Special Full-Color Section: Color TV Adjustment

HUGO GERNSBACK, Editor

In this issue:

Markers and Alignment Bugs

For Golden Ears

Transistor Phono Oscillator

Using the V.T.V.M. in TV Servicing



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(See page 4)

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3





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SHIP AND HARBOR

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RADIO

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Assistant Operato



sistance and impedance in circuits with Electronic Multitester you build. Shows how basic transmitter circuits behave: needed to maintain station operation.



YOU **BUILD** this Wavemeter and use it to determine frequency of operation, make other tests on transmitter currents

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TELEVISION Pick-Up Operator Voice Transmitter

Operator TV Technician

Remote Control

MEN

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Television is Today's Good Job Maker

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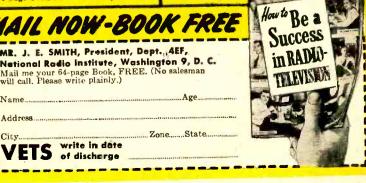
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TROSIC

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ON THE COVER (More details on page 39)

Some of the more important (and expensive) components which distinguish a color from a black-and-white set. From left to right—deflecting yoke, shad-ow mask (part of the picture tube) and purity coil. At rear for purposes of size compari-son—model Sofia Fransella.

Parts from RCA tube department. Color original by Habershaw Studio



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T.R.F. Receiver

Audio Oscillator

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VETERANS: Give Date of Discharge

THE RADIO MONTH

TRANSISTORIZED MICROPHONE developed by the Army Signal Corps

eliminates the frying sound of the old carbon microphone, while fitting into the plastic handle of the carbon model. The Remler Co. is making a commercial model of similar design.

The transistor element, second from the right in the foreground of the photograph, is extremely rugged and easy to assemble. Next to the transistor amplifier are the handle switch and rubber cover used in the old and new models.

HIGH COST OF TV broadcasting was seen in the recent rent increase proposed by the Empire State Bldg. Corp. to the seven New York television stations. The rent increase, from \$70,-000 to \$200,000 per year per station, would be for a five-year period beginning May 1, 1954. The renting price carries only the right to use the building's mast as a common transmitting antenna site; floor space in the building for transmitter equipment, offices, etc., must be rented separately.



No modifications are necessary in existing radio equipment to operate the microphone. It can be plugged into any jack in which a carbon mike was used. In addition to the noise reduction feature, the higher quality of reproduction makes it easier for the listener to recognize a familiar voice-an important aid to security in battle.

15 KC MODULATION of AM broadcast stations is permitted providing it does not cause interference with other stations, according to FCC Commissioner George E. Sterling. Speaking before the Hi-Fi Fair in Washington, he pointed out the growing interest in high fidelity and stated that good reproduction is "a challenge to the broadcaster."

Sterling stated the high cost of 15-kc intercity lines is the major obstacle to high-fidelity networking, and that he hoped listener pressure will force increased use of better lines and terminal equipment.

PIONEER FM STATION CLOSES.

KE2XCC (formerly W2XMN), the first FM broadcast station in the U.S., shut down operations on March 6. Erected by the late Major Edwin H. Armstrong, the station has been broadcasting music, without commercials, since 1938. The station was completely financed by Major Armstrong and acted as the laboratory for most of his experiments.

EIGHT NEW STATIONS have gone on the air since our last report. These are

KSAN-TV San Francisco, Calif. .32 WINK-TV Fort Myers, Fla. 11 KDAL-TV Duluth-Superior, Minn. 3 WDSM-TV Duluth-Superior, Minn. 6 WMUR-TV Manchester, N.H. 9 WTRI Schenectady, N.Y.35 WAPA-TV San Juan, P.R. 4 KFBC-TV Cheyenne, Wyo. 5

Vermont is now the only state without a TV Station, but Montpelier now has a construction permit for channel 3. Two more stations have gone off the air this month, WIFE, Dayton, Ohio, channel 22, and KFOR-TV, Lincoln, Neb., channel 10.

EAVESDROPPING on rural telephone party-line conversations may soon become a thing of the past. Bell Telephone engineers are experimenting near Americus, Ga. with a transistorized telephone system that will permit several conversations to be carried over a single line without mixup.

The principle is already used on long-distance telephone networks, but until the transistor was developed, it was uneconomical on a local basis.

When a call is made, the conversation will be transmitted on the line at one frequency. If a neighbor who shares that line decides to call at that moment, her conversation will be carried on another frequency.

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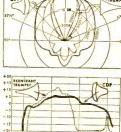
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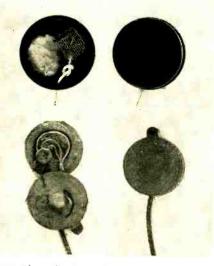
Zone State City

MAY, 1954

THE RADIO MONTH

BETTER BUSINESS BUREAUS throughout the country have become interested in "midget wonder" TV "antennas" similar to those shown in the photo. A report by the New York City bureau indicates that tests made by laymen are likely to be rather inconclusive, but that probably the average user would get results of a somewhat similar nature with a piece of ordinary wire about the length of the lead on the new "antennas."

Destructive tests by RADIO-ELECTRON-ICS on two of the dozen or so models advertised would tend to back up that conclusion. In one model (top one in photo) the wire was terminated inside a hard plastic hollow disc by being pushed loosely through (not soldered to) a small square of copper wire



screening. A piece of soft plastic material or modelling clay held the screen to the case. The other antenna (bottom in photo) was more elaborate. The disc—composed of a single molded piece of soft plastic—contained a small hook of copper wire and a ceramic .01-µf capacitor. Both leads of the capacitor were apparently connected together by the clamp which held the wire hook to the lead.

Barring the remote possibility of some new discovery in radio propagation, it would seem reasonable to suppose that these miracle antennas should work much like simple pieces of wire of similar dimensions.

STABLE TRANSISTORS and germanium-silicon alloys that will permit transistors to operate effectively at high heat levels have been announced by Sylvania.

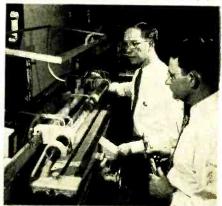
Transistor stability was attained through "stabilized germanium", immune to the effects of surface moisture which sometimes reduce greatly the amplifying qualities of the transistor, or cause it to fail entirely.

In discussing the new germaniumsilicon alloys, Sylvania stated that while a present-day transistor will not operate efficiently when the germanium crystal is heated to a point above 212° Fahrenheit, the new alloy will permit effective transistor action up to a temperature of about 350°.

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PURE GERMANIUM has been developed by Bell Telephone Labs. Using a newly developed method, germanium has been refined to a purity in excess of 99.9999%. A substance this pure may very well be the purest material in existence.

The new method, known as zonemelting, is based on the fact that impurities are not equally soluble in the solid and liquid states of a substance; usually, impurities are more soluble in



the liquid. To take advantage of this, a narrow molten zone is moved slowly along an ingot of relatively impure material to "sweep" the impurities to one end of the ingot.

The behavior of germanium transistors is affected critically by the presence of impurities; but the kind and amount of impurities must be rigidly controlled. By refining an ingot of germanium to a near-perfect state of purity by the zone-melting process, its electrical properties can then be altered to the desired degree by the controlled addition of such impurities as arsenic and antimony.

NEW KIND OF "TV" designed to help nervous, tense people relax their muscles and ease the strain on their hearts, has been developed by Dr. Edmund Jacobson of Chicago. The device

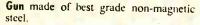


Photo courtesy Newsweek and Chicago Photographers

gives the patient a visible recording of the tension of his muscles and nerves when he may think that he is relaxing. Later, when he really does relax his muscles, he can see the changes recorded by the tension waves on the oscilloscope screen.

Dr. Jacobson's "TV" set consists of a modified version of a standard electrocardiograph connected to an oscilloscope to give his patients a dramatic view of muscular behavior.

RADIO-ELECTRONICS



Quality Features TUNG-SOL

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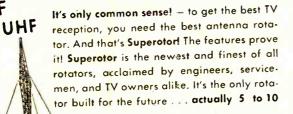
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* Vernier Precision extremely accurate! Exclusive "telegraph" action, plus double lock stop, permits tuning to within 1/2 degree!

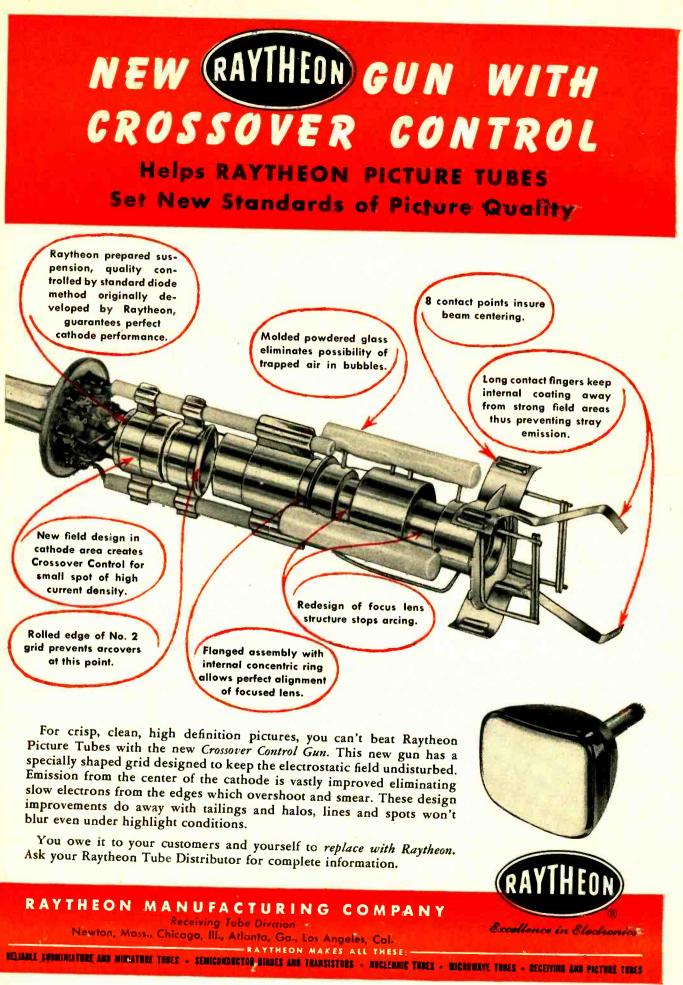
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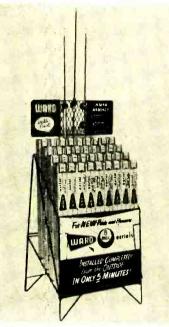
Learn for yourself how PHOTOFACT pays for itself by earning bigger profits for you! We'll send you the proof—a FREE specimen PHOTOFACT TV Folder that shows all the features found consistently and exclusively ONLY in PHOTOFACT. Send for your FREE specimen TV Folder now. Examine it. Compare it. You'll see why PHOTOFACT belongs in your shop! And you'll want to ask your parts distributor about the pay-as-you-earn-plen. Only \$25 down brings you the entire PHOTOFACT Library. Write for FREE specimen TV Folder—learn now how to earn more!

HOWARD W. SAMS & CO., INC. 2205 E. 46th St., Indianapolis 5, Ind. HOWARD W. SAMS & CO., INC.

Me

BUSINESS

Merchandising and Promotion Ward Products Corp., division of Gabriel Co., Cleveland, introduced two new self-selling dealer display racks for its automobile antennas.



Alliance Mfg. Co., Alliance, Ohio, was ranked in a 14th place tie among the 26 top national TV spot advertisers according to the current Rorabaugh report. Alliance moved up from 16th spot on the !ast report.

Sprague Products Co., North Adams, Mass., designed a new ceramic capacitor kit for speeding service work on TV

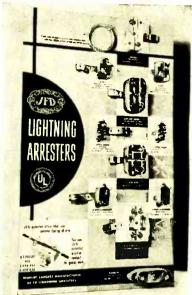


yokes. With the new kit the proper capacitance can be found easily, by systematically bridging various capacitors in the kit across the yoke.

CBS-Hytron, Danvers, Mass., announced the winners in its Certified Quality Service contest for TV radio service technicians. Martin H. Sable of Mattapan, Mass., won the top award, a Ford panel truck. Second prize of \$1,000 in U.S. Savings Bonds went to Richard E. Reish of Marcellus, Mich.

RCA Tube Dept., Harrison, N. J., launched a spring promotional campaign on its portable radio batteries. National magazine, radio, and TV advertising are being used together with in-store displays and merchandising aids.

JFD Mfg. Co., Brooklyn, N. Y., designed a display for its new LAD-11 lightning arrester.



Astatic Corp., Conneaut, Ohio, designed a new steel combination stock case and dispenser for parts distributors selling its line of pickup cartridges.



Erie Resistor Corp., Erie, Pa., developed a new display carton for its type 413 filter ceramicon.

. . . Trio Manufacturing Co., Griggsville, Ill., purchased Falcon Electronics Co., Quincy, Ill., and its entire line of antennas. Roy Wade, formerly general manager of Falcon, is now general sales manager for Trio. The entire Falcon operation will be moved to the new Trio plant in Griggsville where the Falcon line will be manufactured. All Falcon representatives have been retained and will work with Trio representatives. The Trio plant also added a large tool room, a new laboratory, and a maintenance depot for its fleet of trucks.

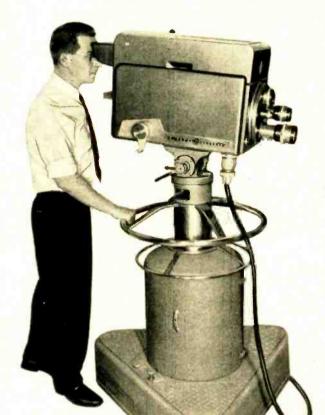
DuKane Corp. St. Charles. Ill., has produced a photo paste-up kit which its distributors may present to architects, engineers, electrical contractors, and others as an aid in visualizing arrangements of console and panel assemblies of a school sound system.

Shows and Conferences

NEDA described the first of its regional seminars held in New York City last March as an outstanding success. Over 300 distributors and key personnel attended. The association indicated that this successful debut would be a forerunner of similar meetings in other sections of the country.

The 1954 British Radio Components Show was held in London in April. The New York Sections of the AIEE

Here comes opportunity ... ready or not!





 Prepare now for the new Radio-TV-Electronics boom. Get in on VHF and UHF . . . aviation and mobile radio . . . color TV . . . binaural sound! The International Correspondence Schools can help you!

If you've ever thought about Radio or Television as a career . . . if you have the interest, but not the training . . . if you're waiting for a good time to start ... NOW'S THE TIME!

No matter what your previous background, I.C.S. can help you. If Radio-TV servicing is your hobby, I.C.S. can make it your own profitable business. If you're interested in the new developments in Electronics, I.C.S. can give you the basic courses of training you need. If you have the job but want faster progress, I.C.S. can qualify you for promotions and pay raises.

I.C.S. training is *success-proved* training. Hundreds of I.C.S. graduates hold top jobs with top firms like R.C.A., G.E., DUMONT, I.T.&T. Hundreds of others have high ratings in military and civil service. Still others have successful businesses of their own.

With I.C.S., you get the rock-bottom basics and theory as well as the all-important bench practice and experimentation. You learn in your spare time-no interference with business or social life. You set your own pace-progress as rapidly as you wish.

