Kit 44.10 Wiring by factory 5.89 Power pack 20.30 Extra coils in left column.
PILOT SUPER-WASP

A.C.	Kit					×				*	×	×	e	×	×	. Ş	33.95
																	28.97
K-11	l pa	cl	k	,	٠		٠	٠		×				,		٠	16.20

BAIRD-SW AND TELEVISION RECEIVER

2 tuned R.F. stages, plug-in colls	
16-550 meters, 7 tubes, screen	
grid R.F. det., Kit	\$55.13
Wired set	73.73
Cabinet	7.36
Televisor Kit	58.80
Televisor, wired, in cabinet	73.49

Electrad, Tobe, Flechtheim, Pilot, Sprague, Cardwell, Jewell, Weston, Readrite, Beede, Insuline, Aerovox, Hammarlund, Gavitt, I. R. C., National, Polymet, Thoradson, Wright DeCoster, Elkon, Frost, Universal, Amertran, Ward-Leonard, Birnbach, public address parts, replacement condensers, resistors, chokes, transformers, coil-forms, copper tubing, A. F. T.'s, tubes, wire, solder, soldering irons.

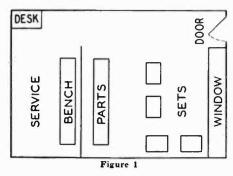
Hatry & Young 119 Ann St.



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can easily give a few simple rules to show what is needed. Thus the store should have a show window, should not be more than a block from some good retail business street and should have enough space so that it is possible to arrange it in the manner suggested by Figure 1 and Figure 2. The exact arrangement is unimportant. The main idea is to keep the service department out of sight and the sets in front where they must be seen.

Your rent should not amount to more than 5% of your annual sales. Of course your sales are only intelligent guesswork so far, therefore be careful. There is no shame in starting in a "hole-in-the-wall".



If money must be borrowed, attempt to get it on long time notes, for instance a 6% personal loan to run six months. This, of course, means that among the expenses to be looked forward to is that of creating a "sinking fund". By this is meant that one must each month put aside a definite amount toward the payment of the note when it comes due. It is frequently better to start more conservatively and with little or no borrowed money.

A service car has been mentioned. A light truck or a coach is most convenient and I recommend buying a used one for cash rather than a new one on time. The operating costs will be from 6 to 8 cents per mile and an average service call may represent about four miles of driving. If the same car is used as a personal car make sure that the proper proportion of the costs is paid out of the proprietor's salary. The proper way of charging for service calls will be mentioned later.

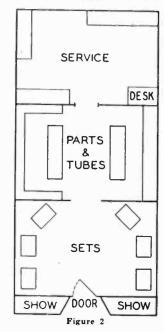
A telephone is a necessity and a small advertisement in the telephone directory is worth while. In your preliminary figuring allow for these things, and for newspaper advertising.

Stock for the store must be purchased, possibly also some service equipment. Details on this are given somewhat later but they must be counted in on the present calculation.

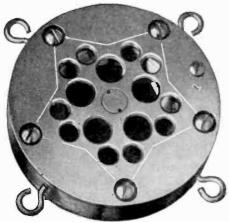
Find out all you can, check your guesses by getting actual prices. Possibly your present employer will not like this and tell you so—even discharge you. Be careful—but ready for such a jolt.

The 120 Day Rule

Having added up all of the foregoing prospective operating expenses your



question now is, "Have I enough money on hand now to keep up such a place for four months without depending on my income during that time?" If the answer is not satisfactory the whole thing had better be refigured with a more modest store, less allowance for stock, a cheaper service car, etc. Failing that, one is taking chances. I know of one store which started with \$300 in cash and lived, but this was under most unusual circumstances and is a dangerous example.



