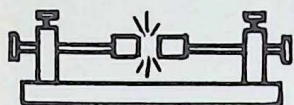
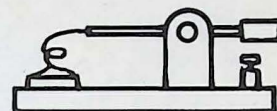


# Spark-Gap Times



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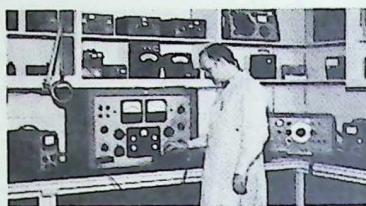
GROUP PICTURE OF OLD OLD TIMERS  
SEE PAGE ONE FOR NAMES



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## PAGE 1

## PAGE

3RD ROW	JACK GRAY WBJDV	BILL BIDDLE K8UZ	RALPH BATCHER			
2ND ROW	DICK KAUFMAN K2DMR	FRANKLIN WINGARD W9EWH	BERT HALL W9CF	ED FREEMAN KØMOA	THORN MAYES W6AX	CHAS. HENRY
FIRST ROW	BILL GOULD K2NP	LINK CUNDALL W2QY	ED RASLR W2ZI	GEORGE BATTERSON W2GB	ANDY SHAFER W8TE	



## EDITORS OPINION

THE BOSTON NATIONAL ARRL CONVENTION IS NOW HISTORY AND FROM ALL ACCOUNTS WAS MOST SUCCESSFUL ACCORDING TO BILL MCKEE, WIKC; "CHUCK" MCAULEY (DIRECTOR OOTC) WIKJ AND WALT ROGERS, WIDFS. OUR WORTHY VICE PRESIDENT AND AWARDS CHAIRMAN, JACK DUNN, W6WPF WAS THERE; EUNICE RANDALL, WIMPP, OUR SECRETARY AND TREASURER AND HER HUSBAND KEN, WIPS, AND MANY OTHERS WERE THERE. GEORGE STERLING, WIAE AND DON BENNETT, WIBPH WERE MENTIONED AS WORKING IN OUR BOOTH AS DID MANY OTHERS.

WELL YOCB II HAS JOINED THE JET SET AND WAS IN KANSAS CITY, MO., CHICAGO, OR MINNEAPOLIS WHILE THE CONVENTION WAS TAKING PLACE. HE HAS RETIRED FROM THE ELECTRIC POWER BOARD OF CHATTANOOGA AND STARTED A NEW CAREER AS EASTERN REGIONAL SALES MGR. FOR WESIX ELECTRIC HEATER CO., SAN FRANCISCO. WE'VE BEEN FLYING AROUND THE COUNTRY LIKE A CHICKEN WITH ITS HEAD OFF SETTING UP A SALES ORGANIZATION. WE HAVEN'T HAD TIME TO GET OUR SHIRTS WASHED, LET ALONE DEVOTE ANY TIME TO OOTC MATTERS. WE ARE TRYING TO GET THE JUNE ISSUE OF SGT OUT UNDER DIFFICULTIES. WE'LL SEE HOW IT GOES FOR THIS TIME BUT IT LOOKS AS THOUGH WE'LL HAVE TO BOW OUT. WE JUST CAN'T BE A GOOD PRESIDENT OF OOTC AND A SALES MGR. FOR WESIX AT THE SAME TIME, I DON'T THINK.

WILLIAM THOMAS, W3RV (TOM) HAS A SPLENDID IDEA FOR THE FIFTY YEAR PIN COMMITTEE. HE SUGGESTS AN OFFSET BRACKET OR PIECE WITH A HOLE IN IT WHICH WOULD SLIP OVER THE POST ON THE PRESENT PIN AND HAVE "50 YEARS" APPEAR ABOVE THE PIN AND THE CALL LETTERS APPEAR BELOW THE PIN. THIS IS THE SLICKEST IDEA OFFERED YET AND LOOKS VERY PRACTICAL TO ME. IT WOULD SERVE THE PURPOSE AND BE INEXPENSIVE.

TO GIVE YOU AN IDEA ABOUT THE CONVENTION WE ARE PRINTING TWO LETTERS WHICH WILL TELL YOU THE STORY. THEY FOLLOW:

LYNN, MASS.

YOCB-II:

NOW THAT WE ARE BACK TO NORMAL FROM CONVENTIONITIS TO SAY THE LEAST, HERE IS A SUMMARY OF EVENTS AS I SAW THEM.

FIRST OF ALL IT WAS A GRAND SUCCESS. THE PLACE WAS LOADED WITH HAMS BOTH DAYS. THERE WERE PLENTY OF EXHIBITS AND EVERYTHING THAT GOES WITH CONVENTIONS, OUR

BOOTH - OOTC - LOOKED VERY NICE AND THE BANNER SHOWED UP BEAUTIFULLY. BILL MCKEE AND WALT ROGERS WIDFS DID A GREAT JOB ON SETTING UP THE PLACE, THERE MAY HAVE BEEN OTHERS INVOLVED THAT I DO NOT KNOW ABOUT, THANKS TO THEM ALSO.

WE HAD A LARGE NUMBER OF HAMS VISIT AS YOU WILL SEE BY THE LOG AND I HOPE SOME FUTURE MEMBERS AMONG THEM. WALT ROGERS, WIDES, PICKED UP ONE WHO SIGNED UP AND GAVE HIS CHECK.

OTHERS WITH QUALIFICATIONS WERE NOTED ON LOG WITH A CHECK MARK AND WILL RECEIVE AN APPLICATION. SPARK GAP TIMES WERE PASSED OUT TO THOSE SHOWING INTEREST AND MANY DID.

OUR BOOTH WAS IN A SPOT YOU COULDN'T MISS QCWA WAS NEXT TO US, WHICH WAS NICE MOST OF OUR MEMBERS ARE ALSO QCWA MEMBERS INCLUDING MYSELF.

SATURDAY, BILL MCKEE CALLED A MEETING IN A ROOM ON THE 3RD FLOOR FOR THOSE OF US PRESENT AT THAT TIME, THERE WERE ABOUT 12 OF US MEMBERS SHOWED UP. VARIOUS SUGGESTIONS WERE MADE FOR SPARKING THE CLUB MEMBERSHIP, ADVERTISEMENTS, FINANCES, ETC. BILL WILL GIVE YOU A RUN DOWN ON THIS MEETING.

AMONG THOSE WHO STAYED AT THE BOOTH WITH US AND MUCH HELP WERE, GEO. STEARLING WIAE, WALTER ROGERS WIDFS, DON BENNETT, WIBPH WHO ALSO TOOK PICTURES OF THE BOOTH FOR US. JACK DUNN W6WPF WAS WITH US FROM START TO FINISH AND DID A GREAT JOB IN TALKING WITH AND ANSWERING QUESTIONS OF PROSPECTS. AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST WAS KEN AND EUNICE THOMPSON, THEY REALLY SPARKED THE PLACE. OF COURSE EVERYBODY WAS GLAD THEY COULD MAKE IT. WE HEARD THEY COULDN'T COME ON ACCOUNT OF KENS LEGS THAT BOTHERED HIM SO MUCH (EUNICE DOESN'T DRIVE) BUT HE MUST HAVE TAKEN SOME EXTRA STRENGTH PEP PILLS AND WAS ABLE TO MAKE IT OK. AND AS YOU KNOW EUNICE BEING THE DYNAMIC PERSON SHE IS WAS ALL WE NEEDED TO SET THE PLACE ON FIRE SUNDAY. SHE WAS THE DARLING OF THE SHOW I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE OOTC WOULD DO WITHOUT HER.

BERT, I THINK I HAVE COVERED EVERYTHING, I HOPE. MY NOTES WERE LOST WHEN SOMEONE PICKED UP MY ISSUE OF SPARK GAP TIMES. I WANT TO SAY ONCE MORE THAT BILL MCKEE DID A FINE JOB IN GETTING SET UP AND RUNNING WELL, MANY THANKS TO YOU BILL FROM ALL OF US WHO WORKED WITH YOU.

73

CHUCK MCAULEY, WIKJ

WILL GIVE THE SUGGESTIONS MADE AT THE OOTC MEETING FROM BILL MCKEE, WIKC, IN THE NEXT ISSUE, AS WILL HAVE TO SIGN OFF FOR NOW.

BERT, WAMF, YOCB II



## LETTERS

P.O. Box 840  
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS  
17, MARCH 1966

DEAR BERT:

I HAVE WRITTEN A STORY I CALL "MEET MY FRIEND JOE." JOE FAITHFUL, THE NAME SOUNDS ENGLISH, BUT IT IS ACTUALLY ANGLO-INDIAN, HE IS SIXTY-EIGHT YEARS OLD, NOW RETIRED IN BANGALORE. HIS WHOLE LIFE HAS BEEN SPENT AS A COMMERCIAL OPERATOR FOR THE BRITISH, FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS HE WAS CHIEF OF THEIR COMMERCIAL OPERATION ON BAHREIN ISLAND.

I THINK IT IS AN INTERESTING STORY BASED ON HOW A REAL OLD TIMER SPENDS HIS TIME TODAY, USING HIS VAST EXPERIENCE SHOWING THE YOUNG INDIANS HOW TO SUCCESSFULLY WORK WE AMERICANS WITH THEIR LITTLE PEANUT WHISTLES, IN TODAYS HEAVY COMPETITIVE AMATEUR GAME.

DO YOU THINK THIS FITS "SPARK GAP TIMES"?

I HAVE WORKED JOE, MORE THAN THREE HUNDRED TIMES IN THREE YEARS, AND HAVE SENT HIM AN APPLICATION TO BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR OLD WHITE HAired GROUP.

SINCERELY,  
FRANK

TFS, W5VA AND W5AI  
88's L. MARY

\*\*\*\*\*

4411 No. FEDERAL HWY  
POMPANO BEACH, FLA. 33064  
21, FEBRUARY 1966

DEAR YOCB II:

IT IS NOT OFTEN, THAT I AM IN A WRITING MOOD, HOWEVER, YOU ASKED FOR IT AND I THOUGHT THIS MAY POSSIBLY BE OF INTEREST TO SOME OF THE OOT, IF NOT ALL. BACK IN THE YEAR 1912 A VERY YOUNG LAD AND TWO OF HIS WIRELESS INCLINED FRIENDS TINKERED WITH A ONE INCH COIL TRANSMITTER AND RECEIVER, EVENTUALLY THIS RECEIVER BROUGHT IN SIGNALS FROM NAD, WNF, WCC ETC. AND ONE VERY STRONG AMATEUR STATION. AT APPROXIMATELY THIS TIME AN ITEM COVERED THE FRONT PAGES OF THE BOSTON AND LOCAL LYNN MASS. PAPERS CONCERNING THE HERO OPERATOR OF THE BURNING OF THE CLYDE LINER.

MY FRIENDS AND I GATHERED ENOUGH COURAGE TO VISIT THIS AMATEUR STATION WHICH WAS OPERATED BY THE SHIP OPERATOR REFERRED TO ABOVE, WHICH WAS LOCATED IN LYNN MASS., MY HOME TOWN. THIS

VISIT SO IMPRESSED US THAT WE IMMEDIATELY ENROLLED AT THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TELEGRAPHY IN BOSTON, SHORTLY EMERGING FROM "MIT" WITH A VALUED COMMERCIAL RADIO OPERATORS LICENSE AND EVENTUAL PLACEMENT ABOARD A VESSEL THE SS FRIEDA AS RADIO OPERATOR. YOU PROBABLY HAVE GUESSED THAT THE AMATEUR AND SHIP OPERATOR REFERRED TO IS NONE OTHER THAN HUBERT INGALLS, THE FOUNDER OF THE OOTC, No. 1 MEMBER AND INFLUENCE THEN AS HE IS TODAY.

PAUL J. GALLANT W2AMG W4EOJ

P.S. I HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN THE WIRELESS RADIO TELEVISION FIELD FROM 1913 TO THE DAY OF MY RETIREMENT, MAY 30, 1960. SERVICE WITH THE UNITED FRUIT CO. TROPICAL RADIO, USN AND NATIONAL BROADCAST COMPANY.

\*\*\*\*\*

RADIO STATION W 2 D H  
MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY

DEAR OLD TIMER:

MIGHT IT NOT SOME EVENING ON THE "ROUND TABLE" BE INTERESTING TO HAVE THE OPINIONS OF THE OOTC CROWD ON THE WHAT THEY REMEMBER ABOUT OZONE, NAMELY; DID IT EFFECT THEM IN ANY WAY, A PEP-UP BUSINESS OR OTHERWISE OR DIDN'T IT MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE AT ALL. I'M INTERESTED AT THE MOMENT.

MY RIG CAN'T GET THROUGH WHEN THE OOTC MEETS.

BEST REGARDS TO THE GANG.

SINCERELY,  
"H H"

H. H. LIPPINCOTT

\*\*\*\*\*

731 HOLLYWOOD DRIVE  
NORTHFIELD, N.J. 08225  
5, MARCH 1966

DEAR YOCB II:

NOTICED THAT MY LETTER TO YOU WAS PUBLISHED IN THE FEB. ISSUE OF SGT BUT THE PICTURE THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO GO WITH IT WAS MISSING IN THE ISSUE.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT FROM THE POWER CO. I DO HOPE THAT THE REPLACEMENT JOB THAT YOU ARE GOING TO IS ALL THAT YOU  
CONT'D NEXT PAGE.....



## LETTERS CONTINUED:

WISH IT TO BE.

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK. 73.

GROVER W. WIZEMANN-360-W2ES

ED. NOTE: MUST NOT HAVE BEEN WEARING MY BI-FOCALS WHEN I MADE-UP THE FEB. ISSUE. PICTURE IS IN APRIL ISSUE.

\*\*\*\*\*

4411 No. FEDERAL HWY.  
POMPANO BEACH, FLA. 33064  
21 FEBRUARY 1966

DEAR YOCB II:

A REFERENCE IN YOUR EDITORIAL IN THE DECEMBER 1965 ISSUE CAUGHT MY EYE AND MY MEMORY SERVED ME CORRECTLY, FOR WHEN I CHECKED MY FIRST COMMERCIAL RADIO OPERATORS LICENSE, DATED MAY 24, 1913, THE FIRST ITEM IN THE SERVICE RECORD IS THE ENTRY "SS FRIEDA" JUNE 10TH, TO AUGUST 30TH, 1913, MASTER BLAUSTEIN.

I POSSIBLY WAS THE FIRST OPERATOR ASSIGNED TO THIS NEW VESSEL AFTER THE INSTALLATION OF THE EQUIPMENT BY 'ARMY,' W5RIH.

PAUL J. GALLANT  
W2AMG - W4EOJ

\*\*\*\*\*

CLIFTON T. NICHOLS W6FZC  
77-014 CALIFORNIA DRIVE  
PALM DESERT, CALIF. 92260  
6, FEBRUARY 1966

DEAR EUNICE:

HAVE BEEN INTENDING TO DROP YOU A LINE FOR QUITE SOME TIME BUT DIDN'T SEEM TO GET AROUND TO PUTTING PAPER IN THE MILL. NOW HAVE TO SEND YOU A CHECK FOR THE SPARK GAP TIMES SO THE LETTER IS A BY-PRODUCT.

LOOK FORWARD TO EACH ISSUE OF SGT AND FIND MUCH IN THERE THAT BRINGS BACK MEMORIES OF A PAST ERA. RECENTLY RAN ACROSS K6AWM AND THO HE IS A FAIRLY NEWCOMER AS FAR AS WIRELESS IS CONCERNED, HE WAS A MARINE MACHINIST BACK IN THE 1915 DAYS AND WAS FAMILIAR WITH ALL OF THE SHIPS THAT RAN OUT OF SAN FRANCISCO AND WORKED ON MOST OF THEM. VERY INTERESTING CHAP TO TALK TO AND BY THE WAY, HIS NAME IS RICHARD JOHNSTONE. QUITE A COINCIDENCE, HE SAYS THAT HE USED TO GET MAIL ADDRESSED TO OUR DICK JOHNSTONE. I WAS

INSTRUMENTAL IN GETTING BOTH DICKS TOGETHER FOR AN EYEBALL CONVERSATION.

SPEAKING OF DICK, DECIDED TO SEND YOU A PORTION OF MY PERSONAL LOG WHICH YOU MIGHT FIND INTERESTING AND IF IT IS FIT MATERIAL FOR THE SGT YOU MAY USE IT. I KNOW THAT YOU HAVE HEARD THE KPH TAPE PREPARED BY THORN MAYES, W6AX, AND DICK JOHNSTONE IN THAT TAPE THE MAIN PART WAS THE SENDING OF PRESS BY DICK AND OF COURSE PART OF THE PRESS WAS ABOUT THE PREPARADNESS DAY BOMBING. WELL, IN LOOKING OVER SOME OLD LOGS I RAN ACROSS THE NOTATION THAT I HAD COPIED THIS PARTICULAR PRESS NEWS AND MENTIONED THAT IT WAS PUBLISHED IN OUR OCEAN WIRELESS NEWS. DON'T KNOW HOW I HAVE MANAGED TO KEEP THIS MATERIAL THESE MANY YEARS BUT FIND THAT I HAVE A DIARY FROM JULY 1913 THROUGH OCT. 1916. MOST OF THE MATERIAL IS STRICTLY PERSONAL AND NOT OF GENERAL INTEREST BUT IT DOES INCLUDE INFORMATION ABOUT THE VARIOUS SHIPS THAT I WAS ON DURING THAT PERIOD, MY IMPRESSIONS OF THE PLACES VISITED AND THE OPERATORS OF THAT PERIOD. QUITE INTERESTING TO READ IT OVER AND REALIZE THAT THE WRITING WAS QUITE CHILDISH AT TIMES, BUT THEN I WAS MORE THAN 50 YEARS YOUNGER.

UNDERSTAND THAT DICK JOHNSTONE IS DOING A LOT OF STUDYING ON THEORY AND PLANS TO TAKE THE EXAMINATION SOON SO WE MAY HAVE A NEW ADDITION TO THE AMATEUR RANKS. WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH TO HAVE HIM "ON THE AIR" SO WE COULD DO SOME TALKING. BY THE WAY WE HAVE A GROUP FROM THE SOCIETY OF AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS WHO CONGREGATE EACH WEEK-DAY MORNING AROUND 7260 KG AND WE CALL IT THE SOCIAL SECURITY NET. DON'T REMEMBER JUST WHO TACKED ON THAT NAME BUT ALL OF THE GANG ARE RETIRED AND WE ARE ADDING A COUPLE MORE EACH YEAR. MOST OF THE SARO MEMBERS HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED IN THE ORGANIZATION FOR OVER TWENTY YEARS AND SOMEONE SAID WE COULD CHANGE THE NAME TO THE SOCIETY OF ANCIENT RADIO OPERATORS.