Free career guidance: Send today for the two free success books, the 36-page "How to Succeed" and the informative catalog on the course you check below. No obligation. Just mark and mail the coupon. With so much at stake, you owe it to yourself to act-and act fast!

I. C. S., Scranton 9, Penna.

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CHECK THESE SEVEN FAMOUS I. C. S. COURSES -ONE FOR YOU!

PRACTICAL RADIO-TELEVISION ENGINEERING -- Foundation course for radio-television career. Basic prin-ciples plus advanced training. Radio. Sound. TV.

TELEVISION TECHNICIAN-To quality you for high-level technical posi-tions in television. Camera, studio, trans-mitter techniques. Manufacture, sale and installation of TV equipment.

- TELEVISION RECEIVER SERVIC. ING-Installation, servicing, con-version, Dealership, For the man who knows about radio and wants TV trainlas training
- RADIO & TELEVISION SERVICING -Designed to start you repairing, in-stalling and servicing radio and tele-vision receivers soon after starting the course
- RADIO & TELEVISION SERVICING WITH TRAINING EQUIPMENT— Same as above but with addition of high-grade radio servicing equipment and tools.
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- INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS -Broad, solid background course devoted to the electron tube and to its many anolications

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RACTICAL RADIO TELEVISION	INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE	SCHOO
or radio-television career. Basic prin- lples plus advanced training. Radio.	2881-K, SCRANTON 9, PENN	A.

Without cost or obligation, send me "HOW to SUCCEED" and the booklet about the course BEFORE which I have marked X: arked X: POWER Combustion Engineering Diesel-Electric Electric Light and Power Electric Light and Power Stationary Steam Engineering RADIO, TELEVISION COMMUNICATIONS Practical Radio-TV Eng ring Radio Deraling Radio and TV Servicing Television-Technician Electronics Telephone Work UCCEED" and the booklet about petroleum-Nat'i Gas Pulp and Paper Making Plastics **CIVIL, STRUCTURAL ENGINE ERING** Orwit Engineering Structural Engineering Structural Dratting Highway Engineering Reading Blueprints Construction Engineering DanFTLING

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 Diesel Locomotive

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 Corton, Rayon, Woolen Mig.

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 Machine Shop Practice
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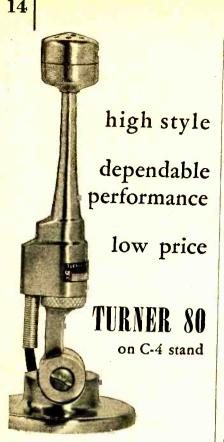
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 Carpenter and Mill Work
 Carpenter Foreman
 Reading Blueprints
 House Planning
 Plumbing ELECTRICAL Electrical Engineering Electrical Engineering Electrician Electrical Maintenance Chemistry Analyticat Chemistry Home Address Age Name A.M. to P.M. Working Hours-State Zone_ Canadian residents send coupon to International Correspondence Schools Canadian, Ltd., Montreal, Canada. . . . Special tuition rates to members of the U. S. Armed Forces. City. Occupation -



In design, there is no comparable microphone that equals Turner 80 styling and compactness. Styling that pleases the eye and fits in with modern surroundings. Compactness that makes this microphone convenient and easy to use. You can cradle it in the palm of your hand. Actual size (not including C-4 stand) only 41/2" in length.

For PA, home recorder, dictating machine, office and factory call systems and amateur uses, the Turner 80 performance is always dependable.

> Sensitivity: Approx. 58 db below 1 volt/dyne/sq. cm. Response: 80 to 7000 cps. Weight: 5 oz. less cable. Cable: 7 foot attached single conductor shielded.

C-4 stand gracefully matches the Turner 80. Both are satinchrome plated. Stand won't tip or slide with weight of cord.

Turner 80 list price_____\$15.95

C-4 stand list price____\$ 5.75



EXPORT: Ad Auriema, Inc., 89 Broad St., New York 4 CANADA: Canadian Marconi Co., Toronto, Ont., and Branches

BUSINESS

and IRE held a series of seven weekly spring study groups on color television.

Calendar of Events

Calendar of Events 1954 Electronic Components Symposium, May 4-6-Department of Interior Auditorium. Washington, D. C. 1954 Electronic Parts Show, May 17-20-Conrad Hilton Hotel, Chicago. Western Electronic Show and Convention. August 25-27-Pan Pacific Auditorium, Los Angeles, Calif. High-Fidelity Show, September 30 - October 2-Palmer House. Chicago. Tenth Annual National Electronics Confer-ence, October 4-6-Hotel Sherman, Chicago.

Production and Sales

RETMA reported that 28,468,818 TV sets had been shipped to dealers in the U.S. from 1946 through 1953. Over 62% of the shipments were concentrated in eight states each of which received over 1,250,000 sets.

RETMA announced that 6,375,279 TV receivers and 7,064,485 radios, exclusive of automobile sets, had been sold during 1953. The association also noted that 420,471 TV sets and 871,981 radios were produced during January, 1954. This marked a drop both from December, and from January of the previous year.

New Plants and Expansions

Sylvania Electric Products, New York City, dedicated its new Electronic Defense Laboratory in Mountain View, Calif.

Hallicrafters, Chicago, is building a new \$1,500,000 factory on an 8-acre site at Kostner Avenue and 45th Street, which will be used for expanded TV manufacturing and warehousing and as a central shipping point.

Raytheon Manufacturing Co., Waltham, Mass., has made tentative plans for building a large electronics engineering and research laboratory in Wayland, Mass.

RCA dedicated a new office in Alexandria, Va., which will provide consulting and engineering services for the Armed Forces. It will be operated by the Government Service Department of the RCA Service Co.

Federal Electric Corp. set up a new regional sales office and warehouse at 4056 West Armitage Ave., Chicago, to service the Mid-Western distributor market.

Antenna Specialists, Cleveland, manufacturer of radio communications antennas, recently expanded its facilities and floor space.

Cannon Electric Co., Los Angeles, established a British affiliate, Cannon Electric Co., Ltd., in London, to manufacture, distribute, and license all Cannon Electric products for western Europe.

Telematic Industries, Brooklyn, N. Y., opened a warehouse in Dallas, Texas, to service the Southwestern market with its antennas and accessories,

Wheatland Tube Co., Wheatland, Pa., is rapidly nearing completion of its plant expansion program which will give the company an additional 40,000 square feet of operating space.

Jan Hardware, manufacturer of a complete line of electronic hardware components, moved to larger quarters at 75 North 11th St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Business Briefs

... High Fidelity Institute of the Electronics Industries, was recently formed in Chicago. Jerome J. Kahn, commis-sioner of the Institute, stated that its immediate objective is to dispel consumer confuson about what high fidelity is.

The Conference Co-ordinating Committee was established by the six trade associations within the electronic industry to co-ordinate regional conferences run by the sales representatives. Russ Diethert, national president of "The Representatives," was elected chairman, and S. L. Baraf, United Transformer, co-chairman.

. . . RETMA's Board of Directors announced plans to facilitate the elimination of radiated interference in future production of some TV sets; to eliminate or reduce the excise tax on TV sets; and to promote a research program in educational TV.

. . . Muntz TV, Chicago, and its two wholly-owned subsidiaries, were named in an involuntary petition for reorganization under Chapter X of the Bankruptcy Act.

. . RETMA announced that 17 new members have been admitted to the organization, bringing total registration to an all-time high of 373. New companies admitted include: C-B-C Electronics Co., Inc., Philadelphia; Davis Electronics Co., Burbank, Calif.; Kay-Townes Antenna Corp., Rome, Ga.; Litton Industries, Los Angeles; Phen-O-Tron, Inc., New Rochelle, N. Y .: Plamondon Magnetics Co., Chicago; Telechrome Inc., Amityville, Long Island, N. Y.

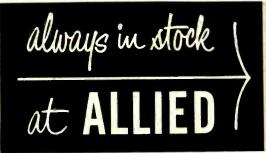
. . Finney Co., Cleveland, antenna manufacturer, recently held a dinner meeting in Kalkaska, Mich., attended by over 50 of its dealers and distributors from throughout the northern Michigan area.

. Federal Telephone and Radio Co., Clifton, N. J., is planning to increase commercial production reaching more and wider markets than now served. Additional space for this expansion will be provided through the discontinuance of the manufacture of monocolor television picture tubes.

... Lion Mfg. Co., Chicago, has begun production on its remote-control television sets.

. Sylvania Electric Products, New York City, in co-operation with Stanford University, formulated plans for an "Honors Co-operative Program in Electronics" to aid outstanding college seniors interested in doing graduate work in electrical engineering combined with full-time electronics employment.

. . . Telrex, Inc., Asbury Park, N. J., antenna manufacturer, settled its suit for patent infringement against Cornell-Dubilier, South Plainfield, N. J., when the latter company and its subsidiary, Radiart Corp., agreed to pay royalties to Telrex on all future sales of the patented conical antenna.



Model 808A Do-All TV-Radio-CR Tube Tester, **Reactivator & VTVM**

Consists of RCP Model 324P Tube Tester and a new CRT tester-reactivator, plus a VTVM. Checks all tubes



Model HVMP-1. High Voltage Probe. Extends DC range of VTVM in Model 808A above, to 30,000 volts. 84 F 334. Net.... \$8.77

Model 750 UHF-VHF Do-All Signal Generator



New, combination signal, marker and pattern generator. Covers all UHF-VHF channels for FM and TV receiver servic-ing. Checks and aligns front ends, sound IF's and picture traps, linearity, sync cir-cuits, sweep circuits, focus and deflection. Inductuner and special anti-backlash drive assure accuracy of 0.5%. All VHF frequencies covered on fundamental. Ranges: 9-11, 21-47, 54-220, 465-690 and 650-900 mc. RF's and IF's clearly calibrated on large etched dial. Provides steady horizontal or vertical bars or cross-

hatch pattern on all channels. Internal modulation: 360 cps and 141.75 kc. Also provides unmodulated carrier signal. Com-plete with leads. Size, 10¹/₄x6¹/₈x5⁹/₆". For 105-125 volts, 60 cycle AC. Shpg. wt., 10 lbs. 84 F 338. Net \$77.91

Model 655 Do-All VTVM

New, peak-to-peak type VTVM provides Accurate measurements of complex waveshapes. Reads RMS and peak to peak simultaneously of wave-forms in video, sync and deflection circuits. Invideo, sync and deflection circuits. In-dustrial applications include servicing of vibrator type power supplies and AC generators. 7 ranges on all functions. Reads peak to peak AC from 0.2 to 2000 volts; AC RMS 0.1 to 1500 volts; DC 0.02 to 1500 volts. Measures resistances from 0.2 ohms to 1000 megohms. High impedance input. Balanced bridge-type



push-pull circuit and peak-to-peak rectification result in absence of circuit loading, wave-form error and frequency dis-tortion. Supplied with test leads. Size: 10x6x5". For 105-125 volt 50-60 cycle. AC. Shpg. wt., 8 lbs. 84 F 324. Net...\$58.31

FREE 268-PAGE BUYING GUIDE

Make your selection from the world's largest stocks of electronic tubes, parts, test instruments, audio equipment, amateur gear, industrial com-ponents—get everything in electronics at lowest prices. Send for your FREE copy today.

ALLIED RADIO



SENSATIONAL MODEL 123 "FLYBACKER"

QUALITY TEST INSTRUMENTS

Choose this reliable equipment for your service bench, lab or field work-and save! Order RCP in-

struments from ALLIED-for top value and accurate,

Tests Flyback Transformers and Yokes—Trouble Shoots Horizontal **TV Circuits in Shop or Home**

dependable service.

RCP

RADIO CITY

PRODUCTS CO.

Now available for accurate and speedy testing. Extremely sensitive-shows up a single shorted turn in a flyback transformer or yoke. Makes tests with components in place in the receiver. Checks all flyback transformers and yokes for opens or shorts. Tests are applicable to induction windings on any transformer, speaker choke, solenoid, relays, etc., where impedance is not relatively low; acts virtually as a proportional AC ohmmeter.



Oscillator circuit operates at 1500 cycle frequency; interruption frequency 60 cycle. Slightest induction change caused by a shorted turn or intermittent effects shows up instantly on meter as "Bad." Has 3 "Good-Bad" scales; scale for yokes; direct-reading numbered scale; illuminated meter dial. In compact grey steel case with aluminum finish steel panel; 93/8x6x43/4". Complete with test leads. For 105-125 volts, 60 cycle AC. Shpg. wt., 8 lbs. 84 F 620. Net \$39.15

ALLIED STOCKS ALL RCP INSTRUMENTS

84 FX 364. Model 8873A Servishop. Net	137.15
84 FX 368, Model 324P Tube Tester, Net.	77.91
84 F 332. Model 730 "Signaligner" Signol Generator. Net	32.29
84 F 336. Model 740A VHF Signol Generotor. Net	68.11
84 FX 365. Model 8020 FM-TV Servishop. Net	303.80
84 FX 366. Model 8023 AM-FM-TV Servishop. Net	334.18
84 FX 367, Model 324C Tube Tester, Net	68.55
84 F 335, Model 533M Midgetscope. Net.	97.51
84 F 340. Model 453C Master Multitester. Net	35.77
84 F 274. Model 447B AC-DC Multitester. Net.	17.59

All RCP instruments priced over \$45, are available on Easy Payments: only 10% down, 12 months to pay. Write for details.

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PICKUP CARTRIDGES ARE YOUR MOST BRILLIANT PERFORMERS

Output Series

Astatic 14, 15

and 16L-3 Types Extra High

Astatic L-12-U Model, Dual-Output, Remov-able Condenser Harness, Universal Type

The most effective answers to a host of high output requirements are found among these examples of advanced Astatic engineering and precision mass production. The performance data for each appears below. But these cold statistics cannot cover the warm richness of tone, the smoothness of response and other familiar Astatic qualities designed and built into these units. If you have not already done so, start adopting them now to the fullest possible extent in your cartridge replacement stocks. Higher established quality of results is assured with Astatic Crystal Cartridges. Write today for full details of crystal cartridges replaced by those shown, other pertinent information.

KNOWN THE WORLD OVER FOR HIGHEST QUALITY AT LOWEST POSSIBLE COST

Model	List Price	Minimum Needle Pressure	Output Voltage J000 c.p.s. 1.0 Meg. Load	Frequency Range c.p.s.
14L3-AG*	\$ 7.00	10 gr.	2.8++ 2.4+	50-4.000
14L3-D	8.50	10 gr.	2.8++ 2.4+	50-4,000
15L3-AG*	7.00	10 gr.	4.0++ 3.5+	50-5,000
15L3-D	8.50	10 gr.	4.0++ 3.5+	50-4,000
16L3	6.00	16 gr.	6.2++ 4.0+	50-5,000
L-12-U	5.50	1 oz.	1.25 ⁺⁺ or 4.0	50-5,000
+ RCA 12-5-	model designa esign and size 31-V Test Reco e 78-1 Test Reco	e to play 33-	or ALL GROOVE : 1/3, 45 and 78 R lent.	needle tip of PM Records.



EXPORT REPRESENTATIVE, 401 Broadway, New York, N. Y. Cable Address: ASTATIC, New York

BUSINESS

THE 1954 ELECTRONIC PARTS SHOW

The 1954 Electronic Parts Show will be held at the Conrad Hilton Hotel in Chicago, May 17-20. The 277 exhibitors have reserved space in 397 booths and display rooms in the Conrad Hilton Hotel. This year's Show promises to be the best attended yet.