LIST PRICE-\$35.00

"STAR"

Improved Double Button Microphone

Accepted as Standard from Coast to Coast

Special Price to Amateurs \$19.50

A Super-Quality Instrument—Priced Right Satisfaction Assured, Sold on Money-Back Guarantee

THE GAVITT MICROPHONE has the following features:

- Non-metallic diaphragm, not under tension.
- 2. Output level 12 to 20 D. B.'s higher than average microphone.
- 3. Flat output curve within voice frequencies.
- 4. Minimum carbon hiss due to nonmetallic diaphragm.
- 5. Requires only 8 mils per button.

- 6. 200 Ohms per button impedance.
- 7. Solid brass construction, chromium plated.
- 8. Sufficient weight to damp out microphonics.
- 9. Diameter 31/4; 3/4 thick.
- 10. Packed in attractive plush-lined, steel pocket-carrying case.
- 11. Shipping weight four pounds.

Matched microphone transformer	\$6.00
Six foot three conductor moisture-proof shielded micro-	
phone cord	1.50
Table type stand with springs	8.00

GAVITT MFG. CO., Inc. BROOKFIELD, MASS.

Answering Some Questions

Before the figuring has gone very far the beginner's head will be buzzing with questions.

1—"How shall I choose and buy my stock?"

2-"Shall I carry parts?"

3—"What service equipment must there be?"

4-"What must I allow for the set department?"

5—"How much do I need to allow for cost of demonstrations, free service, antennas, trade ins and carrying timepayment set-sales?"

6—"How will I tell when I am going wrong?"

7-"How do I keep books?"

8—"What is the right way to figure margins and discounts?"

9—"What are a lot of these business terms that I hear?"

10-"Ought I to incorporate this firm?"

11—"What do I pay the service-salesman? What and how do I collect for service calls?"

12—"What are my Ads. to be like?" Well—there we have a dozen questions. Let us answer them in order.

When that has been done it will be possible to do our prophetic pencil-and-paper work with much more speed and sureness—and a far better, chance that the result of the figuring will be reliable.

1-Choosing Your Set Stock

As will be seen later, the writer does not believe in a radio store which relies on set-sales alone. None the less set-sales are very important and therefor the choice of a proper line of sets is a serious business for the beginner. Perhaps the most important thing of all is to keep away from those sets whose manufacturers make it needlessly hard for the dealer, by failing to warn him of price and model changes, or by putting sets into the hands of garages, grocery stores and others who will probably dump them later.

A big mistake is too many lines of radio sets. The advantages gained in carrying one line only are many. It allows the dealer to concentrate all his effort. He can gain more out of his advertising by concentration. By playing with one jobber he can get more

benefits and privileges in credits and co-operation. His prospects will not be confused. The dealer will be better able to memorize prices, down payments, model numbers, circuit specifications, tube equipments and other data necessary to convey the thought of competent knowledge of the merchandise being offered for sale.



Keep away from "orphans" and distress merchandise. There is no profit in this type of merchandising. You can never be sure of the price from one day to the next. Stick closely to the nationally known brands. Select one of the leaders, one that has the reputation in your community of not dumping near the end of the season. Nothing is more irritating to your customer than to find that the set he bought for \$150 has been cut to half that price only a few weeks after his purchase. If he bought on the "easy payment plan" you will find this disastrous to you for the set will come back, with much of its value gone because it is now a used set. Many radio dealers have gone to the wall because of carelessness in choosing lines which brought them into such situations.

Buying the Stock

With few exceptions discounts to dealers are uniform and standard so that no uncertainty need exist. The typical arrangement is 40% discount from the retail price with a further 2% discount if paid within 30 days. Be most cautious as to the number of sets taken on, for if you do not sell a set within 30 days it must be paid for out of your own pocket. Possibly the jobber can be made to wait but that is poor business for a new firm trying to establish credit. Better have only one or two sets and "discount your bill" (pay it early

BIRNBACH AERIAL EQUIPMENT HOOKUP WIDE

HOOKUP WIRE

WIRE _

Birnbach specializes in wire for aerials, stranded, stranded en ameled, stranded tinned, or solid and solid enameled wires. All the way from the husky, strong cable using seven strands of No. 20 wire to the light one using 7/26, an aerial wire to suit any requirement of strength or economy.

