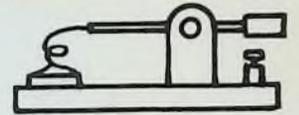


# Spark-Gap Times



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**The Old Old Timers Club**



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JUNE 1965



**HUBERT (BERT) INGALLS, WING**  
**HONORABLE FOUNDER OF THE OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB**  
**(SEE PAGE 2)**

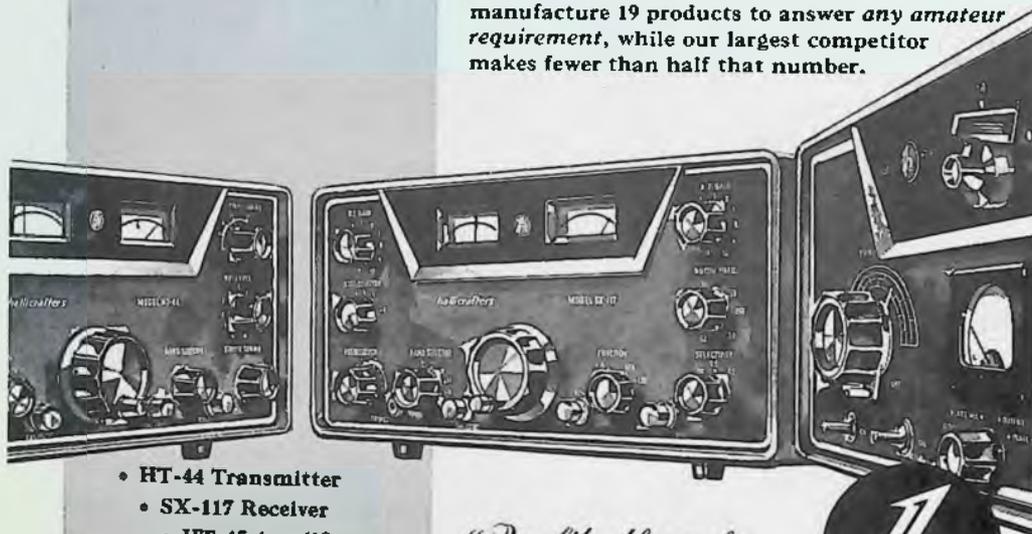
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have  
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as hard

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JUNE 1965

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## EDITORS OPINION

OUR COVER PICTURE ON THE JUNE ISSUE, FOR THE NEW MEMBERS WHO DO NOT KNOW HIM IS OUR HONORABLE FOUNDER OF THE OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB HUBERT INGALLS, WINQ. BERT, AS HE IS CALLED BY THE MEMBERS WENT TO SEA AS A WIRELESS OPERATOR AT THE AGE OF 17 ON THE "NANTUCKET"; FOR UNITED WIRELESS. HIS SECOND SHIP WAS THE "ONTARIO" WHICH BURNED AT SEA. AS A REWARD FOR HIS FINE WORK ON THE "ONTARIO", HE WAS GIVEN THE CRACK PASSENGER LINER "LENAPE", OF WHICH HE WAS CHIEF OPERATOR FOR SEVERAL YEARS. THEN FOLLOWED A HITCH IN THE NAVY AS CHIEF RADIOMAN, AND BERTHS ON THE LUXURIOUS YACHTS AS CHIEF AND LATER AS CHIEF OF A POLICE RADIO SYSTEM. IN 1947 HE CONCEIVED THE IDEA OF THE OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB. THE CLUB HAS BEGUN TO REALLY GROW AND AT THE PRESENT TIME HAS MANY ILLUSTRIOUS MEMBERS ALL OVER THE WORLD. AT THE PRESENT TIME THE MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS NEARLY 600. THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CLUB IS REPRINTED IN THE FOLLOWING PAGES.

YOGB II (YE OLDE COPYE BOYE II), YOURS TRULY; (YOGB I, AS CLINE, W4PPZ, CALLED HIMSELF WAS FOUNDER AND THE FIRST EDITOR OF SPARK GAP TIMES); HAS BEEN GETTING MUCH CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING THE PROPOSED RULE MAKING, DOCKET #15928 OF FCC. AS NEARLY AS WE CAN FIGURE THERE ARE ABOUT 125 MEMBERS OF OOTC THAT WILL BE ADVERSLEY AFFECTED IF THE RULES AS THEY STAND ARE PUT INTO EFFECT. THESE MEMBERS HAVE ADVANCED, GENERAL, OR CONDITIONAL CLASS LICENSES. IT DOESN'T SEEM TO US THAT FCC HAS ALLOWED ENOUGH WEIGHT FOR THE 40, 50, OR MORE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE THE OLD OLD TIMERS HAVE HAD. WE THINK THAT AN EXTRA CLASS LICENSE SHOULD AUTOMATICALLY BE ISSUED TO THESE MEN. THEY ARE A BIT OLD TO GO TRAIPSING AROUND TAKING AN EXAMINATION WHICH IF THEY PASS WILL PERMIT THEM TO DO THE SAME THINGS THEY HAVE BEEN DOING FOR 50 OR 60 YEARS. NOT MUCH INCENTIVE FOR US OLD OLD TIMERS TO SECURE AN EXTRA CLASS LICENSE.

ANOTHER THING THAT "BUGS" THE MEMBERS OF OOTC IS THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE CALL LETTERS SO THAT FCC MONITORS CAN IDENTIFY STATIONS NOT OPERATING IN THEIR APPROVED SECTORS OF THE BANDS. SOME OF OUR MEMBERS HAVE HAD THE SAME CALL LETTERS (3 LETTER CALLS) FOR 40 OR 50 YEARS AND HATE TO PART WITH THEM BECAUSE THEY ARE SO WELL KNOWN. YOGB II THINKS THIS PROBLEM MIGHT BE SOLVED BY USING ANOTHER PREFIX. FOR EXAMPLE, JACK

DUNN'S CALL IS W6WPF. PERHAPS ANOTHER PREFIX, OR NO PREFIX, LIKE 6WPF, COULD BE USED TO IDENTIFY US OLD OLD TIMERS, AS LONG AS WE ARE GOING TO BE AROUND. WE "AIN'T GOT TOO MANY MORE YEARS."

WE HAVE WRITTEN A LOT OF LETTERS, TO A LOT OF PEOPLE, CONGRESSMEN, SENATORS, A.R.R.L. DIRECTORS, ETC. - NOT AS AN OFFICIAL OF OOTC, BUT AS AN OLD TIME AMATEUR. WE WOULD ADVISE THE MEMBERS OF OOTC WHO ARE ADVERSELY AFFECTED TO DO LIKEWISE. BEFORE JULY 15TH WE WOULD LIKE TO WRITE TO FCC (14 COPIES) WITH A RECOMMENDATION FROM OOTC. YOGB II HAS RECEIVED MANY, MANY LETTERS REGARDING THE SUBJECT. WE WOULD BE GLAD TO HEAR FROM MORE MEMBERS ABOUT THIS TOPIC.

OUR MEMBERSHIP AND PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN, WILLIAM MCKEE, W1KC, REPRESENTED OOTC AT THE NEW ENGLAND ARRL CONVENTION AT SWAMPSCOTT LAST MONTH. HE SENT ME A PROGRAM AND IT LOOKED LIKE AN EXCELLANT ONE. MANY OOTC MEMBERS FROM NEW ENGLAND ATTENDED. INCLUDING OUR MOST WORTHY SECRETARY-TREASURER, EUNICE THOMPSON, W1MPP, AND HER OM, KEN, W1PS. BILL SAYS THE CONVENTION NEXT YEAR IS IN BOSTON AND HE WONDERS IF IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO HAVE ALL THE OFFICERS OF OOTC THERE.

YOGB II IS WORKING ON THE DESIGN OF A BANNER WHICH CAN BE USED AT OUR BOOTH IN CONVENTIONS AND AND OOTC QSL CARD. THESE ITEMS SHOULD PROVE BOTH USEFUL AND POPULAR.

THE PRINTING JOB ON THE APRIL 1965 ISSUE OF SPARK-GAP TIMES WAS SUPERB. OUR HAT IS OFF TO ROBIE (CLARENCE R. ROY) W8HR AND HIS SON FOR THE BEAUTIFUL PRINTING AND HALF-TONE WORK ON THIS APRIL ISSUE. ALSO IF YOU HADN'T NOTICED IT THE STAPLING IS DONE BY MACHINE INSTEAD OF BY HAND. WE ARE FAIRLY WELL PLEASED WITH THE RESPONSE BY THE MEMBERS FOR SUBSCRIPTION-DONATIONS BUT THERE SHOULD BE MORE THAN 250 OUT OF THE APPROXIMATE 600 MEMBERS WHO COULD CONTRIBUTE. TO THE 250 MEMBERS WE ARE GRATEFUL, TO THE MEMBERS WHO ARE ON PENSIONS AND HAVE TOUGH GOING FINANCIALLY WE DO NOT EXPECT YOU TO CONTRIBUTE, BUT WE ARE WONDERING WHAT MIGHT BE THE STORY CONCERNING THE OTHERS. IT COSTS APPROXIMATELY \$300 PER ISSUE TO PRINT AND MAIL THE BOOK TO SAY NOTHING ABOUT THE LARGE SALARY PAID TO THE EDITOR, HI!

IF YOU HAVE NEGLECTED TO SEND IN YOUR SUBSCRIPTION WE SURELY WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR SENDING IT IN. ...CONT'D PAGE 7, COLUMN 2

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB AS IT WAS IN 1962.  
IT WAS AMENDED OCTOBER 1, 1963.

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## Old Old

## Timer's

## Club

### CONSTITUTION

#### Article I

This organization shall be known as the Old Old Timer's Club.

#### Article II

The purpose of the Club shall be:

- A. To band together in one fraternal organization, without benefits to anyone, the pioneers and early experimenters of the art of communicating without the use of connecting wires, known as wireless communications.
- B. To establish and maintain either individually or collectively QSO's or round tables on any frequency or frequencies so allocated to the amateur. Furthermore, that the Secretary shall at his discretion, systematically, organize, CLUB "round tables", by district, frequencies and the appointment of MC's for same. The Secretary will further release a schedule of these round tables to all members or anyone desiring same, for the purpose of joining in. Thereby shall it be known that at all times there is an opportunity for members as well as interested amateurs to join

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in the Old Old Timer's Club round tables from Coast to Coast.

- C. To at all times encourage good operating practice, render all possible help to the Novice, welcome all modes of legal operation, and above all establish a fraternal atmosphere among all amateurs regardless of class.

#### Article III

The Club membership shall be comprised of: Officers, Honorary Members and Life Members.

#### Article IV

The affairs of the Club shall be governed by the elected Board of Directors, who shall serve not more than two years in one administration.

#### Article V

The Board of Directors shall comprise the Officers of the Club; there shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Auditor and Editor shall be appointed by the Board of Directors.

- A. The duties of the Officers shall be those commonly associated with the office.
- B. ANY member desiring to run for an office, shall make his desires KNOWN to the Secretary at least ONE month prior to the expiration of the then present incumbent administration. The Secretary shall list these desires in the order of office, and this list shall comprise the new nominating ballot, which, shall be forwarded to ALL members NOT later than December first, one month prior to expiration of the term of the administration in force.

#### Article VI

##### AMENDMENTS

Amendments may be made to the Constitution or By-Laws by a UNANIMOUS vote of the Board of Directors OR by a

## CONSTITUTION (1962) CONTINUED.

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three quarters majority written vote of the Membership.

- A. Proposals for amendments must be submitted in writing to the Club Secretary at least six months prior to the re-election of Officers. Such proposals shall have been signed by at least ten registered members and forwarded to the Board of Directors for action.

### AMENDMENT I

Adopted 31 October 1960

Anybody holding a radio amateur license at least forty years ago shall be eligible for associate life membership. On unanimous approval of the Board of Directors, and payment of \$15.00 membership fee, applicant shall become an associate life member with all privileges of full member except to the right to vote. An associate life member shall become a full life member on being assigned a general or higher class call and so notifying the secretary.

### AMENDMENT II

Adopted 1 March, 1962

After 1 March, 1962, each applicant for membership in the OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB shall pay life membership dues of \$15.00. Such applicant, when accepted shall be entitled to all privileges of full membership and including the OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB pin.

### Article VII

All members of the Club as of January 1, 1950 shall be regarded as Charter Members.

### Article VIII

#### QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIPS

- A. Any Amateur wireless operator who holds a valid amateur license and who held a two way contact over his or her own transmitter and did so make such transmission with some other wireless station, whether amateur, commercial, or Naval, AT

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LEAST FORTY YEARS, prior to the date of his or her application, shall be eligible for consideration for membership. Applicant need not have been continuously active in the art during the intervening years.

- B. In applying for membership the applicant must state in writing the following:

1. Date of his or her first two way contact by wireless.
2. The call letters used by the applicant and his or her location at the time.
3. The call letters of the station with whom contact was maintained.
4. Present call, photo of station and self if possible.
5. Furnish all other pertinent data and information to justify his application.

- C. Membership, if granted, shall be by a UNANIMOUS vote of the Board of Directors of the Old Old Timer's Club.

- D. Honorary members may be nominated by any member of the Club, their election to membership of the Club, however, shall be by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors.

- E. Life membership dues of Fifteen Dollars shall be forwarded with this application to the TREASURER of the club.

- F. The application shall be processed as follows: Treasurer to President, President to Vice-President, Vice-President to the Club's Secretary.

- G. The Club's Secretary receiving this application, assumed duty voted upon, and the votes being unanimous, shall notify the applicant by sending without further charge, the certificate of MERIT, to be valued and cherished, that the applicant is now and forever more a Life Member of the Old Old Timer's Club. Amen.

## THE CONSTITUTION OF THE OLD OLD TIMER'S CLUB AS AMENDED OCTOBER 1, 1963.

### ARTICLE I

THIS ORGANIZATION SHALL BE KNOWN AS THE "OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB."

### ARTICLE II

THE PURPOSE OF THE OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB SHALL BE:

A. TO BAND TOGETHER IN ONE FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION, WITHOUT SPECIAL BENEFITS TO ANY, THE PIONEERS AND EXPERIMENTERS IN THE ART OF COMMUNICATING WITHOUT THE USE OF CONNECTING WIRES, AND KNOWN AS WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

B. TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN, EITHER INDIVIDUALLY OR COLLECTIVELY, QSO'S OR ROUNDTABLES ON ANY FREQUENCY OR FREQUENCIES ALLOCATED TO THE AMATEUR. FURTHERMORE, THE SECRETARY SHALL AT HIS DISCRETION, SYSTEMATICALLY ORGANIZE CLUB ROUNDTABLES BY DISTRICT AND FREQUENCIES, AND APPOINT MC'S TO MANAGE THEM. THE SECRETARY SHALL FURTHER RELEASE A SCHEDULE OF THESE ROUND TABLES TO ALL MEMBERS OR ANYONE DESIRING TO JOIN SUCH ROUND TABLES. THEREBY SHALL IT BE KNOWN THAT AT ALL TIMES, THERE WILL BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS AS WELL AS OTHER INTERESTED AMATEURS TO JOIN IN THE OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB ROUNDTABLES WHEREVER THEY MAY BE.

C. TO AT ALL TIMES ENCOURAGE GOOD OPERATING PRACTICE, RENDER ALL POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE TO FELLOW AMATEURS, WELCOME ALL MODES OF LEGAL OPERATION, AND ABOVE ALL TO ESTABLISH A FRATERNAL ATMOSPHERE AMONG ALL AMATEURS REGARDLESS OF CLASS OR ORIGIN.

### ARTICLE III

THE CLUB MEMBERSHIP SHALL BE COMPOSED OF; OFFICERS, HONORARY MEMBERS, LIFE MEMBERS, ASSOCIATE LIFE MEMBERS OR OTHER CLASS MEMBER DEEMED ADVISABLE BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS.

### ARTICLE IV

THE AFFAIRS OF THE CLUB SHALL BE GOVERNED BY THE ELECTED OFFICERS AND APPOINTED DIRECTORS, WHO SHALL SERVE NOT MORE THAN TWO YEARS IN ONE ADMINISTRATION. THE PRESIDENT SHALL, WITH THE OTHER ELECTED OFFICERS APPROVAL, APPOINT FIVE DIRECTORS TO ASSIST AND ADVISE THE ELECTED OFFICERS IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES.

A. IF FOR ANY REASON WHATEVER, ANY ELECTED OFFICER OR DIRECTOR IS UNABLE TO PERFORM THE DUTIES ORDINARILY ASSOCIATED WITH HIS OFFICE, HE MAY BE REPLACED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE OTHER ELECTED OFFICERS AND APPOINTED DIRECTORS.

### ARTICLE V

THE ELECTED OFFICERS OF THE CLUB SHALL BE; PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY AND TREASURER. THE POSTS OF SECRETARY AND TREASURER MAY BE HELD BY ONE OFFICER. AT AN ELECTED CHANGE OF OFFICERS, THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT SHALL BECOME DIRECTOR AT LARGE AND SHALL ASSIST AND ADVISE THE INCOMING ADMINISTRATION DURING THE PERIOD OF TRANSITION.

THE PRESIDENT SHALL, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE OTHER ELECTED OFFICERS, APPOINT AN EDITOR, AN AUDITOR, A BLUE BOOK EDITOR, AN AWARDS CHAIRMAN, A PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER AND A COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER. THE PRESIDENT MAY, AS CONDITIONS WARRANT, APPOINT COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN FOR SUCH ADDED DUTIES AS MAY, FROM TIME TO TIME, BECOME NECESSARY.

A. THE DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS SHALL BE THOSE COMMONLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE OFFICE.

B. ANY FULL LIFE MEMBER DESIRING TO SERVE AS AN OFFICER OF THE CLUB, SHALL MAKE HIS DESIRES KNOWN TO THE SECRETARY AT LEAST SIX MONTHS PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION DATE OF THE THEN ENCUMBENT ADMINISTRATION. THE SECRETARY SHALL THEN SUBMIT THIS INFORMATION TO THE APPOINTED ELECTION CHAIRMAN FOR ACTION.

C. BALLOTS SHALL BE MAILED TO ALL MEMBERS NOT LATER THAN OCTOBER 1, THREE MONTHS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF TERMINATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

### ARTICLE VI

AMENDMENTS---AMENDMENTS MAY BE TO THE CONSTITUTION OR BY-LAWS BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE ELECTED OFFICERS, OR BY THREE QUARTERS MAJORITY WRITTEN VOTE OF THE MEMBERSHIP.

A. PROPOSALS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY AT LEAST SIX MONTHS PRIOR TO THE REGULAR ELECTION OF OFFICERS. SUCH PROPOSALS SHALL HAVE BEEN UNANIMOUSLY AGREED UPON BY THE ELECTED OFFICERS OR HAVE BEEN SIGNED BY AT LEAST TEN VOTING MEMBERS AND FORWARDED TO THE SECRETARY FOR ACTION.