AM VERY PROUD OF MY OOTC DIPLOMA AND NEVER FAIL TO POINT IT OUT TO ANYONE COMING INTO THE SHACK.

ALSO HEARD FROM DICK RHEEM THAT HE HAD RECEIVED HIS DIPLOMA. AM TRYING TO GET HIM TO DO SOME STUDYING AND GET A LICENSE SO HE WILL BECOME A REGULAR MEMBER.

THAT'S ABOUT ENOUGH FOR THIS TIME EUNICE AND YOU DON'T HAVE TO FEEL THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO ANSWER THIS. WITH ALL OF THE

.... CONT'D NEXT PAGE...



## LETTERS CONTINUED

WORK THAT YOU HAVE TO DO IT IS ENOUGH THAT YOU KEEP UP WITH OFFICIAL BUSINESS BUT I HAVE ENJOYED VERY MUCH THE LETTERS RECEIVED FROM YOU.

BEST OF 73'S

NICK

FROM PERSONAL LOG OF CLIFTON T. NICHOLS  
CHINA MAIL STEAMER CHINA WWA

JULY 17, 1916...LEFT HONOLULU FOR SAN FRANCISCO AT FIVE P.M. ALL OUR HONOLULU FRIENDS DOWN TO WITNESS THE SAILING AND TO WISH US ALOHA AND BON VOYAGE. NO MAIL RECEIVED, GUESS OUR MAIL IS ON THE MATSONIA WHICH ARRIVES TOMORROW. MORGAN, OUR CHIEF STEWARD HAS A TERRIFIC STEW ON AND IS RECITING LOVE BALLADS TO RILEY.

JULY 19, 1916...WEARING HALF WHITES TODAY. SHIP STILL GOING SLOWER. LAFFERTY IS BUSY POLISHING THE BRASS WORK. RECEIVING SET ON THE BLINK AND HAVE TO RELAY ALL OF OUR TRAFFIC.

JULY 20, 1916...FIRE-DRILL THIS AFTERNOON. MY WATCH BELOW SO MISSED TWO HOURS SLEEP. LAFFERTY HAPPY BECAUSE DRILL HAPPENED ON HIS WATCH. HE HATES TO LOOSE SLEEP AS THAT IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS IN HIS LIFE, NEXT TO EATING BREAKFAST. RELAYED OUR TRAFFIC VIA THE CAPTAIN A.F. LUCAS, WTV. IMPOSSIBLE TO WORK KPH DIRECT.

JULY 21, 1916...WEATHER PRETTY COLD TODAY. MISSIONARY PASSENGERS STILL PLAYING DECK GOLF. WILL BE GLAD WHEN WE GET TO SAN FRANCISCO.

JULY 22, 1916...VERY STRONG NORTHEAST GALE BLOWING. ONLY MADE 280 MILES YESTERDAY. ALL HANDS BUSY POLISHING BRASS SO WE WILL HAVE A GOOD LOOKING SHACK WHEN WE GET TO PORT.

JULY 23, 1916...COPIED KPH PRESS FINE THIS MORNING AND RECEIVED THE NEWS OF THE "BOMB DISASTER" IN SAN FRANCISCO AND PUBLISHED IT IN OUR OCEAN WIRELESS NEWS. HEAVY NORTH-EAST GALE BLOWING.

JULY 24, 1916...ARRIVED IN QUARANTINE AT 10:45 AM AND ASHORE AT 1:00 P.M. AND UP TO MARCONI OFFICE. SHAW IS ACTING CHIEF OPERATOR AS MALARIN IS ON VACATION. AM GOING TO GET OFF THE CHINA. WAS TEMPORARILY ASSIGNED TO THE CITY OF TOPEKA, WGY, BUT A COUPLE OF HOURS LATER WAS RE-ASSIGNED TO THE NEWPORT FOR A TRIP ALONG THE MEXICAN AND CENTRAL AMERICAN COAST AND ON TO PANAMA.

\*\*\*\*\*

BALTIMORE MARYLAND  
4, MARCH 1966

YOCB 11:

JUST A LINE IN REGARDS TO THE FB STORY ABOUT POP, B. J. REYNOLDS BY OOTC GEORGE JETTE: (W-I-U-E)

POP REYNOLDS WHEN WE FIRST GOT TO KNOW HIM WAS BACK IN 1913, HIS SISTER WAS MARRIED TO A NEIGHBOR OF OURS IN WESTERN, MASS. AND WE HAD JUST GOT THE BUG FROM WIRELESS. SHE USED TO TELL US ABOUT HER BROTHER, WHO WAS A CHIEF WIRELESS OPERATOR IN THE NAVY. WHEN HE USED TO COME TO OUR TOWN TO VISIT HIS SISTER, HE WOULD GIVE US THE LATEST DOPE ON WIRELESS GEAR THE US NAVY WAS USING, ALSO SOME WONDERFUL INFORMATION ON HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF A HUNK OF COAL AND THE IMPORTANCE OF A GOOD GROUND FOR LIGHTING PROTECTION AND A GOOD GROUND FOR SENDING AND RECEIVING WITH LOW POWER. RIGHT AFTER THE WAR ONE, WE USED TO PUT THE MELVILLE OIL DOCK NEAR NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND (NAF) POP WAS IN CHARGE, WE WOULD HAVE SOME LONG QSO'S WITH HIM AFTER PLACING THE TRAFFIC ON HAND. EVERY OPERATOR IN THE NAVY KNEW HIM AS "POP" AND A GREAT GUY AND A FINE OPERATOR. WE WANT TO THANK GEORGE FOR THE NICE ARTICLE ABOUT POP.

WILL CLOSE WITH BEST WISHES TO EVERYONE AND TO YOU BERT, THANKS FOR THE FINE JOB YOU ARE DOING.

73,  
JIM

JAMES F. BURNS W3KOU

\*\*\*\*\*

DEAR BERT:

THANK YOU FOR THE POST CARD RE, MY ARTICLE IN THE APRIL ISSUE OF SPARK GAP TIMES. HERE IS ANOTHER ONE FOR THE MAY ISSUE, IF IT IS ACCEPTABLE. I HAVE A RAFT OF SUCH MATERIAL WHICH MIGHT BE OF INTEREST TO THE MEMBERS OF OOTC.

73,  
HOWARD

BY HOWARD COOKSON W2GW/W6GW

IN THE EARLY DAYS OF AMATEUR RADIO, 1906 TO 1914, THE ONLY ACTIVE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ON THE PACIFIC COAST WAS THE BAY COUNTIES WIRELESS TELEGRAPH ASSOC. CENTERED AROUND THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA, IT WAS COMPRISED OF ABOUT FIFTY AMATEURS. ENTRANCE TO THE CLUB WAS GIVEN ONLY TO (1) A NICE GUY (2) THE ABILITY TO SEND AND RECEIVE TWENTY WORDS A MINUTE CODE (3) PASS A TECHNICAL EXAMINATION.

.....CONT'D NEXT PAGE.....



## LETTERS CONTINUED

CONT..LETTER FROM HOWARD COOKSON...

(WE KNOW OF ONE FELLOW, LATER AN ADMIRAL, THEN THOROUGHLY DISLIKED, WHO NEVER MANAGED TO MAKE THE GRADE FOR MEMBERSHIP).

THOAS KIDS WERE GOOD, ALL ASPIRED TO BE TOP OPERATORS. WHEN THEY THOUGHT THEY WERE UP TO AROUND THIRTY WORDS A MINUTE, THEY WOULD CALL "BUGS" FANNING AT THE MARE ISLAND NAVY YARD STATION, NPG, AND ASK FOR A CHECK. THAT WAS WITH A HAND KEY. THE VIBROPLEX "BUG" HAD NOT YET BEEN INVENTED.

MOST INTERESTING FOR US TODAY, IS THE POWER AND THE WAVE LENGTH USED THEN. EVERY MEMBER HAD THE RIGHT TO USE THE LETTER S AS THE FIRST LETTER OF HIS CALL. THE OTHER TWO WERE LETTERS HE FANCIED. HERE ARE A LIST OF MEMBERS, PICKED AT RANDOM, TAKEN FROM THE MEMBERSHIP LIST I HAVE.

SUX..ADRIAN ANDERSON, 3 KW, 800 METERS.

SAW..E.S.IRVIN, 5 KW, 425 METERS.

SAG..LEWIS CLEMENT, 3 KW, 550 METERS.

SAZ..CYRIL LOTZ, 2 KW, 1000 METERS.

SKH..HARADAN PRATT, 3 KW, 375 METERS.

SJB..JOE BAKER, 2 KW, 950 METERS.

SHC..YOURS TRULY,  $\frac{1}{2}$  KW, 300 METERS.

SAU..FRANK RIEBER, 6 KW, 500 METERS. (HE HAD A BIG OIL FILLED TRANSFORMER, AN ANTENNA ONE HUNDRED FEET HIGH AND PLENTY LONG.)

AS YOU OLD OLD TIMERS KNOW, IF THERE WERE SPACES AROUND YOUR HOME, YOU FILLED THOSE VACANT SPACES WITH AN ANTENNA, THE BIGGER, THE BETTER. INTERFERENCE WITH NAVY OR COMMERCIAL STATIONS? SO WHAT. WE LIVED IN OUR OWN COMMUNICATIONS WORLD, WITH LITTLE OR NO INTERFERENCE.

I REMEMBER WELL ONE SUMMER NIGHT AROUND ELEVEN O'CLOCK, I WAS SHOOTING THE BREEZE WITH ANOTHER LOCAL BOY, JOE LARKIN, INTO MY EAR PHONES COMES A LOUD SIGNAL FROM KPH, THE BIG MARCONI STATION AT SAN FRANCISCO, THIRTY MILES AWAY. "POP" HYDE, THE WHITE HAired OPERATOR THERE, EXASPERATED TO A BOILING POINT BY MY INTERFERENCE SAID, "SAY, KID, WHY DON'T YOU GO TO BED? I'M TRYING TO GET SOME MESSAGES FROM A SHIP, AND I CAN'T HEAR A DAMMED THING THROUGH YOU. PLEASE!"

THE MEMBERS OF THIS LITTLE CLUB WENT ON TO BE HIGH RANKING ARMY AND NAVY OFFICERS, PHYSICIANS, SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSMEN AND TOP-FLIGHT ENGINEERS. MOST OF THEM ARE NOW THE

"SILENT KEYS". OF THOSE STILL AROUND THAT I KNOW OF ARE; SAG LEW CLEMENT, NOW K3AA AND RETIRED AS VICE-PRESIDENT OF RCA RESEARCH AND VP OF CROSSLEY RADIO: SKH HARADAN PRATT, RETIRED VICE PRESIDENT OF MACKAY RADIO, NOW IN FLORIDA: SEW RAY NEWBY, NOW A YACHT BROKER IN STOCKTON CALIFORNIA: SDF DELOSS MARTIN, NOW IN WASHINGTON, D.C.: SJB JOE BAKER, RETIRED ENGINEER FROM NBC, NOW AT SAN CARLOS, CALIF. AND SHC, YOUR HUMBLE CORRESPONDENT AT WYCKOFF, NEW JERSEY.

\*\*\*\*\*

27209 W. SIX MILE RD.  
DETROIT 40, MICHIGAN 48240  
9 MARCH 1966

DEAR BERT:

YOUR NICE LETTER STILL LAYING ON THE TABLE HERE, SO BETTER ANSWER IT. IT IS DATED JAN'Y 25TH! HAVE BEEN TIED UP HERE, WITH FEB'Y AND MARCH QST SCM REPORTS, PLUS TAKING PICTURES FOR MY WIRELESS GEAR SLIDE COLLECTION TALK I AM WORKING UP. ALSO PUTTING TOGETHER AN OLD CW TRANSMITTER FOR THE OLD TIMERS NITE, AT HENRY FORD MUSEUM, ON MAY 7TH. WE PLAN PUTTING IT ON THE SMITHS CREEK TELEGRAPH STATION IN GREENFIELD VILLAGE AND IT WILL BE ON THE AIR ON 3663 KC AND 7070 KC. 3663 EVEN HOURS AND 7070 ODD HOURS, THAT DAY AND EVENING.

THIS OT NITE HAS BUILT UP TO QUITE AN AFFAIR AND IS NOT CONFINED TO OLD TIMERS BUT IS AIMED AT THEM. THE LUNCHEON ON MAY 7TH, SATURDAY, WILL BE FOR THE QCWA GROUP, AND THE BANQUET IN THE EVENING, AT LOVETT HALL, FOR ALL WHO HAVE PAID RESERVATIONS. THE QCWA LUNCH WILL BE AT CLINTON INN, GREENFIELD VILLAGE, RIGHT NEAR THE SMITHS CREEK STATION. ALL HAM OPERATIONS WILL BE IN CHARGE OF THE MOTOR CITY ARC W8MRM; AND THEY HAVE A PERMANENT SSB STATION SET UP IN THE FORD MUSEUM.

ABOUT THIS TAPING OF OLD TIMERS; I HAVEN'T GIVEN UP ON THE IDEA, BUT I DO FEEL THAT IT'LL TAKE THE COMBINED EFFORTS OF MANY AND UNLESS WE CAN GET THE COOPERATION OF THE VARIOUS QCWA CHAPTERS, IT WILL BE NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO ACCOMPLISH. IT'S TOO BIG A PROJECT FOR A SMALL GROUP TO HANDLE, AND WILL TAKE A STANDARD OUTLINE FOR EACH OT'S TAPE TALK, IN ORDER TO PREVENT HIM FROM BORING RAMBLING. NO ONE INDIVIDUAL CAN TELL ANOTHER WHAT NOT TO SAY BUT A GOOD OUTLINE FROM A COMMITTEE SHOULD BE THE TRICK. IF RALPH BARBER COULD ONLY REGAIN HIS HEALTH, HE WOULD BE A BIG HELP AS YOU REMARKED.

.....CONT'D NEXT PAGE.....



## LETTERS CONTINUED:

(FROM LETTER "TATE" W8FX)

8xA, U of M, IS NOW W8UM..JUST GOT THE CALL ABOUT A MONTH AGO. THEY WERE USING K8TIG! YOU GOT YOUR LICENSE FROM DILLON, WHICH WAS A FEW YEARS BEFORE I GOT 8FX, FROM SAM EDWARDS...WHO HAS SINCE DIED. WHICH REMINDS ME, THE OLD SIDE-WHEELER, "GREYHOUND" HAD A WIRELESS ON IT ABOUT 1912, BUT I HAVEN'T RAN INTO ANYONE WHO CONFIRMS THAT, OR CAN REMEMBER THE CALL. NOT LISTED IN MY 1915 MARCONI YEARBOOK OF WIRELESS TELEGRAPH STATIONS.

SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT WISS, INDEED AM SORRY TO HEAR ANY OLD TIMERS GOING..LEAVES TOO FEW OF US! AM ATTENDING THE SAGINAW CONVENTION MARCH 19TH, AND EXPECT TO ATTEND THE QCWA MEETING THEN. HOPE TO HEAR IF ANYONE IS FOR THIS TAPE IDEA. ALSO, FOR MY KEY COLLECTION, AM TRYING TO RUN DOWN A RIGHT-ANGLE BUG, AND AN OLD UNITED WIRELESS STRAIGHT KEY..HOPE I CAN ACQUIRE THEM. THIS COLLECTION WILL GO TO THE DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM, WHEN I PASS ON.

73,

"TATE" W8FX

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FEBRUARY 23, 1966

DEAR ARMY:

IN ANSWER TO YOUR QUERY OF THE OTHER NIGHT ON THE TRANSCON NET I WILL TRY AND GIVE YOU MY VIEWS ON THE CONSTITUTION CHANGES AS SET FORTH IN THE DECEMBER 1965 ISSUE OF SGT.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ARTICLES 1 AND 2 AND 3 SEEM TO BE IN ORDER. ARTICLE 4 SEEMS TO BE SOMEWHAT CONFLICTING. I BELIEVE THAT THE LAST PARA. SHOULD READ. "THE PRESIDENT SHALL APPOINT ONE OF THE DIRECTORS TO SERVE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS." THE PRESIDENT IS AN ELECTED OFFICER AND IS NOT A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

ARTICLE 5 AS PROPOSED AMMENDED SEEMS A BIG CONFUSING TO ME. THE SECOND PARA. SHOULD READ SOMEWHERE IN THERE THAT THE PRES. TO APPOINT THE ASS'T SEC. NO PROVISION FOR SUCH APPOINTMENT SHOWS IN EITHER THE CONSTITUTION OR THE PROPOSED AMMENDMENTS. I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE THE DUTIES OF THE SEC. TO POLL THE ELECTED OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN THE EVENT OF THE VICE-PRES. TAKING OVER ETC. THIS PART OF PARA. SHOULD READ "CHAIRMAN". YOU HAVE THE PRES. AS VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD UP IN ARTICLE 4 BUT IF HE VACATES THE OFFICE HOW CAN HE ACT AS VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD TO

TO FILL A VACANCY. THE NEXT PARA. SHOULD READ "A VICE-PRES. PRO-TEM SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE NEW PRESIDENT SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF THE ELECTED OFFICERS AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS BY A MAJORITY VOTE." THIS METHOD OF FILLING THE SEC-TRES. POSITION SHOULD LIKEWISE BE IN EFFECT. THE TIME LIMIT CAN BE ELIMINATED AND THE VOTE OBTAINED BY PRESIDENT POLLING THE REST OF THE ELECTED OFFICERS AND THE DIRECTORS. LET PARA. A.B. AND C. STAND AS IT IS.

ARTICLE 6 AS PROPOSED IN THE AMMENDMENTS SEEMS A LITTLE BIT CONFUSING BY MY ANCIENT BRAIN?? IT SEEMS THAT ANY AMMENDMENT BY THE UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE ELECTED OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHOULD BE NULLIFIED IF 2/3 VOTE OF THE MEMBERSHIP IN 30 DAYS WOULD BE MORE IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRINCIPALS OF GOV'T OF CORPORATIONS. THIS VOTE WOULD BE WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DATE OF ANNOUNCEMENT. AS FOR CHANGE OF AMMENDMENTS BY MEMBERSHIP, I BELIEVE THAT ANY GROUP OF 10, 15 OR 20 MEMBERS, WHICHEVER, DECIDED, COULD SUBMIT AN AMMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION. THE AMMENDMENT WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARY WHO IN TURN SUBMITS TO THE ELECTED OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THEIR UNANIMOUS APPROVAL, THE SAME PROCEDURE THAT EVOLVES WHEN AN AMMENDMENT IS SUBMITTED BY THE ELECTED OFFICERS-BOARD OF DIRECTORS. THE AMMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY THE MEMBERSHIP GROUP TO APPROVED IN THE SAME MANNER, BY A 2/3 VOTE OF THE REST OF THE MEMBERSHIP.