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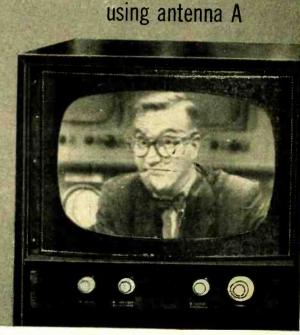
LIGHTING · RADIO · ELECTRONICS · TELEVISION

MAY, 1954

Before you install another antenna taken the take the take the taken the taken the taken the taken taken the taken taken

Irving Rose, prominent Chicago designer and president of Voice and Vision, noted television and high fidelity center, takes the **"look test"** of fringe reception from Milwaukee.

using JFD Super JeT antenna



Four TV receivers of one brand, same model, same production run were set up. Technicians went over these sets to make sure they were identically aligned.

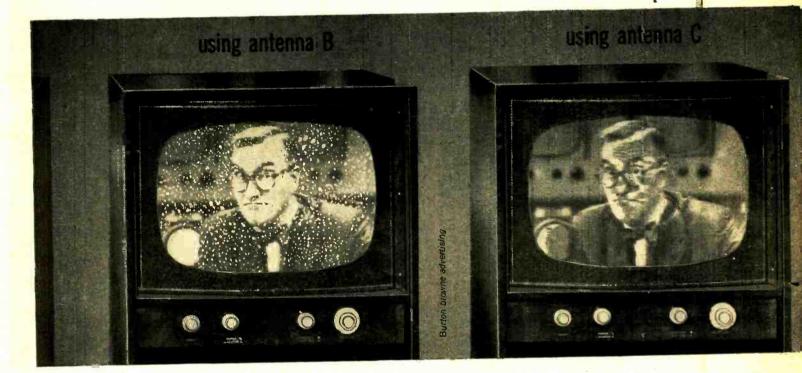
2. Three other leading high gain TV antennas were installed—each oriented for maximum performance. Each antenna was connected to a set by identical type lead-in.

- 3. Each receiver was tuned with infinite care to the same channel to make certain the reception was as good as possible. The picture is the proof—the result can be immediately seen—the JFD Super JeT outperformed all others.
 - The chart shows why the "Look-test" is your proof positive of sharper, clearer, more brilliant pictures . . . in Black and White or Color on all channels present and future.

JeT 213 (single Bay) \$18.70 JeT 213 S* (2-Bay) \$38.35 *complete with stacking transformer

"look-test"

Here is your clinical proof that only the JFD Super JeT TV antenna Out-Performs all others on all channels



CHANNELS ANTENNA LIST 12 13 9 10 11 6 7 8 2 3 5 11.7 11.0 11.5 11.6 11.5 Competitor A \$42.36 7.0 7.0 10.00 10.75 4.5 4.3 7.3 Radar Screen with 3 dipoles (2-bay) Partly Pre-Assembled 7.5 6.0 Competitor B \$34.95 0.75 3.25 4.5 3.5 3.5 6.0 7.0 6.5 7.75 8.0 GAIN Radar Screen with 2 dipoles (2-bay) Not Assembled 7.0 6.25 5.0 5.25 6.0 5.25 7.25 9.25 6.5 Competitor C \$55.00 4.0 5.0 7.0 Bedspring (4-bay) Pre-Assembled 11.25 11.75 12.0 12.0 12.0 JFD Superjet \$38.35 6.5 11.0 11.0 9.5 8.5 8.5 7.5 Model JeT 213 S (2-bay) Pre-Assembled

World's largest manufacturers of TV antennas and accessories Write for Bulletin #230



JeT 2135

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Costing no more than ordinary "replacement" cartridges, TITONE gives a world of difference in results - an entirely new experience in true high-fidelity sound, no matter what the make of phonograph.

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> Used by America's foremost manufacturers of high-fidelity phonographs, TITONE is an original discovery and development of the Sonotone laboratories. Literature available.

ELECTRONIC APPLICATIONS DIVISION

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BUSINESS

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22

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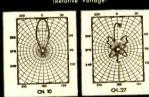
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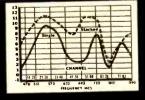
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AND DEALER AID CONTEST

26



How Would YOU Answer This Service Customer?

Your solution to this cartoon-and your careful selection of American and National League Leaders, as of August 1, 1953 -can win \$1000.00 CASH for you. Send in your entry now, for one of the 209 big, valuable prizes in the Westinghouse League Leaders and Dealer Aid Contest. It's easy to qualify.

Just buy 25 Westinghouse Receiving Tubes or 1 Westinghouse Picture Tube for each entry you submit. Winning entries will be judged on the basis of correctness of team selection, and aptness, originality and effectiveness of cartoon solution.

Your Westinghouse distributor salesman will certify your Entry Blank when he takes your tube order. Ask him for additional Entry Blanks.



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WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC CORPORATION

Electronic Tube Division

Elmira, N. Y.

USE	THIS	OFFICIAL	LEAGUE	LEADERS	ENTRY	BLANK
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1. League Leaders on August 1st, 1953 were: AMERICAN LEAGUE NATIONAL LEAGUE	2. Here is what I would say to the Lady in the Cartoon:
SHOP NAME	
STREET	(Attach additional sheet of paper if necessary, 100 words maximum.)
CITY STATE	THIS SPACE FOR DISTRIBUTOR'S SALESMAN'S CERTIFICATION I certify this Entry Blank has been qualified by the purchase of (25 Westing- house Receiving Tubes) (1 Westinghouse Picture Tube)
SEND ALL ENTRIES TO:	Salesman's Signature
WESTINGHOUSE TUBE CONTEST	Company Name
P. O. Box 610, Grand Central Station New York 17, New York	CityState

RADIO-ELECTRONICS

www.americanradiohistory.com

A Brief Survey of COLOR TV

... how its complex character means job opportunity for you



GOOD MANY YEARS AGO, when he was a young fellow, my Dad was one of the country's fastest typesetters. He could go anywhere and get a highly paid job with any newspaper in the country. Then came the linotype machine! Before he knew it, my Dad's job was obsolete. He had to start all over in another line of work.

How will you get along in the age of Color TV that has already arrived? Will you have to start all over? Or will you be prepared? The choice is a matter of black-and-white—or color. As you may know, color TV involves handling an understandably much more complicated signal than for black-andwhite; the components must be in perfect balance; the margin for error is practically zero. Technical personnel need new skills in working to closer tolerances. Microwave relays and coaxial cables require added equipment and special adjustments. Before a station can originate color it needs a great deal of additional equipment, much more expensive and vastly more complicated than that for black-andwhite, Slide and film equipment also require additional components and maintenance. Color camera chains are much more complex, requiring more highly skilled adjustments and care. Reports of network experiments indicate that live telecasting in color increases technical man-hours required by 30 to 50%. Lighting personnel need more skill in handling new-and deli-

-by E. H. RIETZKE, President, Capitol Radio Engineering Institute

cate—problems. That's a very quick run-down from the transmitter end. Every step is a technical opportunity.

What about color receivers? They'll be bigger-with roughly twice as many receiver tubes as black-and-white. There is at least one more tuning knob-the chroma control for color saturation. Maintenance is complicated, to say the least, with three highly critical video channels to trouble-shoot instead of one. Service contracts for color receivers will cost considerably more than for black-and-white, according to highly qualified sources-which should give you an idea of servicing complexityand earnings possibilities. So much for transmission and reception. Manufacture of color equipment is another field for trained technicians.

Most well-informed sources agree that color television will be spread all over the U.S. by 1956 at the latest. The years between now and then are crucial. If you are interested in an honest-togoodness career in this booming part of the booming electronics industry, here's how you can step ahead of competition, move up to a better job, earn more money, and be sure of a wellpaid job: Study radio-television-electronics via CREI. You don't have to be willing to invest some of your spare time—at home. You can do it while holding down a full-time job. Thousands have.

Since 1927 CREI has provided men with the technical knowledge that leads to more job security-and more money. CREI starts with fundamentals and takes you along at your own speed, not held back by a class, not pushed to keep up with others who have more experience. You master the fundamentals, then get into more advanced phases of electronics engineering principles and practice. Finally you may elect training at career level in highly specialized applications of radio or specialized applications of failly of television engineering, or aeronautical radio. The coupon below, properly filled out, will bring you—without cost —a fact-packed booklet, "Your Future in the New World of Electronics," which includes outlines of courses offered, a resume of career opportunities, full details about the school, our Placement Bureau (with more requests for trained men currently on file than we can fill), and the names of some of the organizations using CREI training (like All American Cables & Radio, Inc., Canadian Broadcasting Corp., Columbia Broadcasting System, RCA Victor Division, United Air Lines, to name a few). I urge you-for your own good-to send for this free booklet immediately.

NOTE: CREI also offers Resident School instruction, day or evening, in Washington, D. C. New classes start once a month. If you are a veteran discharged after June 27, 1950, let the new GI Bill help you obtain resident (or home study) instruction. Check the coupon for more data.

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Your Own Portable "Service Bench" for IF-RF Alignment!

VISUAL ALIGNMENT GENERATOR Oscilloscope, Sweep and Marker Generator All in One Instrument:

FIELD STRENGTH METER

Here's more than an antenna signal checker. The new Philco Field Strength Meter pro-vides direct readings of RF signal level -has built-in electronic sensitivity control. Signal levels above 100 microvolts are read directly on the calibrated dial. Read 10 to 100 microvolt levels on the high sensitivity meter. High gain, low noise TV tuner provides exceptional wide range of sensitivity. Now, measure both strong and weak signals with the Philco reference calibration method. it's the same type found in expensive labo-ratory equipment. MODEL M-8104.

The Philco Model 7008 Visual Alignment Generator is a completely self-contained "service bench" for all alignment and trouble shooting problems in the field. It is specifically designed to permit rapid servicing of the IF amplifier and front end of TV and FM receivers. The sweep section furnishes a high output signal with uniform sweep level throughout the FM and television bands, as well as the intermediate frequencies used. The marker system, with its associated crystal calibrator, has an accuracy of .005%. The built-in oscilloscope greatly simplifies test set-up. Furnished complete with high frequency detector probe, output and input cables and AC cord.

Look at these PHILCO features:

1. Only two external cable connections necessary ... minimizes regeneration and feed-back.

2. Shielded multiplier attenuator provides accurate control

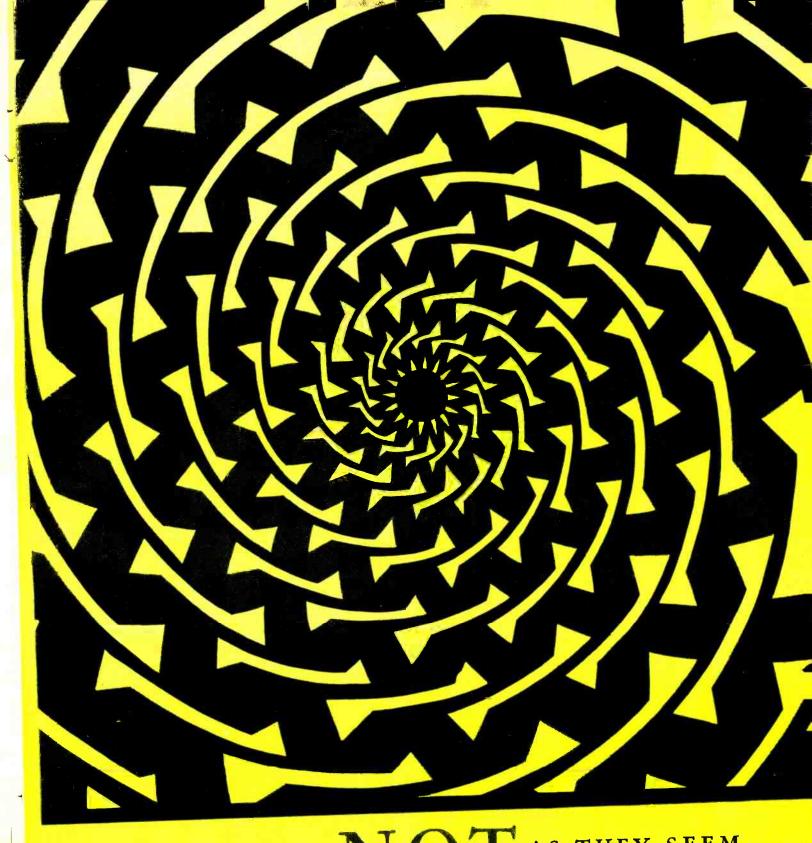
of RF output from a few microvolts up to .1 volt.

3. RF output increases with frequency to offset the fall off in gain which normally occurs on the higher frequencies.

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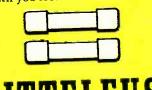


RADIO-ELECTRONICS



THINGS ARE

Things are not as they seem These two fuses look alike . . . Until you look inside.



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OT AS THEY SEEM

This is not a spiral. It is a series of concentric circles that do not join.

This fuse has a straight element—cannot be made more delicate than 1/16 amp. with normal blowing characteristics.

This fuse has a bridge construction (note short filament between electrodes). This type fuse may be rated as low as 1/500 amp, with precision blowing characteristics required for protection of extremely fine instruments. Without this construction pioneered by Littelfuse the microscopically fine filament would break in shipment, in normal operating vibration or even from nearby footsteps.



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ATOM-ELECTRONICS

... A fantastic new era is now in the making ...

By Hugo Gernsback

RAVITY-CHAINED man, ever since his appear-ance on this planet, has been a slave to all his bodily work. Wherever he turns, he comes to grips with releatless gravity which makes all bread", was the life-command of our ancestors. They literally worked themselves to death in their short life span of 30 to 40 years.

In recent years, steam, electricity, and the internal combustion engine have lightened modern man's work immensely. However, while lifting the gravity-chains in

immensely. However, while lifting the gravity-chains in some measure, we have become enmeshed in other and often more burdensome chains: economic loads which bear down on us as hard as gravity's weight. While we do not work as hard physically nowadays— and we live twice as long as our forefathers—we still pay exorbitantly for our needs. Hardly anything that keeps you alive and comfortable nowadays is created without power in some form. And power is expensive, because practically all types of power are exceedingly wasteful in one way or another. Moreover, our main sources of power supply are rapidly

Moreover, our main sources of power supply are rapidly vanishing. At our present scale of spendthrift consumption, coal and oil will be scarce 75 years from now. Even water power transformed into electrical energy, is not an abun-dant commodity in the U. S. It will always be expensive due to the high cost of key installations and distribution. Fortunately, the final emancipation of man—the age of

Fortunately, the final emancipation of man—the age of Power-Freedom—is now appearing above the horizon. It is possible that this era will come to be known as the Atom-Electronic Age—the era that will pale into insig-nificance the age of electricity and electronics. Very recently we have made the beginning in our fabu-lous atomic batteries, with which at last we can turn atomic energy into electricity directly, without steam or heat or other wasteful intermediaries. The writer probably was the first to use the term Atomic Battery, when, in December, 1945, he published the following fanciful pre-diction: diction:

tion: 1950. Professor Andrew Lodge, Berkeley Calitech-nician, discovers first basic, ATOMIC BATTERY, called *Atobat*, whereby Plutonium-C generates electric current in vast quantities at infinitesimal cost. Fin-ger-sized Atobat produces 10,000 kilowatt-hours for lass than 1/a cent less than 1/10 cent.