### ARTICLE VII

#### QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP:

A. ANY AMATEUR WIRELESS OPERATOR WHO HOLDS A VALID AMATEUR LICENSE, AND WHO HELD A TWO-WAY CONTACT WITH SOME OTHER WIRELESS STATION, WHETHER AMATEUR, COMMERCIAL, OR NAVAL, AT LEAST FORTY YEARS PRIOR TO HIS OR HER APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP, SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR MEMBERSHIP. APPLICANT NEED NOT HAVE BEEN CONTINUOUSLY ACTIVE IN THE ART DURING THE INTERVENING YEARS.

THE CONSTITUTION...AMENDED 1963 CONTINUED

B. IN APPLYING FOR MEMBERSHIP, THE APPLICANT IS REQUIRED TO STATE IN WRITING, THE FOLLOWING:

1. DATE OF HIS OR HER TWO-WAY CONTACT IF PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 1913, PROOF OF HIS OR HER TWO-WAY CONTACT MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE APPLICATION. IF AFTER JANUARY 1, 1913, APPLICANT MUST HAVE HAD A LICENSE AND MUST GIVE THE CALL LETTERS AND DATE OF LICENSE.
2. THE CALL LETTERS USED BY THE APPLICANT AND STATION LOCATION AT THE TIME OF THE FIRST TWO-WAY CONTACT.
3. THE CALL LETTERS OF THE STATION WITH WHOM FIRST TWO-WAY CONTACT WAS MADE.
4. PRESENT CALL AND PICTURE OF SELF FOR THE BLUE BOOK. (SELF ONLY).
5. FURNISH ANY FURTHER INFORMATION IF REQUESTED.

C. MEMBERSHIP SHALL BE GRANTED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE ELECTED OFFICERS OF THE CLUB, PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

D. HONORARY MEMBERS MAY BE NOMINATED BY ANY MEMBER OF THE CLUB; THEIR ELECTION HOWEVER, SHALL BE BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE ELECTED OFFICERS.

E. LIFE MEMBERSHIP TO THE OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB IS PAID IN FULL BY SENDING \$15.00 WITH THE APPLICATION TO THE SECRETARY.

F. THE APPLICATION SHALL BE PROCESSED AS FOLLOWS: TREASURER TO PRESIDENT, PRESIDENT TO VICE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT TO SECRETARY.

G. THE CLUB SECRETARY RECEIVING THE APPLICATION, DULY VOTED UPON, AND THE VOTES BEING UNANIMOUS, SHALL NOTIFY THE APPLICANT BY SENDING WITHOUT CHARGE, THE CERTIFICATE OF MERIT, TO BE VALUED AND CHERISHED, AND THAT THE APPLICANT IS NOW AND FOREVERMORE A LIFE MEMBER OF THE OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB. AMEN.

ARTICLE VIII

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CLUB AS OF JANUARY 1, 1950 SHALL BE REGARDED AS CHARTER MEMBERS.

AMENDMENT I

ADOPTED OCTOBER 31, 1950

ANY AMATEUR HOLDING A RADIO LICENSE AT LEAST FORTY YEARS AGO SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR ASSOCIATE LIFE MEMBERSHIP ON UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF THE ELECTED OFFICERS, AND PAYMENT OF \$15.00 LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEE. ASSOCIATE LIFE MEMBER SHALL HAVE ALL THE PRIVILEGES OF FULL LIFE MEMBER EXCEPT THE RIGHT TO VOTE. AN ASSOCIATE SHALL BECOME A FULL LIFE MEMBER

ON BEING ASSIGNED A GENERAL OR HIGHER CLASS AMATEUR LICENSE AND SO NOTIFYING THE SECRETARY.

\*\*\*\*\*  
168-41 93RD AVENUE  
JAMAICA N. Y. 11433  
MARCH 4, 1965

DEAR OM WALLY:

I RECEIVED THE SPARK-GAP TIMES TODAY AS WELL AS THE 1965 OOTC MEMBERSHIP ROSTER AND THANKS FOR SAME, BUT REGARDING THE ROSTER SOMEHOW OR OTHER PAGE 6 IS MISSING AND I WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD MAIL ME THIS PAGE PROVIDING THAT YOU HAVE SUCH BECAUSE NO DOUBT MY NAME IS LISTED ON THAT PAGE, HI!

WAS QUITE INTERESTED IN THE 1918 DIARY OF A MARCONI WIRELESS OPERATOR BY W3OY BECAUSE IT BRINGS BACK MEMORIES OF MY OWN SEAFARING DAYS. IN ORDER TO GET MY COMMERCIAL LICENSE I FIRST ATTENDED THE MURRAY HILL EVENING TRADE SCHOOL ON EAST 37TH STREET IN MANHATTAN. THIS WAS IN 1919/20 AND OUR INSTRUCTOR WAS MISS BEATRICE VANDERWATER WHO WAS QUITE YOUNG AND GOOD LOOKING THEN. I USED TO TELL HER HOW MUCH I DESIRED TO GET A RADIO OPERATOR'S LICENSE AND GO TO SEA AND SHE STATED THAT SHE ALSO WOULD LIKE THAT KIND OF LIFE BUT I GUESS SHE NEVER GOT THE CHANCE. SHE WAS LATER SUPERSEDED BY MR. OSCAR REDFERN THE RADIO INSPECTOR WHO WAS STILL WEARING HIS NAVAL OFFICER'S UNIFORM SINCE THIS WAS ONLY A YEAR AFTER WORLD WAR #1 HAD ENDED. TO THIS DAY I'M SORRY THAT I DIDN'T ASK HIM FOR A TWO LETTER CALL SINCE IN THOSE DAYS THE CALL LETTERS WERE ISSUED AT THE LOCAL R.I.'S OFFICE INSTEAD OF IN WASHINGTON.

WELL IN 1921 I FINALLY GOT A SECOND CLASS COMMERCIAL LICENSE WHICH I WAS ABLE TO USE AT STATION WRW TARRYTOWN, N.Y. IN 1922. SO I DECIDED TO ATTEND THE RCA SCHOOL AT 326 BROADWAY NYC WHICH I DID AND ON JUNE 19, 1923 I OBTAINED MY FIRST COMMERCIAL FIRST CLASS LICENSE AND ON JULY 3, 1923 I WALKED INTO THE MORGAN LINE OFFICE ON WEST STREET AND GOT A RADIO OPERATOR'S JOB ON THE S.S. EL RIO AS THEY WERE VERY MUCH IN NEED OF AN OPERATOR AT THE TIME AND CAPTAIN L.H. DAMM SIGNED ME ON. ALL THE MORGAN LINE HAD THEN WAS CRYSTAL DETECTORS FOR RECEIVING (NO VACUUM TUBE EQUIPMENT) AND I HAD A REAL TOUGH TIME OF IT. FROM THEN ON I KEPT AFTER THE COMPANY TO INSTALL SUCH EQUIPMENT AND WAS ...CONTINUED NEXT PAGE COLUMN ONE...

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JUNE 1965

PAGE 7

## SPLendid READING

### A BRIEF BOOK REVIEW

By: HOWARD PYLE, "YB" OF W7OE, SEATTLE, WASH.

AS MOST OF YOU KNOW, ORDINARILY MY VARIOUS WRITINGS DO NOT ENCOMPASS 'BOOK REVIEWS' BUT I'VE JUST RUN ACROSS ONE THAT DEFINITELY DE-SERVES SPACE IN SGT. COMMANDER RICHARD JOHNSTONE, USNR (RET.) HAS JUST PUBLISHED AN INTENSELY INTERESTING LITTLE VOLUME ENTITLED, "MY SAN FRANCISCO STORY OF THE WATERFRONT AND THE WIRELESS". DICK IS ONE OF OUR VERY EARLY AMATEURS (1907 AND SUBSEQUENTLY), HAS BEEN A COMMERCIAL WIRELESS OPERATOR ABOARD MANY OCEAN-GOING VESSELS, CHIEF OPERATOR AT KPH SAN FRANCISCO (HILLCREST, DALY CITY, CALIF.) AND LATER MANAGER OF THE MARINE DEPT. FOR RCA AT SAN FRANCISCO.

HIS STORY WILL BRING BACK TO MANY OF YOU WHO ARE EARLY HAMS AND FORMER COMMERCIAL OPERATORS, NOSTALGIC MEMORIES OF THE PIONEER WIRELESS DAYS. MANY OF THE INCIDENTS AND ANECDOTES YOU WILL FIND CLOSELY PARALLELING THOSE WHICH YOU TOO PROBABLY EXPERIENCED IN YOUR EARLIER DAYS. INCLUDED IS AN IMPRESSIVE ROSTER OF OLD TIME COMMERCIAL OPERATORS WITH THUMB-NAIL BIOGRAPHIES SOMEWHAT SIMILAR TO OUR OWN "BLUE BOOK".

THE BOOK IS WELL WRITTEN IN A MOST INTERESTING NARRATIVE STYLE, NICELY PRINTED (BY W6FS) AND NEATLY BOUND; IT IS PRACTICALLY A 'MUST' FOR THE OL' TIMER, WIRELESS HISTORIAN AND COLLECTOR. YOU CAN ORDER IT DIRECT FROM DICK; ADDRESS HIM AS RICHARD JOHNSTONE, 67 HEATHER WAY, LARKSPUR, CALIF., 94939 AND ENCLOSE \$3.00. THE BOOK WILL COME POSTPAID BUT CALIFORNIA BUYERS SHOULD ADD 11¢ SALE TAX.

I DON'T FIND DICK'S NAME LISTED ON THE ROSTER OF THE OOTC BUT HE IS MOST CERTAINLY ELIGIBLE AND I'M PUTTING THE SQUEEZE ON HIM TO JOIN UP AND BECOME ONE OF US.

\*\*\*\*\*

### LETTER TO OM WALLY CONTINUED

FINALLY SUCCESSFUL IN CONVINCING THEM THAT IT WAS NECESSARY, HI.

THEREAFTER I HAD AN IP-501 RECEIVER (IP-501A I SHOULD SAY) DETECTOR AND TWO STEP AMPLIFIER. DURING THAT FIRST TRIP THE NAVAL RADIO STATIONS WERE BROADCASTING A REQUEST TO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR ANY SIGN OF THE TANKER S.S. SWIFTSTAR WHICH COMPLETELY DISAPPEARED AFTER LEAVING THE CARIBBEAN END OF THE PANAMA CANAL. IT WAS LATER ASSUMED THAT

SHE HAD BEEN STRUCK BY LIGHTNING AND PROBABLY BLEW UP BECAUSE THEY FOUND THE BODY OF THE MESS STEWARD INSIDE OF THE SHIP'S ICE BOX WHICH WAS STILL AFLOAT. THIS REMINDS ME OF THE TIME THAT W. S. FITZPATRICK OF RCA WANTED TO ASSIGN ME TO THE S. S. CONEJOS WHICH HE SAID WAS A FINE SHIPPING BOARD VESSEL WITH MODERN UP-TO-DATE RADIO EQUIPMENT BUT SOMETHING TOLD ME TO PASS IT UP AND WAIT FOR SOMETHING ELSE. WELL THAT VERY SAME TRIP SHE STRUCK A FLOATING (WORLD WAR ONE) MINE DURING A STORM OVER IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA AND SANK WITH ALL HANDS. SO YOU SEE I WOULDN'T BE HERE TODAY IF I HAD TAKEN THAT PARTICULAR SHIP.

I WOULD LIKE TO VERIFY THE SINKING OF THIS PARTICULAR VESSEL JUST TO MAKE SURE THAT MY MEMORY OF IT IS CORRECT BUT I DON'T HAVE A WORLD ALMANAC GOING THAT FAR BACK. THIS HAPPENED IN THE EARLY OR MIDDLE 1920'S. A PERSONAL FRIEND OF MINE ALSO WENT DOWN ON THE S.S. WILLIAM O'BRIEN (CALL LETTERS KPN) IN APRIL 1920 I THINK IT WAS. NAH PICKED UP THE SOS AND SHE SANK IN A GALE OFF NANTUCKET SHOALS. I WAS AT HOME IN MANHATTAN THAT NIGHT AND HEARD THE WHOLE THING ON MY RECEIVING SET. THE ONLY TRACE OF HER THEY FOUND WAS AN EMPTY LIFE-BOAT. HOW WELL I REMEMBER THE OLD INDEPENDENT WIRELESS COMPANY AND MY DAYS WITH RCA WHICH LATER BECAME RMCA. THERE WAS J. B. DUFFY, FITZPATRICK, SAM CHRISTIE AND MISS FLORENCE LEVY WHOM WE TURNED OUR ABSTRACTS OVER TO. I BELIEVE SHE LATER GOT MARRIED TO A DENTIST. BESIDES HOLDING DOWN THE "SPARKS" JOB ON SEVERAL VESSELS IN MY TIME I ALSO WORKED AT A FEW SMALL RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS (EIGHT YEARS AT WLTH IN BROOKLYN FROM FEBRUARY 1930 TO FEBRUARY 1938 WAS JUST ONE OF THEM). I WAS ALSO WITH THE R.I.D. DURING WORLD WAR TWO. THEN THERE WERE THE EARLY RADIO AMATEUR DAYS WHICH ONE CAN NEVER FORGET. IT SURE BRINGS BACK NOSTALGIC MEMORIES.

SINCERELY YOURS WITH 73,

BRAD

NORWOOD V. BRADSHAW, W2ELN  
(Ex 1ESP, 2AUR, 2BTX)

\*\*\*\*\*  
IT LOOKS VERY MUCH LIKE WE WOULD HAVE TO DO SOMETHING RATHER DRASTIC ABOUT "SPARK-GAP TIMES". IT DOESN'T SEEM AS THOUGH THERE WOULD BE AS MANY AS 350 MEMBERS WHO ARE IN PINCHED FINANCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES BUT MAYBE THERE ARE. WE'LL PRINT ONE MORE ISSUE, FOR JUNE AND THEN DECIDE. 73's, W4MF  
(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2, COLUMN 2.)

## LETTERS

BUENOS AIRES, APRIL 25, 1965

YOGB II:

THE NUMBER 25, VOL. 5 OF SPARK GAP TIMES IS HERE, VERY INTERESTING AS ALWAYS. MY CONGRATULATIONS FOR YOUR SPLENDID WORK. I AM SURE THAT ALL THE MEMBERS OF OOTC WILL APPRECIATE IT.

MANY THANKS FOR THE MENTION OF MY SOUTH REPRESENTATION AND PHOTOGRAPH (PAGE 27). IN THIS PHOTO YOU CAN SEE THE "DIPLOMA" OF OOTC AND MY LAST GELOSO RECEIVER G4-214.

ALSO I HAVE SEEN IN "SGT", APRIL 1965, PAGE 54, THE NOTICES OF THE OOTC; THE FOURTH ITEM REGARDING SOUTH AMERICA IS VERY CLEAR AND USEFUL FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE MEMBERS OF S.A. THE "LATIN AMERICAN PAGE", PAGE 24 OF "SGT", LAST NUMBER RECEIVED, IS VERY CLEAR. I HOPE THAT IN THE NUMBER 26 WILL PUBLISH THE OTHER PHOTO OF LU0ASC OF RED EMERGENCIA FARA.

I AM SENDING YOU AN ARGENTINE REVIEW. IN THIS YOU WILL SEE ANOTHER PHOTO OF LU2AO, VERY BAD; THIS WAS TAKEN BY SOME REPORTERS THAT ASKED MY OPINION ABOUT THE RUSSIAN MESSAGES FROM OTHER WORLDS (?).

VIA MARITIME MAIL I WILL SEND SOME OTHER INFORMATION AND "AIR MAIL" OTHER INFORMATION ON "AMERICA LATINA", FOR "SGT", NEXT NUMBER. WITH BEST "73", I REMAIN QRV, FRATERNALLY,

AUGUSTO E. OSORIO, LU2AO

\*\*\*\*\*

MAY 5, 1965

YOGB II:

RECEIVED THE APRIL SGT A COUPLE OF DAYS AGO AND MUST SAY THE PRINTING IS THE FINEST JOB YET. VERY CLEAR AND FAR MORE EASILY READABLE THAN ANY OTHER HAM PAPER. I KNOW OF --AND I HAVE SEEN MANY, SINCE WE AT HARMONICS EXCHANGE WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER CLUBS. I HOPE YOU RECEIVED THE SPECIAL "APRIL FOOL" ISSUE OF HARMONICS WHICH I SENT YOU.

I HAVE A FEW CRITICISMS AND SUGGESTIONS REGARDING SGT AND THE MATTER OF A DIFFERENT PIN FOR MEMBERS. I HAVE NOTICED IN THE LETTERS YOU REPRINT FROM MEMBERS, THAT IN MANY CASES THE NAME OF THE WRITER ONLY APPEARS AND NOT HIS CALL LETTERS OF ADDRESS; EVEN ONE OF THE ARTICLES AND A THREE PAGE STORY BY K2DMU, MY '65 ROSTER DOES NOT EVEN LIST HIM AS A MEMBER OF OOTC, POSSIBLY HE JOINED SINCE JANUARY FIRST.

I THEREFORE SUGGEST IN FUTURE ISSUES THAT

ALL LETTERS TO SGT AND ARTICLES INCLUDE THE MEMBER'S NAME, ADDRESS AND CALL LETTERS. IN QST AND CQ THIS IS ACCOMPLISHED BY HAVING AN ASTERISK AFTER THE AUTHOR OF THE ARTICLE AND A FOOTNOTE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE GIVING HIS NAME AND ADDRESS. I FURTHER SUGGEST THAT IN THE JUNE ISSUE OF SGT, AS SO MANY NEW MEMBERS HAVE JOINED, YOU LIST THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF THESE ADDITIONS ON A SPECIAL PAGE, INSTEAD OF KEEPING US IN THE DARK AS TO WHO THESE NEW MEMBERS ARE UNTIL JANUARY OR FEBRUARY OF NEXT YEAR, WHEN THE NEW ROSTER COMES OUT.

REGARDING THE PIN, I NEVER LIKED THE NAME "OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB" SINCE IT SOUNDS AS THOUGH IT MIGHT REFER TO A GROUP OF SQUARE DANCERS, SENIOR CITIZENS OF SOME TOWN OR WHAT HAVE YOU. THE WORD "PIONEERS OF WIRELESS" OR "WIRELESS PIONEERS" WOULD BE FAR BETTER EVEN IF A VOTE HAS TO BE TAKEN AND THE CLUB CONSTITUTION CHANGED, AS THEY DID A FEW YEARS AGO WHEN THE NAME WAS CHANGED TO SGT. I AM ENCLOSING A ROUGH SKETCH OF MY IDEA OF A SUITABLE PIN. FOR 50-YEAR MEMBERS IT COULD BE GOLD WITH BLUE LETTERS, OTHER BLUE WITH GOLD LETTERING. IN WEARING MY PRESENT PIN TO RADIO AFFAIRS AND OTHER MEETINGS AND DINNERS, PEOPLE ASK ABOUT IT AND I HAVE TO GO INTO QUITE AN EXPLANATION TO TELL THEM IT REPRESENTS A RADIO AMATEUR ORGANIZATION LIMITED TO THE EARLY ADDICTS.