ARTICLE 7 SEEMS TO BE TOO BROAD TO ME. I BELIEVE THE ORIGINAL READING OF THIS ARTICLE UNDER NR 8 IN THE ORIGINAL CONSTITUTION IS MORE FITTING. THE WAY ARTICLE 7 NOW READS AS AMMENDED OCT. 1, 1963, LEAVES THE DOOR OPEN FOR A LOT OF UNQUALIFIED MEMBERS GETTING IN. THIS OUTFIT IS REALLY SOMETHING TO BE PROUD OF IN MEMBERSHIP AND WE SHOULD MAKE IT SO THAT ONLY THOSE WHO ARE REALLY "PIONEERS OF AMATEUR WIRELESS" MAY BECOME MEMBERS. UNDER THE PRESENT READING OF ARTICLE 7 WE COULD CITE A CASE WHERE SOMEONE SERVED A HITCH IN THE NAVY IN 1924 AS A RADIOMAN. HE THEN GOT HIS DISCHARGE AND WENT TO WORK AS A FULLER BRUSH MAN, DOOR TO DOOR. IN 1959 OR LATER HE SUDDENLY DECIDES TO BECOME AN AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR, AFTER TALKING WITH ANOTHER HAM, WHILE TRYING TO SELL HIS WARES. UNDER THE PRESENT READING OF ARTICLE 7, THIS BOY WOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR MEMBERSHIP WOULD HE NOT??..

IS HE A REAL PIONEER OF AMATEUR WIRELESS IN

,...CONT'D NEXT PAGE.....



## LETTERS CONTINUED:

### THE TRUE SENSE??

THIS SAME SITUATION MIGHT COME UP WHERE SOMEONE BOOTLEGGED A STATION IN 1915 FOR A WHILE. HE QUILTS, GIVES UP WIRELESS ALTOGETHER. THEN LONG ABOUT 1939-40 HE DECIDES TO GET A LICENSE AND GET ON THE AIR, WHICH HE DOES. IS HE ELIGIBLE FOR MEMBERSHIP?? I CAN CITE ANOTHER CASE. A MAN OBTAINS A COMMERCIAL LICENSE AND OPERATES FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS, AS A COMMERCIAL OPERATOR, HE NEVER HAS A HAM STATION UNTIL HE RETIRES FROM THE COMMERCIAL FIELD IN 1955. IN 1955 HE SETS UP A HAM STATION. HIS FIRST WORK AS A COMMERCIAL OPERATOR WAS WAY BACK MORE THAN FORTY YEARS AND HE HAS BEEN IN IT CONTINUOUSLY SINCE THAT TIME. THIS IS A CASE WHERE HE COULD BE A BORDERLINE CASE. HE IS NO DOUBT A PIONEER OF WIRELESS BUT DID HE HAVE A CONTACT, FROM HIS HOME STATION, 40 YEARS PRIOR TO HIS APPLICATION. PARA. B. OF THIS ARTICLE, AS AMENDED OCT. 1, 1963 TAKES CARE OF A LOT OF THE AFOREMENTIONED SITUATIONS SO PERHAPS THE "HOME" STATION CLAUSE IS INAPPLICABLE.

KEN THOMPSON HAS SOME GOOD IDEAS IN HIS ARTICLE OF 1, MARCH, 1965 AS APPEARS IN THE DEC. ISSUE OF SGT. I LIKE THE IDEA OF THE CONSTITUTION BEING THE BASIC IMPLIMENTATION OF THE ORGANIZATION AND THEN HAVE A SET OF BY-LAWS TO SPELL OUT DUTIES ETC. OF THE CONSTITUTION. THIS IS A GOOD IDEA AS SOME TIMES YOU CAN AMMEND THE BY-LAWS AND CORRECT A FAULT WITHOUT AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

THIS IS PROBABLY A LONG-WINDED DISCOURSE OF SOMETHING THAT I AM AWAY OUT IN LEFT FIELD ON BUT YOU CAN ALWAYS UTILIZE THE PAPER AS A SCRATCH PAD OR FILE IN FILE #13.

AM IN THE PROCESS OF BUILDING ME A NEW RTTY CONVERTER (TU) WHICH WILL DIG DOWN IN THE NOISE AND QRM TO GET SIGNALS. I HAD A DEMONSTRATION OF THE UNIT HERE THE OTHER NIGHT AND IT ACTUALLY PRINTED SOLID COPY WHEN I COULD NOT BARELY HEAR IT IN THE SPEAKER. IT WAS REALLY GOOD. ONLY HAS FOUR TUBES. USES NO LIMITER, HAS THE SCHMIDT TRIGGERS BUT THE DARN'D FILTERS, WHICH ARE OUT OF AN MILITARY AN/FGC-1 CONVERTER COST FIVE BUCKS APIECE. IT CAN BE BUILT WITH TOROID COILS AS FILTERS BUT IS NOT AS EFFICIENT. SOOOTHAT'S THE DEAL FROM THIS SIDE OF THE HILLS. SEE YOU ON 7300 KCS WHERE THE SIGNALS HAVE BEEN PRETTY GOOD PAST FEW WEEKS. EVEN HATCH, NOTTT HAS BEEN READABLE

COPY HERE LATELY.

73 & 30

J.D.

P.S.

DEAR BERT:

RECEIVED THE 50 YEAR LETTERS TODAY, NOW I WILL GET BUSY WITH GETTING OUT THE AWARDS FOR 1916 CLASS. ARMY ASKED ME ON TRANSCON THE OTHER NITE TO WRITE HIM MY OPINION OF THE CONSTITUTION CHANGES HENCE THE ABOVE LETTER TO HIM. I DON'T KNOW IF THE CHANGES HAVE BEEN EFFECTED YET OR NOT. I AM NOT VOTING ON THE 50 YEAR PIN DEAL, AS PER YOUR LETTER OF 2, FEB. 66, BUT I BELIEVE I WILL EXPRESS MY OPINION AS FOLLOWS; IT IS A GOOD IDEA AS SET FORTH IN THE CHAIRMANS LETTER. CONTINUE THE PRESENT PIN FOR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP. MAKE A NEW PIN ACTUAL COPY OF SEAL, WITH 50 YEARS AS SHOWN IN YOUR LETTER OF 2-16-66 ONLY SMALLER ABOUT  $\frac{1}{2}$  DIA. FOR THOSE WHO BECAME ELIGIBLE. THERE WOULD BE PROBABLY 35 OR 40 MEMBERS ELIGIBLE EACH YEAR AND PROBABLY NOT ALL OF THOSE WOULD WANT OR COULD AFFORD THE 50 YEAR PIN. HAVE THE PRESENT AWARD LETTER AND SEAL CONTINUE AS AT PRESENT. TO CONTINUE THE PRESENT PIN WOULD MAKE FOR UNIFORMITY AND NOT NECESSIATE EXPENDITURE BY PRESENT MEMBERS FOR A NEW PIN. SOOOO EASY DOES IT AND LET ME HEAR FROM YOU IF THE SNOW IS NOT TOO DEEP TO GET THE MAIL THRU HI.

73,

J.D.

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122 ALDEN PLACE  
NEW ORLEANS 19, LA.

DEAR EUNICE:

PLEASE ACCEPT MY BELATED THANKS FOR THE PACKET CONTAINING THE CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE OOTC AND THE PIN, CARD AND ROSTER OF MEMBERS.

IN LOOKING OVER THE ROSTER ONE CANNOT AVOID BEING IMPRESSED WITH THE DISTINGUISHED NAMES LISTED, PAST AND PRESENT. I AM VERY HAPPY AND PROUD TO BE ACCEPTED IN SUCH A FINE GROUP OF OLD TIMERS.

AS SOON AS I OBTAIN A SUITABLE PHOTOGRAPH IT WILL BE SENT IN WITH THE BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH, ALSO INCLUDING A CHECK FOR SUBSCRIPTION TO SPARK GAP TIMES AND THE BLUE BOOK.

WITH MY BEST 73'S

WALTER M. HAMMOND K5GGY



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## LETTERS CONTINUED:

90 EIGHTH AVE.  
BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11215  
3 MARCH 1966

DEAR EUNICE:

THE ENCLOSED CHECK IS FOR MY SUBSCRIPTION TO SGT FOR THE YEAR 1966/67. THE MANY ITEMS IN RECENT ISSUES BRING BACK OLD MEMORIES OF MY EARLY 1913/4/5 WIRELESS OPERATING ON THE OLD DOMINION LINE S/S HAMILTON WITH BEN BECKERMAN, THE NEW ENGLAND S/S NORTHLAND WITH SAM SCHNEIDER AND LONE OPERATOR ON THE COMMONWEALTH AND PRISCILLA OF THE FALL RIVER LINE. ALSO SOME OLD TIMERS MAY RECALL THAT THE LONG ISLAND RAILROAD OPERATED TWO SHIPS THE MONTAUK AND SHINNECOCK WEEKENDS TO SAG HARBOUR, MONTAUK ON THE EAST END OF LONG ISLAND. THESE SHIPS WERE EQUIPPED WITH FESSENDEN 1/4KW QUENCHED TRANSMITTERS. I SERVED ON THE MONTAUK FOR THE NATIONAL ELECTRIC SIGNALLING COMPANY AND ALSO OPERATED AT THEIR COASTAL STATION FNK AT BUSH TERMINAL, BROOKLYN WITH ROSS VOSBURGH, STEVE WALLIS AND GEORGE COLE AND AT THE NEW YORK HERALD STATION OHX AT THE BATTERY, NEW YORK WITH ARTHUR COLEMAN.

I AM ON CW MOST EVERY DAY AROUND 1900GMT ON 7005KC WHERE A FEW OLD AMERICAN MORSE MEN GATHER AND WOULD LIKE TO CONTACT ANY OOT. MY BEST WISHES TO ALL WHO MAKE UP SGT FOR THE ENJOYMENT OF THE OLD TIMERS.

SINCERELY,  
DICK EGOLF - W2WX

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24 S.E. 4TH STREET  
BOCA RATON, FLA. 33432  
14 MARCH 1966

DEAR BERT:

THANKS FOR THE WONDERFUL LETTER AND REST ASSURED EVERYTHING IS FORGIVEN. KNOWING THE TREMENDOUS STRAIN OF STRAIGHTENING OUT THE W4 QSL BUREAU IT IS ONLY TO BE EXPECTED THAT A SLIP MIGHT OCCUR ONCE IN A WHILE. WHEN SOMEONE LIKE K4IXC HAS 1,500 CARDS IN THE FILE AND YOU MULTIPLY THAT BY ALL THE OTHER STATIONS WITH CARDS I CAN WELL APPRECIATE THE SWELL JOB YOU ARE DOING. I HAD WRITTEN SOME PRETTY NASTY LETTERS TO TOM MOSS MYSELF FOR I HAD CARDS ON FILE AS W1EQ/4 AND IN THREE YEARS I NEVER GOT AN ENVELOPE BACK ALTHO MANY DX CONTRACTS TOLD ME THEY POSITIVELY SENT ME CARDS VIA THE BUREAU. OH WELL, THAT'S WATER OVER THE DAM AND NOW THE BUREAU IS IN GOOD HANDS SO IT'S UP TO US TO

MAKE SURE OUR ENVELOPES ARE REPLENISHED AS WE USE THEM UP.

I GUESS YOU KNOW GEORGE TURNER WHO WAS WITH FCC. HE RECENTLY RETIRED AND HAS TAKEN UP RESIDENCE IN BOCA RATON AND LIVES ONLY A STONES-THROW FROM ME. WE HAVE AT LEAST THIRTY RETIRED HAMS HERE AND THE TWO LETTER CALLS SOUND LIKE PAGES FROM THE OOTC ROSTER.

I WILL BE HEADING NORTH ABOUT THE 1ST OF JUNE AND HOPE TO GET ME A LITTLE JOB LIKE A SWAN 350 FOR USE UP THERE. MAYBE I WILL HAVE THE GOOD FORTUNE OF HEARING AND WORKING W4MF FROM UP THERE.

ALL THE BEST TO YOU BERT. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK AND STAY HEALTHY.

VY 73  
GEORGE, W4RC -W1EQ

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WEST ROCKPORT, MAINE  
04865  
28, FEBRUARY 1966

DEAR YOCB II:

IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL YOU HOW MUCH THIS OLD TIMER ENJOYS SPARK-GAP TIMES! OR HIS APPRECIATION FOR THE SWELL JOB YOU ARE DOING WITH IT!

NOTING THE REQUEST FOR MATERIAL, I AM ENCLOSING THREE "VIGNETTE OF HAM" WHICH MAY CONCEIVABLE BE OF USE TO YOU FOR THE TIMES.

IF YOU FIND THE STUFF FITTEN, YOU COULD INSERT ONE NOW AND THEN IN UPCOMING ISSUES OF OUR GREAT PAPER, AS A FILLER, IF NEEDED.

IF USED, SEEMS LIKE THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED BY AN ANONYMOUS HAM.

IF THEY'RE OF NO USE TO YOU, DON'T HESITATE TO CHUCK THEM INTO THE WASTEBASKET.

IF THEY ARE USEFUL, AND YOU CAN USE THEM- AND MORE OF THEM, JUST LET ME KNOW. I'VE HAMMED FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS AND OPERATED COMMERCIALY FOR MANY YEARS, SO THAT VIGNETTES SUCH AS THESE ARE PLENTIFUL WITH ME.

THANKS FOR THE JOB YOU'RE DOING WITH THE TIMES. AND LET ME CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR RETIREMENT. I RETIRED ABOUT A YEAR AGO, AND FIND IT DELIGHTFUL!

73,  
M.L. (MIKE) LAMSON, W1GU

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## LETTERS CONTINUED:



"JIM" W7TCQ # 660

DEAR EUNICE:

THE LAST ISSUE OF SGT WAS OF GREAT INTEREST TO ME AS IT CONTAINED A LETTER FROM DICK JOHNSTONE, WHO GAVE ME MY FIRST JOB GOING TO SEA. I WAS ASSIGNED TO THE OLD SS PRESIDENT-WGP. SO I SENT HIM A RADIOGRAM, THE FIRST COMMUNICATION BETWEEN US SINCE ABOUT 1921.

EUNICE, THERE IS SO MUCH TO WRITE ABOUT, I HARDLY KNOW WHERE TO START BUT WILL HAVE TO CUDGEL MY COMPUTER TO COME UP WITH A FEW ANECDOTES IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

AT PRESENT, I READ WITH GREAT INTEREST THE LETTERS FROM THE OOT'S. MOSTLY LOOKING FOR ANY OF MY OLD COMPADRES. I DO REMEMBER ONE TIME WHEN SEVERAL SHIPS WERE DOCKED AT THE SAME PIERS IN NY, I WENT ABOARD THE OLD SS FINLAND WHERE HARRY WRIGHT WAS CH.OP. AND FRANK GEISEL (FIRST LETTER SHOULD BE G) WHOM I KNEW IN SAN FRANCISCO ALSO. OF COURSE WE HAD A FINE QSO. HARRY ASKED ME IF I WAS INTERESTED IN GOING OUT TO SEE THE LAYOUT OF A WELL KNOWN AMATEUR..R. K. HEWITT. SO WE HEADED OUT (BROOKLYN, I THINK) AND FOUND HIM AT HOME. THE OUTSTANDING THING I REMEMBER WAS THAT HIS ENTIRE TRANSMITTER WAS IN A COVERED OVER HOLE IN THE GROUND IN HIS BASEMENT! HIS CALL WAS 2 RK, I THINK.

WELL, I COULD HAVE GONE ON WITH HARRY AND FRANK BUT I WAS NOT TOO KEEN ABOUT THE PASSENGER SHIPS. ALSO HAD A BID TO GO ON THE MINNEKHADA, LEVI, AND A NUMBER OF OTHERS. THEY ALL THOUGHT I WAS CRAZY BUT I WANTED TO "SEE THE WORLD"..AND I DID.

I WAS ONE OF THE FIRST OPERATORS TO USE BK-IN WITH WSA, THE GOOD OLD IWT STATION. I HAD A LEACH RELAY. HANDLED LOTS OF TFC. FOR THE SHIPS OUT OF RANGE OF WSA.

OLD DICK JOHNSTONE MAY WELL REMEMBER HOW

I LANDED IN HIS OFFICE DOWN ON STUART ST. IN FRISCO AND ASKED HIM HOW JOBS WERE. HE ANSWERED, "GOOD, WHERE IS YOUR LICENSE?" WELL, I WAS JUST IN FRISCO FROM A JOB WITH THE A.T.&T. WHERE I HAD RIDDEN REPEATERS WITH ALL THE HIGH SPEED STUFF..AP.UP. INS. BANK LEASES, STOCK LEASES AND SEVERAL VERY HIGH SPEED TEST WIRE CIRCUITS WHERE, IF YOU COULD NOT WORK 50 WPM, YOU HAD BETTER STAY OUT AS THE USUAL SPEED WAS 60 OR 65. ANYWAY I HAD STUDIED E.E.BUCHERS BOOK AND WAS READY FOR ANYTHING..I WAS LIVING IN AMARILLO, TEXAS AT THAT TIME, BEING JUST OUT OF THE ARMY. SO I HAD TO TELL DICK THAT I DID NOT HAVE MY LICENSE YET. HE TOLD ME TO GO GET THE TICKET AND THEN COME BACK AFTER A JOB!

I WENT UP TO THE OLD CUSTOM HOUSE AND MET MAJOR DILLON, EX. SIG. CORPS. AND BERNARD LINDEN (BRAND NEW INSPECTOR) AND TOOK MY EXAM. GOT THE TICKET THAT AFTERNOON! TOOK IT DOWN TO JOHNSTONE AND HE ASSIGNED ME AS SECOND OPERATOR ON OLD WGP. FOR TWO MONTHS..AT SEA, I WAS SEASICK..ASHORE I WAS O.K.! OH, YES, I WONDER IF DICK REMEMBERS THAT HE OFFERED ME THE L.L. JOB FROM KPH TO SF?? I WANTED TO GO TO SEA..NO MORE LL FOR ME.

AFTER A NUMBER OF ASSIGNMENTS, I WENT TO THE EAST COAST WHERE I MADE TEN YEARS OF ROUND THE WORLD TRIPS, EUROPE, THE ORIENT, A YEAR IN THE MEDITERRANEAN DURING THE TURKO-GREEK WAR, WHICH I SAW A LITTLE OF FROM SMYRNA, TURKEY.

ONE OF THE REASONS I LEFT THE WEST COAST WAS BECAUSE I WAS ASSIGNED TO ONE OF THE LARGE (?) NAVY SEAGOING TOWBOATS, WHICH WENT FAR OUT IN THE PACIFIC TO TOW DISABLED VESSELS PLUS A LOT OF THE OLD GERMAN BARKS THAT HAD BEEN INTERNED DOWN IN MEXICO. THEY WERE IRON SHIPS, 3500 TONERS, FOUR MASTS.