As the first atomic battery was invented in 1951, the writer erred by one year. The high output of power is writer erred by one year. The high output of power is yet to be realized. But make no mistake—in the not-too-distant future the 1945 prediction will sound picayune! We say this with conviction in view of the recently announced RCA atomic battery, which generates electricity direct from the atom in an entirely new and original manner— a milestone in the new art of atomic-electronics. We have now reached a parallel point in history com-parable to the time when Michael Faraday in the early 1830's demonstrated the first electric generator. It was a toy like device in which he rotated a copper disc edgewise

1830's demonstrated the first electric generator. It was a toy-like device in which he rotated a copper disc edgewise between the poles of a horseshoe magnet. The weak elec-trical current was collected by two contacts rubbing on the edge and the shaft of the revolving disc. The current generated was so weak that it could scarcely be demon-strated from this most inefficient dynamo. One unimaginative and skeptical man of science viewing

One unimaginative and skeptical man of science viewing a demonstration scoffed, "What possible good is this contraption?" Faraday countered with, "What good is a newborn child?"

So it is with the newborn atomic battery and its follower, the atomic generator. Curiously enough, man only dimly and slowly becomes conscious of the fact that he would not be here at all if it were not for atomic energy which surrounds us on all sides. The sun, the stars, all are energized by atomic power. Without the sun's heat and light no known form of life could exist.

Ignt no known form of fife could exist. When we but realize that the actual atomic power *inherent* in a copper penny can drive an aircraft carrier across the Atlantic, we begin to understand what is in store for future mankind by way of cheap and abundant power. Electric power in the home for light, heat, and air-anditioning will come from a small compact atomic genconditioning will come from a small compact atomic generator in the basement.

The shielding problem will be solved, despite the opinion of many skeptical scientists today. And, while powerful atomic radiation is highly dangerous to man, we should never lose sight of the fact that radiation is also energy never lose signt of the fact that relation is also energy powerful energy. In shielding our present-day atomic energy piles, we lose most of the generated power. The pile, instead of converting atomic energy directly into electric current, merely generates heat, which we use to make steam in a boiler. The steam then runs a steam turbing which new powers an electric generator! A conturbine, which now powers an electric generator! A con-traption as roundabout, wasteful, and inefficient as any

ever dreamed up in history! Shielding is a wasteful makeshift because valuable radiation-energy is uselessly absorbed either in thick con-crete blocks or heavy lead sheeting. In this process the shielding becomes hot—with high *unwanted* heat that is a total loss.

total loss. As I have said many times before: Why waste this priceless radiation-energy? Why not turn it into valuable electric power? This, I think, will be accomplished in time. Some material or a combination of materials will be found which absorb the deadly, powerful gamma radia-tion and turn it—as rapidly as created—into useful elec-trical energy. This will not be accomplished tomorrow, nor next year—it lies as yet deep in the future. Neverthe-less, the problem will be solved, perhaps sooner than we expect. First the theoretical and experimental phases, then the practical elements for a reliable commercial product. product.

When the goal has been achieved, every radio receiver, every television set, will be powered atom-electronically. Just as our portable radios are battery-powered today, so in the future a tiny atomic cartridge will power any receiver for years on end, at a cost not much higher than a single set of present-day batteries.

Bicycles, motorbikes, automobiles, airplanes, all ulti-mately will be powered atom-electronically, as will all modes of transport. There will be a host of new atom-electronic developments undreamed of today.

Here are only a few that come to mind: • High-voltage (200,000 to 1,000,000 volt) cascade generators voltage (200,000 to 1,000,000 volt) cascade generators which operate without benefit of the usual transformers. • Self-powered X-ray emistions. • Banks of multiplex, self-powered transistors—where hundreds or thousands of transistors are required in a small space, such as in special electronic computers for use at a desk. • Auto-watches. Instead of present-day complex pocket watches powered by springs which often break, the atom-electronic watch is self-powered, has few wheels but instead a tiny electric motor. Such watches will be much cheaper, will need few repairs, will never have to be wound. Larger watches or few repairs, will never have to be wound. Larger watches or clocks are made in a like manner. • Auto-fluorescents, self-powered table lamps or special-use lamps for home, office, or camp—an important innovation as they will do away with present-day connecting wires that clutter up homes and offices and other places where light is used. This list can be extended endlessly as the new art comes into full use. It is certain to revolutionize our lives far more than steem and electricity did in the past.

lives far more than steam and electricity did in the past.



Calibrating the marker generator; marker injection; the zero-volt reference line

By ENGINEERING STAFF, SCALA RADIO CO.

E HAVE shown in the article "Killing Those Alignment Bugs" (April issue) that a bypass marker injector makes it possible to obtain a uniform size marker at any point on the re-sponse curve—along the base line, or in the traps. To refresh the reader's memory on this important point, reference is made to Fig. 1. The height of the marker appears the same, whether placed on top of the i.f. response curve (Fig. 1-a), at the bottom of the curve on the base line (Fig. 1-b), on the hump of the after response (Fig. 1-c), or in the bottom of the expanded trap (Fig. 1-d).

The experienced technician will recognize that this is a surprising type of display, normally unobtainable with older methods of beat-marker injection. The marker display on the ratio-detector S curve is perhaps most surprising of all. The ratio-detector type of circuit is one which is notoriously difficult to mark because of its AM difficult to mark because of its AMs marker injector, a large marker is obtained on the linear portion of the S curve (Fig. 2-b).

Locating marker point on scope base line

If a bypass marker injector is not available, the technician can disconnect the sweep generator from the discriminator, and feed the sweep and marker signals through a crystal demodulator probe to the scope. The marker will then become visible along the scope base line. Set the marker generator to exactly 4.5 mc; then adjust the sweep generator to bring the marker to exact center screen, as shown in Fig. 3.

Now, the crystal demodulator probe can be removed and the discriminator reconnected. Although the marker may not be visible on the S curve, it is known that at the center of the scope screen is the 4.5-mc marker point. As the tuning adjustments of the discriminator are varied, the S curve moves left or right along the scope base line. The proper adjustment, of course, is that which causes the center point of the S curve to cut the vertical line of the scope screen.

Both primary and secondary adjustments of the discriminator transformer are effective in shifting the S curve. But adjustment of the tuned coils also causes the curve to become more or less symmetrical. The proper adjustment is made when the curve is symmetrical as well as being centered on the scope screen.

The time lost when a crystal demodulator probe is used to locate the marker point on the scope base line is a strong argument for using a bypass marker injector in the busy shop.

High accuracy required in marking

Experienced technicians know that unless the 4.5-mc marking frequency is accurate, the sound output from the receiver will be weak and distorted, or perhaps completely inaudible. For this reason, a method of calibrating the marker generator is an absolute necessity. Fig. 4 shows how this is done with the aid of a crystal demodulator probe.

The output of the marker generator is connected in parallel with the output of a crystal oscillator, and both signals are demodulated by a crystal probe and applied to the input of the scope. The scope is swept at a low frequency, and a sine-wave beat pattern appears on the scope screen. The marker dial will indicate zero-beat frequencies (seen as a minimum number of sine waves on the scope screen) when the marker frequency is an exact multiple of the crystal fundamental frequency. Any crystal oscillator can be used, but the technician will obtain the greatest use from 1 mc, 2 mc, and 4.5-mc crystals.

This type of calibrating arrangement is limited in the extent to which it can develop visible indications of zero beats against higher harmonics of the calibrating crystal. In order to use higher harmonics of the crystal, a conventional audio amplifier can be placed between the output of the crystal demodulator probe and the input terminals of the scope. It is essential, however, that the audio amplifier have a low hum level, or severe distortion of the beat pattern may result.

It is possible to use the internal amplifier of the bypass marker injector for this purpose. No distortion of the pattern is obtained under such circumstances, because the internal power supply of the unit is exceptionally well filtered. Circulating ground currents which may cause a hum-voltage drop to appear between various ground points along the chassis are avoided by proper layout of ground returns.

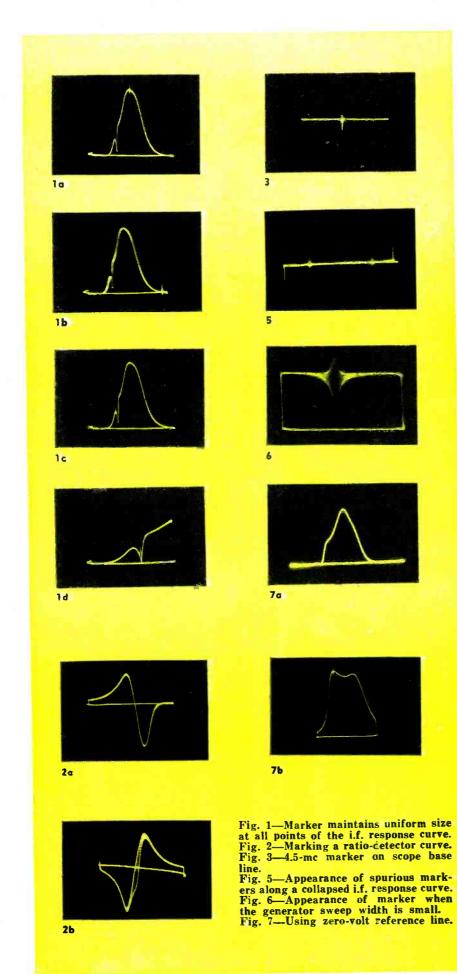
Observation of spurious markers

Spurious markers are annoying to the busy operator. Spurious markers usually arise from beats between harmonics of the test signals which are in use at the time. The annoyance is sometimes so severe that technicians use absorption markers, because an absorption marker has no harmonics and cannot cross-beat with harmonics of the sweep signal. However, an absorption marker always disappears near the base of the curve. Furthermore, an absorption marker usually appears in a misleading manner on the steep side of a response curve; the operator usually judges the marker to be too low on the curve.

It is possible to obtain clean markers free from spurious indications, if the generators have good waveform; i.e., the generators should have a sine-wave output, free from harmonics. In general, the more paid for a generator, the more nearly its output approaches a pure sine wave. Some sweep generators provide a low-pass filter in the output circuit for the express purpose of suppressing harmonics in the output. These will be found to develop fewer and less noticeable spurious markers.

It must not be supposed that spurious markers are always the result of harmonic output from the generators. In some cases, faults exist in the i.f. amplifier strip which causes the generation of spurious markers in the i.f. amplifier itself. One common cause of this is the tendency of the amplifier to break into oscillation when the stages are incorrectly peaked at frequencies too close

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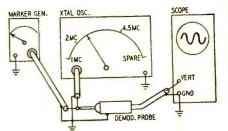


Fig. 4—Calibrating a marker generator.

together. As the amplifier breaks into oscillation, the response curve collapses, and spurious markers appear along the base line on the scope screen, as shown in Fig. 5.

Obviously, if the marker signal does not pass through the amplifier, any instability in the amplifier circuits can have no effect upon the marker indication. Hence, a bypass injector often avoids spurious marker indications that appear when the conventional method is used. In conclusion, receiver manufacturers almost invariably indicate that the local oscillator in the receiver be disabled during i.f. alignment. If this is overlooked, spurious markers are certain to be generated which cannot be subsequently eliminated.

Width of marker depends on sweep width

The width of markers on response curves deserves serious consideration. It should not be supposed that it is always possible to obtain a sharp and narrow marker indication, as seen in Fig. 3. For example, Fig. 6 shows the same marker when displayed at a smaller sweep width.

Since a discriminator has a smaller bandwidth than an i.f. amplifier, it makes the marker appear broader. Accordingly, the marker seen in Fig. 1 is narrower and sharper than the marker seen in Fig. 2. The marker on the ratiodiscriminator curve requires particular observation; it is not pointed as in wide-band circuits, but is more or less uniform in width from one end of the display to the other. But if the technician looks carefully, he will observe that the marker is broken at one point, and that a dark line about 1/32 inch wide separates the marker into two parts, at the center of the S curve. This break in the marker is the exact zero-beat point, which is utilized in the alignment procedure.

Displays with zero-volt reference

A zero-volt reference line appears in the pattern shown in Fig. 6. The zerovolt reference is a convenience in alignment procedures.

Zero-volt reference lines are developed by the sweep generator, or are provided automatically by d.c. scopes. Since most technicians utilize a.c. scopes, the zero reference must be obtained from the sweep generator, which operates as a d.c. restorer during onehalf cycle of its operation. A detailed discussion on this subject is reserved for the next installment of this series.

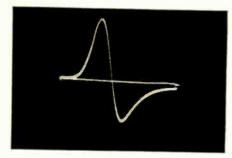


Fig. 8-a-Zero-volt reference line aids in FM discriminator alignment.



Fig. 8-b-Using zero-volt reference line to check antenna impedance.

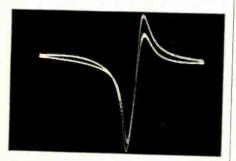


Fig. 9-Hum voltage distorts S curve.

Fig. 7-a shows typical narrow-band circuit response curves when displayed with zero-volt reference lines. It is apparent that little advantage is gained using a zero-volt reference unless a wide-band circuit (Fig. 7-b) is under alignment. In the latter case, considerable additional information is provided, since the operator would not know otherwise where the base line of the curve is located.

The zero reference level is also convenient when aligning discriminators (Fig. 8-a), or checking antenna impedance characteristics, as shown in Fig. 8-b.

The zero-volt reference should intersect the S curve at the 4.5-mc point when the circuits are in proper alignment. However, the technician must guard against hum in the discriminator circuits, since hum voltage will raise one of the S curves and lower the other (in the absence of the zero reference), as shown in Fig. 9. It is apparent that if either of the traces seen in Fig. 9 is converted to a zero reference line by the sweep generator, the intersection of the reference line with the S curve will be false. Accordingly, before alignment, the circuits should be checked for hum END

RECONDITIONING PICTURE TUBES

By JOHN B. LEDBETTER*

ID you ever try to burn out a cathode-to-heater or cathode-togrid short in a picture tube? The usual application of 117 volts

a.c. or d.c. across the shorted elements is satisfactory in *some* cases. But it is not very useful where the short is highresistance or is present only under certain thermal conditions. In addition, the high-current a.c. or d.c. source can damage the cathode coating or even the grid structure.

The method to be described is extremely simple; it takes up a very small amount of time; and, so far as I am concerned, it has been 100% effective. And, what is just as important to the busy service technician, the entire procedure can be carried out without removing either the picture tube or the chassis from the cabinet.

Unusual symptoms of trouble

A common indication of a cathodeto-heater short is full brightness, with the brightness control having no effect. In some receivers (depending on the particular circuit) the symptom may be a washed-out picture, while in still others the raster will be normal but with no picture. In a few sets, a shorted condition will cause a black-and-white shading effect on the screen, with or without a picture.

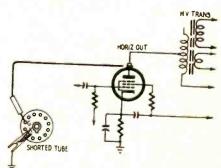
Most picture tubes can be checked for cathode-grid or cathode-heater shorts (or leakage) with a v.t.v.m. The test should be made while the tube is still hot and with the tube socket removed. Use the highest resistance scale on the v.t.v.m.