Birnbach has hookup wire for all purposes: No. 12 flexible, rubber covered, tinned for heater hookup, or No. 18 for ordinary hookup uses. Sizes in between or larger if you want.

Birnbach complete aerial kits are sold by thousands of dealers, find out about them. Birnbach arresters, leadin strips, ground clamps, or insulators can be gotten separately. Use the coupon now.

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BIRNBACH RADIO CO., 145 Hudson St., New York, N. Y.	Please send me your 1931 Catalog of Birnbach aerial kits and accessories, and hookup wire.	Name	Address	City	Quote on	
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STANDARD AERIAL WIRES

100 ft. 7/22 Tinned Copper List .80 1,000 ft. 7/22 Tinned Copper List \$7.00 100 ft. 7/22 Enameled95 1,000 ft. 7/22 Enameled .. 9.50 100 ft. 7/20 Tinned 1.40 100 ft. 7/20 Enameled ... 1.50



617-A new Leadin Strip with screw, self-locking terminal, copper strip, weatherproof. List, each09



615-Ground Clamp. Sturdy, good-looking, screw-point, makes positive connection through scale or paint, cadmium finish.



Shielded Leadin and Ground Wire, closely wound braid, generous rubber covering, a real

25	feet	No.	14	.90
50	feet	No.	14	1.80
100	feet	No.	14	3.60
250	feet	No.	14	9.00



Flexible, heavy, rubber-covered hookup wire for ground, a.c. heater, and similar uses. Rubber has bright finish, comes in several colors.

25	feet	4															.45
50	feet	4					h	*		4	4	٠	1	*	٠	×	.85
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col	ors.																
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BIRNBACH RADIO CO.

145 Hudson St., New York, N. Y.

enough to be granted the 2% discount). Nothing helps future credit like prompt payment of early bills.

2-The Parts Stock

It is usually well to carry parts, with the following precautions. A part that cannot be used in service or repair work may easily become a "shelf warmer' and should be ordered in the smallest possible quantity unless a definite demand persists for some time. Dials are an example of the kind of part which may die on one's hands.

Set maker's parts should be carried as little as possible for nothing can be deader than repair parts for a set that was handled a year ago. Most repairs can be made without resorting to set manufacturer's parts. You will have to carry a fair stock of good, mediumpriced parts for your service work. Why not carry a line which can also be sold over the counter and let people know about it? A show case will help immensely to display parts and to speed their sale. Shelves around the parts department will take care of tubes, batteries and such parts as are best kept in Carefully handled the their boxes. parts department will be found profitable in these days of short wave enthusiasm.

3 Service Equipment

A complete stock of service instruments is highly desirable, but do not feel that \$500 to \$1,000 must be spent by the beginner. It is really surprising how little money need be spent if a little ingenuity is used. After you have some surplus on hand you will be in shape to purchase time saving conveniences.

Coming—Part 2
PROFIT IN SET SALES

A NEW SET ANALYZER

The Pattern 444 Set Analyzer just announced by the Jewell Electrical Instrument Company of 1642-U Walnut Street, Chicago, Illinois, makes socket current and voltage tests, on all types of sets, including those having variablemu and pentode tubes. In addition to direct socket testing, 24 measuring ranges are available at pin-jacks for use with test leads. Included are three resistance ranges, 0-1,000—10,000—100,

000 ohms, three rectifier type output meter ranges, and 0-4-8 ampere A. C. ranges for servicing electric refrigerators, vacuum cleaners, and other electrical appliances. The meters have non-shatterable glass scale covers. The test



cable instantly detachable at the analyzer panel, and a test selecting switch is provided. List Price, complete with test leads and prods, A. C. line test plug and cord, speaker voice coil clips, battery for ohmmeter and tube test circuit—\$112.00. Dealer and Servicemen's price—\$84.00.