ONE OTHER THING, I WROTE MRS. THOMPSON SEVERAL MONTHS AGO REGARDING SOMEONE WHO WROTE TO THE PHILA. EVENING BULLETIN (CIRCULATION 500,000) ASKING WHO WAS THE OLDEST LICENSED AMATEUR. THEY QUOTED A PUBLICATION PRINTED IN NEW YORK CITY CALLED FAMOUS FIRST FACTS IN WHICH IT WAS STATED THAT A RADIO LICENSE WAS ISSUED TO A GEORGE HILL LEWIS OF CINCINNATI IN 1911. SINCE THAT TIME A FRIEND OF MINE IN THE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF THE BULLETIN, ALSO TOM APPLEBY AND MYSELF HAVE WRITTEN TO THE EDITOR OF FAMOUS FIRST FACTS BUT RECEIVED NO REPLY WHATEVER. I WAS HOPING THAT YOU WOULD MENTION THIS IN APRIL SGT TO ALERT THE OOTC MEMBERS IN THE CINCINNATI AREA TO SEE IF THEY COULD THROW ANY LIGHT ON THIS. I ALSO WROTE TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE GREATER CINCINNATI AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION WHO HAS BEEN INVESTIGATING, AND TO TWO OOTC MEMBERS IN CINCINNATI LISTED IN OUR JANUARY ROSTER; UNFORTUNATELY ONE OF THESE TWO WAS THE DOCTOR HERMANN WHO BECAME A SILENT KEY SOME MONTHS AGO. I RECEIVED A VERY NICE REPLY.

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FROM HIS SECRETARY WHICH HOWEVER DID NOT HELP. THE OTHER OOTC MEMBER REPLIED THAT HE HAD CHECKED THE CINCINNATI PUBLIC LIBRARY AND DIRECTORIES WITHOUT SUCCESS. I AM ENCLOSING A COPY OF THE SPRING BULLETIN OF ANTIQUE WIRELESS ASSOCIATION WHICH CONTAINS REFERENCE TO THIS SUBJECT AND WHICH ALSO CONTAINS QUITE A LARGE LIST OF PRIVATE COLLECTIONS OF ANTIQUE AMATEUR AND COMMERCIAL RADIO EQUIPMENT. I HAVE CHECKED ALL THESE AND FOUND 15 OF OUR MEMBERS OF OOTC AND POSSIBLY SOME OTHERS HAVE SINCE JOINED, THIS MIGHT BE SOMETHING YOU WOULD WANT TO INCLUDE IN THE JUNE ISSUE.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO MENTION HOWEVER THAT THERE IS NO DISPLAY WHATEVER OF OLD AMATEUR OR COMMERCIAL RADIO EQUIPMENT AT PRESENT IN THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE IN PHILA. THEY HAVE A VERY FINE AMATEUR STATION OPERATING, AT ALL TIMES THE INSTITUTE IS OPEN, ON THE FIRST FLOOR, BUT ALL OF THEIR OLD HAM EQUIPMENT WAS DONATED SEVERAL YEARS AGO TO THE ANTIQUE WIRELESS ASSOCIATION, SEVERAL TRUCK LOADS HAVING BEEN SHIPPED UP THERE. FRANKLIN INSTITUTE IS BUILDING A NEW RESEARCH BUILDING DIRECTLY SOUTH OF THE PRESENT MUSEUM AND THEY PLAN TO HAVE REPLICAS OF ONE OF THE EARLIEST BROADCAST STUDIOS AS WELL AS MORE RECENT ONES ON EXHIBITION. IT IS POSSIBLE THEY MAY LATER HAVE REPLICAS OF AN EARLY COMMERCIAL RADIO STATION, EITHER SHORE OR SHIPBOARD; BUT I COULD NOT LEARN OF ANY INTENTION TO DISPLAY EARLY HAM EQUIPMENT.

IN LOOKING OVER YOUR 1965 ROSTER I NOTICED ON PAGE TWO NUMBER 532, WICTW. I WONDER IF THIS IS THE CORRECT NUMBER SINCE I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THERE WERE NOT QUITE THAT MANY MEMBERS AS OF JANUARY FIRST OF THIS YEAR.

THAT IS ALL FOR THE PRESENT, EXCEPT TO MENTION THAT WHEN I GET A LITTLE MORE FREE TIME I HOPE TO WRITE A STORY ON MY RETURN TO HAM RADIO AFTER 40 YEARS OFF THE AIR, IN 1958-62. SOME TITLE LIKE "LONG HARD ROAD BACK AFTER 40 YEARS" MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE. DO YOU THINK THIS ARTICLE WOULD BE OF SUFFICIENT INTEREST TO MEMBERS? I KNOW THERE ARE HUNDREDS LIKE MYSELF WHO HAVE TAKEN UP HAM RADIO AS A HOBBY AFTER RETIREMENT, BUT I HAVE YET TO SEE AN ARTICLE DESCRIBING THE PROBLEMS THEY MAY HAVE ENCOUNTERED, PARTICULARLY IF THEIR EARLY OPERATING WAS LIMITED TO THE DAYS OF SPARK.

MY VERY BEST 73 TO YOURSELF, AND I CERTAINLY HOPE WE CAN MEET AGAIN SOME OF THESE

DAYS AND HAVE A REAL EYEBALL QSO. MAYBE SOMETIME THIS SUMMER I WILL GRAB A TRAILWAYS BUS FOR CHATTANOOGA AS I GUESS YOU ARE PRETTY WELL TIED DOWN WITH YOUR JOB AS PRESIDENT AND EDITOR OF SGT.

SINCERELY,  
FRANK ATLEE, K2PI  
1011 ELDRIDGE AVE.  
W. COLLINGSWOOD, N.J.  
08107

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COPY OF A LETTER FROM W2AOS TO W3YA.  
MAY 3, 1965

DR. GILBERT L. CROSSLEY, W3YA  
DIRECTOR ATLANTIC DIVISION, ARRL  
734 WEST FOSTER AVENUE  
STATE COLLEGE, PENNSYLVANIA 16801

DEAR W3YA:

FCC DOCKET NO. 15928 HAS BEEN STUDIED IN DETAIL. I WHOLEHEARTEDLY AGREE THAT FOR THE GOOD OF AMATEUR RADIO IT IS NECESSARY TO TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO IMPROVE THE TECHNICAL CALIBRE OF AMATEUR LICENSEES. THE RADIO AMATEUR IS NO LONGER HELD IN THE ESTEEM HE ONCE WAS IN THE EYES OF THE MILITARY, GOVERNMENT AS A WHOLE, AND INDUSTRY. HOWEVER, I FEEL THAT THE PROPOSED DOCKET NO. 15928 HAS MISSED THE BASIC POINT AND IT IS NOT THE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM.

DOCKET NO. 15928 APPEARS TO BE BASED UPON THE PREMISE THAT ALL GENERAL CLASS AMATEURS WILL BE MOTIVATED TO STUDY FOR AND SECURE A HIGHER CLASS LICENSE FOR THE SAKE OF A FEW EXTRA KILOCYCLES OF FREQUENCY AND POSSIBLY DISTINCTIVE (?) CALL LETTERS. FOR THOSE WHO ARE SO MOTIVATED, NO DOUBT THE SO-CALLED INCENTIVE IS NECESSARY.

I HAVE TALKED TO A NUMBER OF AMATEURS ABOUT THIS PROPOSAL AND AS FAR AS "INCENTIVE" IS CONCERNED THEY FEEL THE SAME WAY ABOUT IT AS I DO. I BELIEVE THAT THE BASIC TROUBLE IN THE PRESENT SITUATION IS THE WEAK GENERAL CLASS TECHNICAL EXAMINATION AND CODE TEST. I SUGGEST THAT THE NOVICE CLASS LICENSEE BE GIVEN A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS IN WHICH TO PREPARE FOR A REALLY COMPREHENSIVE GENERAL CLASS TECHNICAL EXAMINATION AND A 16 OR 20 WPM CODE TEST. TO ME, THE GENERAL CLASS LICENSE IS THE CORE OF THE PRESENT PROBLEM AND ANY SOLUTION MUST PROVIDE FOR TIGHTENING UP ON THIS CLASS. I TOOK MY ORIGINAL AUTOMOBILE DRIVERS LICENSE TEST IN A 1918 MODEL "T" FORD, BUT I CERTAINLY AM NOT A

LESS PROFICIENT DRIVER NOW WITH MY 1964 AUTOMOBILE - I KEPT UP WITH THE TIMES. HOWEVER, AN ORIGINAL DRIVER'S LICENSE WRITTEN EXAMINATION TODAY, IN MOST STATES, IS MUCH MORE COMPREHENSIVE THAN IN THE MODEL "T" DAYS AND THE ROAD TEST MUCH TOUGHER - IT HAS TO BE. THE SAME PRINCIPLE HOLDS TRUE FOR THE AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR LICENSES.

MY PERSONAL VIEW ON THE PROPOSAL TO ABOLISH THE CURRENT ADVANCE CLASS LICENSE IS THAT THIS IS GROSSLY UNJUST TO THE MORE THAN 40,000 PRESENT HOLDERS WHO MADE THE EFFORT TO SECURE A MORE ADVANCED TYPE OF LICENSE TO BE ABLE TO OPERATE ON CERTAIN BANDS AND WHO NOW ARE TO BE RELEGATED TO THE SAME CATEGORY AS THOSE WHO DID NOT MAKE THE EFFORT AND MAYBE DID NOT CARE TO. WHY DID THE FCC KEEP THE ADVANCE CLASS LICENSE ALIVE ALL THESE YEARS AFTER THEY WERE NO LONGER ISSUED? SURELY NOT TO ABOLISH THEM! UNDER THE "GRANDFATHER" CLAUSE IN CURRENT REGULATIONS I CAN CONCEIVE OF SOMEONE WHO HAS NOT BEEN ON THE AIR SINCE HIS SPARK DAYS IN 1916 DECIDING TO BECOME ACTIVE NOW ON SSB AND SECURING AN EXTRA CLASS LICENSE WITHOUT EXAMINATION AND A TWO-LETTER CALL - NOTHING IN BETWEEN SPARK AND SSB - IT DOES NOT REALLY MAKE SENSE NOR IS IT JUST. THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE HOLDERS OF THE CURRENT ADVANCE CLASS LICENSE HAVE BEEN ACTIVE CONTINUOUSLY SINCE THE ISSUANCE OF THE LICENSE AND HAVE PROGRESSED WITH THE STATE OF THE ART. WHY SHOULD THEY BE PENALIZED NOW? HOWEVER, IN MY OWN CASE, IF THE HOLDING OF A NEW FIRST CLASS LICENSE WOULD MEAN GIVING UP MY W2AOS AND W3ENK CALLS FOR A "K" OR OTHER PREFIX OR LETTERS, I WOULD UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES, DESIRE IT.

I PERSONALLY SEE NO INCENTIVE - AFTER HOLDING MY ORIGINAL CALL LETTERS FOR 45 YEARS, I CERTAINLY DO NOT WANT NEW "SECOND HAND" ONES. TWO-LETTER CALLS MEAN NOTHING TO ME - THEY WERE BEING ISSUED FOR MORE THAN 10 YEARS AFTER I RECEIVED MY ORIGINAL 2AOS AND I HAD AMPLE OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE THIS FOR TWO LETTERS IN THOSE DAYS, BUT I PREFERRED TO KEEP MY ORIGINAL CALL. THE FEW EXTRA KILOCYCLES OFFERED MEAN NOTHING TO ME AS I SELDOM USE THOSE IN QUESTION AND WOULD NOT MISS THEM. BEING A 99% CW MAN, THE NEW FIRST CLASS LICENSE WOULD MEAN NOTHING AT ALL TO ME. I HAVE BEEN ON THE AIR FOR OVER 45 YEARS, AM OVER 60 YEARS OF AGE, HOLD A CURRENT ADVANCED CLASS LICENSE, AND IN MY TIME, HAVE HELD SEVERAL FIRST GRADE COMMERCIAL

LICENSES, HAVE BEEN AN EX-COMMERCIAL OPERATOR (SEA-GOING), HAVE BEEN WITH THE NAVAL COMMUNICATION SERVICE FOR MANY YEARS, AND AM A SENIOR MEMBER IEEE. I SEE NO INCENTIVE FOR ME TO TAKE THE TIME OR MAKE THE EFFORT TO PREPARE FOR AN EXTRA CLASS LICENSE - I HEAR "ELECTRONICS" AT MY OFFICE ALL DAY AND I DO NOT WANT TO THINK ABOUT IT WHEN I GET HOME. I AM RETIRED FROM THE NAVY AND WILL ALSO RETIRE FROM MY CIVILIAN POSITION WITH DOD IN LESS THAN TWO YEARS. IN MY TIME I HAVE BUILT ALL MY OWN GEAR BUT I NO LONGER HAVE THE NECESSARY PATIENCE OR STEADY NERVES. FRANKLY, MY ONLY INTEREST IN AMATEUR RADIO TODAY, IS AS A RETIREMENT HOBBY TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH MY OLD FRIENDS OF YESTER YEAR.

AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ARRL MEMBERSHIP IN THE ATLANTIC DIVISION WE LOOK TO YOU TO CONSIDER THE VIEWS OF EACH MEMBER WHO MAKES THEM KNOWN TO YOU AND THAT YOU IN TURN WILL MAKE THEIR VIEWS KNOWN TO THE ARRL AT THE NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING. I AM SORRY THAT I DID NOT GET TO TALK TO YOU IN PERSON ABOUT THIS SUBJECT WHEN I WAS AT THE DELAWARE VALLEY RADIO ASSOCIATION OLD TIMERS' DINNER IN TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, BUT IT WAS GETTING LATE AND YOU HAD QUITE A FEW PEOPLE AROUND YOU AT THE TIME.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COURTESY IN THIS MATTER.

73,  
CHARLES E. BIELE, W2AOS/W3ENK  
CAPTAIN, USNR (RET.)  
10403 BROOKMOOR DRIVE  
SILVER SPRING, MD. 20901

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MARCH 30, 1965

DEAR EUNICE:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPLENDID LETTER OF MARCH 18TH. IT WAS MOST KIND OF YOU TO TAKE THE TIME TO WRITE SUCH A FRIENDLY AND WARM LETTER.

THE LETTERHEADS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED .... NO HURRY WITH THE STICKERS. I CAN WELL REALIZE THE POSITION OF SECRETARY FOR THE OOTC TAKES PLENTY OF YOUR TIME!!

THANKS FOR THE HINT RELATIVE TO AN OOTC NET ON 40. I FOUND ONE OF THOSE NETS ON 40 THIS MORNING, AND WITH PLEASURE WORKED (ON 7050KC) W2ES, W2JB, AND W30Y, IN A SORT OF ROUNDTABLE. THEY INDICATED THAT THEY WORK TOGETHER EVERY TUESDAY MORNING AT 1100 EST. AS FOR 75, TO TELL THE TRUTH, EUNICE, I

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NEVER COULD GET INTERESTED IN FONE. IT WILL INTEREST YOU TO KNOW THAT ONE MORNING RECENTLY I CONTACTED ANOTHER RETIREE, LOCATED IN ELBA, N.Y., WHO HAD BEEN A TELEGRAPH OPERATOR WITH THE NEW YORK CENTRAL FOR SOME FORTY YEARS. AFTER A WHILE WE GOT TO USING AMERICAN MORSE RATHER THAN INTERNATIONAL MORSE, WITH A WHOLE OF A TIME RESULTING!! IT IS SO GOOD TO QSO OLD TIMERS, BECAUSE THEY ARE WILLING TO YAK-YAK, RATHER THAN SK-ING AS SOON AS THEY GET AN RST REPORT!!

I SENT ONE OF MY RETIREMENT CLIPPINGS TO OUT EDITOR, AND SUGGESTED TO HIM I'D BETTER GET BUSY WITH SOME REMINISCENCIES, AND PROPOSE TO DO SO.

ON THE SUBJECT OF "TIME" ITSELF, OH ME, OH MY: SINCE RETIREMENT I FIND THAT DAYS ARE SHORTER, WEEKS QUICKER, AND TIME IS SOMETHING THERE AIN'T ENUF OF!!

THANKS AGAIN FOR YOUR LETTER. I LOOK AGAIN AT YOUR PICTURE IN THE BLUE BOOK, AND READILY IDENTIFY THAT SORT OF KINDNESS WITH YOU!!

73,  
M. L. LAMSON, W1GU  
WEST ROCKPORT, MAINE

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MARCH 14, 1965

DEAR W1MPP:

ENCLOSED FIND MY CHECK FOR \$2.50 FOR THE 1965 SPARK-GAP TIMES. WE CANNOT LET THIS WONDERFUL PAPER FAIL.

WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE TO HAVE AN ARTICLE IN THE NEXT ISSUE REGARDING AN INQUIRY FOR OCTOBER, DECEMBER, 1914 AND MARCH, DECEMBER 1917 AND FULL YEAR 1918, "WIRELESS AGE" MAGAZINE. WILL BUY OR SWAP OTHER ISSUES.

THANKS FOR YOUR EFFORT IN MY BEHALF.

BEST 73'S,  
A. G. WENTZEL, JR., W2HX  
318 GARDNER AVENUE  
TRENTON, N. J. 08618

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EXCERPTS FROM SOME LETTERS RECEIVED BY OUR SECRETARY-TREASURER, W1MPP.

DEAR W1MPP:

WAS LOOKING OVER MY 1915 GOVERNMENT CALL BOOK WHEN I RECEIVED MY 50 YEAR AWARD. I SURE WANT TO THANK SOMEBODY BUT DON'T KNOW WHO. GUESS I'LL START WITH THE PRESIDENT AND WORK DOWN. SO THANKS TO ALL.

CHARLES E. HARVEY, W5TL

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DEAR W1MPP:

BY ALL MEANS ALLOW ME TO MAKE MY CONTRIBUTION - AS A LONG TIME ASSOCIATE OF COMMISSIONER STERLING - HIS STORY ALONE WAS MORE THAN WORTH THE PRICE.

GEORGE S. TURNER (FORMERLY  
CHIEF FIELD ENG. BUREAU FCC)

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DEAR W1MPP:

PLEASE USE THE ENCLOSED TO SEND MY 1965 SGT AND SOME GUMMED STAMPS. USE THE REST TO HELP THE BOYS ALONG. SGT IS TOPS AND I AM SORRY I CAN'T DO MORE TO HELP.

73, PAUL MANNING, WA6CWZ

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ROY, W2EBT, ADDED A NOTE TO HIS SUBSCRIPTION DONATION FOR THE OOTC "PIGGY BANK" - "I'LL BET THAT SEC.-TREAS. JOB IS KEEPING YOU OUT OF MISCHIEF - (DO YOU GET ANY HOME COOKING CHOW, KEN?)"

73, ROY

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FROM NEW MEMBER RICHARD H. KAUFMANN, K2DMR

"ACCEPTANCE INTO THE OOTC IS ABOUT THE MOST THRILLING THING THAT HAS HAPPENED TO ME IN MANY A DAY. I JUST ABOUT POPPED MY BUTTONS. THE CERTIFICATE, PIN AND ENCLOSURES ARRIVED IN TIP TOP SHAPE. ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR THE BLUE BOOK AND SUBSCRIPTION TO SGT. I AM A CLOSE FRIEND OF THORN MAYES, W6AX, NOW AT SARATOGA, CALIF. DURING A VISIT WITH HIM LATE LAST YEAR HE NEEDLED ME ABOUT PREPARING MY APPLICATION TO OOTC. I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET YOU AND YOUR OM. I PLAN TO CHECK IN ON THE OOTC ROUND TABLE ON A THURSDAY EVENING ON 3940 KC. LET ME KNOW WHAT I CAN DO TO HELP MAKE THE OOTC AN EVEN MORE EXCITING ORGANIZATION.