Analysis of trouble

While at WKRC-TV, I received and processed a number of shorted C-R tubes. In most of these, the short was between cathode and grid and was usually high-resistance; between 250,-000 and 420,000 ohms. A few tubes showed a low-resistance or intermittent short between cathode and heater, some of which could be restored temporarily to normal operation by jarring or thumping the neck or base of the tube. Experiments on these and other types of tubes gave rise to the theory that such shorts were not the result of direct contact between elements (the result of defective structure, displacement of elements from jarring, etc.), but were caused by contact between the grid (or heater) element and the spiral surface of the cathode. As the cathode expands and contracts during heating and cooling cycles, a small burr or flake of the oxide coating may work itself loose and eventually make contact with the heater or grid element. In the case of grid contact, the tip of the cathode element seems to have made contact through "oxidized" coating with

* Engineering Writer, Convair,

the top portion of the grid. (This is evidenced by the usually high-resistance readings and the fact that slight element displacement would make contact more likely near the top of the elements.)



Obtaining high voltage from TV re-

Removing the short

The solution to the problem is to apply a high voltage, from a low-current source, across the shorted elements. Such a voltage will produce a lowcurrent arc across the elements which anneals or removes the burr without disintegrating the cathode coating (and without resembling an arc welder in action). Such a voltage can be obtained very easily, either from an r.f. oscillator (amateur radio transmitter, etc.), or directly from the high-voltage power supply of a TV receiver. The latter is probably the simplest.

Usually, the shorted picture tube need not be removed from the cabinet. The socket is removed (see diagram) and the high voltage is applied directly to the shorted pins with well-insulated test probes. In applying the high voltage, use care to prevent overloading the power supply. This can usually be avoided by connecting one test lead (equipped with alligator clips) from the TV receiver chassis to the cathode pin, and the other lead from the horizontal-output tube's plate cap. If this lead is touched rapidly several times in succession to the other shorted element, the short can be cleared without undue current drain from the horizontal output transformer. In stubborn or intermittent cases, the "annealing" or r.f.heating process can be aided by vibrating or jarring the neck or base of the tube. As a precaution against possible recurrence, the process can be repeated, first from cathode to grid, then from cathode to heater while the base is vibrated with the fingers.

In all tests made, the shorts seemed to clear almost instantaneously. As each tube was returned to service, a brief record including the complaint, date, and condition were attached as a means of evaluating the tests. To date, none of the tubes has given further trouble.

RADIO-ELECTRONICS

ADJUSTING A

How would you install, adjust, or service a color television receiver? It has been hard to get useful information on that subject, because it is almost impossible to explain the facts of color without fullcolor illustrations, and it is difficult and expensive to print four-color illustrations in a magazine. This story (separately printed and inserted in the issue) shows how correct adjustments—or color faults —actually look on the TV screen.

TV RECEIVER

HE service technician can easily find information on how to get the color TV tube into place and put its shield, yoke and purifying coil into position. Two or three service sheets have already come out with that information, and he will no doubt see more before he handles his first TV tube. But little material is available on making the necessary adjustments to get the color tube working perfectly. The reason is that it is almost impossible to explain certain of the adjustments without color illustrations. So we are going to talk almost entirely about those adjustments.

At the time of writing, there was one book with complete color information in picture form. That is *Practical Color Television*, (RCA Service Co., Camden, N. J., 2.00). The color illustrations here are taken from that book, by special arrangement with the RCA Service Company, and are copyright by that organization. The information given here – describing as it does these illustrations—is also largely taken from the same source, with the result that the instructions are especially applicable to RCA color receivers, though useful for any color receiver using the shadowmask type of picture tube.

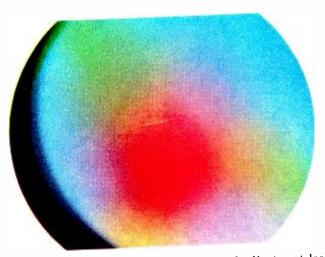


Fig. 1—How an incorrect purity control adjustment looks.



Fig. 2-Color contamination showing in the red picture.

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It would be impossible to get a schematic into the space available for this article. The references are to the schematics on pages 66 and 67 of the January, 1954, issue, or to the large complete schematic in *Practical Color Television*. Controls which are named in those schematics are printed in small capitals the first time they appear in this article.

Preliminary adjustments

Once the tube is in place, turn the set on and make the usual adjustments to get a good black-and-white picture

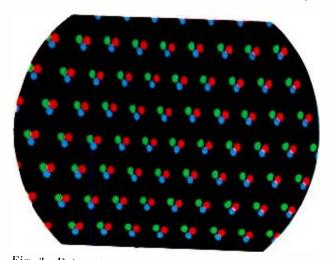


Fig. 3-Dot pattern out of convergence, voltage low.

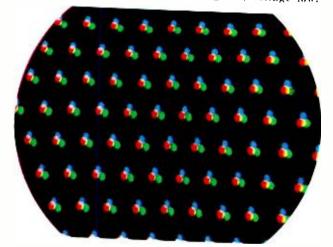


Fig. 4-Dots out of convergence with voltage too high.

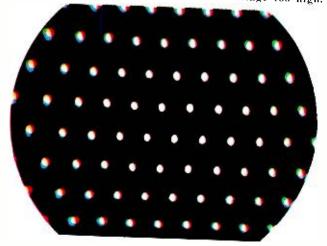


Fig. 5-D.c. convergence fairly good (see note in text).

(with CHROMA control turned down). A little color in the picture won't hurt, but linearity must be right. Check the high voltage with a v.t.v.m. and high -voltage probe, making sure it is around 20,000 at all settings of the brightness control. Correct the voltage by adjusting the voltage-regulator control.

Now we are ready to proceed with color adjustments. Turn the contrast all the way down and the brightness control well up. Then turn up the RED SCREEN control, while turning the GREEN SCREEN and BLUE SCREEN controls down. You should have a pure rich red raster.

Screw the convergence magnets out away from the neck of the kinescope and slide the yoke back as far as possible. Then rotate the purifying coil—at the same time adjusting the PURITY CONTROL, until you get the most uniform red in the center of the screen. Use as little purifying coil current as possible. A *wrong* purifying coil adjustment, with the best red toward the lower left of the screen, is seen in Fig. 1.

Next adjust for most uniform red by sliding the yoke forward till you get the best purity, making sure at the same time that there are no neck shadows. If there is still some purity contamination, as in Fig. 2, readjust the purifying coil and purity control.

Convergence adjustments

The converging electrode (grid 4) of the picture tube bends together the beams from the three guns and converges them at the aperture mask. This is *d.c. convergence* and will bring the beams together correctly in areas near the center of the tube screen. But, since the beams have to travel farther to reach the edges of the screen, the convergence voltage has to be varied according to the position of the spot. This is done by applying *dynamic* horizontal- and vertical-frequency convergence voltages.

To adjust the convergence, a dot generator is used. Turn down the HORIZONTAL CONVERGENCE and VERTICAL CONVER-GENCE controls and the VERTICAL SHAPER control, screw the convergence magnets as far away from the neck of the picture tube as possible, and reduce the voltage on the convergence electrode by turning down the convergence voltage control.

The screen pattern should look like Fig. 3. If it looks like Fig. 4, with the blue dot at the top instead of the bottom, convergence voltage is too high. Readjust.

Adjust the three convergence magnets and the d.c. convergence voltage, watching the dots at the *center* of the screen till they overlap and become white (Fig. 5). Note well that it may be necessary to readjust the focus controls during this process—several of the controls in a color tube

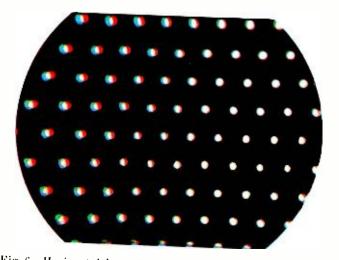


Fig. 6—Horizontal dynamic convergence voltage misphased.

circuit affect each other. The vertical and horizontal dynamic convergence controls are among them.

Once the d.c. convergence controls are properly adjusted, adjust the vertical dynamic shape and amplitude controls to obtain equal convergence along a vertical line of dots through the center of the screen. The vertical shape control should be adjusted to make the color displacement on the top and bottom dots equal. The vertical amplitude control is then adjusted to make the color displacement equal along the entire line of dots in the center. A slight readjustment of the d.c. convergence control will then converge the line from top to bottom.

Repeat the operation with the horizontal convergence control. If one side of the pattern converges and the other does not (Fig. 6), adjust the HORIZONTAL DYNAMIC PHASE control. (When finally adjusted, the convergence magnets must not be too close to the tube neck, or beam focus may be distorted.) A perfect pattern appears in Fig. 7. (Actually the edge dots in Fig. 7 are not perfectly converged. The photos were taken while these tubes were still in the developmental stage, and "perfect convergence" was not then as good as is now possible.)

White adjustment

Take away the dot generator, turn CHROMA and CONTRAST controls down and advance brightness to maximum. Adjust the three-color screen controls to give a low brightness white all over the screen. Then turn the contrast control halfway up and tune in a black-and-white picture. Adjust the BLUE gain and GREEN gain controls till you get an uncontaminated white on the highlights. Then turn the brightness control down and adjust the same BACKGROUND controls to get a good white on lowlights. Repeat the highlight and lowlight adjustments till the white tracks at all settings of the brightness and contrast controls.

Your color adjustments are now made, and you should get a picture like Fig. 8 on a standard color test pattern.

Servicing the color set

Many faults in a color receiver can be located by operating it as a black-and-white receiver. This shows up faults in common color and black-and-white circuits, faults in producing pure primary color fields, troubles in convergence and focus, and faults that prevent forming uniform whites and grays. Primary color field troubles produce a color field over the whole picture and can be cleared by repeating the color purity adjustments. Improper convergence makes a black-and-white picture look like Fig. 9. Color in the highlights or lowlights is cleared by repeating highlight and lowlight adjustments.

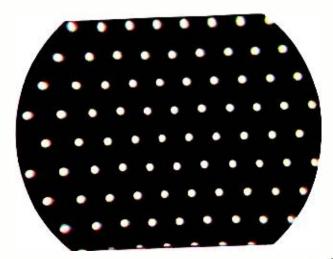


Fig. 7-Properly converged dot pattern (see note in text).

Other faults can be found only by operating the set as a color receiver. No color is likely to be due to the 3.58-mc oscillator. Check the voltage supplied to the suppressors of the "I" and "Q" demodulators. It should be about -5 volts if oscillator signals are reaching them; about -1.8 volts if not. Defects in the BANDPASS AMPLIFIER also may affect the color circuits.



Fig. 10—A color picture due to the loss of color sync.



Fig. 9-Poor convergence on a black-and-white picture.

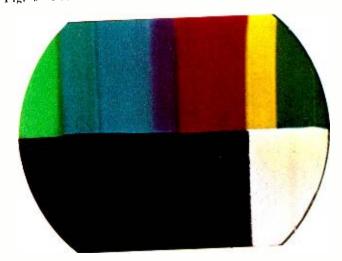


Fig. 8-Correct color adjustment on standard bar pattern.



Color sync problems

Loss of color sync looks like Fig. 10. The colored bars move vertically. Loss of color sync may be caused by defects in the color phase-discriminator circuit or in the reactance tube circuit, or by the 3.58-mc oscillator being off frequency. If horizontal bars are few, frequency deviation is slight.

Phase adjustment problems

Incorrect phase relationship between the "I" and "Q" signals will produce improper colors. Before checking the quadrature circuits, check the manual phase control. A picture like Fig. 11 results when the phase control is misadjusted. If the "I" signal is missing entirely, the picture will look like Fig. 12, and a picture without the "Q" signal looks like Fig. 13. Narrow bands of incorrect color at the vertical edges of contrasting color areas indicate that "I" and "Q" signals are not exactly 90 degrees apart. For any of the above, check through the quadrature circuits and the "I" and "Q" demodulators.

Other sources of trouble

Troubles in circuits common to color and black-and-white can also cause color trouble. For example, the burst reference signal could be prevented (by clipping in the i.f. circuits) from reaching the circuits in which it is compared with those from the local 3.58-mc oscillator. This would cause sync trouble. Complete misregistration of the color signal with the fine detail ("Y" channel) can usually be traced to trouble in the delay line. Heater-cathode leakage can cause a picture like Fig. 14. The green and purple bars are due to hum in the "Q" channel. Orange and bluishgreen bars would be caused by hum in the "I" channel.

And finally, if all adjustments are correct, if there are no color-canceling reflections, if antenna is a good broadband job, and if the station is transmitting a perfect picture, the result should look like Fig. 15.







Fig. 11-Picture due to incorrect phase control setting.



Fig. 12-Green-bluish cast is due to lack of "I" signal.

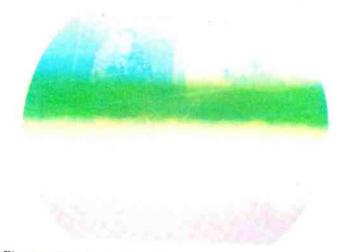


Fig. 14—Heater-cathode leakage causes color hum bars.

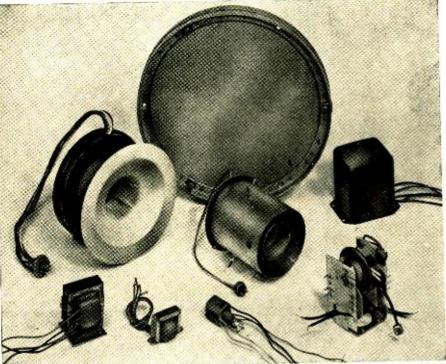


Fig. 15-What we have been working for: a normal picture.

COVER FEATURE

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COLOR RECEIVER COMPONENTS



RCA components for the 15GP22 deflection, high voltage, and focus and convergence circuits. In the background from left to right is the deflecting yoke, shadow mask, purifying coil, vertical dynamic focusing transformer; in the foreground, vertical deflection output transformer, vertical isolation inductor, horizontal dynamic focusing transformer, and horizontal output transformer.

OR the proper operation of the deflection, high-voltage, dynamic focus, and convergence circuits used with the tricolor tube 15GP22, several specially designed TV components have been developed, some of which-deflecting yoke, purifying coil, and horizontal output transformer, together with shadow-mask from the kinescope—are shown on the front cover.

The most striking feature of the deflecting yoke is its physical size as compared to conventional yokes. Having a horizontal deflection angle of 45° , the horizontal and vertical coils produce the necessary magnetic fields for simultaneous deflection of the three beams. The end of the yoke placed nearest the tube funnel is widely flared to provide the proper flux distribution for optimum convergence. A polyethylene liner is used to prevent arcing between the yoke coils and the grounded coating on the picture tube. The outside diameter of the deflecting yoke is 7^{13} /16 inches; the inside diameter 2.2 inches.

Of particular interest is the purifying coil for obtaining multibeam alignment. It consists of three magnets for positioning the individual beams, and a magnetic shield. It is designed for mounting on the neck section of the tricolor tube.

The purifying coil produces a transverse magnetic field which can be adjusted by rotating the coil and changing the current through it, to align the common axis of the beams, so that it coincides with the axis of the picture tube. Thus, when the beams are focused, converged, and deflected, they approach each hole in the shadow mask at the proper angle to strike the centers of their appropriate color dots-producing color purity.

The beam-positioning magnets are spaced at 120° intervals to correspond with the positions of the kinescope guns. The magnets are threaded and slotted, with a red dot indicating the north pole. The effect of the magnet on the beam position can be reversed by inserting the opposite end of the magnet into the shield.

The magnetic shield isolates the beams passing at low velocity through the neck section of the c-r tube from the effects of extraneous magnetic fields.