A LOW-DRAIN BATTERY SET

The Pilot Radio & Tube Corporation of Lawrence, Mass., has released a battery-operated superheterodyne receiver, called the S-150 and characterized by unusually low filament demand. The set uses three 236 type screen-grid tubes, two 237 type tubes and a pair of 238 type output pentodes. The filaments are connected in parallel which permits the use of a standard 6 volt storage battery, or operation from a car battery when in camp. The total filament drain is 2.1, the "B" demanded 135 volts.

"Modern Radio's" readers will observe that the extremely rugged "automobile type" tubes and the modest B voltage required makes the set very attractive for camp and other "portable" use.

The set is of the "midget" type; when in its cabinet it measures 18½ inches high, 16½ inches wide and 9¾ inches front-to-back. Phonograph connections are provided. The retail price is \$65.

USE THE

CARDWELL

MID WAY

FEATHERWEIGHT

For tuning receivers and transmitters, as neutralizing capacities in intermediate stages of transmitters—in any position where a small, compact variable condenser is needed. Not a midget but a smaller CARDWELL, identical in design to the larger CARDWELLS, not skimped and not cheapened—a real job.

For receivers and low power transmitters using '10 type tubes—7 sizes—26 to 365 mmfds.

* For transmitters using up to 75 watt tube— 6 sizes—22 to 150 mmfds.

* Plates have well rounded edges and are highly polished overall. Send for literature describing these and other CARDWELL condensers. The range covers condensers suitable for Broadcasting down to midget balancing capacities.

THE ALLEN D. CARDWELL MFG. CORP.

80 PROSPECT STREET, BROOKLYN, N. Y. "THE STANDARD OF COMPARISON"

MODERN RADIO

EDITED BY ROBERT S. KRUSE

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
L. W. HATRY

LAST CHANCE!

Don't use the coupon if you can do without practical radio dope of a reliable engineering nature in "Modern Radio" for September, Number 3. Tear it out now if you want to read up-to-date, informative, technical data, accurate and reliable, to help you in design, repair, and improvement work on all radio receivers and radio-fone and C. W. sets.

YOU HAVE SEEN NUMBERS 1 AND 2 OF RADIO'S NEWEST MAGAZINE. Its highly practical and useful nature must be obvious to you. Subscribe now to get Numbers 3-15.

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Successful Metal-chassis Receivers—Part 2

By Robert S. Kruse

There are some cases in which it is difficult to decide whether one should use a .01 mufd. mica bypass or a paper bypass of larger capacity. A few general rules can be laid down with the warning that these, like all other rules, are most unsafe unless the final result is carefully checked up by measurements. (If measuring equipment is not available one is pretty badly crippled at the start; a matter of which we hope to say more in this publication.) It is not safe to use the little mica condenser for r-f bypassing and the paper one for a-f bypassing. It is even less safe to assume that a large capacity is always a better bypass. In general one must do this:

- Make the condenser large enough to provide low impedance at the lowest frequency to be used.
- Do not make it of a size which is resonant in the working range when connected in the circuit.
- Keep the resistance and inductance down.

These simple conditions are surprisingly hard to meet. Rule 1, of course, means that the impedance must be low compared to the impedance of thing which is being bypassed. For example, at 60-cycles a 1 microfarad condenser has an impedance of 2,650 ohms and is a thoroughly good bypass around a high resistance of 500,000 ohms. However, when we try to use it to bypass the cathode resistor of a first audio 227 the results are poor enough, for the 60-cycle finds it no more convenient to go through a 2,650 ohm condenser than through the 2,500 ohm cathode resistor. To get much bypassing effect one should have a 10 microfarad condenser! The proper bypassing of cathode resistors is most important, since both the grid circuit and plate circuit must return to the cathode and unfortunately do it in such manner that any resistance at this point is "anti-regenerative" and tends to spoil the amplification at any frequency for which the bypass is not effective. A splendid example

of this can be had by using an undersized cathode bypass on the first audio tube of a good audio system, or by disconnecting this bypass altogether. The low audio pitches disappear immediately. The same thing goes on at radio frequencies when the r-f bypass is ineffective. Perhaps the most troublesome of all stray r-f voltages are those which wander into the power supply. The bypassing of power supply leads is therefore of the first importance in preventing nearly all of the bad effects mentioned heretofore and also hand capacity effects in receivers with controlable regeneration.