WELL THOSE JOBS WERE TOUGH. THE COFFEE URN WAS USUALLY PARALLEL WITH THE SURFACE OF THE OCEAN AND WE HAD TO TIE OURSELVES IN OUR BUNKS. I HAD A NUMBER OF THOSE JOBS AS THE PORT CAPTAIN LIKED ME AND HE WAS A VERY FINE GENTLEMAN..THE KIND YOU RUN ACROSS ONCE IN A WHILE..I THINK IT WAS CAPT. DARRAGH, WANTED ME TO TAKE OVER AS THEIR CHIEF OPERATOR ON THEIR PAYROLL CONTINUOUSLY. THE THING WAS THEY DID NOT HAVE RADIO EQUIPMENT ON ALL THEIR TOWBOATS, SO IF ONE WITHOUT THE EQUIPMENT WAS ASSIGNED TO A RESCUE, THE EQUIPMENT WAS TAKEN OFF ONE OF THE OTHERS AND PLACED THERE-ON.

ONE TIME IN DECEMBER OR JANUARY, I HAD

....CONTINUED NEXT PAGE.....



## LETTERS CONTINUED:

RETURNED ON THE "SEA SCOUT" AND THE "SEA RANGER" WAS PROVISIONED TO TOW A SHIP, AFTER CONTACT AND TOW LINE ABOARD TO PUGET SOUND. SINCE I HAD TO TAKE ALL MY LAUNDRY TO A LAUNDRY, I DID NOT HAVE TIME TO TRANSFER THE RADIO EQUIPMENT..THE NAVY  $\frac{1}{2}$  KW SPARK TRANSMITTER..SO THE COMPANY DECIDED TO SEND THE TOWBOAT OUT WITHOUT RADIO. MY "LUCKY STAR" WAS WORKING, AS, AFTER SOME DAYS ATTACHED TO THE DISABLED SHIP AND IN A TYPICAL NORTH PACIFIC GALE, THE WRONG CONDITION PREVAILED WHEN THE TWO SHIPS WERE ON A CREST AND SLIDING DOWN THE MOUNTAINOUS WAVE WAS TOO MUCH FOR THE TOWING MACHINERY, WHICH WAS JERKED OUT BY THE ROOTS. A COUPLE OF WEEKS LATER, A LIFE PRESERVER WITH THE NAME OF THE TOWBOAT WAS WASHED ASHORE SOMEWHERE OFF THE OREGON COAST. NONE, OF COURSE, SURVIVED AS THE TOWBOAT WENT DOWN LIKE A CHUNK OF LEAD.

JUST THOUGHT I WOULD THROW THIS IN FOR A THRILLER..MORE TO COME! (B)

MY SEAGOING DAYS WERE THE HIGHLIGHT OF MY LIFE AND A MILLION DOLLARS WOULD NOT BUY MY YEARS AT SEA. WE WILL GO INTO THIS LATER ON.

THE FIRST OF THE AMATEUR DAYS WAS ABOUT THE TIME THE KAISER STARTED HIS WAR, I BELIEVE. HARD TO REMEMBER EXACTLY. I DO KNOW THAT ANOTHER BOY AND I PROMOTED A LOT OF SOLENOIDS THAT WERE WOUND WITH PINK SILK INSULATED WIRE. THIS WAS THE SOURCE OF OUR SOUNDERS, BUZZERS AND LATER, TUNING COILS. BELIEVE ME, WE WERE A PAIR. WE SCROUNGED 4 ZERO COPPER FROM THE TRACTION COMPANY FOR "LEGAL" SIZE GROUND WIRE AND THE COPPER FOR ANTENNAS, ETC. WAS POWER COMPANY WIRE WITH THE INSULATION REMOVED. MY GRAND-FATHER WAS INTERESTED IN AN AUTOMOBILE AGENCY BACK IN FORT SMITH ARKANSAS AND THAT PRESENTED ME WITH SUFFICIENT "DRAG" TO HAUL HOME HUNDREDS OF MORE OR LESS DISCHARGED COLUMBIA # 6's WHICH POWERED EVERYTHING...SPARK COIL..A TELEGRAPH LINE WHICH WANDERED AROUND TOWN AND OTHER PURPOSES. FINALLY WITH A NUMBER OF FORD COILS IN SERIES AND PARALLEL PLUS AN INFERNO (EVERYONE SAID) OF AN ELECTROLYTIC INTERRUPTER WHICH, WHEN THE HOLE IN THE TEST TUBE ENLARGED AND ALLOWED TOO MUCH CURRENT TO BE DRAWN, THE 4 STORY DRUG BUSINESS HAD A COMPLETE ELECTRIC LAMP SIGNALLING SYSTEM.

NO ONE, REPEAT, NO ONE, THOUGHT THAT WAS FUNNY. ONCE IN A WHILE THE FUSES BLEW. WELL I GOT THE ORDERS...GET THAT MESS OUT OF HERE, ETC. ETC. (NOT QUOTEABLE) SO MY GRAND-FATHER ALMOST WRECKED THE CAREER OF A PROMINENT COWMAN (LATER).

WELL, WE WERE JOINING UP OTHER INTERESTED BOYS AND WITH THE HELP OF ONE OF THE LOCAL JEWELERS, LEARNED THE RADIO (WIRELESS) CODE WHICH WAS A LOT DIFFERENT FROM THE MORSE CODE WHICH I HAD ALREADY LEARNED, AND SHORTLY DECIDED THAT WE SHOULD HAVE A RADIO (WIRELESS) CLUB. WE MET ONE NIGHT AT THE LOCAL BOY SCOUT HQ. WITH MY GRADE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL AS SPONSOR AND ORGANIZED THE "TWIN CITY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION". THAT IS FORT SMITH AND VAN BUREN, ACROSS THE ARKANSAS RIVER. THEN YOURS TRULY WASELECTED PRESIDENT AND PAUL NELSON WAS ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT.

INTO THE ARMY FOR A YEAR OR SO IN THE FIELD ARTILLERY. ENLISTED IN THE SIG. CORPS. BUT WAS TRANSFERRED TO CAVALRY AND THEN TRANSFERRED TO THE F.A. EVENTUALLY GOT INTO RADIO SCHOOL! THEN WENT TO PENN FIELD AT AUSTIN, TEXAS (SIG. CORPS AGAIN). LEARNED ALL THERE WAS TO COMMUNICATING FROM AN AIR-PLANE TO GROUND STATION TO DIRECT ARTILLER FIRE. THIS WITH A LITTLE SPARK COIL/HELIX CONTRAPTION, WIND GENERATOR AND TRAILING ANTENNA.

THEY DID COME OUT WITH A RADIOPHONE OF ABOUT 5 WATTS USING THE W.E. VT 11 AND 21. I FEEL SILLY WRITING ALL THE ABOVE BUT MAYBE IT WILL INDICATE I DID GO IN FOR AMATEUR RADIO IN A BIG WAY, LEGAL OR NOT.

WE DID GET A LETTER FROM THE LT. CMDR. IN CHARGE AT THE NEW ORLEANS INSPECTOR OFFICE SAYING TO TAKE DOWN ANY ANTENNAS WE HAD UP IN THE AIR. THAT WAS A BIG JOB. I WAS IN THE ARMY THEN AND OTHERS HAD TO DO IT.

JUST HAD A WELCOME LETTER FROM DICK JOHNSTONE..AFTER 45 YEARS..CAN YOU IMAGINE.. ALL THANKS TO AMATEUR RADIO!

EUNICE, THE PART OF THIS EPISTLE BLUE PENCILLED, PLEASE DO NOT PRINT AS IT SEEMS FOOLISH. JUST FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY. I WILL HAVE A LOT TO SAY ABOUT THE SEA GOING DAYS AS TIME PERMITS.

THANKS FOR THE CERTIFICATES AND ALL FROM YOU, THE LETTER FROM ED RAZER, W2ZI, AND THE RIBBON FROM JACK DUNN, W6WPF. I REALLY AM HAPPY TO BELONG TO SUCH AN ILLUSTRIOUS GROUP.

ALL THE BEST,

73,s

JIM CALDWELL W7TCQ/W7RNY



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## LETTERS CONTINUED:

22 S. CLARY ST.  
HINSDALE, ILL. 60521  
24, FEB. 1966

YOCB 11:

IT IS TIME I THANKED YOU FOR THE FINE COPIES OF SGT I'VE RECEIVED SINCE I JOINED THE OOTC LAST YEAR. I'VE ALREADY THANKED EUNICE FOR HELPING ME FEEL AT HOME WITH THE "OLD" BOYS. I'VE ALSO BEEN CORRESPONDING PLEASANTLY WITH ED RASER AND I THINK HIS STORY WOULD MAKE INTERESTING READING IN SGT IF IT HASN'T ALREADY APPEARED BEFORE I JOINED UP.

THE FIFTY YEAR RECOGNITION AWARD ARRIVED AND I AM PRETTY PROUD OF IT TOO. YOU SEE, I RETURNED TO "WIRELESS" AFTER I RETIRED THREE YEARS AGO, BEING OUT OF IT DURING MY WORKING CAREER OF 40 YEARS, IT HAS TAKEN ME ABOUT TWO YEARS TO CATCH UP ON "RADIO". NO MORE SPARK, ETC!

THROUGH THE AID OF YOUR REPRINT OF 1913 CALL BOOK, VERIFYING MY OLD CALL, I GOT W9DI BACK AGAIN, AND I WANT TO THANK ALL OF YOUR STAFF AND PREDECESSORS FOR CARRYING ON WHILE I WAS AWAY FROM AMATEUR RADIO, THUS MAKING THIS PLEASURE POSSIBLE FOR ME TODAY, AND AVAILABLE FOR MANY OTHERS.

THE OLD SHIP OPERATOR STORIES AND PICTURES ARE OF GREAT INTEREST TO ME AS I NEARLY BECAME ONE IN 1920 AFTER READING HOWARD S. PYLES' ARTICLE IN SOME MAGAZINE ABOUT THAT TIME ON THE "GOOD OPPORTUNITIES OF THE RADIO-MEN POSSIBLE IN THE SALMON FISHING FLEET", IT NEARLY GOT ME, BUT BY THE TIME I WENT TO RADIO SCHOOL THE BUBBLE MUST HAVE BURST BECAUSE LIKE HE SAYS, IN HIS STORY IN FEB. SGT THERE WERE HUNDREDS OF EXPERIENCED OPERATORS OUT OF WORK JUST THEN.

I JUST WANT TO ADD A WORD THAT A HOBBY LIKE RADIO IS A WONDERFUL THING TO COME BACK TO AFTER RETIREMENT, TO HELP FILL IN THOSE "GOLDEN YEARS". MAYBE SOMEDAY I'LL WRITE YOU A STORY HOW I WAS LOST 40 YEARS IN THE WILDERNESS (WITHOUT RADIO 1922 TO 1963) OR MAYBE I REALLY AM THE "RIP VAN WINKLE OF AMATEUR RADIO". ANYWAY GLAD TO BE BACK AGAIN, CARRY ON.

BEST REGARDS, 73'S

WILLIAM R. COTTRELL W9DI

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ST. MICHAELS, MD.  
1, FEB. 1966

DEAR BERT:

YOUR KIND LETTER OF JANUARY 24TH WAS NEWSY

INFORMATIVE, INTERESTING AND SINCERE. CONSIDERING YOUR MANY OTHER DUTIES, AN ANSWER WAS NOT EXPECTED AND I INTENDED TO SAY SO, BUT IT WAS APPRECIATED.

EARLIER EDITION OF THE JOURNAL LEFT MUCH TO BE DESIRED, BUT THEY WERE A START. AN ATTEMPT BY INEXPERIENCED PEOPLE FOR WHICH WE CAN, OF COURSE, COMPLIMENT THEM FOR AN HONEST EFFORT. OUR PRESENT PRODUCT IS CLEARLY FAR SUPERIOR. SOMETHING OF WHICH THE MEMBERSHIP CAN FEEL PROUD AND READ WITH INTEREST. I FULLY REALIZE THE WORK WHICH IT ENTAILS FOR YOU AND I SURELY HOPE THAT YOU CAN SEE YOUR WAY CLEAR TO CONTINUE AS OUR EDITOR. IT IS A JOB THAT REQUIRES THE EXERCISE OF DIGNITY, RESTRAINT, AND OTHER QUALITIES THAT YOU APPEAR TO POSSESS. PERSONALLY, I WOULD BE UNWILLING TO RISK THE STATURE OF SGT IN THE HANDS OF ANYONE ELSE; AND THAT IS AS SINCERE AS I CAN WRITE IT.

I HAVE BEEN CHECKING IN ON THE OOTC NET FOR THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS AFTER AN ABSENCE OF SEVERAL YEARS. NOT SINCE IRVING, BURT INGALLS, AND OLD MAN BROUGHTON WERE ACTIVE. IRVING, BY THE WAY, WAS MY FIRST AMATEUR CONTACT BACK IN 1909. IN THOSE DAYS, I RECALL, THAT I WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT LAD IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD. THIRTEEN YEARS OF AGE, AND ON THE WAY TO BECOMING A GENIUS - THEY USED TO SAY. I COULDN'T KEEP THE BUTTONS ON MY VEST - MY CHEST WAS SO SWOLLEN.

WE HAVE JUST HAD A BAD BLIZZARD WHICH HAS PILED SNOW IN SIX FOOT DRIFTS ALL OVER THE PLACE, AND IT TOOK DOWN MY ANTENNA. SO I WON'T BE CHECKING IN WITH EUNICE FOR A WHILE.

IN RESPONSE TO INFORMATION IN SGT REGARDING W2ZM, I WAS PLEASED TO SEND HIM A CHECK - WHICH HE WAS DOUBTLESS VERY HAPPY TO GET. HE REPLIED WITH THANKS, AND TOLD ME THAT HE TURNS OVER ALL OF HIS PENSION MONEY, EXCEPT \$4.00 PER MONTH TO THE HOME WHERE HE IS STAYING. THIS MEANS THAT HE HAS 13 CENTS A DAY FOR CIGARETTES, TOILETRIES AND JUST BARE NECESSITIES; AND OF COURSE, 13 CENTS SON'T EVEN BUY HIS CIGARETTES. I WONDER IF YOU WOULD AGAIN REMIND THE BOYS OF THE PLIGHT OF OUR

...CONT'D NEXT PAGE.....



## LETTERS CONTINUED:

UNFORTUNATE COLLEAGUE. HE SUFFERS WITH RECURRING STROKES, AND THEY, PLUS THE MEDICATION, LEAVE HIM WEAK AND MISERABLE. LETTERS TO HIM FROM HIS FRIENDS ARE ALWAYS VERY HELPFUL AND IF YOU COULD INCLUDE A DISCREET SUGGESTION ABOUT HIS FINANCIAL STATUS, AND THE GREAT AMOUNT OF COMFORT A DOLLAR OR TWO WOULD BRING, THIS TOO, HE IS DESERVING OF. HIS ADDRESS IS; RALPH BARBER W2ZM, PATTERSON HOME FOR THE AGED, UNIONDALE, LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK 11553. RALPH IS A LONG TIME FRIEND OF MINE AND I KNOW THAT HE WOULD BE THE LAST PERSON TO ASK FOR A HAND OUT.

I HAD INTENDED TO GO TO THE ANNUAL OLD TIMERS DINNER, SPONSORED BY THE D.C. CHAPTER OF QCWA. IT IS HELD IN SUBURBAN WASHINGTON EACH FEBRUARY. I LIKE TO GO BECAUSE OF MEETING SO MANY OF THE FELLOWS IN MY AGE GROUP SUCH AS GEORGE, W3DF, TOM APPLEBY, W3AX AND OTHERS. I SERVED IN WORLD WAR I IN FRANCE WITH GEORGE AND I ALWAYS ENJOY GETTING TOGETHER WITH HIM. BUT, I'M AFRAID THAT THIS WEATHER LEAVES ME NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO STAY HOME. THE AFFAIR IS THIS SATURDAY, FEB. 5TH AND THREATENING WEATHER IS PREDICTED.

I AM GLAD YOU ARE EXPECTING TO HONOR EMZIE, IN THE MANNER WHICH YOU STATE, AND I AM ALL FOR IT. I HAVE KNOWN MISS ZANDONNI FOR TWENTY FIVE YEARS AND HER POPULARITY IN HAM RADIO IS WELL ESTABLISHED.

IT WAS NOT MY INTENTION TO YAK SO LONG WHEN I BEGAN THIS LETTER BUT ONE THING AFTER ANOTHER KEPT BOBBING INTO MY MIND AND EACH ONE SEEMED IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO MENTION. MOREOVER, IT IS NOT EXPECTED THAT YOU UNDERTAKE A REPLY. YOU ARE DOING MORE THAN ENOUGH WRITING, EDITING, ETC. WITHOUT BEING FURTHER ENCUMBERED BY MY RAMBLINS.

GOOD LUCK, GOOD HEALTH AND 73'S TO YOU AND YOURS.

SHERNY W3PL

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APRIL 6, 1966

DEAR BERT:

I'VE RECENTLY ACCEPTED APPOINTMENT AS THE 7TH CALL LETTER AREA REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE QRP INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB. MY TERRITORY EMBRACES THE SEVEN STATES COMPARISING THE 7TH FCC CALL LETTER DISTRICT. THE QRP CLUB ENJOYS A MEMBERSHIP OF NEARLY 3,000

WORLD-WIDE; WE ARE SHOOTING FOR 5000 BEFORE THE END OF 1966.

NATURALLY I'M INTERESTED IN RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS AND I WONDER IF WE DON'T HAVE A GOODLY SHARE OF OOTC MEMBERS WHO, LIKE MYSELF, DERIVE THEIR ENJOYMENT FROM HAM RADIO OPERATION USING 100 WATTS OR LESS INPUT. I'VE FOUND THAT TO A LOT OF OL' TIMERS, 'DX' AS SUCH IS A THRILL WHICH HAS MELLOWED CONSIDERABLY IN THEIR LATER YEARS..THEY ARE CONTENT TO LEAVE DX CHASING MAINLY TO THE YOUNGER 'EAGER BEAVER' HAM ENTHUSIASTS ALTHO SOME SURPRISING RECORDS ARE OCCASIONALLY HUNG UP BY THE REAL LOW-POWER BOYS.

QRP/ARC INTERNATIONAL OFFERS A LIFE MEMBERSHIP FOR JUST ONE DOLLAR! THAT'S RIGHT, AND THIS INSIGNIFICANT FEE ENTITLES EACH MEMBER TO THE FIRST YEARS' ISSUES OF THEIR NATIONAL NEWS LETTER, ISSUED QUARTERLY. AFTER THAT, THE N/L FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO CONTINUE RECEIVING IT, IS A DOLLAR A YEAR; TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT!