The horizontal-output high-voltage transformer is conventional in appearance. Electrically, it is extremely rugged, supplying an output of 20 kv at 750 μ a when driven by a single 6CD6-G operating from a 400-volt supply

The transformer has a multi-tapped auto-transformer winding and four isolated windings. The auto-transformer winding supplies the high voltage and provides connections to deflecting yoke, damper tube, driver tube, and width control. Other taps supply pulses for keyed a.g.c. circuits and voltage for a

15GP22 color TV picture tube circuits require specially designed components

high-voltage rectifier supplying the d.c. voltage to the focusing electrode of the 15GP22. Voltage for the converging electrode is taken from a bleeder resistor in the high-voltage supply.

In typical operation the transformer can supply 4 ky to the focising electrode, and 10 ky to the converging electrode.

The vertical dynamic-converging and dynamic-focusing transformer has a tapped secondary winding for coupling the vertical-dynamic output of the convergence amplifier to both the converging electrode (grid 4) and the focusing electrode (grid 3) of the 15GP22.

This transformer supplies vertical dynamic correcting voltages for combining with those supplied by the horizontal dynamic converging and dynamic focusing transformer.

These combined dynamic correcting voltages are superimposed on the d.c. voltages for grids 3 and 4 to provide changing electrostatic fields which maintain proper focus and convergence of the beams as they pass over the flat shadow mask of the picture tube.

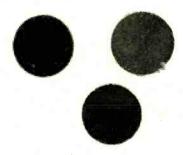
The horizontal dynamic-converging and dynamic focusing transformer performs essentially the same function as its counterpart, except that it couples the horizontal dynamic output of the convergence amplifier to the converging and focusing electrode of the 15GP22.

Designed for operation at the horizontal scanning frequency, an adjustable ferrite core permits tuning to the scanning frequency.

The vertical deflection output transformer is of standard design, and will operate with one-half of a 6BL7-GT as the driver. The transformer provides good sweep linearity, ample deflection, and efficient coupling between the driver tube and the vertical coils of the deflecting yoke.

An especially interesting component is the vertical isolation inductor, a 2section coil designed to operate as the inductive element in the filter network between the vertical deflection circuit and the vertical centering circuit. The filter network represents a high impedance inserted between the respective circuits to isolate the a.c. component in the vertical coils from ground. This isolation of the a.c. component reduces the capacitance between the vertical and horizontal coils which results in reduction of capacitance between the horizontal coils and ground. Thus, shorter retrace time is obtained for the horizontal deflection circuit, END

BASIC COLOR TV



Part IV (continued)—I and Q signals; summary of the features and techniques of the NTSC system

By D. NEWMAN* and J. J. ROCHE*

N earlier installments, we mentioned that the eye does not appreciate blue in picture details which correspond to video frequencies above approximately 600 kc. Remembering that the green color-difference signal is derived at the receiver from the red and blue color signals, we can see that the accuracy of the green color-difference signal depends on the presence of the red and blue signals. Therefore, it would be desirable to transmit the blue colordifference signal for all color video frequencies, to maintain the accuracy of the green color component which is recovered in the receiver-even though the eye may not appreciate part of the blue signal.

In our previous discussion, we learned that the blue color channel is limited in bandwidth to approximately 600 kc. Let us see what this means in terms of the actual colors being transmitted and received, at frequencies *above* approximately 600 kc. Above 600 kc, the action of the low-pass filter, in the blue colordifference channel, removes all the color-modulating components produced by the blue camera. Because we are using a suppressed-carrier type of modulator, the $E_{\pi}' - E_{\gamma}'$ component completely disappears in the absence of modulation.

This means that only the $E_{R'} - E_{Y'}$ modulation components are present at frequencies above approximately 600 kc. Since the $E_{R'} - E_{Y'}$ component has vanished, and is no longer acting in quadrature with the $E_{R'} - E_{Y'}$ component, the phase of the resulting chrominance signal is now controlled by only one voltage $(E_{R'} - E_{Y'})$, instead of two.

If we plot the colors that are reproduced above 600 kc on a color triangle, as shown in Fig. 1, we find that we have a straight line running from reddishmagenta to greenish-cyan.

In other words, for frequencies above 600 kc, we are using what is essentially a two-color system of reproduction. The primaries we are using are reddishmagenta and greenish-cyan.

For many years, experiments have been conducted to determine the best primary colors to use in a two-color reproduction system. Results of this

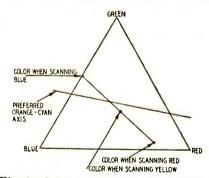


Fig. 1-Colors reproduced above 600 kc, when scanning red, blue, and yellow.

experience have shown that the two colors which give the best results are a slightly orange red and a greenish blue (cyan).

These preferred primaries have been used successfully in two-color photography. One example you may be familiar with is the Cinecolor motion-picture process which results in pleasant color reproduction, even though it cannot reproduce all colors correctly.

Possibly the most noticeable improvement gained by using the orange and cyan primaries—in preference to the reddish-magenta and greenish-cyan primaries—is in the reproduction of flesh tones. Since the eye can detect relatively small errors in the reproduction of skin tones, use of the preferred orange-cyan primaries above 600 kc results in a perceptible improvement. This is approached in the NTSC system.

Modifying the I and Q signals

As we have seen, it is desirable to use the original red, green, and blue as primary colors for all video frequencies up to approximately 600 kc. Above 600 kc it is advantageous to shift to the preferred two-color system primaries, orange and cyan.

To operate along the orange-cyan axis above 600 kc, we must shift the wide-band color-difference components 33° ahead of the $E_{R'} - E_{\chi'}$ axis.

The methods used in the NTSC system to do this are illustrated in Fig. 2, which shows the original $E_{n'} - E_{y'}$ and $E_{B'} - E_{y'}$ components in quadrature, and their phase relationship to the reference burst. The resultant chrominance signal E_c produced by these components is also shown.

The wide-band color difference component which is substituted for $E_{n'} - E_{\gamma'}$, to provide improved color reproduction above 600 kc, is shown as a dotted line leading $E_{n'} - E_{\gamma'}$ by 33°. A narrow-band color-difference component is substituted for $E_{B'} - E_{\gamma'}$, and is placed in quadrature with the new wide-band color-difference. As a result, the new narrow-band component leads $E_{B'} - E_{\gamma'}$ by 33°.

We can retain the identical phase and amplitude of the original chrominance signal below 600 kc, by adjusting the

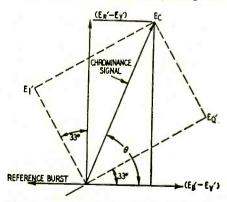


Fig. 2—Phase relationship between the I and Q wide-band color-difference signals, and the color-reference burst.

^{*}Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, Inc.

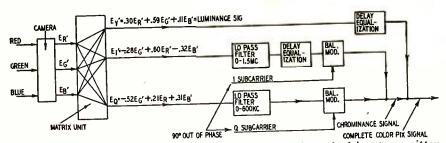


Fig. 3-Diagram shows basic operation of NTSC color television transmitter.

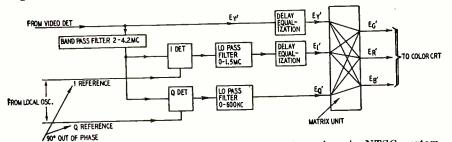


Fig. 4—Diagram shows basic operation of color TV receiver in NTSC system.

lengths of the new color-difference components, as shown in Fig. 2. This is done by modifying the makeup of the color-difference signals. The new colordifference signals are called E_{I} and E_{Q} . E₁', the wide-band color-difference

signal, is made up as follows:

 $E_{r}' = -.27 (E_{r}' - E_{r}') + .74 (E_{r}' - E_{r}')$ Eq' designates the narrow-band colordifference signal and is formed by:

 $E_{g}' = .41 \ (E_{B}' - E_{Y}') + .48 \ (E_{B}' - E_{Y}')$ At the receiver the phase of the locally generated reference signals supplied to the synchronous detectors is shifted 33° to recover these new E_1 and E_2 signals. From these signals, the necessary $E_{R'} - E_{Y'}$ and $E_{B'} - E_{Y'}$ (and $E_{G'} - E_{Y'}$) color-difference signals are derived.

The use of \mathbf{E}_{1} and \mathbf{E}_{Q} provides improved color reproduction above approximately 600 kc, without impairing the color fidelity below this frequency. Above 600 kc, we now operate along the preferred orange-cyan axis as shown in Fig. 1.

Up to this point we have discussed individually the important features and techniques used in the NTSC system. Now we can summarize how these techniques are used to transmit color television signals (Fig. 3) and recreate the original color picture at the receiver (Fig. 4). •

1. The three-color signals

At the transmitter, a special color camera produces three separate signals, representing the red, green, and blue color content of the scene being televised.

2. The brightness signal

Fixed proportions of the red, green, and blue color signals are added together in a special matrixing amplifier to form the brightness or luminance (Y) signal, as stated in the formula below:

 $E_{x}' = .30 \ E_{e}' + .59 \ E_{e}' + .11 \ E_{B}'$

MAY, 1954

where $\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{B}}' \mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{G}}'$ and $\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{B}}'$ are the red, green, and blue color signal voltages respectively.

This brightness signal closely resembles the video signal in regular blackand-white transmissions and is transmitted in essentially the same manner. Thus the color signal can be received in black-and-white by existing monochrome receivers.

3. The I and Q signals

The three color signals are combined in a special matrixing amplifier, in fixed proportions and polarities, to form two modified color-difference signals, referred to as I and Q. The proportions and polarities used are stated in the formulas below:

 $\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{E}_{1}'=-.28 \ \mathbf{E}_{0}'+.59 \ \mathbf{E}_{R}'-.32 \ \mathbf{E}_{B}'\\ \mathbf{E}_{Q}'=-.53 \ \mathbf{E}_{0}'+.21 \ \mathbf{E}_{R}'+.31 \ \mathbf{E}_{B}' \end{array}$

RADIO-ELECTRONICS expects soon to begin a series of articles dealing with color television from the viewpoint of circuitry. Each of the circuits which make up the color part of a TV receiver will be discussed in turn. We will—of course—also run articles on various special aspects and subjects in the field of color television in addition to the circuitry series.

Note: E_r and E_q can also be specified as fixed proportions of $E_r - E_r$ and E_B - Ey as described earlier in this article.

The I and Q signals are passed through filters to limit their bandwidths according to the following specifications:

Q-channel bandwidth

- at 400 kc less than 2 db down
- at 500 kc less than 6 db down
- at 600 kc at least 6 db down
- I-channel bandwidth
- at 1.3 mc less than 2 db down
- at 3.6 mc at least 20 db down

4. The transmitted color television signal The I and Q signals are used to modulate two subcarriers of the same frequency (3.579545 mc) but 90° out of phase with each other. Carrier suppression is used and the output of the I and Q modulators is combined to form a chrominance signal which varies in phase and amplitude according to the hue and saturation of the color being transmitted.

The chrominance and brightness signals are combined and used to modulate the transmitter.

To synchronize the color-detector circuits in the receiver accurately, a burst of approximately 9 cycles of a 3.579545 mc reference signal is transmitted on the back porch of every horizontal sync pulse.

5. Recovering the transmitted signals

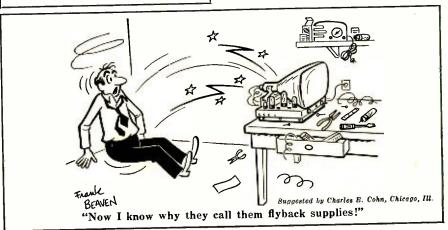
At the receiver the brightness signal is detected in a conventional video detector. The I and Q signals are recovered in separate color detectors. The required reference voltage for each synchronous detector is obtained from a local oscillator synchronized by the color burst.

6. Recovering the original color signals. The three original color signals, $E_{R'}$, $E_{g'}$ and $E_{B'}$ are recovered by combining the brightness ($\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{x}}'$), $\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{1}}'$ and $\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{Q}}'$ signals in a special matrixing amplifier in fixed proportions and polarities. The values are stated in the formulas below:

 $\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{E}_{n} = \ .63 \ \mathbf{E}_{q} + 1.00 \ \mathbf{E}_{y} + \ .96 \ \mathbf{E}_{t} \\ \mathbf{E}_{n} = \ .64 \ \mathbf{E}_{q} + 1.00 \ \mathbf{E}_{y} - \ .28 \ \mathbf{E}_{1} \\ \mathbf{E}_{B} = 1.72 \ \mathbf{E}_{q} + 1.00 \ \mathbf{E}_{y} - 1.11 \ \mathbf{E}_{t} \end{array}$

7. Recreating the color picture

The three original color signals are applied to a color picture tube, recreating the original televised scene in color. END



TELEVISION.

it's a cinch

By E. AISBERG

Tenth conversation, first half: a discussion of the composite video signal

From the original "La Tèlévisian? . . . Mais c'est trés simple!" Translated fram the French by Fred Shunaman. All North American rights reserved. No extract may be printed without the permissian of RADIO-ELECTRONICS and the author.

A transmitter in boxes

KEN-What do you expect to do with that big piece of white paper, Will? Surely we're not going to paint posters today?

WILL—No, I'm looking ahead a bit, that's all. And I think we'll make a lot more progress if you draw me a complete schematic of a TV transmitter.

KEN—Thanks for the compliment, Will! But even if I could draw you a complete TV transmitter diagram right off the cuff, it would only confuse you. What you need to know is what kind of signals the transmitter puts out. Here, let me draw your diagram—in one corner of the paper. Is this schematic enough for you?

WILL—That's what I call an apple-box diagram. You have a complicated assembly hid in every one of those little boxes. But maybe a diagram like that *could* give a person an idea of a whole system and how its parts are tied together.

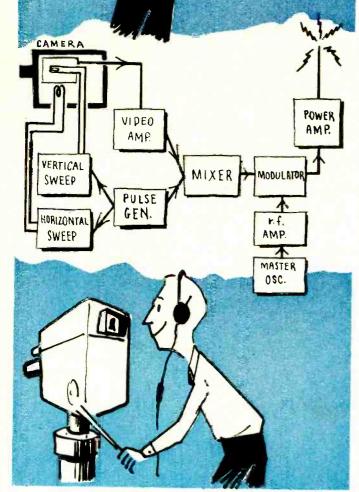
KEN—Well, this bunch of apple boxes *does* make up a television transmitter. It's a little simplified, I admit. I've left out all the power supplies, including the camera tube's. By the way, the camera is nearer to a true schematic than any other part of the diagram. But maybe I should have made it a pictorial, so we could show the electronic viewfinder.

WILL-And what would that be?

KEN—The TV equivalent of the optical viewfinder on your camera. It lets the operator frame and focus the scene correctly. Imagine a little TV receiver (with a 5-inch tube) minus front end and pix i.f. amplifier sitting right on top of the camera, and you have it. The operator looks at the image on the picture tube of this sawed-off receiver, and can tell exactly how the televised scene is being viewed by millions of other spectators. So he frames his picture and varies the stop and focus to give the audience (and himself) the clearest picture.

WILL—I see that the vertical and horizontal sweep of the camera are connected to a pulse generator. Is that where we get the sync pulses?

Ken-Yes. They come from a pulse or sync generator. But don't get the idea that this generator is a simple little gadget. The pulses it produces are the very ones that keep



the picture at the station and in your receiver in step with each other. It gives us the horizontal and vertical sync pulses and the equalizing pulses and blanking signals that are needed to make the complete television signal ready for transmission.

WILL-Both horizontal and vertical sync? I suppose it has to have two oscillators-one for each frequency?