73, K2DMR

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FROM W1SZ, CLARK RODIMON: WISH I HAD TIME TO SIT DOWN AND TELL YOU HOW MUCH I ENJOYED YOUR LETTER. WHEN I RETIRE SOME 5-8 YEARS FROM NOW - I PROMISE NOT TO WAIT THAT LONG. HI. YOU ARE A GOOD PEDDLER - ENCLOSED IS ANOTHER CHECK TO KEEP ME UP WITH SGT - THE TITLE MIGHT BETTER BE SPARE GAP TIMES! ALSO THE BLUE BOOK. THE "EXTRA" IS FOR THE VOLUNTEERS TO RELAX.

73, ROD

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W1MPP - FROM ERNEST E. BOYCE, W7CXR.

ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK FOR MY YEARLY CONTRIBUTION TO SGT WHICH I ENJOY VERY MUCH. IT IS IN ITSELF WORTH THE MONEY. THE PACKET ARRIVED IN VERY GOOD CONDITION. I AM VERY PROUD OF MY MEMBERSHIP IN SUCH A SELECT GROUP OF FINE MEN AND ONE LADY. I LOOK FORWARD TO MANY CONTACTS IN THE FUTURE AND WHEN I RETIRE NEXT DECEMBER, HAZEL AND I ARE GOING TO TRAVEL AROUND SOME AND TAKE IN SOME OF THE CONVENTIONS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY, SO I HOPE TO MEET SOME OF THE OLD GANG IN PERSON.

73, W7CXR

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FROM HERBERT W. IRVING, W3FK:

FIRST THANK YOU FOR SENDING ME ALL THE OOTC GEAR - WHICH WAS RECEIVED IN FINE SHAPE. NOW I FEEL PROPERLY DECORATED, AND ALSO FOR YOUR NICE LETTER TELLING ME ALL ABOUT THE OOTC. I AM ATTACHING A CHECK FOR SGT AND FOR THE BLUE BOOK. I AM SORTA ANXIOUS TO SEE IF I RECOGNIZE ANY OF THE OLD NAMES. PROBABLY NOT - AS MY REAL EARLY ACTIVITIES IN RADIO WERE MOSTLY IN THE SEA-GOING END - USN - THENCE MERCHANT MARINE FOR SEVERAL YEARS - NOT TOO MANY HAMS. HOWEVER MY VERY FIRST EXPOSURE TO RADIO OF ANY KIND WAS ON AN OLD NAVY SHIP - THE CAESAR WHEREIN I MET TWO YOUNG MEN - MY SENIOR OFFICERS, IN FACT - WHO HAD STARTED AS HAMS - EVEN BEFORE WW1 - WERE NATIVE NEW ENGLANDERS - AND I'VE OFTEN WONDERED OVER THE YEARS IF ANY OF YOU OLD TIME HAMS EVER HEARD OF THEM. THEIR NAMES OF COURSE I SHALL NEVER FORGET (EVEN THOUGH I DON'T KNOW THEIR ORIGINAL HAM CALLS) WERE IRVING BICKFORD AND WILBUR-FORCE LITTLE. SEEMS TO ME THEY WERE FROM MASS. OR CONN. AGAIN THANK YOU.

73, HERB, W3FK

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FROM ELMER A. VOLZER, W5SA:

I'M THE ELMER OF THAT HAY'WIRE 1/2 KW ROTARY GAP TRANSMITTER AND ONE TUBE RECEIVER. LATER I ASSEMBLED A 1 KW ROTARY GAP TRANSMITTER AND INSTALLED IT IN THE BASEMENT AND REMOTELY CONTROLLED IT FROM SECOND FLOOR BEDROOM. MUCH QUIETER HI. CAN'T REMEMBER SENDING \$2.50 FOR SGT BUT IF I DIDN'T IT WAS AN OVERSIGHT SO I'LL SEND AN EXTRA BONUS.

73, Doc

(SEE SQL CARD - MAYBE OF USE IN SGT) PLEASE RETURN CARD TO ME.

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FROM VE2BG:

ENCLOSE CHECK TO COVER - CANADIAN FUNDS AND EXCHANGE. US POOR FOREIGNERS STILL WAITING FOR BLUE BOOK INSERTS OF FOREIGNERS - HI-DIDDLEY BUMP - TOM, PIP PIP. (TOM ALWAYS SIGNS OFF OUR OOTC ROUND TABLE WITH HIS PIP PIP.) AM GOING TO CHARGE YOU FOR S METER WHEN YOU USE FULL POWER.

73, TOM, VE2BG

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DEAR EUNICE:

THANKS FOR THE REMINDER. MY CHECK IS ENCLOSED. I'LL SURPRISE YOU AND GET IN ON THE OOTC NET SOME EVENING. YEARS AGO, I USED TO CHECK IN QUITE REGULARLY. I MOVED, AND SINCE THEN, I HAVE BEEN HAVING TVI PROBLEMS. YOU ARE DOING A FINE JOB AND YOUR EFFORTS ARE SINCERELY APPRECIATED BY THIS OT.

73, SHERM

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FROM: VANCE PHILLIPS, W6GH

ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK FOR 1965 SGT. ALL OF THE OFFICERS OF THE OOTC SHOULD BE COMPLIMENTED FOR THE FB JOB YOU ARE DOING.

73, VANCE

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PARTS FROM W2QY

ENCLOSED HERewith, ETC. NOTICE IN THE 1965 ROSTER THAT A COUPLE MORE FRIENDS OF MINE W2CTA AND W1MT HAVE JOINED THE GROUP. AM IN ACCORD WITH THE VOLUNTARY SUBSCRIPTION IDEA. ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT A SINGLE JOIN-UP FEE WOULD NOT BE SUFFICIENT TO COVER COSTS IN PERPETUITY. PERSONAL OPINION OF RETIREMENT. GREAT. FIND TIME TO DO LOTS OF THINGS, SLOWLY. HAVE ALSO TIME TO WRITE LITTLE NOTES LIKE THIS. LITTLE CAGY THOUGH - AS YOU SEE I USE THE SMALLEST PAD I COULD BUY. RECEIVE QUITE A BIT OF CORRESPONDENCE FROM AWA MEMBERS AS I SUSPECT YOU ARE NOW GETTING FROM OOTC.

73, LINK

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FROM W2ES:

CONGRATS EUNICE AND THANKS FOR TAKING THE JOB OVER. APPRECIATE OOTC VERY MUCH. DUES ENCLOSED.

73,  
GROVER, W2ES

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FROM AL BERT, W5AEY

GLAD TO SEND IN MY SUBSCRIPTION DONATION AGAIN THIS YEAR, AS I DID LAST YEAR. I FEEL IT IS WELL WORTH THE SMALL PRICE, AND SURE HOPE THAT A LOT OF OTHERS FEEL THE SAME WAY, AS THERE ARE MANY WHO CAN WELL AFFORD IT - EVEN MORE THAN I. MANY DON'T EVEN CONSIDER THE FINE WORK AND DEDICATION THAT IS SO FREELY GIVEN BY YOU ALL IN THE FRONT OFFICE, ESPECIALLY THE MANY THANKLESS TASKS THAT ROB ROY, YOU, AND MANY OTHERS PERFORM IN ORDER TO KEEP THE ORGANIZATION ALIVE. THIS LITTLE PAT ON THE BACK ALSO GOES FOR THOSE WHO WORKED SO HARD IN THE PAST FOR OOTC, AND KEPT IT ROLLING. I MAY BE ONE OF THOSE WHO ARE SLOW IN GIVING OUT PATS ON THE BACK, BUT DO FEEL MANY OTHERS LIKE ME, COULD AT LEAST GET THE LEAD OUT ONCE A YEAR, BY SENDING IN A PAT ON THE BACK TO YOU ALL IN THE FORM OF A DONATION SUBSCRIPTION.

73 TO YOU ALL,  
AL, W5AEY

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FROM WIAPL:

CONGRATULATIONS AND MUCH LUCK IN YOUR NEW JOB AS SEC.-TREAS. OF THE OOTC. I ENCLOSE A CHECK TO COVER SUBSCRIPTION TO SGT AND ALSO FOR 200 GUMMED STAMPS WITH OOTC SEAL. I LIKE TO PUT ONE ON EACH QSL CARD I SEND OUT. S.A.S.E. ENCLOSED.

73, TONY

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FROM W6RG:

DEAR EUNICE:

MANY, MANY THANKS FOR ALL OF THE OOTC THINGS - DIPLOMA, PIN, ETC. - AND YOUR NICE LETTER. YOU'VE NO IDEA HOW THIS MEMBERSHIP THRILLS ME AND HOW PROUD I AM. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO A BIT OF STRUTTING AT THE NATIONAL CONVENTION AT SAN JOSE IN JULY - HI. ALL THE BEST -

73, AND THANKS  
BILL, W6RG

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YOCB II:

MY MUSEUM STORY NOW SCHEDULED TO APPEAR IN SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF ELECTRONICS ILLUSTRATED, ON THE NEWSTANDS EARLY IN AUGUST; HOPE YOU FIND IT INTERESTING. THANKS FOR PLUG ON MUSEUM DIRECTORY IN CURRENT ISSUE SGT. ROB ROY SURE DID A BANG-UP JOB ON THAT ISSUE; HATS OFF TO HIM AND YOU. 73, "YB" OF W70E HOWARD PYLE, MERCER ISLAND, WASH.

## Catholic Vets Name Marks 'Man of Year'

David L. Marks—who is Mr. Operation Goodwill to thousands of Capitaland residents each Christmastime—has been named Man of the Year by the Albany District Chapter, Catholic War Veterans.

In announcing Mr. Marks' selection yesterday, Nicholas F. Dunn, past county commander, said:

"Your work with the patients at the V. A. hospital, your program of Christmas cheer messages to our men and women in the armed forces from their loved ones at home, your trips around the world as an unofficial American Good Will Ambassador has earned more than this mere citation which we can present to you.

### Undying Gratitude

"It has earned the undying gratitude of all veterans, and Americans, for in you is truly embodied the true meaning of Americanism and Brotherhood."

The two previous Man of the Year awards were presented to Roderick O'Connor, recreation director at the Veterans' Administration Hospital, and District Attorney John Garry. Mr. Marks, who is president of Fort Orange Radio Distributing Corp., annually conducts "Operation Goodwill" in cooperation with The Times-Union.

Under the program, taped Christmas messages are sent by local people to servicemen around the world without charge.

Last year, Mr. Marks was honored as "Humanitarian of the Year" by the Albany Variety Club.

He is a member of the Albany Rotary Club, International Center, Variety Club, Elks Club, the Albany Amateur Radio Club and Temple Ohab Shalom. He and his wife, the former Elizabeth Moffett, make their home at 28 Cherry Tree Road, Loudonville, and have two children, Mrs. Donald Driscoll and Dalton S. Marks.

Born in London, Mr. Marks has been in Albany about 50 years. He attended Albany High School.

"UNCLE DAVE" MARKS, W2APF, IS STILL PLAYING SANTA CLAUS AS SHOWN BY THESE TWO CLIPPINGS FROM THE ALBANY "TIMES UNION" OF JANUARY 16, 1965.

## Operation Goodwill

The thank you notes and letters for use of the facilities of Operation Goodwill to contact relatives and friends in the armed forces and other government service have continued to come in to The Times-Union.

Operation Goodwill is the Christmas message service sponsored jointly by The Times-Union and Dave Marks of Fort Orange Radio. We have, in this space, been acknowledging receipt of the thank you notes, and with today's list of names we conclude these acknowledgements. The most recent letters have come from:

Mrs. Gary Judwic, Doris Johnson, and Mrs. William A. Fischer, Albany; Mrs. Wilma Kusaricha and Bernice Brazell, Hoesick Falls; Mrs. Robert Burns, Rensselaer, and Mrs. Herbert Saria, Coeymans.

## ARTICLES

### RESUME OF CLUB ACTIVITIES FOR OUR SECOND YEAR ON THE AIR - 1949

FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE OLD OLD TIMERS' ROUND TABLE, WE HAVE NOW REACHED THE CLOSING ROUND TABLE OF THE YEAR 1949, WHICH MARKS THE SECOND ANNUAL MILESTONE IN THE LIFE OF THE CLUB. DURING THE PAST YEAR WE HAVE ADDED EIGHT NEW MEMBERS TO THE ROSTER, WHICH NOW TOTALS 49 ACTIVE MEMBERS.

AT OUR FIRST WEEKLY ROUND TABLE OF THE YEAR THE 28TH GET-TOGETHER ON JANUARY 6, 1949, CLARENCE, W2FG OF MONCLAIR, N.J., WAS AUTHORIZED TO CONDUCT A POLL AMONG THE OLD OLD TIMERS FOR THE FIRST OFFICIAL ELECTION OF ALL CLUB OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1949. THE TERM OF OFFICE OF SAID OFFICERS ALSO WAS TO BE ENTERED ON EACH BALLOT AND DECIDED UPON BY THE MEMBERS.

AT THE 32ND ROUND TABLE ON FEBRUARY 3RD, 1949, THE RESULTS OF THE BALLOT CONDUCTED BY W2FG WERE REPORTED IN. THIS VOTING RE-ELECTED ALL PRESENT INCUMBENTS TO OFFICE, AND THE TERM OF OFFICE WAS DECIDED UPON AS TWO YEARS.

AT THE NEXT ROUND TABLE, THE 33RD, ON FEBRUARY 10TH, 1949, A TABULATION ON VOTING FOR O.O.T.C. OFFICERS WAS READ OVER THE AIR. WIZE MADE A MOTION TO CONSIDER VOTING COMPLETE AS OF THIS DATE AND THE PRESENT INCUMBENTS DECLARED RE-ELECTED.

THE LAST ROUND TABLE BEFORE THE SUMMER SHUT-DOWN WAS HELD ON APRIL 28TH, 1949, THIS BEING THE 42ND. AT THIS GATHERING THE FOLLOWING STATIONS REPORTED IN: W2DH, W1CPI, W1DLH W2VO, W1FQX, W2KYH, W2AVG, W2AOA, W2WWQ, WIZE ON 160 METERS, AND W1NQ. BAND CONDITIONS WERE FAIR, WITH ALL SIGNALS COMING THROUGH READABLE, ALTHO WITH STATIC CRASHES AT TIMES.

THE 43RD ROUND TABLE OF THE OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB WHICH WAS THE FIRST OF THE FALL SEASON, SEPTEMBER 29TH, 1949, HAD THE FOLLOWING STATIONS PRESENT: W1ANA, WIZE, W1CPI, W1PJM, W2TQ AT W2SZW'S STATION, AND W1NQ. PRESENT AT THE SHACK OF W1NQ AS GUESTS WERE GEORGE BROWN W2CVV, AND HIS GOOD XYL MADELAINE. THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS WERE INDUCTED INTO THE CLUB: W1PJM, W2TQ AND W2DK. A THANK-YOU NOTE FROM BETTY MURPHY OF ARLINGTON, VA., WAS READ OVER THE AIR, THANKING ALL CLUB MEMBERS FOR THE FLORAL PILLOW SENT IN MEMORIAM OF THE PASSING OF HER LATE HUSBAND JOHN MURPHY, W4VA, ON AUGUST 7TH, 1949.

AT THE 44TH ROUND TABLE OF THE O.O.T.C. ON OCTOBER 6TH, 1949, WIZE MADE A MOTION TO REFER

TO OUR GEAR AS "WIRELESS", NOT RADIO, WHICH WOULD OFFER A DEFLUENT BACK TO OUR EARLY DAYS WHEN SUCH GEAR WAS SO CALLED. WIZE ALSO MADE A MOTION TO EXTEND CONGRATULATIONS TO BERT, W1NQ, ON HIS IDEA OF FOUNDING THE 40 YEAR OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB. A LETTER FROM CHARLIE ELLSWORTH, W2TQ, RELATING TO PUBLISHING A YEAR-BOOK ON THE OLD OLD TIMERS WAS READ OVER THE AIR.

DURING THE 47TH ROUND TABLE OF THE O.O.T.C. ON OCTOBER 27TH, 1949, OUR PRESIDENT, WIZE, MADE A VERY FINE SPEECH AS FOLLOWS:

"THE OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB WAS THE BRAIN CHILD, INVENTION AND BABY OF W1NQ. BERT PUT THE IDEA UP TO ME, AND THE CLUB WAS FORMED. WE WENT THROUGH MANY TRYING MONTHS GETTING IT TOGETHER. NOW IT EXTENDS FROM HERE TO CALIFORNIA, AND I AM SURE THAT MOST OF ITS MEMBERS ARE PROUD TO BELONG.

THERE ARE MANY MEMBERS WHO WERE NEVER VOTED IN. BERT ELECTED ME PRESIDENT AND MADE HIMSELF SECRETARY. BETWEEN THE TWO OF US WE ELECTED ROLAND W1ANA, VICE-PRESIDENT AND WILKIE, W1TK, TREASURER. NATURALLY THERE HAD TO BE A START. SINCE THAT TIME ALL THE OFFICERS HAVE BEEN ELECTED BY THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP, SOME OF THEM WITH HANDSOME MAJORITIES. OBVIOUSLY WE CANNOT HAVE THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP VOTE ON INDIVIDUAL INCOMING MEMBERS; FOR THIS PURPOSE WE HAVE A MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE. WE EVEN HAVE A HATCHET-MAN, SO-CALLED, BECAUSE HE LOOKS INTO ALL APPLICATIONS VERY CAREFULLY. IT MIGHT SURPRISE YOU TO KNOW THAT SOME HAVE BEEN TURNED DOWN, MAINLY BECAUSE OF LACK OF PROPER QUALIFICATIONS. LIKewise WE CANNOT HAVE THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP VOTE ON THE EXPENSES OF THE CLUB. THE BEST WE CAN DO HERE IS TO USE REASON AND CARE, AND MAKE A YEARLY REPORT TO ALL MEMBERS. WE ALSO HAVE, AND PLAN TO DO SO IN THE FUTURE, PUT THE QUESTION OF OFFICERS UP TO THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP. EVERYONE HAS A CHANCE NOT ONLY TO VOTE, BUT ALSO TO RUN FOR ANY OFFICE, AND OF COURSE HE CAN VOTE FOR HIMSELF IF HE SO DESIRES.

REMEMBER THIS, FELLOWS, NO MEMBER HAS

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## RESUME OF CLUB ACTIVITIES....1949 CONTINUED

BEEN FORCED INTO THIS CLUB; EACH APPLICANT HAS ASKED FOR ADMISSION AND PAID HIS DUES, BECAUSE HE WANTED TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH US. HE ALONE DECIDED HE WANTED TO JOIN, AND ALSO MADE THE DECISION THAT THE DUES WERE REASONABLE. TO DATE NO ONE WHO HAS JOINED HAS QUIT, BUT THE PATH IS OPEN, ANYONE WHO BECOMES DISSATISFIED CAN ALWAYS RESIGN. IT'S STILL A FREE COUNTRY.