De-Coupling Resistors

If the precautions suggested before do not suffice it becomes necessary to provide r-f obstructions in the

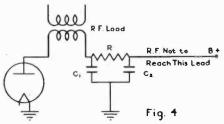
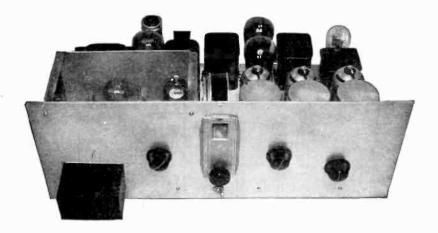


Fig. 4.—Plate circuit filtering probably 100 times better than that shown in Fig. 1. Details of this sort make or break receiver performance.

supply leads in addition to merely providing a bypass. R-f chokes are exceedingly unsatisfactory and make far more trouble than they cure. A much more satisfactory arrangement is that of Figure 4 in which the resistance R may be anything from 500 to 2,000 ohms (for B circuits and screen circuits only, about 10,000 to 100,000 ohms in grid-bias leads) and the condensers are chosen for the frequency to be used. Ordinarily 1 microfarad paper condensers are satisfactory in audio work, 0.1 mufd. noninductive paper condensers for broadcast work, .01 mufd. for work down to about 20 meters and slightly smaller mica condensers below that.

A Real Amateur Phone Receiver

We have designed coils for our new S W S 9 to give full dial spreads on all amateur bands. Here is a receiver which not only pulls in your stations but separates them.



Employs a 227 oscillator, 224 first detector, 2-224 intermediates and a 224 second detector, and has a regeneration control. The set is entirely free from hum. The interchangeable coils are arranged on the front of the receiver

For more information send for our FREE catalogue "A" describing this receiver along with a standard line of monitors, relays, oscillators and other calibration equipment.

WIRELESS EGERT ENGINEERING, Inc.

179 Greenwich St., New York City

An application of the same general idea to a multistage amplifier is shown in Figure 5A where everything non-essential has been omitted, the plate circuits only being shown. If the amplifier is any good at all it will certainly oscillate when the plate supply is brought in as shown, for the r-f plate current will not follow the dashed lines only but will wander back into the common plate lead. The most obvious way of preventing this is shown in Figure 5B but it is just as effective to use the connection of Figure 5C which permits slightly simpler wiring.

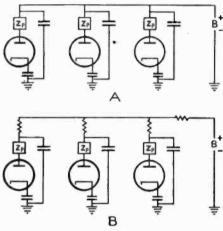
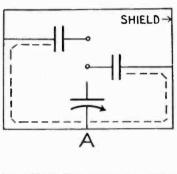


Fig. 5. The Zps are the plate-loads of the tubes, in this case R.F.T. primaries. A shows ordinary filtering, B shows circuits in which the effectiveness of the by-passes is increased by many times,

The One-Point Principle

It will have been noticed that this discussion has frequently reverted to the necessity of keeping r-f currents in their proper circuits. Another way of putting this is that trouble arises wherever there is a "common reactance". This simply means that there is coupling between circuits whenever they use some wire, or piece of the chassis in common. It is comparativly easy to use branched wiring but as we have seen, it is quite difficult to prevent "common reactances" when currents wander about in the chassis or the shield walls. All this suggests that there should be as few points as possible where r-f circuits are attached to the chassis. Some instances have been given. Another one is suggested by Figure 6 in which the rectangle represents a stage shield to which are grounded a tuning condenser and a pair of bypass condensers. If this is done as in A the currents are flowing around the shield itself and that shield becomes a single turn loop coupled to



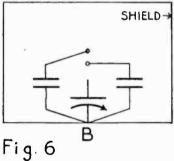


Fig. 6.—As explained in the text, A is a case of wiring that has rendered a good shield useless. This sort of wiring is frequently present in monitors, shop oscillators and similar devices whose radiation or pickup is irritatingly excessive. Correct rewiring as in B usually improves shielding performance amazingly.

everything in the neighborhood. At B this is avoided, particularly if the point Y is at the bottom of the shield and grounded to the chassis. For exactly the same reason very poor shielding is obtained if a coil is merely enclosed in a box or can of which one side is also used

PILOT TO RESUME TELEVISION BROADCASTS

Pilot Radio & Tube Corporation has applied for a construction permit for a 60-line television transmitter.