KEN—Not generally. The most common method is to use one oscillator whose frequency is 31,500 cycles per second. Then this frequency is divided to get the horizontal pulses and the much lower vertical sync frequency. That gives you a more stable system—you're sure the vertical and horizontal signals can't get out of step with each other.

WILL-H'm-m-that plain apple box marked "Pulse Generator" begins to look more like the "black box" full of tricks the engineers like to talk about!

KEN—Don't forget this is a very important generator. It supplies the whole synchronizing part of the transmitted television signal, and so keeps all the receivers synchronized with the transmitter.

WILL—I suppose that this "mixer" you show just after the generator is the equipment that combines the synchronizing and video part into the complete TV signal?

KEN-Exactly. And it also includes an amplifier for the video signal, as well as a monitor receiver (which can be simpler than an ordinary TV receiver, because it has its video signal already detected for it). The monitor receiver is used to adjust the voltage of the sync pulses so that they're in proportion to the video signal. And after the signal gets through this mixer, we can handle it just like the audio frequency in a radiophone transmitter—feed it to a modulator stage. There, it varies the amplitude of the r.f. oscillations produced by a very stable master oscillator. Finally, after going through a power amplifier, the modulated r.f. currents are sent to the antenna and radiated into space.

More light, less power

WILL—Suppose we follow that example! Let's leave the transmitter and go to the receiver. We're going to have to work with receivers rather than transmitters anyway, and I'd like to put in my time learning about them.

KEN-You'll be better off to hang around in space for a while-between the transmitting and receiving antennas -while we learn more about the composite television signal the waves are carrying.

WILL—Don't we already know that the signal is "composed of the modulation which interprets the light values of the successively scanned elements of the picture"?

KEN—That's the video signal. We have to include the sync signals in the complete, or *composite*, TV signal.

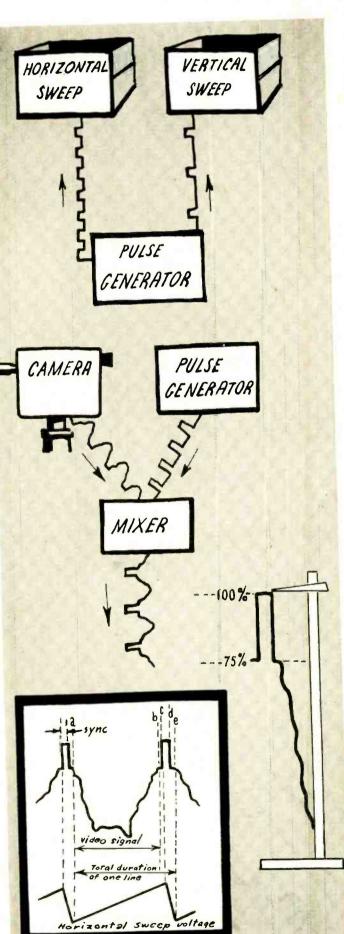
WILL—Of course! And I've been doing quite a lot of thinking about synchronization. But some things I can't figure out. For example, how can the receiver distinguish between video and sync signals? And, if it can do that, how does it know the difference between horizontal and vertical sync pulses?

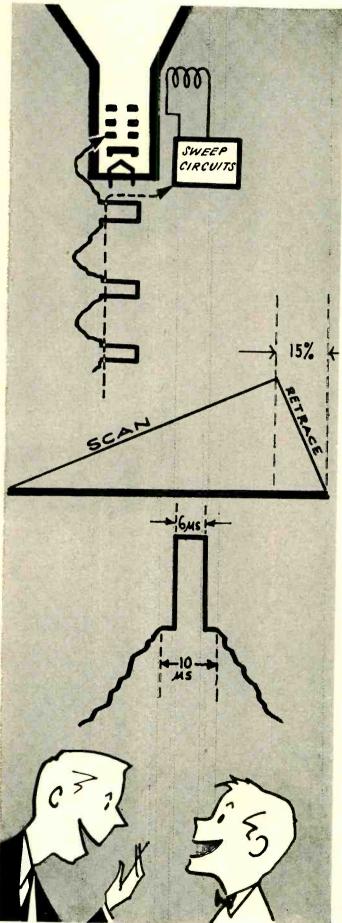
KEN—The difference is a matter of amplitude. Voltages below 75% of the maximum are used for the video signal. The 75% level is *black*; white is the absence of signal. Signals between those two levels appear as halftones, or grays, on the picture tube of your receiver. Look at this drawing.

WILL—So we get these grays, as well as black and white, by detecting this video signal and applying it to the grid of the picture tube. But why should the strongest signal give you the weakest light, and vice versa?

KEN—Our negative transmission is a matter of choice. England and France use positive transmission, and their synchronizing region is between 30% of total amplitude and zero. But we think it's better to have the sync signals up near the maximum power level, so they are less likely to be interfered with than the weaker ones of positive transmission systems. Incidentally, the video signals don't have to be applied to the grid of the receiver's picture tube. They are applied to the *cathode* in some receivers.

WILL-I hope those powerful sync signals don't get to be grid-or cathode-of the picture tube. They would





drive the spot *beyond* zero light level—make it blacker than black, you might say.

KEN-"Blacker than black" is just what they do say! And I have bad news for you: The sync signals are applied to the control grid of the picture tube. What harm can you see in it? On the contrary, it's a great advantage to have the spot invisible while the sync signals are being received! WILL-I don't see why.

KEN-You're not as bright as usual today ... Just sort of follow in your mind the track the spot would make during the sync period.

WILL—Let's see—the sync signals start the spot on its return journey, both at the ends of lines and the end of fields..., Oh, I see it now! Of course it's a great advantage to blank out the spot so the return movement won't be seen on the screen. So that's why they make the signals "blacker than black" and even follow them with a little step just at the black level, as you show in your little drawing.

KEN—That's not the only reason. The difference in strength makes it possible to separate the sync from the video signals and send them to the proper sweep circuits.

WILL—Now I'm beginning to see light in this blackerthan-black subject. The composite signal is applied to the grid (or whichever is the control element) of the picture tube to vary the brightness of the spot during the scanning time and to blank it out during its flyback periods. And the sync signals are separated from the others because they are stronger. Then they go their own way to keep the horizontal and vertical synchronizing signals perfectly timed.

Horizontal sync signals

WILL-Now, another important point. How much time do these sync signals take up?

KEN—Including the "pedestal" at the black level (b to c and d to e in the figure) they have to extend just a little beyond the time it takes for the spot to get back to the beginning of its trace, so that it will be blanked out during the whole trip. Under our standards, the horizontal sync signal takes up just a little less than 20% of the time it takes to trace a line. When we talk about a 525-line system, the time taken by each line (including the horizontal blanking pulse) is 63.5 microseconds. About 55 microseconds of that is the scanning trace, and around 8 is spent on the return trip. And the whole time alloted to the sync signal (between its two black-level steps) is about 10 microseconds.

WILL—Then the horizontal sync signal is a pulse about 10 microseconds long?

KEN-Go easy, Will! The pulse itself is only about 6 microseconds long. But it has those two black-level steps we've been talking about-one ahead of it and one behind it

we've been talking about—one ahead of it and one behind it. WILL—Just a second! Give me a hand to get myself straight on this. I want to follow a line from beginning to end. First of all, during about 80% or more of the time, we have the video signal (points a to b on your figure). This signal varies from a low level to about 75% of maximum signal. During this time, the horizontal sweep circuits of both the transmitter and receiver are producing the rising part of the sawtooth wave. Then for a microsecond or two (b to c) the signal stays at the black level (75%) with the spot still going from left to right toward the end of the line. Then the pulse itself comes along, and the transmitter signal rises to 100% of full output. This sudden jump (c) discharges the sweep oscillator (as we learned a long time ago) and its sudden drop in voltage sends the spot back toward the left side of the screen. It gets there just about the time the pulse drops to the 75% level (d). Then we have a little safety zone (d to e) in which the spot remains invisible as it starts out to start tracing another line.

KEN-I see that you've got more help from my drawing than from my explanations!

WILL—And how is it at the transmitter? Do they apply the same type of signals to the TV cameras to blank out the spot during return traces?

KEN-Of course. Otherwise the scanning beam would set up charges on the photosensitive element during the return trace. That would mess up the picture-you'd have retrace lines in it. (TO BE CONTINUED



Over-all antenna length (in inches) Reflector Director (Corrected for Channel (inches) end effect) (inches) Number 93.3 102 97.2 2 84.4 92.3 88 3 77 84.34 80 4 67.3 73.6 5 70 68.2 62.5 65.2 6

Antenna dimen-

sions. Arrows indicate similarity in reflector and director lengths on adjacent channels.

SERVICE shops are often called upon to minimize radio interference caused by nearby television receivers. The best procedures consist of liberal shielding of the offending receivers.

Ordinary aluminum foil—kitchentype—can be used for lining the inside of the television cabinet. It can be stapled to the cabinet or applied with plastic tape (on metal cabinets). Attach one section of the foil shield to the chassis.

The short section of transmission line connecting the tuner to the antenna terminals often picks up interference signals and causes their radiation by the antenna system. This section of ribbon lead should be wrapped loosely with aluminum foil and the foil should be grounded to the chassis by a short length of wire. If the foil is wrapped too tightly some signal attenuation for higher-channel stations may occur.

The leads which run from the chassis to the picture tube can also be wrapped loosely with the aluminum foil and the latter grounded. A tight wrapping here may attenuate some of the higherfrequency video signal components because of the capacitive effects of the shield.

The leads from the chassis to the yoke should also be shielded to minimize radiation.

The drive control of the receiver should also be adjusted below the point where left-hand stretch or center compression occurs. Excessive drive not only will shorten the life of the tubes in the horizontal and high-voltage sections, but also will increase pulse amplitudes and aggravate interference to radios.

Another topic which has been the subject of several letters lately is snow effect in boosters, in spite of a good signal reading from the antenna. The fault usually lies-with the first r.f. tube in the booster. If tube noises are excessive in an r.f. stage, they will be amplified by subsequent circuits and will appear as snow effect. Often, several r.f. tubes should be tried so that

*Author: Mandl's Television Servicing.

MAY, 1954

the one with the best signal-to-noise ratio can be chosen. Many boosters will not function properly with cascode type tuners. In the latter, noise reduction is over 35% greater than with older type tuners. When a conventional pentode r.f. stage is used in a booster, it will introduce considerable noise and nullify the high signal-tonoise ratio obtained with the cascode tuner. Some manufacturers have brought out boosters which will function properly with the cascode-type tuners.

Adjacent-channel interference

I am trying to correct interference on channel 3 in our area in an installation using a 5-element Yagi antenna which is carefully oriented. Channel 2 can be received on the reverse side of this Yagi. I would appreciate some advice as to what remedies to try. E. C., Long Bottom, Ohio.

The fact that you get channel 2 from the rear of this antenna indicates that the channel 3 reflector is acting as a channel 2 director. This will aggravate upper adjacent-channel interference as you detailed. You can try adjusting the upper adjacent-channel trap in the receiver and retouch the i.f. alignment for a sharper response. Another solution would be to increase the length of the reflector rod on the channel 3 Yagi antenna to 102 inches. This will prevent the latter from acting as a director for channel 2 and will decrease the interference you mentioned. This would mean, however, that you would no longer be able to receive channel 2 as well from the rear of the antenna and would have to have an additional antenna for the reception of channel 2.

As shown in the table, a reflector for channel 3 has almost the same dimensions as a director for channel 2. The same holds true for a channel 4 reflector which has virtually the same dimensions as a channel 3 director. A channel 6 reflector will also act as a director for channel 5. Directors, also, will act as reflectors for the next higher channel when the dimensions are almost identical.

Spring clip arcing

In a Traveler model 16R50 receiver there is considerable sparking between the spring clips on the high-voltage cage and the picture-tube coating. I have recoated the worn conductive coating on the picture tube but this did not help. The cage is making good contact to the chassis. I would very much appreciate any suggestions. D. B., Greenfield, Ohio.

Since you have recoated the picture tube, you should also clean the spring contacts so they will make good electrical connection. Also make sure they are tight, for loose and corroded contacts will aggravate the arcing.

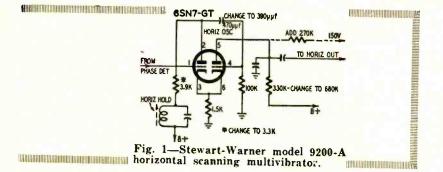
If the condition still persists it may be caused by an internal leak within the picture tube. The outer coating acts as a second filter capacitor and can usually be dispensed with since enough circuit capacitance exists for filtering. You can bend the spring clips away from the outer coating and thus prolong the usefulness of the defective picture tube.

High-frequency squeal

There is a high-frequency squeal from a Stewart-Warner model 9200-A receiver when it is first turned on. During this time there is also some horizontal instability and interference bars. I have checked all tubes, as well as resistors, capacitors, and voltages, without appreciable success. K. H., Seattle, Wash.

These symptoms are probably caused by the cumulative circuit conditions during warmup which permit spurious oscillations to build up in the horizontal scanning multivibrator. Since you have checked tubes and component parts, the following suggestions given by the manufacturer will help remedy the condition.

 Change the capacitor connected to one plate of the horizontal scanning multivibrator, pin 2 of the 6SN7-GT, from 470 μμf to 390 μμf, as shown in Fig. 1. 46 | TELEVISION



- 2. Reduce the resistor connected to the same point from 3,900 ohms to 3,300 ohms.
- 3. Increase the resistor connected to the other plate of the same stage --pin 5 of the 6SN7-from 330,000 to 680,000 ohms.
- 4. Add a 270,000-ohm, ^{1/2}-watt resistor, connecting one end to the plate (pin 5) and the other end to any 150-volt supply point.

Yoke removal

I would appreciate any information on getting loose a deflection yoke that is stuck to the neck of the picture tube. F. K., East Pittsburgh, Pa.

Generally, when the deflection yoke sticks to the neck of the picture tube, technicians apply to it a voltage of sufficient amplitude to heat the unit. This can be done with a variable voltage transformer. The transformer is adjusted to a voltage output which will make the yoke fairly warm after a few minutes. This usually loosens the sealing compound sufficiently so that the yoke can be removed.

If the yoke is already damaged and must be removed, acetone or speaker cement solvent can be used. This should be permitted to run into the yoke in the area which encircles the picture tube neck. Such solvent usually affects the insulation of the yoke windings and should not be used except on a yoke which is to be discarded.

Open-wire line

I find it necessary to run a transmission line for 1,000 feet. I am now using a polyethylene-insulated No. 16 wire, but do not have the correct spacing for 300 ohms. My spacing is about 2% inches and I have the line twisted at the entrance to the house.

My signal strength is down and the snow effect is bad at times. How can I improve the installation? C. W., Pocahontas, Va.

The severe mismatch between your present line and the 300-ohm input at the receiver contributes to your troubles. It is impractical to try smaller spacings for the open-wire lines to get a 300-ohm impedance, because capacitive losses increase. Install the regular open-wire line available at your wholesale jobber and run this from the antenna to the place where the line is to enter the home. From here on in you can use the standard 300-ohm lead for convenient installation. Match the openwire line to the ribbon lead by removing the insulating spacers for 100 inches from the end. Now taper the spacing of the 100-inch section to meet that of the 300-ohm lead spacing. This tapered line section will give a fairly uniform match for all channels.

Yoke arcing

In a Hallicrafter model 1004 the raster flicks off and on every few seconds when the receiver is first turned on. After warmup, the condition occurs less frequently. The yoke clicks each time the raster disappears. I've tried new tubes in the entire horizontal system and have checked resistors and capacitors. D. D., Hobart, Ohio.