SPEAKING FOR MYSELF, I CONSIDER IT A GREAT HONOR TO BELONG TO SUCH A CLUB, AND AS PRESIDENT, I AM DOUBLY HONORED, AND I AM FULLY AWARE OF MY RESPONSIBILITY TO ALL OF YOU.

THE PATH IS WIDE OPEN TO EXPRESS YOUR DESIRES, AND VOTE ON EACH QUESTION RAISED ON MEETING NIGHTS, AND AT LEAST FOR THE PRESENT, THE MAJORITY OF VOTES CAST WILL CARRY THE QUESTION BEFORE THE CLUB AT ITS WEEKLY ROUND TABLES. IF YOU DON'T COME IN ON THE MEETING NIGHTS YOU CERTAINLY CAN'T COMPLAIN ABOUT WHAT TAKES PLACE.

AT THIS TIME, I WANT TO EXPRESS MY THANKS TO MY BROTHER OFFICERS AND TO THE MEMBERS, FOR THEIR LOYALTY."

AT THE 48TH ROUND TABLE ON NOVEMBER 3RD, 1949, HENRY BROUGHTON, K2AE, REPORTED IN FOR THE FIRST TIME AND WAS HIGHLY CONGRATULATED ON BEING ELECTED THE FIRST HONORARY MEMBER OF THE CLUB. WINQ MADE A MOTION WHICH WAS UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, TO EXTEND A VOTE OF THANKS TO ROLAND BOURNE, W1ANA, FOR THE SPLENDID JOB HE DID IN CREATING THE OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB SHEEPSKINS. ALSO TO CLARENCE PFEIFER, W2FG, IN GETTING OUT TWO ISSUES OF THE CLUB ROSTER.

AT OUR THANKSGIVING ROUND TABLE ON NOVEMBER 24TH, 1949, ALL MEMBERS FELT HIGHLY HONORED AND GRATIFIED TO WELCOME INTO THE CLUB AS FINAL MEMBER OF THE YEAR, NO OTHER PERSONAGE THAN THAT OF MR. GEORGE E. STERLING, W3DF, OF SILVER SPRINGS. GEORGE BECAME THE 51ST MEMBER.

AT THE 54TH ROUND TABLE, DECEMBER 15TH, 1949, W1ZE, IRVING VERILYA, NOMINATED CLARENCE PFEIFER, W2FG, TO BE THE FIFTH MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. THIS NOMINATION WAS CARRIED THRU BY ARTHUR STOCKELLBURG, W1SS, AND A SUBSEQUENT VOTE BY ALL MEMBERS PRESENT CONFIRMED CLARENCE AS THE FIRST FULL MEMBER ELECTED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR NEW CONSTITUTION.

AT THE 56TH ROUND TABLE, THE CLOSING ONE OF THE YEAR, BOB ROBB, W2QZM, WAS REPORTED IN AS OUR SECOND "SILENT KEY". BOB PASSED AWAY DECEMBER 28TH. SHIRLEY MAY FRANCE SPOKE TO ALL

THE OLD OLD TIMERS VIA THE STATION OF W1ZE. SHIRELY STATED THAT SHE WOULD MAKE A SECOND ATTEMPT TO SWIM THE ENGLISH CHANNEL THIS COMING SUMMER. WILKIE, W1TK THE CLUB TREASURER, ALSO SPOKE OVER THE STATION OF W1ZE VIA THE TWISTED PAIR, AND GAVE HIS ANNUAL TREASURY REPORT.

THUS GENTLEMEN, WE CLOSE OUR BOOKS WITH THE PASSING OF THE YEAR 1949, THE SECOND IN THE LIFE OF THE CLUB. A CONSTITUTION FOR THE O.O.T.C. HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND A COPY ACCOMPANIES THE LETTER.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,  
AND FRATERNALLY YOURS,

(SIGNED) BERT INGALLS, W1NQ  
SECRETARY O.O.T.C.

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## MINUTES OF THE 68TH ROUND TABLE OF THE O.O.T.C., MARCH 23RD, 1950.

THE FOLLOWING STATIONS REPORTED IN AT 7 P.M.: W1ZE, W1ANA, W1SS, W1PJM, W2TQ, - K2AE, W2KYH, W2FG, W2TF, W4JEP, W4ZB, K4AF, W2BO, W1CPI, W2DH, W1NQ (MC).

A LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE CALL FROM IRVING, W1ZE, REPORTED THAT HE WOULD BE LISTENING, AS HE WAS NOT ABLE TO TALK AND GET ON THE AIR, BEING VERY SICK IN BED WITH THE GRIP.

MRS. DEGNA MARCONI PARESCHE, DAUGHTER OF THE LATE SENATORE GUGLIELMO MARCONI, BY HIS FIRST MARRIAGE, SPOKE TO THE OLD OLD TIMERS VIA THE FACILITIES OF MARS STATION K4AF, PENTAGON BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D.C., WITH MAJOR RALLS, USA AT THE CONTROLS. THIS WAS INDEED A GALA OCCASION FOR THE OLD OLD TIMERS, AS THEY ALL WITNESSED THE EARLY EFFORTS OF SEN. MARCONI TO TRANSMIT THE FIRST SIGNALS ACROSS THE ATLANTIC AROUND THE TURN OF THE CENTURY; AND IT WAS QUITE SINGULAR TO HAVE HIS DAUGHTER SPEAK TO US OVER THE SAME MEDIUM, A HALF CENTURY LATER.

A TELEGRAM FROM COMMISSIONER GEORGE E. STERLING, W3DF, WAS READ OVER THE AIR AS FOLLOWS: "TO W1NQ FROM WASHINGTON, D.C. WILL BE UNABLE TO ATTEND THIS EVENING'S ROUND TABLE DUE TO SOME IMPORTANT BUSINESS COMING UP HERE IN WASHINGTON, D.C., WHICH NEEDS MY PRESENCE".

(SIGNED) GEORGE E. STERLING  
W3DF

MR. STERLING WAS SLATED TO PROPOSE

## MINUTES OF THE 68TH ROUND TABLE CONTINUED

MRS. PARESCHE FOR HONORARY MEMBERSHIP IN THE O.O.T.C. HOWEVER, IN HIS ABSENCE, BERT INGALLS, W1NQ, THE CLUB SECRETARY, DID THE HONORS. MRS. DEGNA MARCONI PARESCHE BECAME THE 2ND HONORARY MEMBER.

A 3RD HONORARY MEMBER WAS ALSO INDUCTED INTO THE CLUB AT THIS ROUND TABLE, NAMELY, GENERAL IVAN L. FARMAN (1912) U.S.A.F. DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS, PENTAGON BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D.C.

BAND CONDITIONS WERE VERY GOOD AND MRS. PARESCHE CAME THROUGH QUITE WELL.

A NICE TIME WAS HAD BY ALL AND THE ROUND TABLE CAME TO A CLOSE AT 8:30 P.M.

(SIGNED) BERT INGALLS, W1NQ  
SECRETARY OF THE OOTC

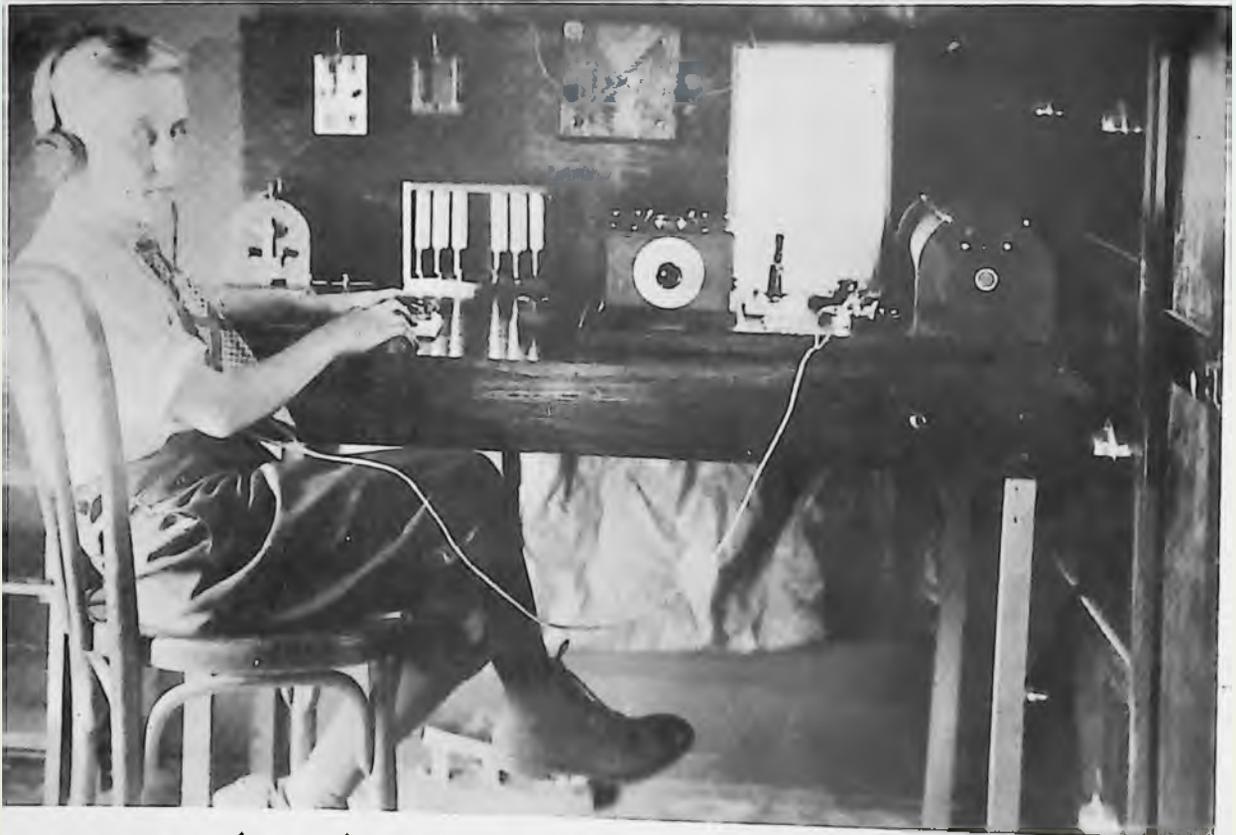


TREVOR EVANS, VK2NS, FIRST AUSTRALIAN MEMBER OF OOTC.

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TO TREVOR EVANS, VK2NS, BATHURST, AUSTRALIA FALLS THE HONOR OF BEING THE FIRST MEMBER OF OOTC FROM VK-LAND. GREETINGS "TREV" AND WELCOME ABOARD THE GOOD SHIP OOTC. WE HOPE YOU ENJOY YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN OOTC AND THAT YOUR BECOMING A MEMBER WILL ENCOURAGE A LONG LIST OF OLD OLD TIMERS FROM "DOWN UNDER" TO JOIN OOTC.

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THIS HANDSOME LAD IS (OR WAS) WM. (BILL) HARPER, W6TQ, ABOUT 1914. HE WAS REPUTED TO BE THE FIRST TO REPORT A FOOTBALL GAME PLAY BY PLAY BY WIRELESS, IOWA-AMES GAME.

## THE NOSTALGIC CORNER

PERCE COLLISON REMINISCES  
By: PERCE B. COLLISON, K2DZ  
9 LORRAINE AVE.  
EASTCHESTER, N.Y.



PERCE B. COLLISON, K2DZ, YOUNG OLD OLD TIMER AT HIS NEAT AND EFFICIENT RIG.

FOR A FEW YEARS PRIOR TO WORLD WAR 1 I WAS CHIEF INSPECTOR AND SUPERINTENDENT OF CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE FOR THE NEW YORK AREA FOR THE OLD AMERICAN MARCONI COMPANY (AND UNTIL ABOUT 1923).

ARTHUR JACOBY'S 1918 DIARY IS A CLASSIC AND BRINGS INTO VIVID MEMORY A PORTION OF MY LIFE-LONG CAREER IN "WIRELESS". EVERY SHIP HE LISTS IS WELL KNOWN TO ME, AND CERTAIN OF HIS ENTRIES MERIT SOME COMMENTS FROM MY VOLUMINOUS "MENTAL" DIARY.

FOR INSTANCE:

3-29-18 HIS VISIT TO THE MARCONI SCHOOL AT 25 ELM STREET, NEW YORK. ELMER BUCHER, RECENTLY DECEASED, WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE SCHOOL, WAS A DEAR OLD PAL. I CHERISH A COPY OF HIS BOOK "PRACTICAL WIRELESS". MANY OF THE DIAGRAMS AND CONSIDERABLE OF THE TEXT WAS WRITTEN FOR DEAR OLD "BUTCH" BY ME.

4-30-18 PERTAINING TO A CHILEAN NAVAL VESSEL AND SIX SUBMARINES. THE SHIP WAS THE CRUISER

CHACABUCA (ADMIRAL GOMEZ, IN COMMAND). THE SIX SUBMARINES WERE US SUBMARINES H-1,2,3,4,5 AND 6. IN THIS LITTLE "ARMADA" WAS A CHILEAN MERCHANT SHIP CONVERTED INTO A MOTHER SHIP. SHE CARRIED A SPARE CREW OF TRAINED SUBMARINES, FOOD AND GENERAL SUPPLIES. ALSO A DOCTOR, AND PLENTY OF DIESEL ENGINE OIL.

THE CRUISER WAS FORMERLY A BRITISH SHIP AND ALL OF HER CHILEAN OFFICERS HAD BEEN TRAINED IN THE BRITISH NAVY AND A FINE GROUP THEY WERE. ANOTHER BRITISH CRUISER HAD BEEN SLATED FOR A SAIL TO CHILE BUT THE BRITISH WERE RELUCTANT TO CARRY OUT THE DEAL BECAUSE THE BRITISH NEEDED HER.

THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS THE BRITISH ASKED THE US NAVY TO "GIVE" THE CHILEAN NAVY SIX TYPE "H" SUBMARINES, BRAND NEW. THE US NAVY AUTHORIZED THE AMERICAN NAVY AUTHORITIES TO INSTALL THE

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## PERCE B. COLLISON REMINISCES CONTINUED

LATEST TYPE OF 1 KW - 500 CYCLE, QUENCHED GAP TRANSMITTERS AND RECEIVERS ON THESE "SUBS". THE AMERICAN MARCONI CO. HAD A CONTRACT WITH THE US NAVY FOR A LARGE NUMBER OF THESE FINE MODERN PIECES OF APPARATUS. THE MARCONI CO. WAS TO SUPPLY SIX COMPLETE "INSTALLATIONS". THE WIRELESS OPERATORS AND ELECTRICIANS WERE TO MAKE THE INSTALLATIONS UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A COMPETENT "ENGINEER". I WAS ASSIGNED BY DAVE SARNOFF TO GO TO NEW LONDON, CONN. AND INSTRUCT THESE CHILEANS HOW TO DO IT, AND MAKE FINAL TESTS AND "TUNE 'EM UP". IT TOOK THREE MONTHS. I HAD TO LEARN SPANISH FAST! THE MEN KNEW NO ENGLISH.

THE OFFICERS HAD RENTED A HOUSE IN NEW LONDON AND I LIVED WITH THEM. THEY WANTED ME TO GO BACK TO CHILE WITH THEM AND OFFERED ME A RANK OF COMMANDER BUT DAVE SARNOFF SAID "NIX". THE CHILEAN SAILORS WERE AFRAID OF THE AERIALS SO WE USED A SPECIAL TYPE OF PURE RUBBER INSULATION COPPER CABLES. EACH SUBMARINE HAD TO MAKE TEST RUNS WHEN I HAD "TUNED-UP" THE RIGS. ONE DAY I HAD TUNED UP ONE OF THE RIGS AT DOCKSIDE AND WAS BUSY MAKING UP A RECORD OF ALL DIALS AND SWITCH SETTINGS. I DID NOT NOTICE THAT WE HAD LEFT THE DOCK. AFTER I HAD COMPLETED MY RECORDS I TURNED ON THE POWER AND FOUND TO MY HORROR THAT THE ANTENNA CURRENT AMMETER READINGS WERE MUCH LOWER THAN THEY HAD BEEN. SO, I WENT FORWARD AND STARTED TO CLIMB A LADDER INTENDING TO GO UP ON DECK AND SEE WHAT WAS WRONG WITH MY AERIALS. THE HATCH WAS CLOSED AND A SAILOR SAID I COULD NOT GO ON DECK BECAUSE WE WERE RUNNING SUBMERGED.

ELECTRIC BOATMEN WERE INSTRUCTING THE OFFICERS AND CREW HOW TO DIVE AND RUN SUBMERGED. WE WERE DOWN 50 FEET! OUT OF CURIOSITY I STARTED UP THE RIG AND USING MY NAVY ASSIGNED CALL LETTERS (XTJ) I SENT OUT A "CQ". TO MY AMAZEMENT I GOT AN INSTANT REPLY FROM A NAVY ESCORT SHIP THAT MY SIGNALS WERE "LOUD AND CLEAR". THE ESCORT SHIP WAS A MILE AHEAD OF US! I WAS TRANSMITTING ON ABOUT 2700 KILOCYCLES.

WHEN WE GOT BACK TO THE DOCK I IMMEDIATELY CALLED DAVE SARNOFF AND TOLD HIM. HE SAID TO IMMEDIATELY SEND HIM BY "SPECIAL DELIVERY" MAIL AN AFFIDAVIT SIGNED BY ME AND THE SUBMARINE'S CAPTAIN FOR THE USE OF THE MARCONI COMPANY'S PATENT ATTORNEY. IT SEEMS THAT I HAD A "FIRST" ON "UNDERWATER" RADIO COMMUNICATION, BY "ACCIDENT".

6-6-18 REFERRING TO THE SINKING OF THE NEW YORK AND PUERTO RICAN LINE "CAROLINA". PIERRE BOUCHERON WAS THE CHIEF WIRELESS OPERATOR. IMMEDIATELY AFTER SHE WAS HIT BY A GERMAN SUBMARINE TORPEDO BOUCHERON SENT OUT AN "SOS". (SHE WAS A FEW MILES SOUTH OF AMBROSE LIGHT SHIP, NEAR NEW YORK.) THE GERMAN SUB HAD SURFACED AND THREATENED TO SHELL THE CAROLINA IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT SHE HAD A FULL LOAD OF CIVILIAN PASSENGERS. BOUCHERON DEFIED THE SUB'S SIGNALS TO STOP WIRELESS CALLS. HE ALSO TORE UP THE WIRELESS LOG AND THREW THE PIECES OF PAPER OVERBOARD SO THAT THE SUB'S BOARDING CREW COULD GET NO INFORMATION REGARDING THE POSITION OF OTHER SHIPS IN THE VICINITY.

8-21-18 RE S.S. PROTEUS OF THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC LINES. SHE WAS THE FIRST SHIP ON WHICH THE NEW MARCONI 2 KW - 500 CYCLE, QUENCHED GAP GEAR WAS INSTALLED AND TUNED UP BY MY INSTALLERS!