As far as we know the first regular television broadcast schedules in this country were sent from WRNY in the summer of 1928 with Pilot equipment.

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Set-Testing Reduced to Simplicity

These new test-kits are equipped with a practical selector-switch simplifying testing operations and speeding the work of circuit analysis. The scale readings are 0-60-300-600 volts D. C., 0-10-140-700 A. C. and 0-20-100 d.c. ma. Both A. C. and D. C. filament voltages are measured on one meter. Tube-tests by grid-shift. 4½ v. battery provided for continuity tests. Capacity and resistance charts are provided for capacity checks on condensers and ohmmeter checks on fixed resistors. The eight scales of the meters may be used separately by plugging into the proper jacks. Housed resistors. The eight scales of the meters may be used separately by plugging into the proper jacks. Housed in a strong case with leatherette covering. Attractive, compact and complete. Fills the needs of either the expert serviceman or the beginner at a price that makes not owning a test-kit an absurdity.

NO. 700-\$25 LIST

The No. 600 tester contains the same equipment as the 700. The carrying case is larger, has a lock and room is provided for carrying tubes, tools and supplies. The test equipment and panel is in a removable tray at the top of the case; it may be removed for separate use in the shop as a test panel.

NO. 600-\$30 LIST

READRITE METER WORKS

18 COLLEGE AVENUE BLUFFTON, OHIO



No. 700



No. 600

IRST — REMAINING FIRST

FIRST-To use an intermediate frequency high enough to eliminate repeats by making them 3000 kc. apart.

FIRST-To use space-charge first detector to remove interlocking tuning troubles.

FIRST-With the pentode, 551 variable mu. with 100% shortwave design.

FIRST—With band-spread tuning and two-band oscillator coils. FIRST-Commercial SW super-heterodyne, with regenerative first detector.

The A.C. or D.C. HY-7

Is first again-with automatic volume control on all regular models if you want it. A. V. C. is good only for fone, not useful on telegraphy.

The HY-7, strictly SW super-heterodyne has band-spread coils for 20, 40 or 80 meters. It may be purchased with only one pair of coils, the three pair or for over-lapping ranges.

Ann St.



Hatry & Young Hartford Conn.

"Short-Circuits" at W2BP

As we understand the advertisements, all the tube manufacturers just happened to invent the variable-mu tube at the same time.

Anyone with a fair imagination can get all the benefits of a ride on the rollercoaster from simply listening to G5SW fade.

At one radio store customer's tubes that test "sick" are marked with a tuberculosis stamp.

Now if we had an automatic gadget to shut off the loudspeaker while the announcer brushes his teeth, gulps his yeast, gargles his ginger ale and champs on his corned beef hash we would be able to endure his chatter about cigarettes.

In our estimation this thing of working transatlantic or transpacific with a 5 watt tube is in the same class with crossing in a rowboat—an interesting stunt, but what of it? Just try to get either adventurer to take traffic on a penalty-bonus basis.

It would ease our minds considerably to know what city man hatched the idea that farm folks want a different sort of radio performance.

The midget broadcast receivers are rapidly catching up with the 1925 designs.

Powerpacks of unknown makes may be tested with ordinary spring scales reading up to about 25 pounds. Several authentic cases have been heard of recently in which high-grade broadcast receivers have been left tuned to a local station for a year or more, using nothing but the off-on switch. This may seem just a little like buying a high grade car and running it back and forth in the driveway. Servicemen should take care to avoid leaving sets tuned to stations which sound like a defective receiver.