IF YOU FIND SPACE FOR THIS LITTLE 'PROMOTION' IN YOUR NEXT ISSUE, I'D APPRECIATE IT. ANY OOTC MEMBERS WHO ARE INTERESTED CAN CONTACT THE GEN'L SEC'Y., HARRY TURNER, W9YZE, 1718 WORDEN AVE., ALTON, ILLINOIS 62005 FOR MORE INFORMATION AND AN APPLICATION BLANK, OR DROP ME A POST CARD FOR THE DOPE.

"73"

HOWARD S. PYLE

"YB" OF W7OE

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MARCH 9, 1966

DEAR EUNICE:

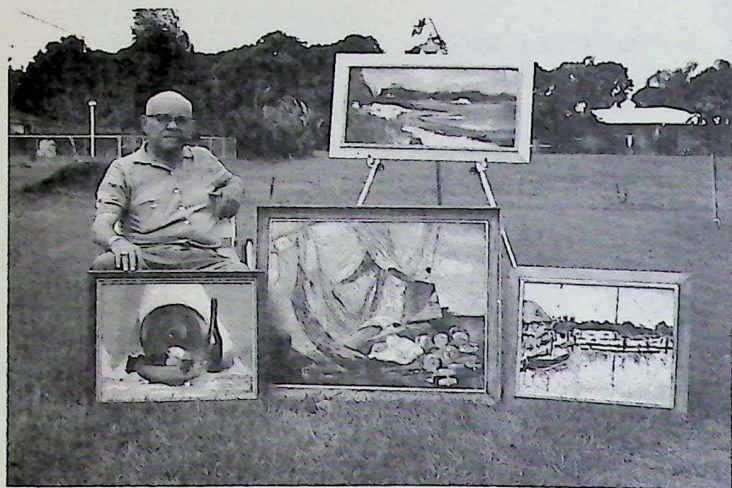
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THE SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES AND OOTC MEMBERSHIP CARD. THEY ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED. NO I NEVER SAW ANY OF THESE BEFORE AND GUESS THAT THEY FORGOT ABOUT ME AT THE TIME.

I NOTICED IN SGT THAT THE OOTC WAS THINKING ABOUT HAVING QSL CARDS MADE UP. ENCLOSED CARD IS STYLE THAT I HAVE BEEN HAVING W8DED MAKE UP FOR ME AT ALL QTH'S SINCE WW II AND I DO NOT WANT TO CHANGE THIS TYPE. HOWEVER, I DO NOT HAVE ANY W2AOS CARDS AT ALL NOW AND, IF OOTC DECIDES TO MAKE UP CARDS, I WOULD BE GLAD TO ORDER A SMALL QUANTITY FOR MY W2AOS STATION USE. WILL WATCH SGT FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS ALONG THIS LINE.

73,

10403 BROOKMOOR DR; CHARLIE E. BIELE  
SILVER SPRING, MD.





BRADENTON, FLA.  
APRIL 11, 1966

DEAR EUNICE:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER, WHICH I HAVE DELAYED SO LONG IN ANSWERING. YOU WERE RIGHT ABOUT THE FEBRUARY ISSUE OF SGT WHICH ARRIVED DOWN HERE THE DAY AFTER I MAILED THE LAST LETTER. I AM SURE THEREFORE THE APRIL ISSUE WILL GO TO ALDEN, MICH. I AM SORRY WALLY IS GIVING UP HIS POST BUT CAN UNDERSTAND WHY. I HOPE HE LIKES ARIZONA AND WILL BE VERY HAPPY THERE WITH SOME ACTIVITY THAT WILL KEEP HIM BUSY.

SURE WISH I COULD STAY UP HOME IN THE WINTER TIME BUT AS LONG AS WE CAN TRAVEL WE SHALL PROBABLY COME DOWN HERE. THERE IS PLENTY OF ACTIVITY HERE, ALL KINDS IF ONE CARES TO PARTICIPATE. THIS, WE MANAGE TO DO AND HAVE NO TROUBLE KEEPING BUSY MOST OF THE TIME.

NOW ABOUT ME. MY RECORDS INITIALLY SENT TO OOTC MUST SHOW, IF THEY HAVEN'T BEEN LOST, THAT I BECAME A HAM AS A KID IN 1908 AND A COMMERCIAL OPERATOR IN 1912. SOMEDAY IF I GET TIME AND STAY WELL, I'LL TRY TO WRITE A STORY ABOUT THE OLD DAYS. BUT LIKE YOU I AM JUST AS INTERESTED IN THE PRESENT AND FUTURE. AS YOU SAY MANY OF OUR READERS ARE INTERESTED IN WHAT WE OLD GOATS ARE DOING NOW. HERE GOES THEN WITH A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF MY ACTIVITIES AFTER A RATHER SERIOUS HEART ATTACK AND SUBSEQUENT EARLY RETIREMENT AS MANAGER OF THE FORD MOTOR COMPANIES ELECTRONIC DEPT. IN 1958.

AFTER MOVING OUT OF THE TURMOIL IN THE DETROIT AREA, TO THE PEACE AND QUIET OF THE LAKE AREA, IN NORTHERN MICHIGAN, WE ESTABLISHED OUR HOME ON 40 ACRES OF ROLLING HILLS OVERLOOKING TORCH LAKE, AT ALDEN. THIS IS

BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY AND REMINDS ME SOMEWHAT OF THE TOPOGRAPHY OF NEW ENGLAND. BOTH MY WIFE AND I ORIGINATED IN THE UPPER PENINSULA OF MICHIGAN AND SO THE CLIMATE AND AREA SUITS US JUST FINE.

UNFORTUNATELY MY DOCTOR SEEMS TO THINK I SHOULD STAY OUT OF THE SNOW AND COLD SO AFTER THE TREES HAVE PUT ON THEIR FALL SHOWING OF COLOR WE SEEK Milder CLIMES.

IN ORDER TO GET SOME OF THE WONDERLUST OUT OF OUR SYSTEMS, THE FIRST FEW YEARS OF RETIREMENT WERE SPENT IN TRAVELING. HAVING SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME DOWN EAST WE HEADED WEST AND COVERED MOST OF THIS COUNTRY ON OUR VARIOUS TRIPS, AS WELL AS MEXICO, HAWAII AND EUROPE. WE ENJOYED THESE SOJOURNS VERY MUCH AND BEING INTERESTED IN ART SPENT A GOOD DEAL OF TIME IN THE VARIOUS MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES WHENEVER POSSIBLE. THIS ALONE GAVE US A GREAT DEAL OF PLEASURE AS WELL AS A LIBERAL EDUCATION IN THE FINE ARTS.

HAVING HAD LITTLE OR NO FORMAL EDUCATION IN PAINTING, PRIOR TO RETIREMENT, DUE TO THE PRESS OF BUSINESS, I NOW HAVE THE TIME TO INDULGE MY WHIM. FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS DURING THE WINTER MONTHS, PEARL AND I HAVE BEEN COMING HERE TO BRADENTON, FLORIDA, WHICH HAS A LARGE CONCENTRATION OF ARTISTS, SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS. WE USUALLY SPEND ABOUT SIX MONTHS HERE AND DURING THAT TIME I ATTEND ART CLASSES FOUR TIMES A WEEK. OF THE SEVERAL INSTRUCTORS I HAVE HAD, PROBABLY THE MOST NOTED ARE EUGENE WHITE AND JACOB ANCHUTIN. SO YOU SEE TIME DOES NOT DRAG AND THE PREDICTION IS THAT I MIGHT BE ABLE TO PAINT THE BARN WHEN I GET HOME.

DURING THE REST OF THE YEAR IN MICHIGAN I SPEND CONSIDERABLE TIME ON THE AIR AND CAN BE FOUND ON 14295 AT 9 A.M., 3930 AT 8 A.M. SSB AND A COUPLE OF SCHEDULES ON CW. MOST AFTERNOONS, WHEN I AM HOME, IS SPENT THROWING THE PAINT AROUND OR SKETCHING THE LOCAL SCENERY. WE DON'T HAVE THE ROARING SURF, TO BE FOUND DOWN THAT WAY, BUT WE MAKE DO WITH THE GREAT LAKES. I AM ENCLOSING A COLOR SLIDE WHICH YOU MAY USE IF YOU SEE FIT.

I SENT THE OOTC PICTURES OF MY SET IN 1908 AND ANOTHER OF MY FIRST COMMERCIAL JOB IN 1912 AS WELL AS SOME INFORMATION ON MY RETIREMENT. HAVN'T HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT THEM SO WONDERED IF THEY BURIED IN THE FILES. O WELL THAT IS ANCIENT HISTORY NOW AND THE PRESENT IS THE IMPORTANT THING.

OBVIOUSLY I AM NOT A WRITER SO AFTER STRUGGLING THROUGH THIS MESS I SHALL CLOSE WITH THE BEST TO YOU.

CHARLES W. THOMAS W8NF



## LETTERS CONTINUED....

10055 LENNON RD.

LENNON, MICH.

APRIL 1, 1966

DEAR EUNICE:

AM SENDING CHECK FOR SPARK GAP TIMES. THAT PUBLICATION IS VERY WELL DONE AND IT BRINGS BACK MANY FOND MEMORIES OF THE OLD DAYS.

IT MAY BE OF INTEREST, FOR YOUR RECORDS IF I UPDATE MY STATISTICS TO COVER THE PAST YEAR SINCE JOINING THE OOTC.

FIRST OF ALL, I WENT TO THE FCC DETROIT OFFICE AND OBTAINED MY AMATEUR EXTRA CLASS LICENSE WHICH IS DATED MAY 27, 1965.

NOVEMBER 1, 1965, I RETIRED WITH PENSION FROM THE PLANT ENGINEERING DEPT. OF MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE CO. AFTER 39 YEARS AND 8 MONTHS SERVICE.

WE TOOK A 5 WEEK TRIP SOUTH THIS WINTER TO FLORIDA, NEW ORLEANS AND THE MARDI GRAS, THEN TO GALVESTON, TEXAS.

MY PURPOSE IN GOING TO GALVESTON WAS TO SATISFY MY CURIOSITY AND NOT TO ENJOY THEIR WEATHER. WE HAVE COLD WEATHER IN MICHIGAN TOO.

BACK IN MARCH 1922 I SHIPPED ON THE U.S.B. TUG BUTTERCUP, KIJT IN NEW ORLEANS AND OUR MISSION WAS TO GO TO GALVESTON AND TOW THE OLD CONCRETE SHIP SELMA OUT TO HER GRAVE.

THE SS SELMA WAS ONE OF THE FIRST RE-INFORCED CONCRETE TANKERS BUILT FOR THE U. S. SHIPPING BOARD.

IN 1921 IT RAN INTO THE ROCK JETTIES AT TAMPICO, MEXICO RIPPING A BIG HOLE IN THE HULL. RAISED AND FLOATED BY COMPRESSED AIR PONTOONS IT WAS BERTHED AT THE WHARF AT GALVESTON AND WHARFAGE WAS RUNNING \$1500. PER MONTH. SO OUR JOB WAS TO GET RID OF HER. REPAIRS TO THE HULL WERE NOT FEASIBLE. A PROPOSAL TO SINK IT IN DEEP WATER WAS ABANDONED BECAUSE OF THE COST AND DIFFICULTY OF FLOATING IT OUT THAT FAR AND IF THINGS DIDN'T WORK OUT PERFECTLY IT MIGHT BE A MENACE TO NAVIGATION. IT WAS DECIDED TO LOWER IT INTO A "GRAVE" IN THE SAND FLATS AT ONE SIDE OF THE GOVERNMENT CHANNEL ENTERING GALVESTON. A 400 FOOT BY 30 FT. CHANNEL WAS DUG AND WE TOWED THE OLD SELMA OUT AND LET HER DOWN. IT'S DECK AND UPPER WORKS WERE STILL ABOVE WATER.

NOW AFTER 44 YEARS, I WENT BACK TO SEE THE OLD SHIP. WENT TO THE COAST GUARD AND

THEY POSTED ME AS TO THE CONDITION OF THE OLD TANKER AND WE SAW IT STILL OUT THERE ABOUT THE SAME IN APPEARANCE AS WHEN WE LEFT HER IN 1922.

HOPE THIS NOSTALGIA DIDN'T BORE YOU TOO MUCH.

YOURS TRULY,

STANLEY C. REED, W8IQS

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12, APRIL 1966

DEAR EUNICE:

JUST A FEW THOUGHTS REGARDING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 50 YEAR PIN COMMITTEE. I DO NOT WISH TO DEROGATE THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF PIONEERS IN OUR FIELD AND THE HONORS DUE THEM, BUT I AM FORCED TO MAKE A FEW PERTINENT OBSERVATIONS REGARDING SOME OF THE SUGGESTIONS.

I AM NOT IN FAVOR OF A 50-YEAR BAR, NOR A NEW 50-YEAR PIN. 50 YEARS, IN ITSELF, DOES NOT INDICATE ANY ACHIEVEMENT EXCEPT POSSIBLY A LITTLE GOOD FORTUNE. I AM PROUD OF THE PRESENT PIN. IT IS DISTINCTIVE AND NEAT. MOST OF US HAVE A WHOLE BOX FULL OF VARIOUS PINS NOW, AND I CAN FORESEE US CARRYING MAGNIFYING GLASSES AROUND AT VARIOUS GATHERINGS TO EXAMINE VARIOUS PINS FOR VITAL STATISTICS.

I AM NOT IN FAVOR OF A CHANGE IN NAME FOR THE CLUB. WE HAVE BUILT UP A BACKGROUND FOR THE PRESENT NAME WHICH WILL CONTINUE TO BE VALID AND MEANINGFUL OVER THE YEARS. TO STRESS "PIONEERING" OF THE MEMBERS WILL DEFINITELY DATE THE CLUB. THE REAL WIRELESS PIONEERS ARE DISAPPEARING FAST. HOW MANY OF US 50-YEAR MEMBERS WILL BE AROUND TEN YEARS FROM NOW? EVEN IN FIVE YEARS THE NUMBER WILL BE GREATLY REDUCED, BUT WE WILL ALWAYS HAVE OLD-OLD TIMERS WITH US. I BELIEVE THAT WE DESIRE A GOOD ACTIVE CLUB (WHICH WE NOW HAVE) BUT DEPLORE THE TENDENCY TO GIVE A NEW PIN OR CERTIFICATE FOR EVERY THIS AND THAT. MOST OF US HAVE STACKS OF THEM AND MORE COMING ALL THE TIME. THEIR VALUE IS NEGATED BY THEIR NUMBER.

IF WE ARE INTENT ON BLOWING OUR HORNS, LET'S BLOW THEM FOR THE ORGANIZATION (THE OOTC) AND NOT FOR OURSELVES. THE BLUEBOOK AND SGT TAKE CARE OF PERSONALS. IF WE DESIRE TO HONOR TRUE PIONEERS, THAT CAN BE DONE WITHOUT PUTTING THEM IN WITH ALL OF US 50-YEAR OLD-OLD TIMERS. WE CAN CONFER HONORARY MEMBERSHIP ON THEM. FURTHERMORE, THE REAL PIONEERS ARE NOT USUALLY THE PIN-WEARING TYPE.

.....CONTINUED NEXT PAGE...



## LETTERS CONTINUED...

HAROLD E. DINGER, W3KH

I AM PROUD OF MY 50-YEAR ENDORSEMENT AND THANK YOU FOR IT, BUT MY PIONEERING ACHIEVEMENTS, IF ANY, WERE EXTREMELY MEAGER. I AM SATISFIED TO BE KNOWN AS AN OOTC. I WOULD LIKE TO THINK THAT MY MORE RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS, IF ANY, FAR OUTWEIGH ANYTHING OBTAINED (EXCEPT PERSONAL PLEASURE) FROM MY SPARK COIL ACTIVITIES.

THE ABOVE COMMENTS ARE NOT MENT TO BE TOO ANTI-PROGRESSIVE, BUT I HAD TO GET THEM OFF MY CHEST AND DIDN'T KNOW HOW ELSE TO DO IT.

73

HAL, W3KH

P.S. PERHAPS I SHOULD SIGN; W3KH(EXTRA), OOTC(50-YR.), QCWA, ARRL, FELLOW: IRE, AIEE, IEEE, AND AAAS, AWA, IARC, URSI, PROF. ENGR., AAOS, MCS, BSRA, ORA,....ET AL.

I AM SURE MOST OOTC MEMBERS CAN FORM A SIMILAR LIST. HOWEVER, I PREFER JUST

HAL, W3KH  
#443

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100 MITRE ST.  
BATHURST. NSW  
23/3/66

DEAR EUNICE:

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR NICE LETTER WHICH DULY ARRIVED SOMETIME AGO. I AM ENCLOSING A COLOR SLIDE SHOWING ONE OF OUR BEST KNOWN HAMS (VK2EO) READING ONE OF MY COPIES OF SGT.

IN 1904 RADIO HISTORY WAS MADE IN THIS CITY AND AM ENCLOSING SOME INFORMATION ON THIS WHICH I THOUGHT MAY BE OF INTEREST FOR SGT. MOST OF THE EQUIPMENT IS STILL IN GOOD ORDER AT THE LOCAL COLLEGE AND HAVE PHOTOGRAPHED THE SPARK COIL AND MERCURY INTERRUPTER. UNFORTUNATELY THERE IS NO TRACE OF ANY RECEIVING EQUIPMENT BUT STRONGLY SUSPECT THAT A COHERER WAS USED (RATHER A FAR CRY FROM A PRESENT DAY COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVER EH?) IF THIS PROVES TO BE OF ENOUGH INTEREST FOR PUBLICATION, WOULD LIKE AN EXTRA COPY OF SGT TO PRESENT TO THE COLLEGE SO THAT THEY COULD KEEP THIS WITH THEIR RECORDS.

EUNICE, IF THEY DECIDE TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT A DIFFERENT BADGE OR '50' YEAR AWARD ETC. THINK THE DESIGN SHOULD BE SOMETHING OF A MORE "STORY TELLING" AIR ABOUT IT..PERHAPS

THE WORDS "EARLY WIRELESS TRANSMISSION" OR SOMETHING LIKE A ROTARY GAP. MANY PEOPLE HAVE SEEN MY BADGE BUT IT DOES NOT MEAN ANYTHING TO THEM AND ONE HAS TO GO INTO LONG EXPLANATIONS ETC. WISH I COULD COME UP WITH A SKETCH OR MORE CONSTRUCTIVE IDEA.