10-3-18 RE S.S. FAITH, THE FIRST CONCRETE CARGO VESSEL. HER INSTALLATION WAS MADE BY MY CREW! TO GET A "GROUND" WE HAD TO RUN A HEAVY COPPER STRIP TO HER ENGINE ROOM. THE OPERATOR WAS A FELLOW NAMED FERGUSON. HE HAD TO HOBBLE AROUND ON TWO WOODEN LEGS.

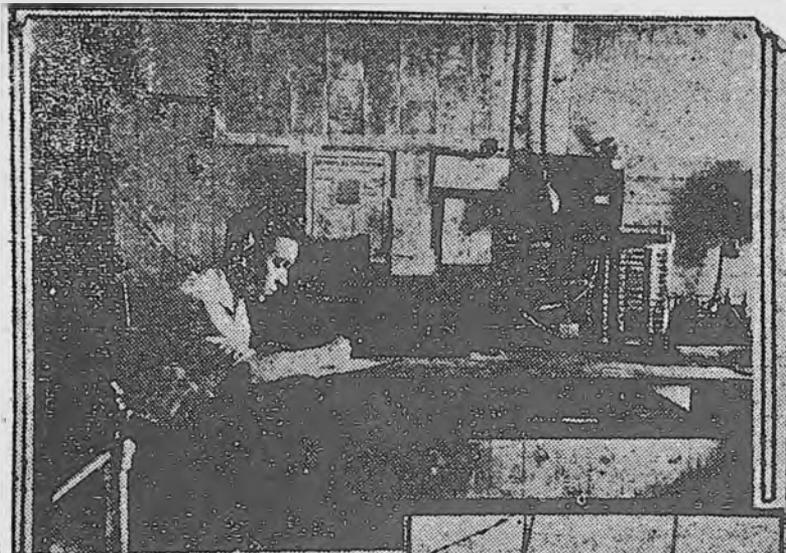
1-6-19 I WELL REMEMBER EDWARDS, FITZPATRICK, AND JACK DUFFY OF THE OPERATORS DIVISION.

I NEVER DARED TO JOIN THE VETERAN WIRELESS OPERATORS ASSOCIATION FOR FEAR THEY WOULD "CUT MY THROAT". IT WAS NECESSARY FOR ME TO OFTEN REPORT SHIPS' OPERATORS FOR FAILURE TO PROPERLY CARE FOR THEIR APPARATUS. IT MIGHT BE THAT ARTHUR C. JACOBY WILL REMEMBER ME AS A NASTY GUY. SINCE IT WAS MY JOB TO KEEP ALL SHIPS' WIRELESS GEAR IN TOP OPERATING CONDITION I JUST HAD TO BE TOUGH!

\* \* \* \* \*

\* PLEASE CHECK THE ADDRESS ON YOUR \*  
 \* ENVELOPE TO SEE IF THE ZIP CODE \*  
 \* NUMBER IS SHOWN, AND IF SHOWN \*  
 \* CORRECTLY. IF NOT, WILL YOU AD- \*  
 \* VISE THE SECRETARY, EUNICE R. \*  
 \* THOMPSON, WIMPP, CHRISTIAN HILL \*  
 \* ROAD, LOVELL, MAINE 04051, OF \*  
 \* THE CORRECT NUMBER. \*  
 \* \* \* \* \*

## JOE MARTINEAU MASTERS THE MYSTERY OF THE WIRELESS



Joe Martineau in his wireless station

When Joe Martineau boarded a west bound train at the Bates street station the other morning those who knew him felt he was going out to success.

Joe aims to be a wireless operator upon some ship. If determination and persistency will accomplish a purpose this young man is sure to win. On the day he left he was the premier wireless worker of Lewiston and in addition had the assurance of professionals that he was capable of holding down a real job either on ship board or in a land station.

Joe is a native of Lewiston and lives at 6 Lafayette street, where he has a complete wireless outfit, practically all of which was constructed by himself. This is set up in his room on the top floor and there, night after night, for the past four years he has worked perfecting himself. Not only has he sought to become expert in sending and receiving wireless messages, but, as shown by building his own apparatus, he has mastered, to a very large degree, the theory of wireless telegraphy.

Five years ago young Martineau was completing a course in the Economical academy, a business college at Nicolet, Province of Quebec. There he had been studying telegraphy—the ordinary wire method. He was about ready to graduate and go forth seeking a job. At that time they installed a wireless outfit. He became interested in it and took up the study. It proved very fascinating and he remained a year longer at college gaining a foundation in wireless work. When he returned to Lewiston he had the ground work laid. He understood the principle of the work and could receive about



Joe explaining the Aerials

eight words a minute. Upon returning to Lewiston he set about perfecting himself. First he began constructing apparatus.

In order to do this and to purchase supplies necessary he went to work. In the time which has elapsed he has worked in the Lewiston Journal office as elevator boy and since the new Manufacturers building was completed held down the same job there. In this way he earned sufficient to buy books and supplies, as well as to clothe and support himself. Being a bright,

obliging lad he won the regard of all who came in contact with him which helped to make his work lighter.

### Joe's Apparatus.

The wireless station which this young man has in his room is very complete. He takes power from the regular electric light service of the Androscoggin Electric Co. His transformer steps this up from the usual 110 volts to 9,000 volts which is required for transmission by his apparatus. The aerials are stretched from the roof of his home to a nearby building and are at a sufficient height so he can send for a distance of about 100 miles.

His receiving apparatus picks up messages, of course, from a longer distance. He has caught messages sent from Berlin. Once he got a message which gave the digest of a Berlin note to Washington three days before its tenure was publicly announced in the newspapers. He did not make this public, because that is against regulations and his station is as much under governmental control as any in the country. Its call is designated by the government and he has to use the same care a public officer would in using the wire.

Several times he has picked up distress calls from ships in trouble. It was while he was at school that the Titanic was sunk. That night he was in the station of an amateur in Nicolet and caught the C. Q. D., which was flashed out from that ship. The operator on the Titanic, says Joe, also sent out an S. O. call, which was the old word for help.

Because of this information Young Martineau went to Boston last week and will take his examinations at the Charlestown navy yard. If he passes, it is his expectation to secure a job as wireless man on some steamship. Failing to meet all requirements of the examination he will enter the Eastern Radio Institute and perfect himself for work.

### NOTICE

IT IS NECESSARY FOR US TO USE YOUR ZIP CODE IN MAILING SGT. THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT HAS STATED THAT VERY SHORTLY THIRD CLASS MAIL WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED UNLESS THE ZIP CODE NUMBER IS SHOWN IN THE ADDRESS.

AS SPARK GAP TIMES IS HANDLED AS THIRD CLASS MATERIAL, DELIVERY TO YOU WILL BE INTERRUPTED UNLESS, OR UNTIL, YOUR ZIP CODE NUMBER IS AVAILABLE.

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## NEWS ABOUT MEMBERS



4-10-65

--Herald-Examiner Photo

**PERELY B. 'JACK' DUNN (W6WPF)**  
He helped revolutionize amateur radio

### Calling CQ—HAM ON AIR

# Jack Dunn Real Veteran on Air

By **RAY MEYERS, W6MLZ**  
Herald-Examiner Columnist

Shortly after World War I, in the early 20s, many radio amateurs obtained transmitting and receiving tubes which were surplus to the needs of the Army and Navy, and began experimenting with voice communications which shortly afterward revolutionized the art.

Broadcast stations sprang up all around the country, built by members of the amateur fraternity who had by that time, replaced their old type spark transmitters by vacuum tubes that produced clear cut signals on the air.

About that time, the American Radio Relay League had made arrangements with the Navy Department to permit one of its staff members to make a cruise to Australia aboard the fleet flagship — USS Seattle — under command of Admiral S. S. Robinson, with whom your columnist was serving as chief radio man.

Prior to departure of the fleet for the trip "Down Under," a young Navy radio man, Perely B. "Jack" Dunn, W6WPF, had conducted some experiments at the Navy's high powered station "NPG" at Mare Island, which resulted in considerable changes in equipment for long distance operation.

#### VACUUM TUBES

Jack had built a small transmitter of 100 watts input, using a number of Western Electric Co. vacuum tubes known to servicemen as the "VT-2." This unit was designed to operate on 90 meters and within a month or so, reliable contacts were made with station "NPO" at

Cavite in the Philippine Islands.

So successful were these tests, the Navy yard laboratory built up a five kilowatt transmitter that required a space no larger than one that would be needed for a couple of standard file cabinets.

This transmitter was placed in service to replace a 100 kilowatt arc transmitter that practically filled a whole radio station building. Meanwhile, Jack's smaller unit was used to communicate with "NPM" in Hawaii, and "NKF" in Arlington, Va., to handle the Navy's bulk of traffic.

#### STATION ON SHIP

With the possibility of replacing the cumbersome arc transmitters used aboard our battleships and cruisers, the Navy welcomed the league's representative, a young chap named Fred Schnell, commissioned a lieutenant in the Naval Reserve, who set up his amateur station aboard the flagship using the call "NRRL."

Meanwhile Jack Dunn, a licensed amateur since 1912, was taking care of his regular duties with the Navy but spent his off-duty time experimenting with his amateur equipment or handling personal messages as a public service.

As a traffic man, he maintained regular schedules with a group known to the amateur fraternity as "MCAN-4," Military Civilian Amateur Net operating on the four megacycle band.

W6WPF is a vice president and chairman of the Awards Committee of a world wide organization known as the "Old Old Timers," and a member of the Morse Telegraph Club, Inc., a group of old time telegraph operators who are fast disappearing as a result of the teletype and telephone circuits now being used by our railroads and common carriers.

Jack is always happy to assist a fellow amateur, or beginner. He has helped youngsters and oldsters get started these past 53 years.

He spends most of his air time handling traffic for the ARRL's national traffic system, is a member of

"RACES" (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) and for years has held league appointments as an official relay, and official phone station operator.

Recently we received a call from the Pasadena Red Cross chapter for assistance in making contact with a mission in South America in order to make funeral arrangements for one of its members who had suddenly died while in this area.

#### DID HIS PART

Jack was immediately contacted and the matter was taken care of with dispatch. Needless to say, all concerned were very grateful for the service.

Perely B. Dunn's wife, Mildred, their children, Marjorie, Bud and Catherine, have shown no desire to become amateur radio operators, but we feel that they admire their dedicated husband and father for his service to fellow man, hoping that as a retired Navy man that he may continue with his work as an amateur, for many years.

\* \* \* Kudos to the several hundred amateurs throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Peru, Honduras, Panama, British Honduras, Guantana-mo Bay, Cuba, Nicaragua, Venezuela, ships at sea, the Mexican Navy, Federal Communications Commission's monitoring stations and our own U.S. Coast Guard air-search rescue organization for the magnificent job leading to the rescue of the disabled ketch "Seaway." The vessel operated by W6SGW and his wife, Rilna, broke down off the west coast of Mexico Saturday and was located Monday afternoon thanks to amateur radio.

The Los Angeles Council of Radio Clubs meets at the Richfield Building the 15th and the Quarter Century Wireless Club holds its annual dinner at T and J Restaurant in Rosemead on the 24th.

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EXCERPTS FROM THE 1919 DIARY CONT'D  
INST. 111 DIARY OF A MARCONI OPERATOR - W30Y

AUG. 17 LIZARD AT LANDS END. PASSED THE FRENCH LINER LA LORRAINE.

AUG. 18 TOOK ON A PILOT AT DOVER.

AUG. 19 PASSED THE MAAS LIGHTSHIP AND ARRIVED OFF THE RIVER AT NOON. ANCHORED TO WAIT FOR HIGH TIDE UNTIL 4 P.M. TO GO UP THE RIVER. VERY BEAUTIFUL SCENERY ALL THE WAY UP. ARRIVED AND MOORED IN RHIJNHAVEN 7:30 P.M. USED 3 PILOTS FROM LIGHTSHIP UNTIL MOORED.

AUG. 21 WENT ASHORE DOING SOME SHOPPING AND SIGHTSEEING. ROTTERDAM IS A VERY BEAUTIFUL CITY WITH ITS OLD WINDMILLS AND CANALS. ONE WINDMILL IN THE HEART OF THE CITY BEARS THE DATE OF 1736.

AUG. 22 VISITED A MEMBER OF THE CREW CONFINED IN THE CITY HOSPITAL. VERY PRETTY NURSES THERE.

AUG. 23 SOME MORE SIGHTSEEING. VISITED THE ZOO. VERY NICE. TOOK MORE PICTURES. I COULD GET ALONG VERY WELL WITH THE PEOPLE ON ACCOUNT OF MY BEING ABLE TO SPEAK PENNA. DUTCH AS WELL AS GERMAN, WHICH I STUDIED IN HIGH SCHOOL.

AUG. 24 WEIGHED ANCHOR AT 9:30 A.M. AND LEFT RHIJNHAVEN. WROTE SOME LETTERS AND GAVE TO THE PILOT WHO LEFT THE SHIP AT DOVER.

AUG. 26 RAN INTO ROUGH WEATHER AS SOON AS WE PASSED OUT OF THE ENGLISH CHANNEL.

AUG. 28 STORM GETTING REAL SEVERE, SHIP ONLY LOADED WITH SOME BALLAST. EVERYTHING LASHED DOWN THAT IS MOVABLE. WIND HOWLING TERRIFICALLY.

AUG. 29 WEATHER ABATING AND THINGS STARTING TO RETURN TO NORMAL. THE USS MERCURY PASSED US EASTBOUND THIS AFTERNOON AND HE USED HIS WIRELESS TELEPHONE TO SPEAK TO ME. IT SOUNDED VERY GOOD.

AUG. 30 GETTING TIME SIGNALS FROM FL AND POZ. HEARD VCE. UNABLE TO HEAR NAA.

AUG. 31 RECEIVED AN ICE REPORT FROM SS COLSESIT (WQUA) 0826 GMT. AUGUST 29TH PASSED AN IMMENSE ICEBERG PYRAMID IN SHAPE AND MORE THAN 250 FEET HIGH IN POSITION

LAT. 43.10 N. LONG. 39.27 W. WE WERE THEN IN LONG. 33 W. AT NOON. HEARD NAA TIME SIGNALS TONIGHT.

SEPT. 1 NICE WEATHER. COPIED NAA PRESS. FILLED BATTERIES WITH WATER AND PUT ON CHARGE.

SEPT. 2 SS LAKE FRESCO GETTING INFORMATION FROM DOCTOR ABOARD THE SS ROYAL GEORGE RELATIVE TO TREATING A CREW MEMBER HAVING BLOOD POISON. THEY KEPT THE AIR BUSY MOST ALL DAY.

SEPT. 4 WORKED THE MORSE LAMP WITH THE USS PRINCESS MATOIKA IN THE EVENING.

SEPT. 6 THE USS LEVIATHAN CLOSE BY WITH GENERAL PERSHING ABOARD. AIR BUSY WITH TRAFFIC FOR HIM. BEGAN HEARING US LAND STATIONS.

SEPT. 7 THE LEVIATHAN PASSED CLOSE BY. HANDLING CORRESPONDENTS PRESS DISPATCHES AND ALL SORTS OF TRAFFIC. THE GLEN WHITE ALSO HAD TRAFFIC FOR NAF AND WBF. ALSO RECEIVED ONE FROM THE LATTER.

SEPT. 8 CLEANED AND POLISHED THE RADIO EQUIPMENT. EXPECT TO ARRIVE OFF DELAWARE CAPES SHORTLY AFTER MIDNIGHT.

SEPT. 9 ANCHORED OFF PIER 78 SOUTH AT PHILADELPHIA SHORTLY AFTER NOON.

SEPT. 10 DOCKED AT GREENWICH COAL PIER #4 AT 8 A.M. PAID OFF AT 4 P.M. TOOK NEXT TRAIN FOR HOME.

SEPT. 11 RETURNED TO PHILADELPHIA AND REPORTED AT MARCONI OFFICE. REGISTERED AND TURNED IN REPORTS. AT MARCONI OFFICE. THE MANAGER, MR. MANLEY A VERY NICE PERSON. LEFT PHILADELPHIA 1 A.M. BOUND FOR ROTTERDAM. PASSED OUT OF THE CAPES SHORTLY AFTER NOON.

SEPT. 16 KEPT BUSY BAILING WATER OUT OF THE RADIO ROOM DUE TO HEAVY DOWNPOUR OF RAIN.

SEPT. 18 HEARD FL FOR FIRST TIME THIS TRIP, ALSO NBD.

SEPT. 19 BAILING WATER OUT OF BOTH ROOMS. NEVER SAW SO MUCH RAIN.

SEPT. 21 ABOUT 2 P.M. THE USS AGAMEMNON PASSED VERY CLOSE TO US. SPOKE WITH THE OPERATOR FOR SHORT TIME ON THE RADIO. SHE IS A GOOD SIZED SHIP HAVING 4 SMOKESTACKS.