As LWH says, the finest thing about radio is the switch; a click and one may have silence in any quantity.

One also wonders if we are carrying modern design too far. Why worry over high sensitivity, great selectivity, or automatic volume control when one can cure anything with the switch?

At the same time we mustn't knock too much, for who knows where our next job is coming from?

Understand that a shotgun squad is hunting for the California correspondent who let out the story of the baby earthquake in L. A.

Well, we can't brag either, times are so hard here that one man was seen cutting grass with the right half of a lawnmower.

Amos, of the Amos and Andy team went to wartime radio school at Harvard, pounded brass on a destroyer and maybe sent some of us traffic. We don't know about Andy but have seen messages that look as if he must have handled them.

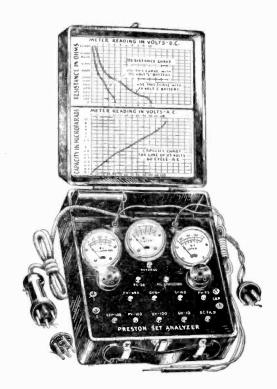
Coming in Modern Radio

ERASING TRANSMITTING ANTENNA WORRIES MAKING YOUR OUTPUT METER—CHEAPLY THE LOUGHREN SYSTEM OF MODULATION THE PAINLESS MATHEMATICIAN

(Continued on Page 28)

The Preston
Set Analyzer
New and
Complete

\$25.00 List \$15.00 to Servicemen



Designed for quick and simple operation so that circuit tests or tube tests can be made instantly. No rotary switches are used, as each particular test has its own individual push button.

Three meters are used with scale readings of 0-10-100-600 DC, 0-10-150 AC, and 0-20-100 milliamperes.

Ideal for testing voltages of plate, grid, screen grid and cathode, as well as plate current, filament voltages and line voltage. Has continuity test for set circuits, choke and transformer windings, etc.

Resistance measurements and capacity measurements can be quickly taken. Calibrated chart is provided.

Panel is engraved bakelite. Case is sturdy and leatherette covered. All in all, a modern up to the minute radio set tester and tube checker, one that any service man would be proud to own.

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Has operated 29 commercial, broadcast, amateur and experimental stations.

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(Also see Page 26)

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Aerovox 100 mfd. 100 v. conds. - \$3.39

- 8 Mfd. electrolytic special - 60c
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Magnet wire, all sizes, dials, sockets, condensers, resistors, transformers, etc.

National R-39 plug-in coil-forms, 4 prong, 5 or 6-89c

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Hartford Conn.

Page Twenty-Eight

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If you are doing any kind of radio work, you will probably find excellent use for many Yaxley parts, made in particular for the service man.

two gang plate for aerial and ground connections and AC connections (illustrated-\$2.00) meets every modern demand.



Take the little cable markers. They are most useful in identifying wires. (Per set of eighteen most widely used designations, as illustrated—25c.)



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Now, Yaxley volume controls are available with special staffs and practically any resistance value, straight or tapered from 1 ohm to 40,000 ohms.

If you should like a copy of the Yaxley catalog, one will be mailed on request.

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All HY-7 intermediate couplers have hitherto cost \$20.50 for 3, \$6.95 individually.

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Features—R-39 form for R.F.T. windings; National Trimmer (Midget) 50 Mmfd. tuning condensers; I. F. range with 224 or 551 tubes 1510-1590 kc.; R.F.T., not impedances, ratio correct for '24's and '51's, each individually shielded and contains by-pass condenser and R.F. choke. Offer good only while supply lasts.

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These prices will not be offered again on the latest new HY-7 parts—Order to-day.

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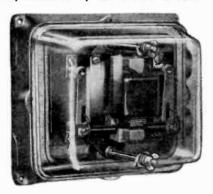


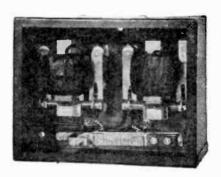
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