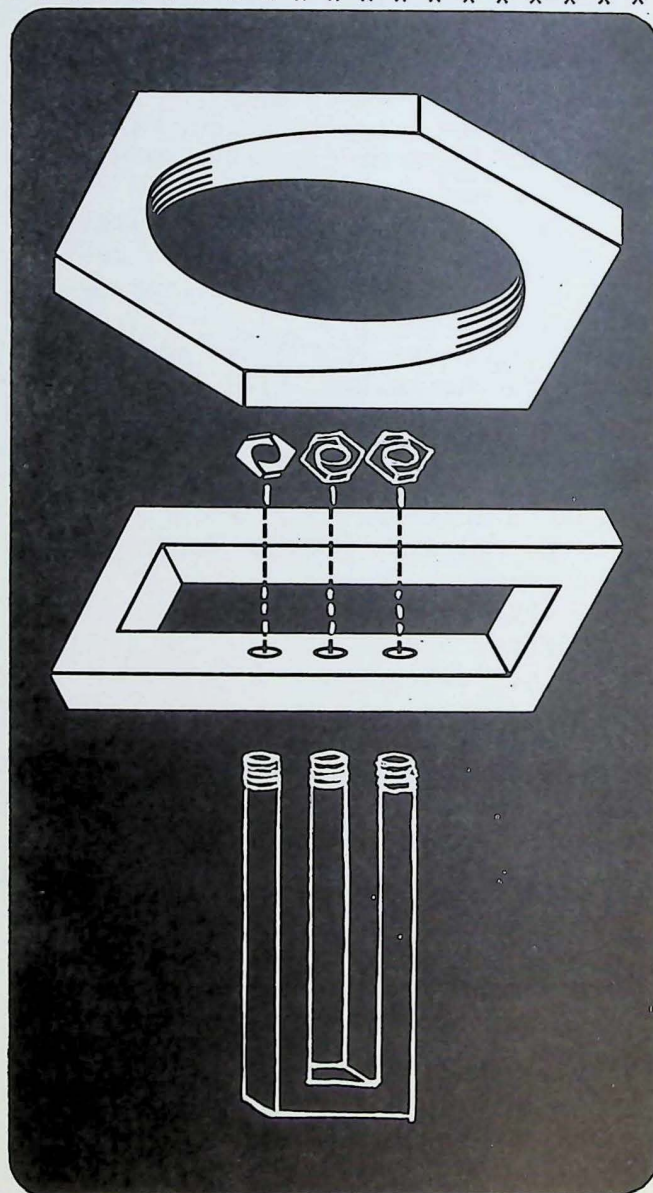
STILL CHASING OOTC CONTACTS ON THE AIR BUT SO FAR HAVE ONLY WORKED W6YY, W5VA, W5RU, W1BCR AND W9SG.

AM ENCLOSING CASH FOR SGT AND THANKS AGAIN FOR YOUR HELP AND KINDNESS. ALL THE BEST

TREW...VK2NS

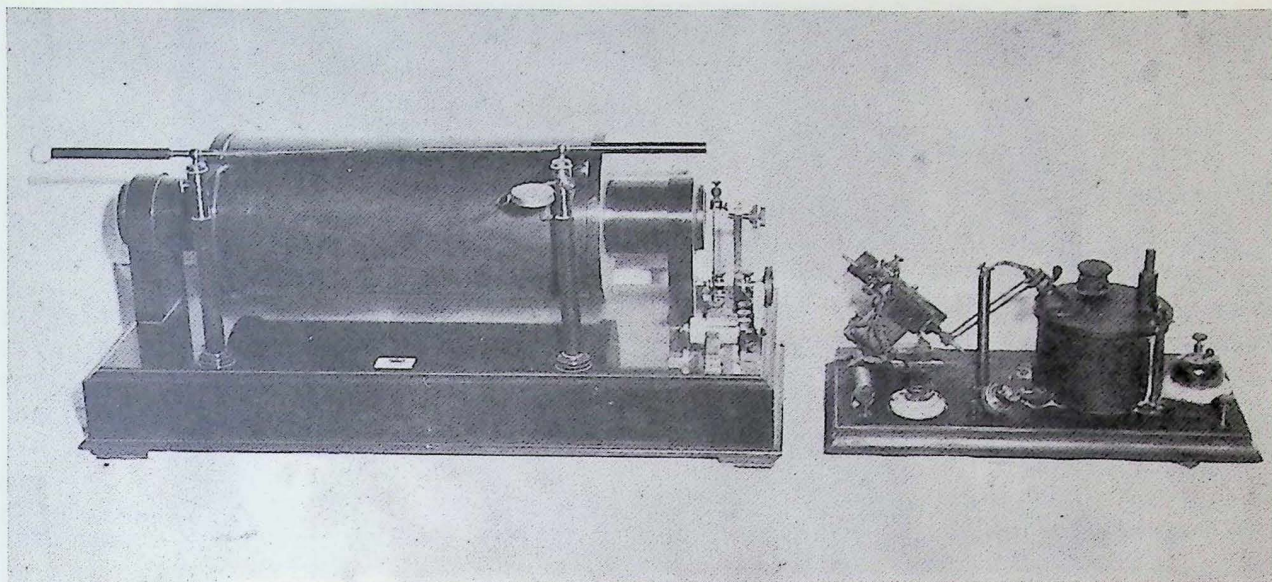
P.S. HOW MUCH ARE THE OOTC QSL CARDS?

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2 LOCK WAY-NUT FOR FASTENING RETTYSNITCH TO A TRIODELTRON.





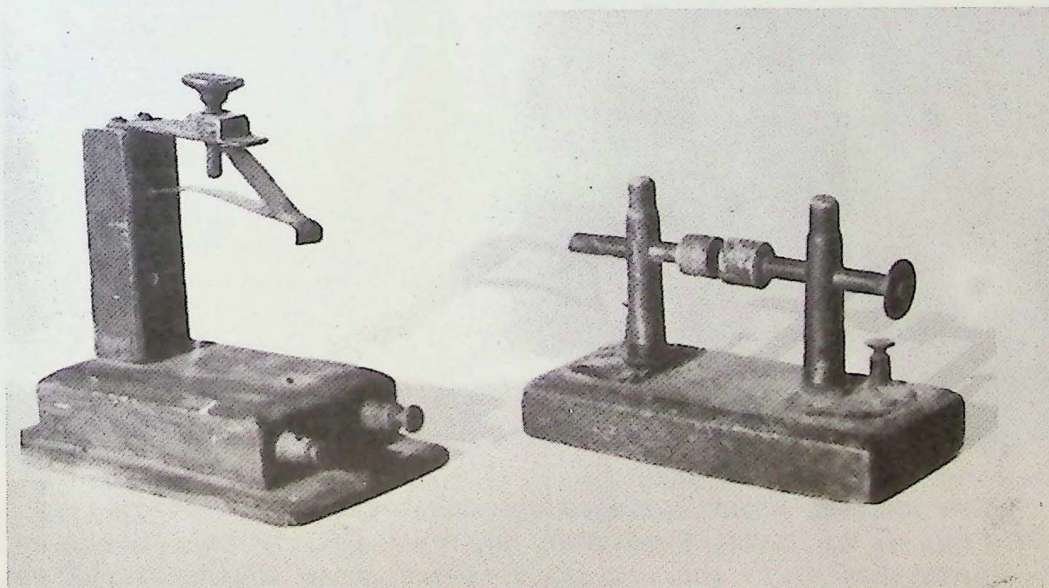
SPARK COIL AND MERCURY INTERRUPTER EQUIPMENT USED AT STANISLAUS COLLEGE

## WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY

FR. J. SLATTERY. C.M.

IN 1904 FR. JOSEPH SLATTERY PIONEERED OVERLAND RADIO TRANSMISSION IN AUSTRALIA AT ST. STANISLAUS COLLEGE, BATHURST. HIS FIRST EXPERIMENTS WERE CONDUCTED IN THE COLLEGE GROUNDS WHERE HE DID THE TRANSMITTING AND FR. M. O'REILLY WITH MR. JOHN KING AT THE RECEIVING END. WITH THIS SUCCESS HE THEN TRANSMITTED FROM THE COLLEGE TO THE TOWER OF ST. MICHAEL AND JOHN'S CATHEDRAL, A DISTANCE OF  $3/4$  MILE. EMBOLDENED BY HIS SUCCESS HE THEN SENT A MESSAGE FROM THE COLLEGE TO THE CATHOLIC PRESBYTERY AT KELSO, A DISTANCE OF 3 MILES. AT THE RECEIVING END OF THIS EXPERIMENT WERE FATHERS FLANAGAN AND O'REILLY C.M. WE HOLD THAT FATHER SLATTERY WAS ONE OF THE FIRST, IF NOT THE FIRST, TO SUCCESSFULLY TRANSMIT RADIO OVERLAND IN AUSTRALIA.

SUBMITTED BY VK2NS



THESE "TRANCEIVER" PARTS ARE ALL THAT IS LEFT OF VK2NS', TREW'S RIG OF 1914.





ARTHUR LYNCH, W4DKJ, WAS MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE W2USA RADIO CLUB AND THE WORLD'S FAIRAMATEUR RADIO STATION IN 1939. THE PICTURE ABOVE SHOWS HIM AT HIS HALLICRAFTER RIG AS HE IS TODAY, 25 YEARS LATER, IN FLORIDA. THE D104 IS ONE USED AT W2USA IN 1939.



ON OPENING NIGHT, OUTSIDE OUR GLASS-ENCLOSED STUDIO, ARE MR. W. A. READY, PRESIDENT, NATIONAL CO., MALDEN, MASS. WHO PROVIDED W2USA AND W2DKJ/2 WITH THE AUDIO EQUIPMENT FOR BOTH THE TV STATIONS, AS WELL AS SEVERAL OF THE EQUIPMENTS, USED AT W2USA. WITH HIM IS PHIL RICHARDS, LOANED TO US BY R.C.A. TO ASSIST LEE WALLER, IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE.



## ARTICLES

W2USA/ TV

NEW YORK WORLDS FAIR 1940

BY: ARTHUR H. LYNCH, W4DKJ

TWO WAY TELEVISION, WITH VOICE, WAS ACCOMPLISHED AT THE NEW YORK WORLDS FAIR IN 1940, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HISTORY. IT IS VERY INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT THIS REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT WAS THE WORK OF RADIO AMATEURS.

TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, THE FEAT WAS NEVER DUPLICATED, SINCE THAT TIME, EVEN COMMERCIALY, UNTIL THE RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENT, USING TELSTAR!. THERE ARE SOME WHO HAVE QUESTIONED THAT STATEMENT AND WHO POINT TO THE DEBATES BETWEEN KENNEDY AND NIXON, BOTH APPEARING ON MILLIONS OF SCREENS AT THE SAME TIME AND QUESTIONING AND ANSWERING EACH OTHER. REMARKABLE AS THAT WAS, IT WAS NOT IN THE SAME CATEGORY AS THE W2USA/TV WORK, FOR SEVERAL REASONS. FIRST AND FOREMOST IT WAS DONE BY CABLE. THE ONLY PART DONE BY RADIO WAS THE TRANSMISSIONS FROM THE VARIOUS TV STATIONS TO THE HOMES OF THE VIEWERS.

WHILE THE STORY OF W2USA - THE SIX STATION AMATEUR SET-UP AT THE WORLDS FAIR, 1939 - IS "OLD HAT" TO MANY OLD TIMERS, THERE ARE NOW THOUSANDS WHO NEVER HEARD OF IT AND A BRIEF REVIEW IS INDICATED.

ONE OF THE MOST ACTIVE AMATEUR RADIO GROUPS IN THE METROPOLITAN NEW YORK AREA WAS THE GARDEN CITY RADIO CLUB, OF GARDEN CITY, L.I. ONE OF THE OUTSTANDING FEATURES OF THAT CLUB WAS THE FACT THAT IT HAD NO CHARTER, BY-LAWS, NO OFFICERS AND NO REGULAR MEETING TIMES. BY GENERAL CHOICE, STANLEY P. MCMINN, W2WD\* WAS "HONORARY SECRETARY." \*LATER BECAME W4WD AND NOW A "SILENT KEY."

WHEN SEVERAL OF THE "GANG" GOT THEIR HEADS TOGETHER AND THOUGHT WE SHOULD HAVE A MEETING, MAC WOULD BE NOTIFIED AND IT WAS HIS JOB TO PASS THE WORD TO ALL THE MEMBERS. MOST OF THE MEETINGS WERE SUMPTUOUS AFFAIRS, INCLUDING COMPLETE BAR SERVICE, THE MEETING AND THEN ROAST TURKEY AND ROAST HAM, WITH BEER, WINE OR ALE. AS RULE, SOME PROMINENT PERSON, WHO HAPPENED TO BE IN THE NEW YORK AREA, WOULD BE THE GUEST OF HONOR. THESE MEETINGS GENERALLY TOOK PLACE IN THE ELABORATE BASEMENT PLAY ROOMS, IN THE HOME OF FORMER A.R.R.L. HUDSON DIVISION, DIRECTOR DR. LAWRENCE J. DUNN, THEN W2CLA AND NOW W2LP.

WHEN DR. JOHN S. YOUNG, THE FAMOUS ANNOUNCER, WAS ASKED BY GROVER WHALEN, PRES. OF THE N. Y. WORLDS FAIR., 1939, TO BECOME HEAD OF THE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT, IT WAS DR. YOUNG'S IDEA THAT AMATEUR RADIO SHOULD HAVE A PROMINENT PLACE IN THE FAIR'S ACTIVITIES. HE COMMUNICATED WITH A.R.R.L AND WAS TOLD THAT DR. DUNN COULD, NO DOUBT, BE OF GREAT ASSISTANCE TO HIM. HE MOST CERTAINLY WAS. AT HIS SUGGESTION, THE W2USA RADIO CLUB, INC. WAS ORGANIZED. THERE WERE FIVE DIRECTORS: L. M. COCKADAY, W2JCY; C.B. COOPER, FISCAL DIRECTOR; ARTHUR H. LYNCH, W2DKJ, MANAGING DIRECTOR; DR. A. L. WALSH, W2BW AND JOHN S. YOUNG, LIAISON DIRECTOR. THERE WAS A VERY IMPRESSIVE LIST OF "HONORARY MEMBERS" INCLUDING; DR. LEE DEFOREST, PRES. LEE DE FOREST LABORATORIES; PAUL F. GODLEY, PRES RADIO CLUB OF AMERICA; RAYMOND A. HEISING, PRES INSTITUTE OF RADIO ENGINEERS; LENOX R. LOHR, PRES., NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY; ALFRED J. MCCOSKER, PRES., STATION WOR; WILLIAM S. MCGONIGAL, PRES., VETERAN WIRELESS OPERATORS ASSOC.; WILLIAM S. PALEY, PRES., COLUMBIA BROADCASTING COMPANY, AND EUGENE C. WOODRUFF, PRES. AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE. IN ANY ONE'S BOOK THAT WOULD SEEM TO BE AN IMPRESSIVE GROUP!

ACTUALLY, THE WORK DONE AT THE WORLD'S FAIR BEGAN LONG BEFORE THE FAIR OPENED. FOR INSTANCE, THE FAMOUS "ROUND-THE WORLD - ROUND THE CLOCK" RELAY MESSAGE, TO STATIONS THROUGH - OUT THE WORLD, FROM GROVER WHALEN, WAS SENT EVERY HOUR, ON THE HOUR, FOR TWENTY FOUR HOURS, ON NEW YEARS DAY, 1939, FROM THE FAIR GROUNDS, THROUGH W2DKJ/2, TO MANY RELAY STATIONS, IN THE NEW YORK AREA AND RELAYED BY THEM, ON MOST OF THE AMATEUR BANDS, GIVING US WORLD COVERAGE. WITHIN AN UNBELIEVABLE SHORT TIME, JUST FOUR HOURS, WE RECEIVED A REPLY, FROM A LLAMA PRIEST, IN THIBET.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE IMPRESSION WAS CREATED IN SOME QUARTERS, THAT ALL WORK, FROM THE FAIR WAS TO BE CARRIED ON ON 5 METERS, WHICH WAS THE FREQUENCY (WAVE LENGTH, IF YOU WISH) TO BE USED AT W2USA, WHEN WE RECEIVED OUR LICENSE. INCIDENTALLY, THE LICENSE WAS NOT

.....CONTINUED NEXT PAGE.....





SPECTATORS AT OPENING OF W2USA TWO-WAY TELEVISION DEMONSTRATION - FIRST OF IT'S KIND IN THE WORLD  
 THE "KEYSTONE LADY, LOANED BY ONE OF OUR NEIGHBORS, DOES DUTY ANY TIMES A DAY, IN ASSISTING BILL MEISSNER, W2KY  
 HOST OF THE WORLD'S FAIR END OF THE CIRCUIT, TO GET HIS EQUIPMENT LINED UP AND READY FOR THE REGULAR DEMONSTRATIONS.



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W2USA/ TV

NEW YORK WORLDS FAIR 1940

BY: ARTHUR H. LYNCH, W4DKJ

...CONTINUED....

RECEIVED UNTIL THE DAY THE FAIR OPENED. ALL COMMUNICATIONS, PRIOR TO THAT WERE HANDLED BY W2DKJ/2, LOCATED AT THE FAIR GROUNDS. ACTUALLY, WHEN WE WERE COMPLETELY SET UP, WE HAD COMPLETE RECEIVING, TRANSMITTING AND ANTENNA FACILITIES OPERATING ON EVERY AMATEUR BAND THEN AVAILABLE - AND ALL FROM A SINGLE ROOM, IN THE HALL OF COMMUNICATIONS.

SOME OF THE FINEST OPERATORS IN THE COUNTRY HELPED US, BOTH AT OUR TEMPORARY "SHACK" AND THROUGH THEIR HOME STATIONS, HANDLING "RELAYS". ULTIMATELY, WHEN WE DID GET OUR W2USA LICENSE, MOST OF OUR PROBLEMS WERE WASHED OUT. BECAUSE I WAS ABLE TO PUT IN THE NECESSARY TIME TO CONDUCT AFFAIRS AT W2USA, I WAS CHOSEN MANAGING DIRECTOR. LOOKING BACK ON THE JOB DONE, AT THAT TIME, I TAKE A GREAT DEAL OF PRIDE IN THE NUMBER OF "FIRSTS" BORN THERE. AND THAT BRINGS US TO THE STORY OF W2USA/TV.