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## EXCERPTS FROM THE 1919 DIARY CONT'D

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| <p>SEPT.22 MUST KEEP MY OWN QUARTERS CLEAN AND SHIP-SHAPE THIS TRIP. THE MESS BOY IS THE DUMBEST THING THAT EVER WENT TO SEA. HEARD THE AQUITANIA AND MAURITANIA TONIGHT.</p> <p>SEPT.23 THE CREW PAINTED THE RADIO SHACK AND MY QUARTERS WHITE TODAY. SURE LOOKS GOOD. RECEIVING OCCASIONAL MINE WARNINGS.</p> <p>SEPT.24 HEARD THE USS GEORGE WASHINGTON WITH THE KING AND QUEEN OF THE BELGIANS ABOARD. HE WAS SENDING PRESS DISPATCHES TO THE AP IN NEW YORK TELLING ABOUT THE KING AND QUEEN ATTENDING MOVIES IN THE MARTHA WASHINGTON THEATRE ABOARD. ALSO GREETINGS THE KING SENT TO THE DEPARTING DESTROYERS WHO HAD ESCORTED THEM FOR A SHORT DISTANCE.</p> <p>SEPT.27 PASSED BISHOPS ROCK IN THE SCILLY ISLANDS AT 11 P.M.</p> <p>SEPT.28 WAS YANKED OUT OF MY BUNK AT 5 A.M. TO WORK THE LIZARD WITH THE MORSE LAMP, BUT HE WOULD NOT ANSWER ME. WENT BACK TO BED UNTIL NOON.</p> <p>SEPT.29 LAND IN SIGHT MOST ALL DAY. VERY CLOSE TO ENGLISH COAST. COULD SEE THE FRENCH TOWNS WITH GLASSES. PICKED UP PILOT AT 12:30 P.M. HEARD 2 RADIO TELEPHONES MOST ALL DAY.</p> <p>SEPT.30 ENTERED THE MAAS RIVER 5:30 A.M. AND MOORED FAST TO SEVERAL BUOYS AT WAALHAVEN 8 A.M. WENT ASHORE AT ROTTERDAM AND SAW A MARY PICKFORD MOVIE, "UNDER THE DUST".</p> <p>OCT. 4 LEFT ROTTERDAM 4:30 A.M. HEARD SEVERAL RADIO TELEPHONE STATIONS MOST ALL DAY. DURING THE EVENING SOMEONE WAS RENDERING VIOLIN SOLOS, INCLUDING SELECTIONS SUCH AS "BLOWING BUBBLES", "JOHNNY GET YOUR GUN", "SMILES", "THE YANKS ARE COMING", "HOW DRY I AM", AND "AT THE RAGTIME STRUTTERS BALL". A VERY NICE EVENING'S ENTERTAINMENT.</p> <p>OCT. 5 AT 6:40 P.M. WE PASSED A FLOATING MINE VERY CLOSE IN POSITION LAT. 49.48 N. LONG. 5.25 W. LIZARD HEAD BEARING No. 45 DEGREES TRUE APPROXIMATELY 13 MILES. TRANS-</p> | <p>MITTED THE MSG. TO GLD WHO BROADCASTED IT IMMEDIATELY. A FEW MINUTES LATER FFK DID THE SAME. DURING THE EVENING WE PASSED THE TRANSPORT POCAHONTAS BOUND FOR ROTTERDAM WITH SEVERAL HUNDRED GERMANS ABOARD.</p> <p>OCT. 6 CLEANED RADIO EQUIPMENT AND PUT BATTERIES ON CHARGE. PASSED ANOTHER MINE IN POSITION LAT. 48.30 N. LONG. 11.50 W. AT 1820 GMT.</p> <p>OCT. 9 HEARD THAT THE SS LORDSHIP MANOR WAS IN DISTRESS IN LAT. 43.38 N. LONG. 39.08 W. WITH NO WIRELESS ABOARD. ALSO HEARD THAT THE SCHOONER B.B. HARDWICK WAS ABANDONED IN LAT. 41.21 N. LONG. 47.29 W.</p> <p>OCT.10 HEARD THE SS PASADENA, ONE OF THE SHIPS OPERATED BY THE COASTWISE TRANSPORTATION CO.</p> <p>OCT.11 THE SS WAXACHACHIE IN DISTRESS LAT. 40.58 N. LONG. 44.02 W. BELGIAN SS ANVERSOISE OFFERED TO TOW HER TO THE AZORES BUT WAS REFUSED. THE MS SANTA FLAVIA OFFERED TO REMOVE THE CREW BUT WAS ALSO REFUSED. THE CAPTAIN WANTED A WESTBOUND TOW. THE SANTA FLAVIA PASSED CLOSE BY TO US BOUND TO BALBOA, SPAIN FROM NEW ORLEANS.</p> <p>OCT.12 FOLLOWING COPIED FROM NAA-- "FOLLOWING SOS RECEIVED FROM THE BRITISH SS PORT CHALMERS ON FIRE, LAT. 39.11 N. LONG 60.23 W." ALSO HEARD THAT THE SS WANAYANDA (WXIE) WAS SHORT OF FOOD AND WATER. I HEAVED A SEALED BOTTLE OVERBOARD GIVING INFORMATION ABOUT THE SHIP WITH MY NAME AND ADDRESS, BUT NEVER HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT IT.</p> <p>OCT.13 VERY STRONG WINDS CAUSING SHIP TO ROLL, COULD NOT SLEEP ALL NIGHT. HEARD THE SS CHICAGO BROADCAST A REPORT THAT THE FRENCH SS VENEZIA WAS ABANDONED ON FIRE DURING THE DAY IN POSITION LAT. 43.32 N. LONG. 45.04 W.</p> <p>OCT.15 ABOUT 4 P.M. PASSED THE SS AMMONOOSUC BEING TOWED BY THE SS ISSAQUANA. THE AMMONOOSUC HAD NO STEAM AND DURING THE NIGHT NO LIGHTS. THE USCG ASCUSHNET COMING</p> |
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EXCERPTS FROM THE 1919 DIARY CONT'D

- TO HER AID. BY NIGHT A REGULAR GALE WAS BLOWING AGAIN. THE 2 SHIPS REPORTED THEY HAD HOVE TO.
- Oct. 16 WEATHER ABATED. HEARD THE NRU SAY THAT THE SS AMMONOOSUC WAS ABANDONED IN A SINKING CONDITION.
- Oct. 17 WEATHER FINE AGAIN. WORKED WBF DURING THE NIGHT.
- Oct. 18 TRANSMITTED 3 MSGS. TO NAF. APPROACHING THE DELAWARE CAPES.
- Oct. 19 SUNDAY. TOOK PILOT ABOARD AT NOON. ANCHORED OFF N.Y. SHIP YARDS AT 7:30 P.M. HEARD AMATEUR STATIONS OPERATING AGAIN.
- Oct. 20 REPORTED TO PHILADELPHIA MARCONI OFFICE, GOT PAID OFF AND THEN HEADED FOR HOME.
- Oct. 23 RETURNED TO THE GLEN WHITE, ANCHORED OFF GLOUCESTER.
- Oct. 24 SIGNED ON IN THE MORNING. SHIP GOING TO DUNKERQUE, FRANCE. HAVE A NEW SKIPPER, CAPTAIN J.C.K. REDINGTON THIS TRIP. HIS WIFE GOING ALONG ALSO.
- Oct. 25 HEAVED ANCHOR 8 A.M. AND PASSED OUT OF THE CAPES AT 10:15 P.M. WITH ANOTHER CARGO OF BITUMINOUS COAL.
- Oct. 26 DUE TO A BUNCH OF GREEN FIREMEN WHO HAD NEVER BEEN TO SEA BEFORE WE WERE MAKING VERY POOR TIME. HEARD THE SS LEWISTON SENDING AN SOS WHEN GOING ON WATCH IN THE EVENING. (SHE HAD BEEN ANCHORED OFF OUR PORT BOW IN THE WAALHAVEN, ROTTERDAM LAST TRIP.) THE USCG SENECA GOING TO HER AID.
- Oct. 27 CREW COMPLAINING ABOUT THE GRUB. TOO MANY CARROTS AND TURNIPS. NO SUGAR ON BOARD THE SHIP, USING SYRUP INSTEAD.
- Oct. 29 BLOWING UP QUITE A BIT. HEARD BZL (DEMARARA, BRITISH GUIANA) WORKING VPL MOST ALL EVENING. ALSO HEARD MPD, UA AND NAA.
- Oct. 30 HIGH SEAS STILL PREVAILING. TONS OF WATER POURING OVER THE SHIP ALMOST CONTINUOUSLY. MAKING VERY LITTLE HEADWAY. ENGINES SLOWED DOWN DURING THE NIGHT AND COURSE BEING STEERED TOWARDS GIBRALTAR. VCE WEATHER REPORT CALLS FOR INCREASING NW WINDS WITH COLDER WEATHER AND LOCAL SNOW FLURRIES.
- Oct. 31 HEARD THAT THE CANADIAN SS IVER HEATH LOST A LIFEBOAT OVERBOARD AND SEVERAL OTHERS SMASHED. WE ARE RIDING THE HIGH SEAS FAIRLY WELL, ALTHOUGH STILL SHIPPING IMMENSE QUANTITIES OF WATER.
- Nov. 1 STILL SHIPPING PLENTY OF WATER. NOT BLOWING SO HARD, SLOWLY CLEARING UP.
- Nov. 5 NICE WEATHER ONCE MORE, ALTHOUGH SHIP MAKING POOR TIME, ONLY ABOUT 190 TO 200 MILES PER DAY. WORKED GCK BRIEFLY, DISTANCE ABOUT 925 MILES AT THE TIME.
- Nov. 6 TRYING TO LEARN NAVIGATION. TOOK A SIGHT IN THE AFTERNOON AND AFTER WORKING IT OUT FOUND I WAS ONLY 10 MILES OFF. SEND A MSG. TO GCK. SHIP IS LEAKING AND NEED SOME REPAIRS.
- Nov. 7 TOOK ANOTHER SIGHT AND CAME TO WITHIN 6 MILES OF BEING CORRECT THIS TIME.
- Nov. 9 BLOWING UP AGAIN. THE USS GEORGE WASHINGTON CLOSE BY.
- Nov. 10 HEARD AMERICAN SS NAIWA CALL FOR ASSISTANCE, WANTING TO BE TOWED TO NEAREST PORT. SS WEST HOSOKIE GOING TO HER AID, BUT IS TOLD A TUG IS COMING OUT TO TAKE HER TO PLYMOUTH.
- Nov. 11 IN THE CHANNEL AT LAST, PLENTY OF FOG. THIS BEING ARMISTICE DAY IT WAS TO BE CELEBRATED ABOARD ALL BRITISH SHIPS BY ABSOLUTE SILENCE FROM 11 A.M. TO 11:02 A.M. AND THE ENSIGN DIPPED.
- Nov. 12 TOOK ON A PILOT AT DUNGENESS AT 4 P.M. ANCHORED ABOVE DOVER FOR THE NIGHT.
- Nov. 13 HEAVED ANCHOR 4 A.M. ARRIVED OFF DUNKERQUE 11:30 A.M. ANCHORED TO WAIT FOR PILOT, AND TIDE WHICH RISES AND FALLS NEARLY 30 FEET. 7 OTHER SHIPS WAITING TO GO IN. WEIGHED ANCHOR AT 2:30 P.M. ALL SHIPS MUST PASS THROUGH A LOCK TO GET INTO THE HARBOR. GATES THEN CLOSED TO KEEP THE WATER IN THE HARBOR. SNOW STORM RAGING WHILE SHIP WAS BEING DOCKED.
- Nov. 14 WENT ASHORE AND LOOKED THE PLACE OVER. THE CITY HAD BEEN SHELLED DURING THE WAR FREQUENTLY FROM THE CHANNEL, OVERHEAD AND INLAND SIMULTANEOUSLY. MET 2 MEN FROM THE SS MINNESOTAN.



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## Amateur Number One

By Irving Vermilya

Amateur Number One is a snappy, up-to-the-minute, humorous story of the original father of the American amateurs. Generations have come since, but still Mr. Vermilya is an amateur at heart. The story of his



early trials and tribulations when there were no brother amateurs starts in this issue. It will be continued in the next and you will enjoy reading this history with a laugh to every spark.—  
Editor.

**N**OW Boys, I don't want to make too much noise, and I want you to holler if I go too far—I am going to start off with a claim that's going to be a big one, but I'm pretty sure I can back every very word of it.

Here it is: I was the first amateur in this country to get an aerial up and investigate into the mysteries of wireless. No doubt, were I at a meeting, there would be an awful wail about now to "sit down". But fellows, listen, I am only sorry I have no record of the date when I first got the Wireless Bug, but I am going to look it up. I believe I know at least one gentleman who can throw some light on it, if I can only find his present whereabouts.

Along about the time when Marconi was first doing a little experimenting—long before there was any United Wireless Company, or any DeForest Company, or in fact, any amateurs, or manufacturers of wireless goods—I became interested in reading about what Marconi was doing with a kite and string some where along this Coast. Of course I became interested, but could not imagine how he was doing it. I can remember seeing the big head lines about Marconi, and I said right then and there, "Me for this wireless. That's the stuff".

Now it so happened that I was quite a good boy, so I asked the minister of our church to help me get acquainted with

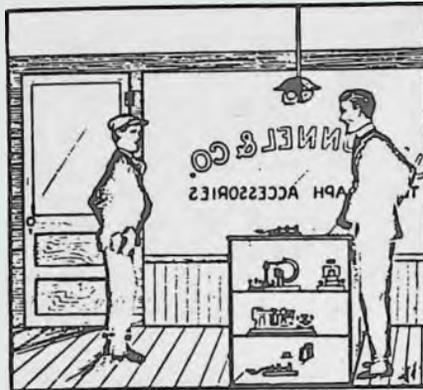
Marconi. Of course, he smiled at me and tried to calm my wild desires much as a kind mother would do for her little boy who cried for the moon. But I was not to be downed so easily. I had an awful bulldog grip on this wireless stuff, and I would not let go. Probably six months or so elapsed. I could not seem to get any nearer to Marconi, until one day, Dr. Tyndal, the kind-hearted minister, brought me the glad news that he had succeeded in seeing the wonderful wizard Marconi, and that he had given the minister a Marconi cohera and tapper. Well! when I got my hands on these—fellows—you can believe me, the world wasn't large enough to hold me. I wish you could have seen me paw over the old blue prints and dope on the "how and why," which Marconi had also sent. I went to my father and said "Dad, I've got to have some money. I'm going to build a wireless." Well, Dad laughed of course, but he handed me out the first batch rather easily, and I made for New York City.

After a ride on "air" for fourteen miles from Mt. Vernon to New York City I arrived at the Grand Central. I finally landed up at J. H. Bunnell & Co., who had plenty of telegraphs, but—no wireless. I told the clerk I wanted a polarized relay, and some wire for use in "Wireless Telegraphy". The clerk just stood as though he had become suddenly petrified—mouth open—

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eyes wild. Of course it was too early to have asked "What der yer mean, wireless telegraphy", as that expression "What der yer mean" wasn't born then. He finally



"I want a polarized relay and some wire for use in "Wireless Telegraphy."

did get up steam enough to get the relay and some insulated wire. Just imagine. I bought 150 feet of insulated bell wire, which was to be my complete aerial lead, and all. Say fellows, can you imagine going into Bunnell's at this time and have no one know what a transformer was, nor aerial wires, helixes—Just think, never been heard of. It does seem so queer now to look back.

The next day saw me up and out of bed bright and early. It was a great day, and I was eager to get the aerial up.—Bet there'll be an uproar when this is read.—My aerial was only twelve feet long—light wires. I made an arrangement out of furring strips in the shape of a cross. The main pole was twelve feet long, with a cross piece nailed to the top and bottom. Between the top cross piece, which was about four feet across, and the bottom one, I stretched light wires, and with double pointed tacks, and no insulators, nailed them to the cross.

That night I studied late over Marconi's old blue prints, and the dope. By the way, he didn't say anything about insulators or length of aerial, so how should I know? In the course of a few days, I had it all hooked up, and was waiting for it to work, although who I expected was going to hear me, I'll be hanged if I know. A few days

passed, and no signals. Then I saw a piece in the paper that Marconi was going to send some dots—the letter "s" to be exact—across the "pond," at least he intended to try it. I thought, "I'll get in on this, and have a great time." Here I made the biggest mistake of my life. I invited all the neighborhood in to witness my reception of Marconi's signals, as they were to be flashed across the ocean. Everybody came. Oh, yes—all the ladies, mothers, fathers, boys and girls in the town for miles around. We all hung around until the time stated in the newspaper article. Up to this time, I was being talked of as "that smart little Vernilya boy," and such phrases as "I think its wonderful what a bright boy Irving is" and "where did he learn it", but after it got to be 8:30 and 9:15, and no signals, I was beginning to sweat. Several times I wanted to give it a push myself, but I knew if I did, that it would only get stuck, and give me only a long ring on the bell, so I waited—oh, so patiently. I really believed I was going to hear Marconi—even though he was way up in Newfoundland, and probably with a wave length of a few thousand meters while I had a wave of about 10 meters more or less. Mind you,



"I think its wonderful what a bright boy Irving is."

we had no such thing as a tune in those days. You merely hooked one end of the cohera to the aerial and the other to the ground. No tune about it. By this time, I began to hear in low tones—"It's a fake" and "I don't believe there is any such thing as wireless telegraphy"—"Let's go home, ma," etc.

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But lo and behold—it worked. Yes it worked twice. Two good full sized dots or possibly long enough to be called dashes—and then stopped. Suddenly the door



"It's a fake" and "Let's go home ma."

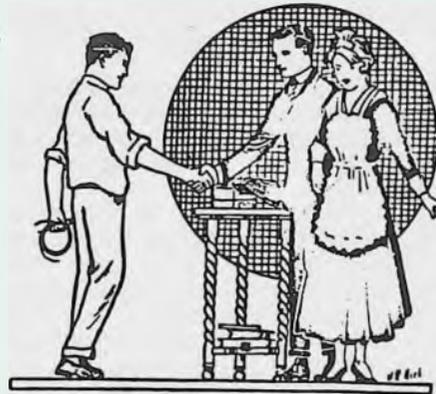
bell rang, and off it went again, right along with the door bell. I went to the door, and there was the minister who had called to see how it was working. I told him of its peculiar actions, and how it had made two dashes just before he came in. But my hopes were dashed when I discovered that he had caused those dashes by ringing the neighbor's door bell mistaking it for ours. You see, the wave length of my aerial was just about right for house wiring, and I had picked up the spark from the vibrator of the bell.

For about a year I plugged away at the Morse code—determined that I was going to be an operator any way. I got another fellow, Fred Skinner, interested in the regular telegraph line, and April 3, 1903, we stretched our first line between our houses. Progress was slow, until one day, the nurse girl who took care of my younger brother, came home with a new fellow—a telegraph operator. Well, I thought "Three cheers, I'm going to get this fellow to stick around." I sang his praises to our nurse, told her what a good scout he was, etc. etc. Finally he brought two new telegraph instruments,—a brand new 150 ohms resistance main line sounders and keys. We immediately threw our small four ohm learners set in the discard.

In the course of time, this line grew con-

siderably, as my many friends can vouch for. Fellows, it was some line. After three or four years, it had grown to be six miles long, and had forty-two different fellows and girls on it. It stretched from one end of the city to the other. It even ran under ground for a distance of two and a half miles. But such a wire! I'm almost ashamed to relate it. It was made out of copper, iron, brass, and aluminum. Some parts of it were insulated, and other parts were not. And not a soldered joint.

We stretched this wire —(I say we, but it should be I, as I was elected wire chief, and for fear of getting pinched, I had full care of it) on trees, telephone poles, over trolley wires, and on back fences. Needless to say, the line was working day and night. Some one of the bunch always used it. It was the custom for every one to say "good morning" and then sign off his or her call letters, when we got out of bed, and "good night" before retiring. Some of the operators kept scandalous hours. In fact, some said "GN" after our early risers had said "GM" for the next day. So you see, some of the night hawks



"The nurse girl we had came home with a new fellow—a telegraph operator."

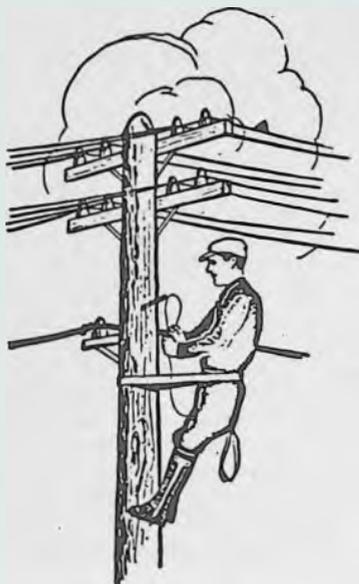
were constantly a day behind themselves. New Year's night was always great on this. We would hear some fellow going to bed at 8:00 a.m. next morning, after we had heard our other early risers say "GM" at 5:00 a.m. I always kept my instrument cut in, and thought nothing of hearing my pal, Milo White, say "GN" three o'clock in the morning. We always knew when any of

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the fellows had been out with any of the girls on our line, as we would hear them chewing the visit over after he got home and while she was getting ready to retire.



"I took some fine magnet wire and wrapped it around the feed wire."

Then the final "Well, good night, dear."

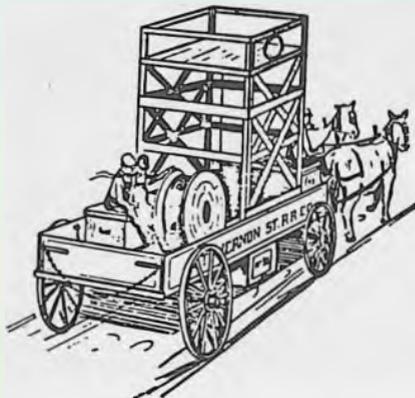
We formed a company of all the members on this line, to help bear the expense, and held regular monthly meetings at each other's homes.