WHILE CONTROLLING THE OPERATION OF W2USA, I WAS OPERATING A RADIO MANUFACTURING BUSINESS AMONG OTHER THINGS, SUCH AS BEING THE NEW YORK REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NATIONAL COMPANY. AS A MEMBER OF THE RADIO MANUFACTURERS' ASSOC., I WAS ATTENDING THE ANNUAL "TRADE SHOW", OF RMA, IN CHICAGO. ED BRADDOCK, W3BAY, OF THE AMATEUR DIVISION OF THE RADIO CORP. OF AMERICA AND AN OLD FRIEND OF MINE, INVITED ME TO THE RCA ROOM, TO WITNESS THE DEMONSTRATION OF THE FIRST SHOWING OF A SPECIAL TUBE, WHICH RCA WAS INTRODUCING AMATEUR FOR TV USE. THE SHOW WAS REMARKABLE! FROM THEIR ROOM, IN THE OLD STEVENS HOTEL, THEY WERE ABLE TO PRODUCE RATHER GOOD PICTURES OF BOATS, OUT IN THE LAKE, A COUPLE OF MILES AWAY. RIGHT THEN THE IDEA OF W2USA/TV WAS BORN. MONTHS OF HARD WORK FOLLOWED. AS BRIEFLY AS I CAN TELL IT, WITHOUT LEAVING OUT ANY OF THOSE WHO HELPED TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS, HERE WE GO!

FIRST, WE SECURED THE ASSISTANCE OF LEE WALLER, W2BR0, WHO HAD PUT ON THE SHOW IN CHICAGO. USING SOME OF THE TECHNIQUES, DESCRIBED IN A SERIES OF ARTICLES BY J.B. SHERMAN AND HIMSELF, WHICH HAD APPEARED IN THE MAY, JUNE AND JULY ISSUES OF QST, AND WITH THE COOPERATION OF MY GOOD FRIEND, CLIFF DEBTON, THEN IN CHARGE OF THE RADIO DEPARTMENT OF THE N.Y. DAILY NEWS, SET UP A TRANSMITTER ON THE ROOF OF THE DAILY NEWS

BUILDING, IN NEW YORK AND A RECEIVING RIG, IN OUR "HAM SHACK" IN THE COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING, AT THE FAIR GROUNDS. FRED CUSICK, W2HID, AN ENGINEER WITH CBS, WAS SELECTED TO RUN THAT SHOW. BOY! WHAT A JOB HE DID!! FRED, BY THE WAY, IS STILL VERY ACTIVE AND HAS DONE MUCH TRAVELING WITH THE ARTHUR GODFREY SHOW. SO, WITH THIS INTRODUCTION, MUCH LONGER THAN I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE, I BELIEVE THE PHOTOS, WITH THEIR CAPTIONS CAN GIVE YOU A FAIR IDEA OF THE JOB, DONE ENTIRELY BY AMATEURS, MORE THAN A QUARTER OF A CENTURY AGO, OF WHICH THEY HAVE EVERY REASON TO BE VERY PROUD!!

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ON THE OPENING NIGHT OF THE TWO-WAY TV/VOICE CIRCUIT WAS INAUGURATED AT W2USA, THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM WAS RECEIVED FROM KENNETH B. WARNER, W1EH, SECRETARY OF THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE AND EDITOR OF THE ORGANIZATION'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE, QST.

"MR. ARTHUR LYNCH, W2USA. 9/27/'40

DEAR ART:

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE FIRST AMATEUR TWO-WAY TELEVISION. VERY SORRY EXACTING PUBLICATION SCHEDULE HAS PREVENTED BY BEING WITH YOU ON THIS HISTORY-MAKING OCCASION. I'LL BE SEEING YOU - ONE OF THESE DAYS - LITERALLY.

73

KEN WARNER, A.R.R.L. "

RECEIVED AT THE FAIR AT 7:15 P.M. THE TELEGRAM WAS RELAYED TO LYNCH, AT HIS HOME STATION, IN GARDEN CITY, L.I., ON FIVE METERS, A BIT LATER IN THE EVENING.

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AT THE TIME HE WAS SECRETARY OF THE GARDEN CITY RADIO CLUB AND THE OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER OF W2USA, STANLEY P. MCMINN, (WAS EDITOR OF AUTOMOTIVE MERCHANDISING MAGAZINE.) MOST OF THE PHOTOS SHOWN HERE WERE TAKEN, DEVELOPED AND PRINTED BY HIM.

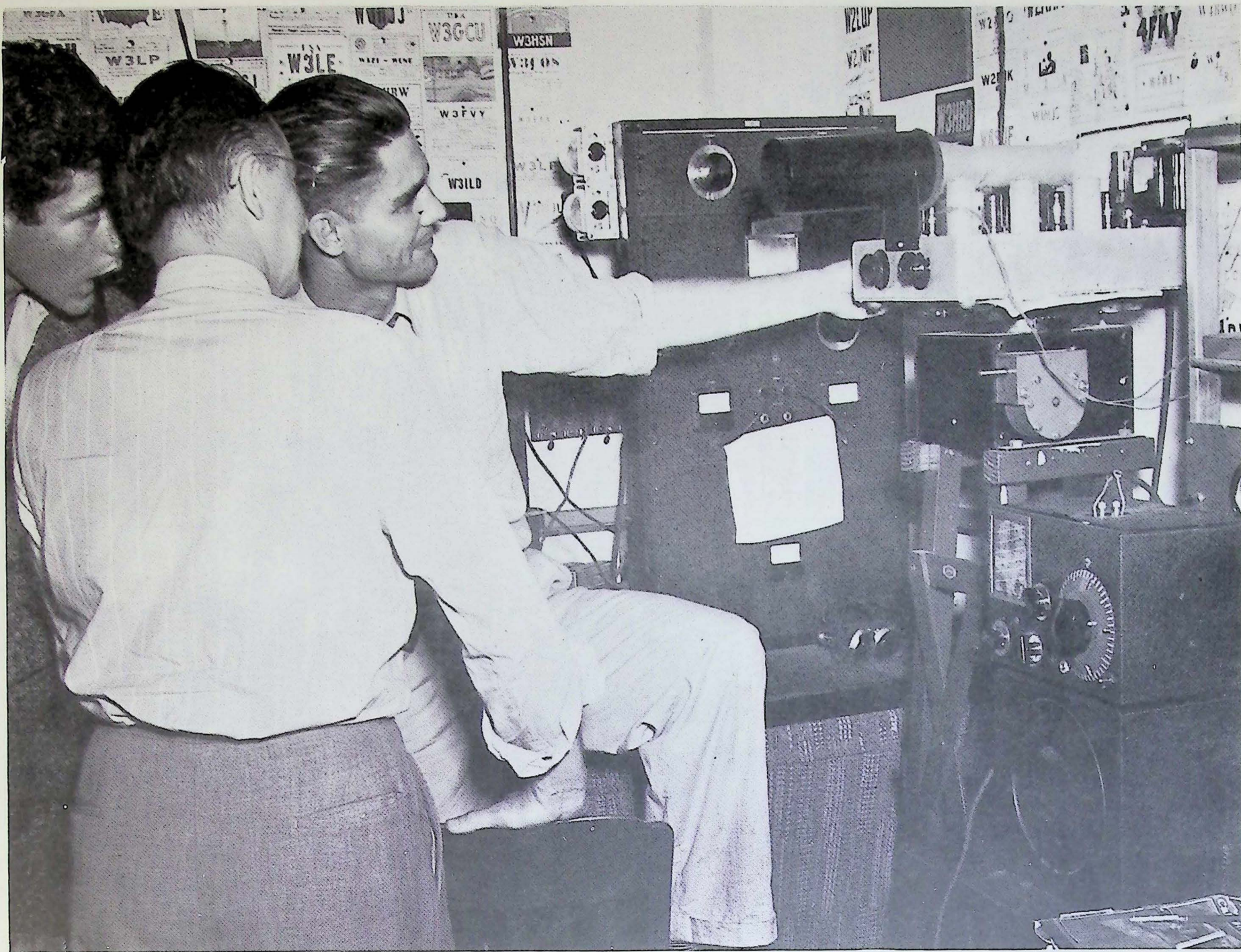
ED BRADDOCK, IS NOW W2BAY, HE IS STILL IN HADDONFIELD, N.J. BUT IS NO LONGER ASSOCIATED WITH RCA, BUT IS AN INDEPENDENT MANUFACTURERS' REPRESENTATIVE. AMONG HIS TOP-FLIGHT ACCOUNTS HE SELLS FOR THE NATIONAL COMPANY.

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# Spark-Bay Times

JUNE 1966



LEE WALLER, W2BRO, LOOKS AT THE PICTURE TUBE OF THE HOME-BUILT RECEIVER, AS THE FIRST PICTURE WAS RECEIVED FROM W2DKJ/2, ON THE ROOF OF THE N.Y. DAILY NEWS BUILDING, EIGHT MILES AWAY, WHERE FRED CUSICK, W2HID, A CBS ENGINEER, WORKED FOR W2USA, ON HIS SPARE TIME.



## DEAF-MUTES "TALK" VIA NEW AMATEUR TELEVISION SYSTEM

INTERPRETERS ON HAND AS SILENT WOMEN USE SIGN LANGUAGE

TWO DEAF-MUTES HAVE HELD THE FIRST SIGN LANGUAGE "CONVERSATION" BY RADIO IN NEW YORK BY MEANS OF THE PIONEERING TWO-WAY TELEVISION CIRCUIT SET UP BY RADIO AMATEURS BETWEEN A MANHATTAN SKYSCRAPER AND THE COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING AT THE WORLD'S FAIR, EIGHT MILES AWAY.

ANOTHER REMARKABLE TELEVISION "FIRST" WAS ACHIEVED DURING THIS BROADCAST LANGUAGE IMAGES 17 MILES AWAY IN THE NORTHERN NASSAU RADIO CLUB HOUSE AT WILLISTON, LONG ISLAND. HE CLAIMS TO HAVE SET A NEW "DX" RECORD FOR AMATEUR TELEVISION RECEPTION.

BOTH THE TWO-WAY TELEVISION SYSTEM AND DR. GRIFFIN'S OWN UNIT UTILIZE THE NEW ICONOSCOPE TUBE DEVELOPED BY RCA TO PICK UP TELEVISION IMAGES. THIS TUBE, BECAUSE OF ITS HIGH EFFICIENCY AND EXTREMELY LOW PRICE (APPROXIMATELY THAT OF A MICROPHONE), HAS MADE AMATEUR TELEVISION POSSIBLE.

THE "TALK" BY THE DEAF-MUTES WAS BUT ONE OF THE MANY EXPERIMENTS IN TELEVISION BEING CONDUCTED BY THE FAIR'S AMATEUR RADIO CLUB DURING PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS OF THE TWO-WAY SYSTEM SEVERAL TIMES DAILY. MISS BERTHA O'DONNELL OF

THE BRONX, AND MISS ADELE COSTA, OF MANHATTAN, CARRIED ON THE CONVERSATION IN THE SIGN LANGUAGE WHILE INTERPRETERS STOOD BY TO UNFOLD THE TALK TO BYSTANDERS IN BOTH STUDIOS. THE IMAGE DEFINITION WAS VERY GOOD, VIEWERS ASSERTED, AND THE WOMEN "TALKED" WITH THE SAME EASE AS IF THEY HAD BEEN IN THE SAME ROOM.

MR. GRIFFIN TOLD OF HIS NEW RECEIVER UNIT IN A LETTER TO EDWARD BRADDOCK, RCA AMATEUR RADIO SALES MANAGER. HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE TELEVISION TRANSMITTER AT THE FAIR IS ONLY 12 MILES FROM THE RADIO CLUBHOUSE, HE ACTUALLY RECEIVED THE TELECAST OF THE DEAF-MUTE CONVERSATION FROM THE DAILY NEWS BUILDING STUDIO, 17 MILES AWAY.

HE ESTIMATED THAT HIS NEW RECEIVER HAS APPROXIMATELY 100 TIMES THE GAIN OF OTHER MODELS, ADDING THAT HE HAS RUN INTO A WHOLE NEW SET OF INTERESTING PROBLEMS BECAUSE OF THE HIGH SENSITIVITY. HE INDICATED HE IS PLANNING OTHER TELEVISION TESTS FROM POINTS IN NEW JERSEY 25 MILES AWAY FROM THE AMATEUR TELEVISION STATION IN NEW YORK.

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THIS PIX, OF LOLA LANE, STAR OF "GIRLS ON THE ROAD", TAKEN WITH ORDINARY CAMERA EQUIPMENT, FROM THE FRONT OF THE PICTURE TUBE, GIVE AN IDEA OF THE DEFINITION WHICH WAS POSSIBLE. STILLS WERE USED FOR SETTING-UP, BUT "LIVE" SUBJECTS SEEMED MUCH CLEARER. IT WAS GENERALLY AGREED THAT DEFINITION WAS CONSIDERABLY BETTER THAN THIS PIC. WOULD INDICATE.

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W. A. READY, WIFE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL COMPANY WHOSE TRANSMITTERS AND RECEIVERS WERE USED FOR THE VOICE PORTION OF THE CIRCUIT.



HERE'S ONE FOR THE BOOK

By: HOWARD S. PYLE,  
"YB" of W7OE

MY LITTLE 'PLUG' FOR THE QRP INTERNATIONAL RADIO CLUB, ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE, BRINGS TO MIND A HUMOROUS INCIDENT WHICH PROBABLY INFLUENCED ME, AT LEAST SUB-CONSCIOUSLY, TO REMAIN A 'LOW POWER MAN' DURING ALL OF MY HAM CAREER! FACT....I'VE NEVER HAD A TUBE TRANSMITTER OF AS MUCH AS 100 WATTS AND IN THE OLD SPARK DAYS, MY GREATEST POWER WAS A QUARTER GALLON!

I WAS 8 DAG IN CINCINNATI IN 1922 WHEN I WAS NOTIFIED THAT I HAD PASSED THE EXAMINATION FOR FEDERAL RADIO INSPECTOR AND WOULD PROBABLY RECEIVE APPOINTMENT TO FILL THE NEXT VACANCY. I WAS OPERATING A 900 CYCLE  $\frac{1}{4}$  KW FRENCH AIRPLANE RIG (SURPLUS FROM WW-1) AT THE TIME. WITH APPOINTMENT AS A RADIO INSPECTOR APPARENTLY IMMINENT, IT LOOKED LIKE I'D BETTER WISE UP TO THESE NEW-FANGLED VACUUM TUBE TRANSMITTERS WITH WHICH I'D DOUBTLESS SOON BE ASSOCIATED.

I HAD BEEN TOYING WITH THE IDEA OF TRYING VT TRANSMISSION, FOR QUITE AWHILE. I HAD HEARD THEM NIGHTLY ON MY LITTLE REINARTZ RECEIVER AND SOME PRETTY UNBELIEVABLE CONTACTS WERE BEING MADE WITH 5 AND 10 WATTS..MOSTLY USING VT-2 TUBES SCROUNGED FROM WW-1 MILITARY SOURCES. THINKING IN TERMS OF A COUPLE OF THESE BOTTLES I CONTACTED MY NEIGHBORING HAM BUDDY, RUSS BLAIR; I THINK HE WAS 8ER BUT I'M NOT SURE. RUSS SCOFFED AT MY TEN WATT IDEA; HE HAD BEEN A KILOWATT ROCK-CRUSHER HAM BUT HAD RECENTLY GONE OVER TO A COUPLE OF UV-203'S RATED AS 'FIFTY WATTS', RUNNING THEM IN PARALLEL. THE IMPROVED OPERATION WHICH HE EXPERIENCED OVER HIS OLD KILOWATT ROTARY WAS UNBELIEVABLE BUT INDISPUTABLE. RUSS POURED ON THE PATTEN AND EVENTUALLY SOLD ME, BUT WITH SOME MISGIVING, ON DUPLICATING HIS LASH-UP. TOOK A BIT MORE DOUGH THAN I'D FIGURED ON INITIALLY WHAT WITH UV-203'S AT \$30 A THROW; PLUS A 1500 VOLT PLATE TRANSFORMER, HEAVY DUTY RECTIFIER TUBES, AN RCA 'RIBBON' INDUCTANCE AND A LOT OF MINOR ACCESSORY ITEMS. I DROPPED ABOUT \$125, STILL WITH SOME DOUBTS WHETHER IT WOULD PROVE WORTHWHILE.

ANYWAY, IN DUE TIME I HAD THE THING ALL NICELY MOUNTED AND WIRED. I MUSTERED NERVE ENOUGH TO TRY THE FILAMENT CIRCUITS AND ALL APPEARED WELL; ALL FOUR TUBES LIT UP LIKE AN AURORA BOREALIS WHICH WAS NORMAL ILLUMINATION THEN BUT I JUST COULDN'T SUMMON SUFFICIENT COURAGE TO FLIP THE PLATE SWITCH AND MAYBE KNOCK THE NEEDLE OUT OF A \$7 PLATE MILLIAMETER! SO....I PHONED RUSS AND TOLD HIM THAT WITH HIS

BACKGROUND IN TUBE TRANSMISSION, SLIGHT THOUGH IT WAS BY THEN, HE'D BETTER COME OVER AND INITIATE ME INTO THE INTRICACIES OF TUNING THE THING UP AND GETTING IT PERKING. HE AGREED WITH ALACRITY AND I STOOD BY TILL HE ARRIVED.

CONFIDENCE SIMPLY OOOZED FROM HIM; A QUICK LOOK AT THE GLOW OF THE FILAMENTS AND HE WAS OFF. HE QUICKLY BUT CASUALLY PULLED CLIPS OFF THE INDUCTANCE, FROWNED FOR A MINUTE IN DEEP THOUGHT AND THEN JABBED THEM HERE AND THERE AROUND THE RIBBON. "THAT OUGHT TO BE SOMEWHERE AROUND 200 METERS; LET'S SEE WHAT SHE'LL DO" AND WITH THAT HE FLIPPED THE PLATE SWITCH. ALL SEEMED WELL BUT IN THOSE DAYS WE KEYED THE CENTER TAP OF THE HIGH VOLTAGE WINDING, SO HE HIT THE KEY. OH! BOY! EMITTING A GRUNT LIKE A HOG IN DISTRESS, ACCOMPANIED BY A 'BLUSHING' AT THE PLATES OF ALL TUBES AND A SUDDEN DOUBLING OF THE FILAMENT BRILLIANCY, THE RIG JUST GAVE UP..RIGHT NOW! WE PULLED THE MAIN POWER SWITCH AND BEGAN A GINGERLY 'POKING' PROCESS NEITHER OF US BEING QUITE SURE JUST WHERE TO LOOK OR WHAT TO DO! EARLY IN OUR SEARCH IT OCCURRED TO US TO CHECK THE TUBE FILAMENTS..THAT DID IT! TWO TUBES AT \$30 EACH WERE NOW JUST SO MUCH BALLAST! AS WHO WAS IT USED TO SAY: "OF FILAMENTS THERE WAS NIX!" THAT DID IT..VACUUM TUBE TRANSMISSION IN THE HIGH(?) POWER BRACKET WENT OUT THE WINDOW FOR ME RIGHT THEN AND THERE!