Up to the time when we had about thirty-six stations on the line, we had gotten along fine as far as juice was concerned. I had all the batteries in my cellar—eighty-three gravity cells. But, the question of juice was fast becoming a serious problem, as we needed more power to overcome the great resistance of our poor line, and instruments. We had a meeting one night, and after long deliberation, decided we would have to get a dynamo, or something.

After the meeting disbanded, I called three or four of the fellows into conference—Conspiracy is what one girl called it—and told them that I intended to borrow some juice from a certain wire down on the corner. At first, they thought I was talking nonsense, but I finally impressed them that I was in earnest.

Bright and early one morning, I got up and ran the wire down to the corner. I ran in a twisted telephone line, and put it up on real insulators, so that it looked exactly like a real telephone line. Of course when I came to our point where the tap was to be made, I continued the wire on up the street, so that it would not look as though it had stopped, and would throw any pursuer off the track. The line was run on telephone poles about ten feet above the wire we were going to tap, which also ran along the same line of poles. Being a good pole climber, I put on my belt and spikes, and started up the pole on which I had previously strung our line. When I got to the "feed wire", I took out some fine magnet wire, and wrapped it around the feed wire, then I carefully cut a slit in the wooden pole ten feet up to where our line was, and made fast to our line. I laid the magnet wire in the slit I had cut, and covered it all over with putty. It would have taken a greater detective than Sherlock Holmes to ever dig that tap up, or discover it. The fact is proven by the knowledge that we had the juice coming from this source for two years.

While I was up the pole however, I had two great scares. First one was a cop, who came down the street and saw me up the pole. I thought surely he was after me, but he evidently believed I was a line-man, as he passed right on under me. The next and greatest scare, was when the trolley repair wagon came along, and I thought surely the jig was up. I had visions that I had blown out all the fuses on the trolley line, and they were after me. But they



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too, passed me by without even looking up.

When I got home, sure enough, there was 560 direct current volts waiting to be used. I then hooked up ten sixteen candle power lamps in series, and put them from the tapped juice to the ground. This just made them glow, so there would of course be no amperage pulled off the tapped wire. At the fourth lamp up from the ground, I made fast our telegraph line, and then Hurrah, we had plenty of juice day and night. After this, we had no further trouble no matter how many instruments we put on, and no matter what kind of wire we put up. It always went through.

One day, we had a particularly hard run of wire to put up, and had to pass by a certain piece of property where the owner was noted for being a crank. I went to him, and said "Mr. Taylor, may I run a telegraph wire through your trees?" "You cannot. No sir" was my answer. I thanked

and tacked it all along his back fence. When we came to the end of his fence, we ran it under ground in a pipe, and then up the outside of the first tree, the other side of his yard. That wire is still there I'll bet, if his fence is.

The fun began, when we had our next meeting after acquiring the "loan" of the "Tralla Lue" juice, as we called it. Only five or six besides myself were in on it. The rest still believed our batteries were giving the power. The city electrician, who by the way, was my cousin, was by this time a full fledged member of the line. His official job in real life was to have control of every wire in the city. He still holds the job. Now, of course, it would not do to let him in on it, and you can imagine what an uneasy feeling I had when he came to the door to attend the meeting. We got away with it all right, but had several narrow escapes. One fellow said "Say VN, you must have an awful bunch of batteries down in your cellar, that line is working great these days". Another fellow (the nurse's husband now) said, "Where did you get that dynamo VN?" Ye Gods, I was ready to explode. One fellow, Al Jenks, who was in on the thing grabbed up a 45 calibre pistol, that I always had hanging around loaded with blanks for amateurs, and yelled "order". After plenty of storm and stress, and a tax for more blue vitrol for our batteries, the meeting broke up. I certainly was happy.

My ease of mind was never perfect though, and I finally went to the Mayor of the town and asked him if he couldn't fix it up for me to get a little juice from the trolley. Much to my surprise, he did. He wrote a very strong letter to the Receiver of the line (it was in the Receiver's hands) and he in turn granted the permission. I was then quite happy, and that old line lasted until I finally moved away from the city. We made some great operators out of that old line just the same, and fellows, if you are ever near the Hotel Manhattan in New York City, call on Mr. Fred Coleman, who is now manager of the Western Union office there. You will never meet a pleasanter man. He is a small man in size, but he certainly had a great big heart.

(To be Continued in our next issue.)



"Mr. Taylor, may I run a telegraph wire through your trees?"

him, for I knew I was going to run it through his joint somehow or other, even if I had to hang it on the clouds. We couldn't have any one ordinary man stand in the way of this line now. I thought it all over, and finally got out one dark night,

W8EL

## Noted Surgeon Dies Here At 64



Dr. Louis G. Herrmann  
... surgeon dead at 64

Dr. Louis G. Herrmann, 6334 Grand Vista Ave., world renowned surgeon who specialized in arterial diseases, died Wednesday in Holmes Hospital after a long illness. He was 64.

He was assistant director of the Department of Surgery at the University of Cincinnati and director of vascular (arterial) disease services at Holmes, Children's and General Hospitals.

The French Academy of Surgery honored Dr. Herrmann by proclaiming him an honorary fellow in 1953. He was one of six American surgeons to be so honored.

Dr. Herrmann toured France and acted as visiting professor of surgery at Strasbourg and Lyon in 1947.

He authored a text book on arterial diseases published in 1936 and 126 of his articles were printed in medical and surgical journals.

A graduate of Washington University, St. Louis, Dr. Herrmann came to Cincinnati in 1932. He was a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a charter member of the Society for Vascular Surgery.

A long-time home movie buff, he showed his own movies of Europe to local clubs and societies. Dr. Herrmann also was a ham radio operator; the holder one of the oldest government-authorized call signals, W8EL, granted him in 1916.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Marlan Bellows Herrmann; two doctor sons, Dr. John B. Herrmann, assistant surgeon at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, and Dr. Kenneth L.

Herrmann, with the U. S. Public Health Service, Atlanta; another son, Robert L. Herrmann, New Brighton, Minn., and a daughter, Miss Nanette Herrmann, a UC student; one brother, Dr. George R. Herrmann, professor of medicine at the University of Texas, and one sister, Mrs. Earl M. Dinger, Waterbury, Conn.

Memorial services will be held at 7:30 p. m. Friday at Knox Presbyterian Church, Observatory Rd. and Mich-

igan Ave., Hyde Park. W. Mack Johnson Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements, but there will be no visitation.

### Harold Sever W4OT

Funeral services for Harold C. Sever, 67, of Fort Pierce, Fla., formerly of Peoria, were held today in Fort Pierce.

He was born in Ashland, Ill., July 16, 1897, and moved to Florida in September of 1962 from Peoria after retiring from the Caterpillar Tractor Co. July 31, 1962, where he had been employed as an electrician.

Surviving are his wife, Edith Hicks Sever; one daughter, Mrs. Vernon (Lora) Esch, and five grandchildren, all of Florida; two sisters, Mrs. Hazel White, Pleasant Plains, Ill.; and Mrs. John Sutherd of Ashland.

He was a member of the Old Old Timers Club of Ham Radio, having started in ham radio prior to 1910. He was active in the Southern Coffee Club and the Breakfast Club of Peoria until his illness; was a veteran of the Navy, World War I; member of Temple Lodge 46, AF & AM, and Arcadia Avenue Presbyterian Church, Peoria.

TO LATE TO CLASSIFY: SILENT KEY -

Mr. P.W.Dann - W6ZX 3915 E. Thomas Avenue - Fresno, California  
Passed away May 21, 1965 after an illness of about three months.  
He really enjoyed being a member of the O.O.T.C. and read every  
copy of SGT's. He went to the hospital in February this year.  
We all extend our sympathy to Mrs. Percy W. Dann.

Fellow Members of Wireless Radio - O. O. T. C.

Having an extra page in this issue, your publisher feels he must take advantage of this space, and time to add a few words of appreciation and thoughts of his own.

A big thanks to all of you members who have given me a pat on the back, and a few kind words, for all of our efforts. Our president seems to be mailing in the entries to the Blue Book faster than I can set the type and make the halftones for the set-up. But it does seem rather odd that so many pictures or photographs gets lost between the sender and publisher,(or did you forget to put one in the envelop?) Don't feel bashful most all of us have wrinkles and gray hair by now, plus a few man made articles, to help us get along better in later years.

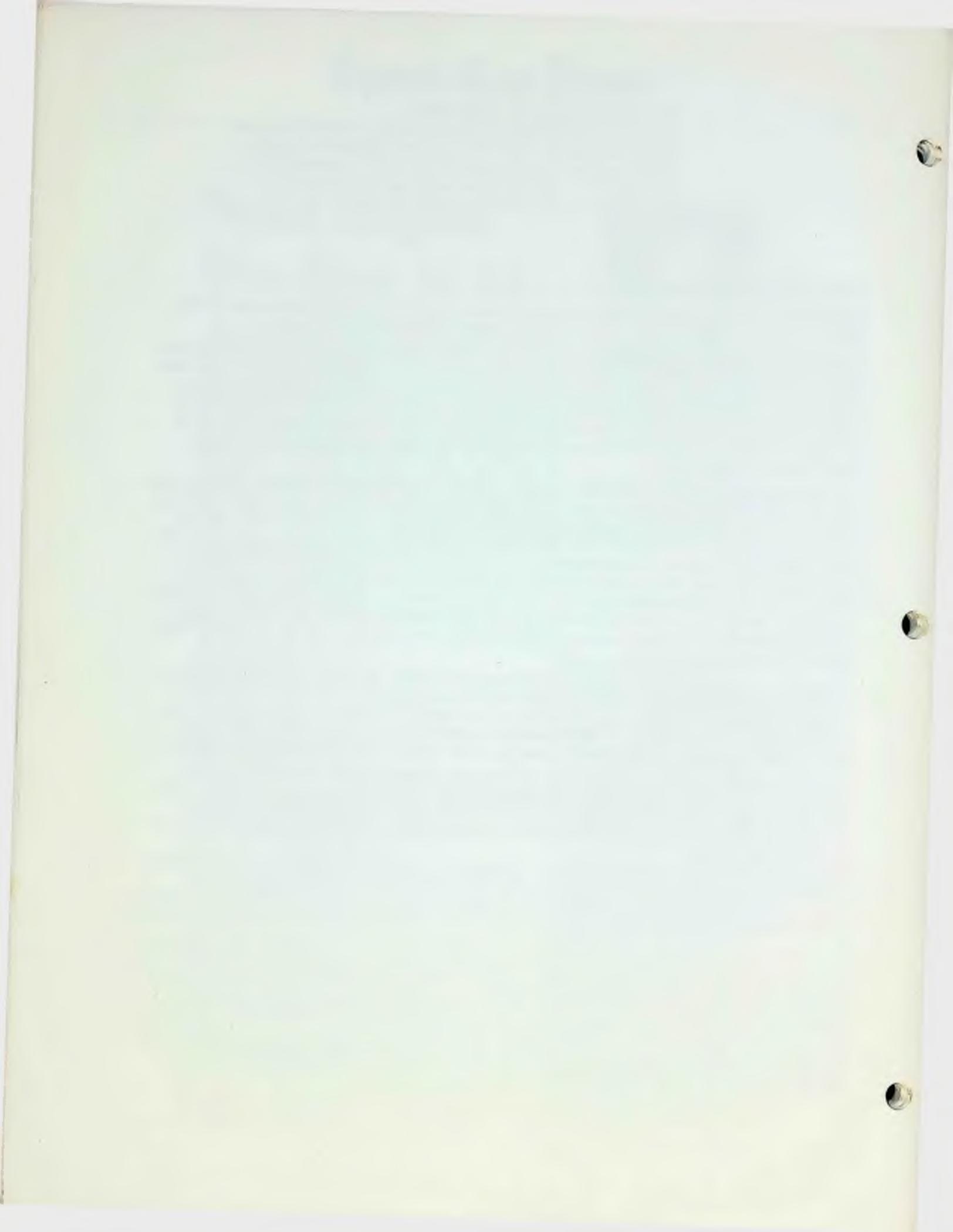
I do want to ask indulgence for this summer - if I do not answer your letters within a reasonable time, it will be because, we are at our summer home, taking a rest cure. In Nova Scotia, on the banks of the Northumberland Strait, operating under W8HR/VE1, that is Portable-Fixed. 14210 & 14255 also 3805 & 3790 some CW on 40, 7050 kc. of course I'll jump around if I hear any of the members. Also I want to extend a welcome to any of our members that may happen in our locale, to stop for a cup of tea and a eyeball QSO. We are (XYL & I) three miles west of River John on route 6 - the sunset trail - our name and call is on a sign in front of the cottage. A 20 m vertical on the roof, and a Mosley El Toro 20-40-80 at the back, you can't miss it Also our property runs to the waters edge with a beautiful sandy beach.

Just read a wonderful article in this month's issue of QST by a W3 - -,I had never given a thought about mentioning 15928 but this article and a quote by George Bernard Shaw - "I dread success. To have succeeded is to have finished one's business on earth, like a male spider, who is killed by the female the moment he has succeeded in his courtship. I like the state of continued becoming, with a goal in front of me and not behind"

I like the task they throw in front of us, but not the change of call if we flunk, but of-course we have been through this same thing before. I am well past the three score and ten and my only hope is that I may be able to offer at least one more thing of value to the amateur fraternity, and one more service to the public, before the sun finally sets on my side of the fence.

Maybe it would help some if we studied - Ecology - ( it is the study of nature's plants and animals living together. shows how they depend on one another without knowing it - where animals live in a place suited to it, it shares it's world, gives and takes and depends on its neighbors, and we of this higher animal life, could sometimes take a lesson from this.

To those of you fortunate enough to receive a letter from our new Secretary and Treasurer regardless of how short a note or long a letter, have you ever read such a fine heart warming writing? Of such calibre - our club is composed. That is one of the main reasons I have stayed in the ranks of amateur wireless, Every where the XYL and I go we receive the warmest of welcome from the ranks of the amateur, no where else in this world could you compare the general public with the attitude of the wireless amateur. its a wonderful feeling when you are away from home. so with that and until the FCC changes my call 73. and the best of luck and health to everyone. Rob-Roy W8HR



# Spark-Gap Times

SPARK-GAP TIMES IS PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY BY THE OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB. THE SUBSCRIPTION PRICE TO MEMBERS IS \$2.50 PER YEAR. A LIMITED NUMBER IS AVAILABLE TO NON-MEMBERS AT \$.50 PER COPY - \$3.00 PER YEAR.

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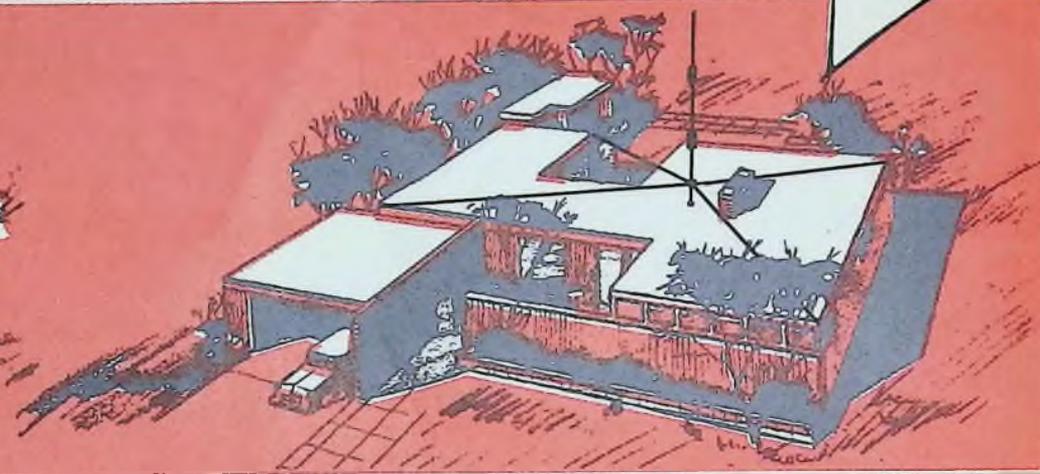
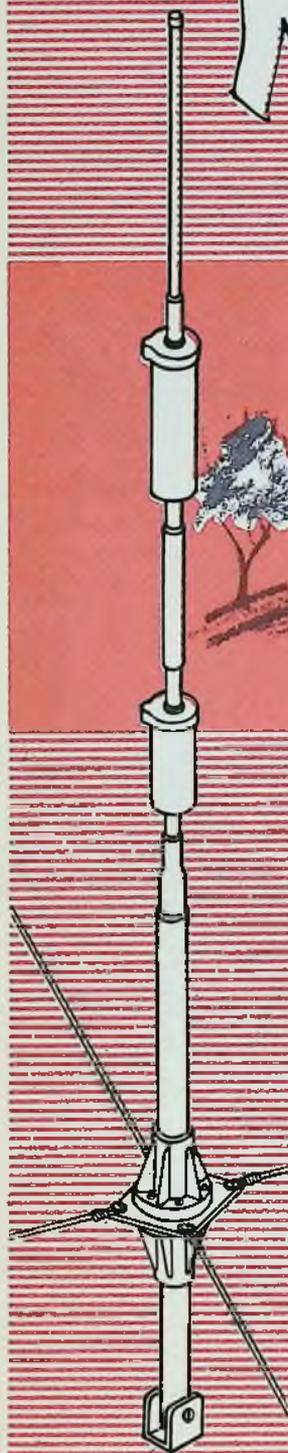
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# NEW mosley roof mounting antenna



Mosley engineers have developed a self-supporting roof mounting vertical antenna. This antenna (RV-4) can be mounted on the ground or on any roof. The RV-4 operates as a quarter wave vertical antenna on 10, 15, 20 and 40 meters. The RV-4 features the Mosley slim line "Trap-Master" traps that have earned user acclaim through daily use in tens of thousands of installations throughout the world. These weather proof traps are of high-quality design, wound on grooved, high impact polystyrene forms to maintain resonant points under wide variations of temperature and humidity. The RV-4 vertical antenna is heavy duty built in every detail to meet exacting commercial standards. Element end is weather sealed with a molded cap. The exclusive Mosley base insulator assembly is constructed of "Cycloac" and heavy gauge steel for rugged durability. Mosley RV-4 is an optimum performing, automatic band switching antenna, that is completely factory pre-tuned to maintain low SWR over entire range.

The RV-4RK Kit for roof mounting includes radial wire, mast and hinged mounting. No radials required for ground mounting if a good ground connection can be provided within a few inches of the antenna base. Antenna rated at 750 watts on AM phone, 1000 watts CW and 2000 watts P. E. P. on SSB, input to final amplifier. Uses single 52 ohm coax line. Antenna height 20' 8-5/8" above insulator, with roof mount 25' 2-5/8". Weight of antenna 10 lbs., with roof mount 14½ lbs.

**ANTENNA MODEL RV-4..... AMATEUR NET 30.42**  
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**Mosley Electronics, Inc.**

In request of further information write for literature code 17.

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