SOMETHING HAPPENED..BUT WHAT? MY CURIOSITY BEING ABOUT AVERAGE I SPENT A BIT OF TIME CHECKING THROUGH THE VARIOUS COMPONENTS ALL OF WHICH APPEARED OK INCLUDING THE TWO RECTIFIER TUBES UNTIL I CAME TO THE FILTER CONDENSER. NOT WANTING A SELF-RECTIFIED PLATE SUPPLY (THEN LEGAL) I INITIALLY HELD OUT FOR PURE DC WITH A CONVENTIONAL FILTER SYSTEM. WITH THE COSTS MOUNTING DURING CONSTRUCTION, I HAD MADE THE MISTAKE OF SHOPPING THROUGH WW-1 SURPLUS UNTIL I CAME UP WITH A COUPLE OF 4 MFD, 200 VOLT SEALED MILITARY CAPACITORS AT A PRICE WAY BELOW THE CURRENT HAM MARKET OFFERINGS. WHERE THEY'D BEEN AND HOW USED WAS ANYONES GUESS BUT BOTH TESTED DEAD SHORT; ENOUGH TO MAKE ANY

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HERE'S ONE FOR THE BOOK

BY: HOWARD S. PYLE,

"YB" OF W7OE

.....CONTINUED.....

1500 VOLT SUPPLY TOSS IT'S DENTURES!

I WAS STILL ADAMANT THOUGH BUT THE THOUGHT OF REPLACING BOTH FILTER CONDENSERS (THE FANCY NAME WE USE NOW.. 'CAPACITORS' WAS FAR IN THE FUTURE) PLUS SIXTY BUX FOR A COUPLE OF 203'S WAS JUST A BIT MORE THAN MY STOMACH AND MY WALLET COULD SWALLOW.

THE OUTCOME? I COMPROMISED; PAID EIGHT BUX APIECE FOR A COUPLE OF BRAND NEW 4 MIKE, 2000V CONDENSERS AFTER CAREFULLY CHECKING THEM OUT IN THE DEALER'S STORE, INSTALLED THEM IN THE RIG AND SOLD THE WHOLE BUSINESS LESS TUBES, FOR FIFTY BUX! AND...THE GUY WHO BOUGHT IT, UP IN DAYTON, OHIO, STUCK IN A COUPLE OF 203'S MOVED THE CLIPS ON THE INDUCTANCE A COUPLE OF TIMES, AND FROM THERE ON OUT, 'WORKED THE WORLD' AND HAD NO TROUBLES THAT I EVER HEARD OF! ME? I BOUGHT A UV-202 FIVE

WATTER AND A MODEST HANDFUL OF SMALL PARTS, TOSSED THE THING TOGETHER AND MY FIRST CONTACT WAS WITH THE SEEFRED BROTHERS, 6EA, IN CALIFORNIA! FIFTEEN BUX AND I WAS ON THE AIR IN A MUCH BIGGER WAY THAN MY  $\frac{1}{4}$  KW QUENCHED SPARK RIG EVER WAS! SEE NOW WHY I'VE CONSISTENTLY STUCK TO LOW POWER?

THE MORAL TO THIS LITTLE STORY, IF ANY, COULD BE, "WHEN YOU LAY OUT YOUR DOUGH FOR SURPLUS GEAR WHICH COULD BE 'SOUR', BY ALL MEANS GIVE IT THE WORKS WITH ADEQUATE TEST EQUIPMENT BEFORE YOU INCORPORATE IT IN SOME EXPENSIVE CIRCUITRY WHICH IT COULD RUIN!

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"OLD HOT WIRE", H. W. CASTNER. Ex 1 BI - 1 UQ - W! IIE - NAVY CHIEF --OOT (50)

## WERE YOU REALLY AN OPERATOR?

WHEN THE PLENIPOTENTIARIES OF THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD GOT TOGETHER IN BERNE, SWITZERLAND, IN 1912, TO AGREE ON STANDARD PROCEEDURE IN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION, THEY NOT ONLY AGREED TO ASSIGN CERTAIN LETTERS TO INDIVIDUAL NATIONS, BUT THEY PROVIDED WAYS TO OVERCOME THE LANGUAGE BARRIER, BY THE INTERNATIONAL "Q" SIGNALS.

IT SOON BECAME APPARENT THAT ADDITIONAL SIGNALS SHOULD BE STANDARIZED FOR CONVENTIONAL SIGNALS, AS WELL AS INDIVIDUAL SIGNALS FOR EVERY PUNCTUATION MARK AND VARIOUS LETTERS IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES, SUCH AS THE GERMAN A, O, U, THE FRENCH E, THE SPANISH N AND THE SCANDINAVIAN A. SOMETHING HAD TO BE DONE WITH THE SPANISH GERMAN CH ALSO, AS WELL AS CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF A STANDARD DISTRESS SIGNAL: AND ALL THE NECESSARY CONVENTIONAL SIGNALS TO EXPEDITE COMMUNICATION AND UNDERSTANDING. MANY OF THE OLD TIMERS WILL REMEMBER THE CHARTS THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PUT OUT,

CONTAINING ALL OF THESE. THEY WERE KNOWN AND UNDERSTOOD BY ALL FIRST CLASS OPERATORS, AND COMMONLY USED IN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION. KNOWLEDGE OF THE CONVENTIONAL SIGNALS WAS QUITE COMMON, BUT IT WAS SELDOM THAT YOU WORKED AN OPERATOR WHO KNEW THE SIGNALS FOR ALL THE PUNCTUATIONS..ALTHOUGH THEY WERE AVAILABLE TO ALL.

ALONG WITH ALL OF THIS WE HAD THAT PROGRESSIVE "BREED OF CATS" KNOWN AS THE "AMERICAN MORSE MEN". THEY HAD INVENTED A FASTER CODE, AND HAD EVEN CREATED A STANDARD SET OF ABBREVIATIONS KNOWN AS "PHILLIP'S CODE". EVERYONE HAD ONE OF THESE LITTLE BOOKS FOR REFERENCE AND IT GREATLY SPEEDED UP SUCH WORK AS ASSOCIATED PRESS WIRES AND STOCK BROKER OPERATORS. HOW MANY OF YOU OLD TIMERS WOULD KNOW WHAT TO HECK WAS GOING ON IF A FAST MORSE WIRE OPENED UP WITH "T SNT CVD WSN TD". THE REAL MORSE MAN WOULD WRITE: THE UNITED STATES SENATE CONVENED IN WASHINGTON TODAY."

QUITE A FEW OF THE BEST CONTINENTAL CODE MEN ALSO USED THESE SIGNALS. SOME OF THEM HAVE

.....CONTINUED NEXT PAGE.....



WERE YOU REALLY AN OPERATOR? ...CONTINUED..

BEEN IN COMMON USE BY HAMS FOR YEARS. THERE ARE ALSO SOME SIGNALS WHICH ARE VERY COMMON BUT MOST OPERATORS NEVER KNEW WHERE THEY CAME FROM. TAKE THE COMMON SK. I NEVER KNEW BUT A FEW OPERATORS WHO KNEW THAT IT WAS BORROWED FROM THE MORSE "30" IT IS THE SAME SIGNAL WITH DIFFERENT SPACING.

LET'S GET DOWN TO CASES. DURING WORLD WAR I, THIS NEW CW WORK WAS CONSIDERED THE ARISTOCRATIC BRANCH OF THE ART. CW OPERATORS WERE SCARCE, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO UNDERSTOOD THE TRICKS OF THE FOREIGN OPERATORS. QUITE OFTEN THESE FOREIGNERS USED ALL THE ABBREVIATIONS, AND TO MAKE IT MORE COMPLICATED THEY FOULED YOU UP SOMETHING AWFUL. PERHAPS THE ENGLISH WOULD USE TWO AS FOR A BAR INDICATING A FRACTION. THE FRENCH MIGHT USE TWO IS. OF COURSE YOU WERE CONTINUALLY ENCOUNTERING THOSE SPECIAL SIGNALS FOR FOREIGN LETTERS. THE MOST COMMONLY UNDERSTOOD ONE BEING THE GERMAN CH. THOSE FOUR DASHES CAME INTO QUITE COMMON USE, BUT IF YOU SUDDENLY HEARD TWO DOTS AND TWO DASHES, YOU HAD TO THINK FAST TO PUT DOWN THAT GERMAN U.

I HAD ONE AMUSING EXPERIENCE. WE WERE DESPERATELY SHORT OF CW COPING OPERATORS AT NED. WE HAD A YOUNG FELLOW ON SPARK WHOM I THOUGHT SHOWED CONSIDERABLE PROMISE. HIS NAME WAS CHESLIE C. CHISHOLM. HE WAS AN EX-HAM AND A GOOD ONE. IN THOSE DAYS A MAN WHO MADE CW THOUGHT HE WAS IN THE ELITE 400 CLASS. AFTER TALKING TO THE SKIPPER I ASKED HIM IF HE WOULD LIKE TO TRY OUT FOR CW. THAT WAS A SILLY QUESTION, AND OF COURSE HE WAS ENTHUSED. WE WERE HANDLING A LOT OF TRAFFIC WITH OUR ALLIES AND I KNEW ONE PARTICULAR WATCH WAS COVERING "YN" AT LYONS, FRANCE. I FOUND OUT THEY WERE HETERODYNED ON THE LOW SIDE OF HIM, AND CAREFULLY TUNED ANOTHER RECEIVER WITH THE BEST NOTE ABOVE HIM, SO NOT TO INTERFERE WITH THEM AND SAT "SHORTY" DOWN TO COPY WITH ME. "SHORTY" WAS ONE OF THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO HAD WHAT WE MIGHT CALL AN EXPLOSIVE LAUGH. HE WAS DESPERATELY SERIOUS AND HE PUT THE STUFF DOWN PRETTY WELL, BUT VERY SOON HE CAME TO A WORD "ENEMY .-----S" THIS WAS HIS FIRST ENCOUNTER WITH A PUNCTUATION MARK. HE HAD SEVERAL LETTERS FOR THAT INVERTED COMMA AND HE LOOKED AT ME PERPLEXED AND ALL OF A SUDDEN BROKE OUT WITH AN EXPLOSIVE LAUGH AND SAID "WHAT TO HECK WAS THAT?"

THIS IS ONLY ONE ILLUSTRATION, BUT LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING ABOUT THAT YOUNG FELLOW. HE

WAS ON LEAVE FROM THE AMERICAN TEL AND TEL. CO. IN BOSTON. HE HAD ENLISTED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE WAR AND HE WAS ONE OF THE FIRST SPARK MEN AT NED. HE WAS ONE OF THE TOP BRASS IN THE NAVAL RESERVE UNIT OF BOSTON AND STAYED IN. DURING WORLD WAR II HE WAS COMMUNICATION SUPER, OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC AND WAS VOTED THE MOST POPULAR RADIO OFFICER IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC.

DURING WORLD WAR II, I INSTALLED RADIO, RADAR AND SONAR ON THE DESTROYERS AT THE BATH IRON WORKS. WE TURNED OUT A DESTROYER ABOUT EVERY TWO WEEKS AND HAD TO DELIVER THEM TO BOSTON, ALONG THE LAST OF THIS I HEARD "SHORTY" WAS BACK IN THE FIRST DISTRICT. WHEN WE ARRIVED AT THE CHARLESTON NAVY YARD, DELIVERING A DESTROYER, I WENT OVER TO THE BUILDING OF THE DISTRICT COMMUNICATION OFFICE AND RAN INTO ROSS REGAN. ROSS HAD BEEN ONE OF THE GANG AT NED DURING WORLD WAR I AND WAS NOW A CHIEF. HE GREETED ME CORDIALLY AND SAID; "DID YOU HEAR ABOUT SHORTY?" I TOLD HIM I HADN'T, HE SMILED AND SAID; "COME WITH ME." WE WENT THROUGH A BIG ROOM FILLED WITH YOEMANETTS AND VARIOUS NAVAL OFFICERS AND I SAW A PRIVATE OFFICE OVER IN THE CORNER. ROSS HID ME BEHIND THE DOOR AND STANDING IN THE DOOR, SALUTED SOME HIGH BRASS AND SAID; "SIR, AN IMPORTANT VISITOR."

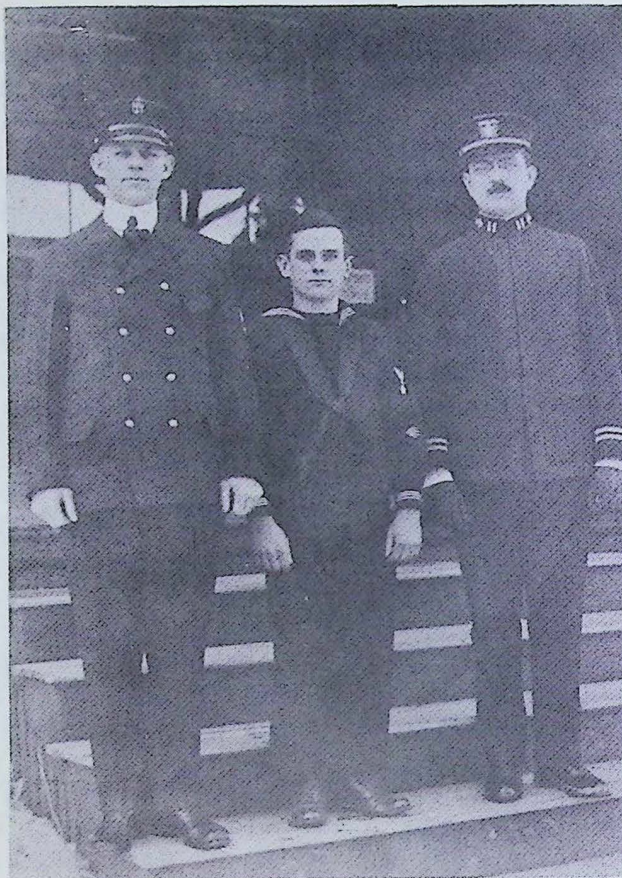
HE THEN PULLED ME INTO THE DOORWAY, AND THERE SAT "SHORTY". DISTRICT COMMUNICATION SUPERINTENDENT OF THE FIRST NAVAL DISTRICT! A WILD SCENE FOLLOWED. HE PRACTICALLY JUMPED UP OVER THE DESK AND GRABBED ME. RAGAN HAD ENOUGH SENSE TO CLOSE THE DOOR, BUT IT WAS SURE A NOISY REUNION. "SHORTY" WAS ONE OF THAT SELECT FEW WHO REALLY WERE OPERATORS. IT AMAZED THE OPERATORS TO SEE A TOP BRASS REALLY SIT DOWN AND TAKE A BUSY WATCH. HE HAD HIS OWN PLANE AND A BASE IN AUSTRALIA. HE WROTE ME FREQUENTLY FROM THE SO. PACIFIC DURING THE WAR AND I'LL NEVER FORGET HIS HUMOROUS ACCOUNT OF WHEN HE GOT DISENTARY, AND WHAT HE DID ABOUT IT.

I STILL REMEMBER EVERY ONE OF THOSE PUNCTUATION SIGNALS, HONESTLY, HOW MANY OF YOU KNOW THE SIGNAL FOR A SEMI-COLON, HYPHEN, COMMAS OR PARENTHESIS?

WELL, I GUESS IT'S JUST THE RECOLLECTION OF AN OLD CODGER WHO HAS BEEN IN THE GAME NEARLY 60 YEARS, AND VAIN ENOUGH TO THINK HE WAS ONCE AN OPERATOR.

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LEFT TO RIGHT: CHIEF HAROLD W. CASTNER, "OLD HOT WIRE"...CHIEF CHESLIE C. CHISHOLM, SHORTY  
....LIEUTENANT ALESSANDRO FABBRI, COMMANDING OFFICER.

AFTER THE ARMISTICE OF NOVEMBER 11, 1918, THE SKIPPER HAD A PHOTOGRAPHER COME TO THE STATION AND HE ASKED ME AS THE FIRST CW MAN ON THE STATION AND CHIEF CHISHOLM TO POSE WITH HIM ON THE STEPS OF THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

AFTER BEING AWARDED THE NAVY CROSS AND A CITATION FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, HE SENT ME AN 8 x 10 PRINT OF THIS PICTURE. ON THE BOTTOM HE WROTE: "TO CHIEF HAROLD W. CASTNER, WHO HAS CONTRIBUTED SO MUCH TO THE SUCCESS OF THE STATION. WITH THE REGARDS AND SINCERE APPRECIATION OF HIS COMMANDING OFFICER, ALESSANDRO FABBRI."

THE ORIGINAL OF THIS PICTURE IS IN THE EXTENSIVE RECORD OF THE STATION AT THE NAVAL STATION IN WINTER HARBOR, MAINE.

AT THIS TIME IN 1918, LATER COMMANDER CHISHOLM, HAD JUST BEEN MADE CHIEF RADIOMAN, BUT HE HAD NOT RECEIVED HIS UNIFORM.

LIEUTENANT FABBRI ALSO HAD GROUP PICTURES TAKEN OF THE ENTIRE COMPLEMENT OF RADIO MEN, ON THE 165 FOOT WEST TOWER, AND ALSO A LARGE GROUP OF SUPERNUMERIES IN FRONT OF BARRACKS "B", WHICH INCLUDED THE MARINE DETACHMENT AND MECHANICS, WATER-TENDERS, COOKS, MESS ATTENDANTS AND THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE SUPPLY OFFICE, DENTAL OFFICE AND MEDICAL STAFF.

LIEUTENANT FABBRI DIED IN 1922 OF INFLUENZA AND COMMANDER CHISHOLM BECAME A "SILENT KEY" ALONG ABOUT 1960.

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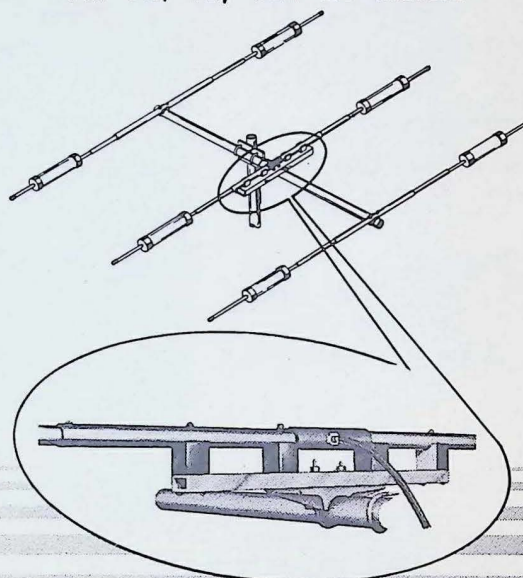
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