The click in the yoke when the raster disappears indicates an arc in the horizontal deflection coils which shorts out the high voltage. This trouble sometimes occurs in that part of the yoke housing which contains the shunting resistors and capacitor, particularly during warmup before full load drops peak voltages to lower values. Arcing can overheat soldered connections or components and cause intermittent operation. Check this by removing the voke and inspecting the section containing the aforementioned parts. If the arcing is taking place inside the windings, a new yoke will have to be installed.

Contrast in Magnavox

I am having difficulty locating the trouble in a Magnavox CT297 chassis. In order to get proper contrast, the control must be advanced fully and this is accompanied by unstable horizontal sync. I have checked all tubes from the tuner through the video i.f. stages, and those in the horizontal sweep system. All voltages and resistors check all right against the schematic except at the cathode of the 6AQ5 video-output tube. This reads minus 6 instead of minus 20 volts. I have tried a new cathode-bias resistor without improvement.—M. Y., New York, N. Y.

As you have checked all tubes, voltages, and components, the trouble may be caused by poor tuner tracking or video-i.f. alignment. It is possible, however, that you have overlooked the 1N60 crystal video detector. This may be causing the poor contrast. Also check all the circuits associated with the 6AQ5 video-output stage to ascertain why the cathode voltage is incorrect. In this stage, minus 100 volts is applied to the bottom of the 18,000ohm cathode resistor, while plus 200 volts is applied to the screen and to the 5,600-ohm plate resistor. If these voltage relationships are upset it will affect brilliancy as well as contrast, since the contrast control is in the cathode of the 6AQ5. Also check the brilliancy-control switch (on the contrast control), for this may be defective.

Buzz in Admiral

In an Admiral 24D1 I get a 60-cycle buzz. It seems to come from the vertical section of the receiver because when I pull any of the vertical tubes the buzz stops. I have replaced the vertical blocking-oscillator transformer and a number of resistors and capacitors without success. S. S., Red Lion, Pa.

It is evident that the buzz is being picked up from the vertical section as you surmised. The Admiral service notes recommend that a shield be added between the vertical-oscillator tube and the audio-output tube to minimize the 60-cycle pickup. This shield is Admiral part 15B625, and holes are available in the earlier 24D1 receivers to accommodate two No. 8-32 self-tapping screws for mounting the shield.

If the ground lead from the volume control is connected to the grounded heater pin of the first audio tube it should be transferred to the grounded cathode pin 7. It is also possible that the a.c. power leads to the switch on the volume control run too close to the grid circuit (pin 1) of this stage. They should be moved away. Also make sure the .01-µf coupling capacitor between the volume control and the grid has the outside foil connected to the volume control.

Intermittent vertical centering

In an Admiral 20T1 receiver the picture changes position vertically, leaving a dark area at the hottom. This occurs only once every several hours and returns to normal almost immediately. I have tried tube changes but this did not help. When the antenna is disconnected, the same thing happens to the raster. T. C., Philadelphia, Pa.

If centering disturbance in a vertical plane is the only symptom, it could be caused by a variation in the voltage applied to the vertical deflection coils. Initially, check the low-voltage power supply feed to the vertical deflection coils. Then check for defective components in the vertical output circuit, particularly the voltage feed to the oscillator and output tube. Also check the vertical-size-control potentiometer for an intermittent-contact condition or change in value.

The B plus for the vertical oscillator and output tube is derived from the voltage boost system in the 6W4-GT damper. Any voltage change in the damper (or a change in the *horizontal* circuit flyback characteristics) will influence the *vertical* circuit. Try a new damper; if this doesn't help, check the parts in the voltage boost system. END



By ROBERT G. MIDDLETON*

SERVICE technicians use a wide variety of test instruments to check the operation of antennas, lead-ins, front ends, i.f. amplifiers, video amplifiers, sync circuits, sweep circuits, high-voltage circuits, and over-all performance. The minimum requirements of a one-man shop include a v.t.v.m., signal generator, oscilloscope, and sweep generator; most technicians also have a tube tester. Many shops regard additional instruments as essential, such as audio oscillators, square-wave generators, frequency meters, field-strength meters, pattern generators, grid-dip meters, capacitor sensitivity checkers, etc. checkers. Nevertheless, the v.t.v.m. is the key instrument in the layout.

Vacuum-tube voltmeters have undergone considerable development during the past several years. Copper-oxide rectifiers which are applicable only at low frequencies in low-impedance circuits, and which can measure only r.m.s. values, have given way to diode peak-to-peak indicating arrangements. D.c. scale ranges now extend from 1 to 30,000 volts, full scale.

Using a voltmeter might appear to be an elementary matter, but the peculiarities of television circuits frequently complicate it. For example, the test leads of a volt-ohm-milliammeter occasionally operate as resonant stubs when

*Field engineer, Simpson Electric Co.

used to measure d.c. voltages in i.f. amplifier circuits; when the meter indication varies as the test leads are moved, it indicates that lead resonance has thrown the stage into oscillation.

Vacuum-tube voltmeters

The d.c. voltage system of a typical v.t.v.m. is shown in Fig. 1. When d.c. voltages higher than 1,200 are under test, a high-voltage multiplier probe is used ahead of the instrument. When high-frequency voltages are to be measured, a half-wave peak rectifier or a peak-to-peak rectifier is used ahead of the instrument. Calibration control A determines the full-scale deflection, and control B determines the linearity of deflection.

A v.t.v.m. is called upon to make measurements of d.c. voltages from less than 1 to as high as 25,000; to measure resistances from less than 1 ohm to several thousand megohms; to measure r.f. and i.f. voltages from a fraction of a volt to 25 or 30; to measure the peakto-peak voltages of complex video, sync, and sweep waveforms; and to measure direct current throughout the milliampere range.

To meet this wide range of requirements, the v.t.v.m. is used with various external probes. For example, d.c. voltage measurements from 0 to 1,000 are made with a shielded cable terminated with an isolating resistor, as shown in

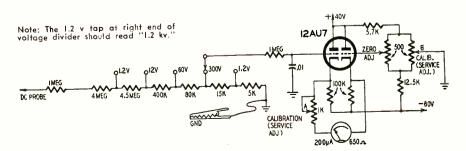


Fig. 1—Diagram shows basic d.c. voltage circuit of the Simpson model 303 v.t.v.m.

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Fig. 2-a. The shielded cable eliminates the pickup of stray fields about the test bench, which would otherwise disturb the high-impedance input circuit of the v.t.v.m., and cause inaccurate indication. The isolating resistance prevents the shielded cable from acting as a capacitive shunt across tuned and highimpedance circuits, such as the localoscillator in a receiver.

The equivalent circuit in Fig. 2-b shows that the cable capacitance C is isolated from the probe tip by the 1-megohm resistor, which cuts down the effective value of C to approximately 1 or 2 $\mu\mu$ f. This is a large reduction, as compared with the approximately 75 $\mu\mu$ f of cable capacitance. Hence, the d.c. probe can be applied across a localoscillator circuit to measure the selfbias on the oscillator grid, without disturbing circuit operation.

The equivalent circuit is also a lowpass filter. This is an essential feature, since d.c. voltages at the grids and plates of tubes often must be measured in the presence of large a.c. voltages. If the probe permitted a.c. voltages to be impressed on the v.t.v.m. tube with the d.c. voltage, highly inaccurate indi-

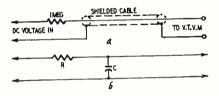


Fig. 2—Diagram of d.c. probe shows shielded cable and equivalent circuit.

cations would result. As a matter of fact, v.t.v.m. design includes *another* low-pass filter at the grid of the v.t.v.m. tube to insure that no a.c. voltage is applied to the grid.

To measure the second-anode voltage of a picture tube, and for other types of tests which will be described, the isolating resistor arrangement shown in Fig. 2 is changed to form a highvoltage d.c. probe. The high-voltage d.c. probe is shown in Fig. 3, and is

IOOO MEG	/·····································	0
DC VOLTAGE IN	¥	TO V.T.V.M.

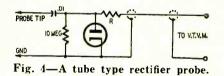
Fig. 3-The d.c. high-voltage probe.

usually designed to multiply each range of the v.t.v.m. by 100. This multiplying factor is of considerable use in other types of tests such as measuring low d.c. voltages in the presence of highvoltage a.c. pulses.

It is generally thought that a highvoltage d.c. probe can be used with a scope for the investigation of complex a.c. waveforms—this is largely an unfortunate misconception. When such a probe is used with a scope, the attenuation is not constant; i.e., the attenuation found at 60 c.p.s. will be very different from the attenuation at 4 mc. Hence, peak-to-peak voltages cannot be measured when the probe is misused in this manner. Also, stray fields often affect the distorted waveform, to further confuse the technician.

The measurement of high d.c. voltages, such as the second anode voltage of a picture tube, with a v.t.v.m. and high-voltage d.c. probe are rather well understood. Less understood is the measurement of relatively low d.c. voltages in the presence of high a.c. pulse voltages, such as the plate voltage at the horizontal-output tube. Receiver manufacturers commonly insert a technical note in their service data, warning against attempts to measure the d.c. plate voltage of the horizontal output tube. This is because the approximately 350 volts d.c. is accompanied by an approximately 6,000 volt kickback pulse. The pulse is an a.c. voltage and does not show itself on the d.c. scales of a v.t.v.m. Nevertheless, this high pulse voltage draws a heavy pulse current through the input circuit of a v.t.v.m. or volt-ohmmeter, and quickly ruins the instrument.

Recalling that a high-voltage d.c. probe will provide a high degree of lowpass filter action, it can be seen that the high-voltage d.c. probe makes this type of measurement possible. For example, the v.t.v.m. can be set to its 6-volt range, and when used with a high-voltage d.c. probe having a 100-to-1 attenuation factor will indicate the 350 volts d.c. at approximately halfscale of the v.t.v.m.; at the same time, the low-pass filter action of the highvoltage d.c. probe effectively protects the v.t.v.m. against the 6,000-volt a.c. pulse.



Some v.t.v.m.'s have zero-center indication, while others do not; still other v.t.v.m.'s provide a choice of zero-left, or zero-center indication on d.c. ranges. The zero-center feature is convenient when adjusting discriminators, where the output voltage swings through both positive and negative values during circuit adjustment.

The high-frequency voltage-measuring section of a v.t.v.m. is useful in checking the operation of a.c. circuits. This is a field of servicing which has been the subject of extremely rapid changes in the last few years. Not long ago all a.c. measurements were carried out upon the basis of sine-wave indications, and this approach is still basic in radio receiver servicing. However, with the arrival of television, the technician is faced with the necessity of measuring peak-to-peak voltages of complex a.c. waveforms. In some cases, the peak-to-peak values must be further broken down into positive-peak values, negative-peak values, and component values, to pinpoint various circuit faults.

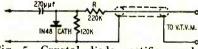
To meet these requirements, various instrument manufacturers provide accessory rectifier probes for use with a

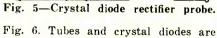
v.t.v.m. These fall into three general classes, based upon voltage-handling capability and the type of indication they provide. Fig. 4 shows a tube type rectifier probe, which will handle moderately high voltages, and provide negative-peak voltage indication. The 0.01-uf capacitor charges up to the negative-peak value of the applied a.c. waveform. R is an isolating and calibrating resistor; in its absence the cable capacitance would shunt down the diode and bypass the a.c. signal. The value of R must be properly selected to provide the desired scale indication-usually to indicate the r.m.s. voltage of a sine wave. The 10-megohm resistor is a bleeder, and is used to avoid undue lag in return of the meter pointer to zero. If very low frequencies are to be accommodated, the value of the 0.01-µf capacitor must be increased correspondingly.

A similar crystal-diode type of rectifier probe is illustrated in Fig. 5; such a probe is commonly rated to approximately 20 volts, and provides peak indication. The characteristics of a typical probe of this type are given in Table I, which shows that the input impedance may not always be sufficiently high to avoid throwing i.f. stages into oscillation. However, various expedients can often be used in case of difficulty, which we plan to discuss in future articles.

It might be supposed that a rectifier probe and a v.t.v.m. could be used to signal-trace the i.f. circuits of a TV receiver, but the low signal level in the early stages limits this. The full gain of a 3-stage i.f. amplifier is about 5,000; so with a 2 volt peak-to-peak input to the video detector, the corresponding input to the first i.f. grid will be 0.0004 volts peak-to-peak. Since a v.t.v.m. does not satisfactorily indicate voltages below approximately 0.1, a serious signal-tracing limitation is imposed.

The peak-to-peak type of probe used to measure peak-to-peak voltages of complex a.c. waveforms, is shown in





used commercially, with the same gen-

eral considerations as have been noted for the half-wave type of probe. The tube will withstand much higher voltages than the crystal diode.

In some cases, the peak-to-peak indicating arrangement is built into the v.t.v.m. This raises the input capacitance of the arrangement, but also provides a much greater voltage-handling capability, since a compensated multiplier then precedes the rectifying tubes, and will usually raise the top range of peak-to-peak voltage measurement to 1,000. Such a range will accommodate the majority of complex a.c. waveforms encountered in a TV chassis.

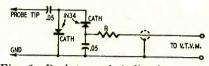


Fig. 6-Peak-to-peak indicating probe.

When a demodulator probe is used on the d.c. ranges of a v.t.v.m., the indication is proportional to the amplitude of the r.f. carrier in a modulated wave, but when used on the a.c. ranges of a v.t.v.m. (having peak-to-peak facilities built in), the indication is proportional to the peak value of the modulating waveform.

The ohmmeter range of a v.t.v.m. (Fig. 7) is used to check both linear and

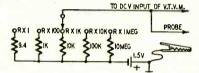


Fig. 7—Simpson v.t.v.m. ohmmeter circuit.

nonlinear resistance values of components in the TV chassis. Some of these applications are not as well understood as they should be. Not only does the question often arise concerning what measured value of a nonlinear resistance is acceptable, but there is also the danger of damage to the component when such measurements are made on u.h.f. mixer crystals or the filament resistance of small tubes.

The ohmmeter is useful to measure the front-to-back ratio of a video detector crystal, to determine whether it is in satisfactory operating condition. The front-to-back ratio will depend upon which ranges of the ohmmeter

TABLE I-CHARACTERISTICS OF FIG. 5 PROBE
Frequency capability:
Carrier frequency
nput capacitance2.5 μμf
nput resistance:
At 1 mc
At 10 mc
At 50 mc
At 100 mc 5,000 ohms
At 200 mc 2,500 ohms

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are used, and upon the voltage of the internal batteries of the ohmmeter. These complications are based upon the nonlinear resistance of a crystal diode. Since resistance is the ratio of voltage to current when the resistance is nonlinear, the apparent resistance will measure different values at various voltages. Voltages are applied to the crystal diode on various ranges of the ohmmeter, and hence various resistance values are obtained.

A crystal diode in good operating condition may have a front-to-back ratio of 1,090 to 1, or more, when measured on the R×1 range in the lowresistance direction, and on the $R \times$ 10,000 range in the high-resistance direction. However, an ohmmeter using a 1¹/₂-volt internal battery will indicate a lower front-to-back ratio than an ohmmeter using a 3- or 41/2-volt battery. When checking u.h.f. mixer crystals, not more than 11/2 volts should be applied across the crystal; hence, to avoid damage to the crystal if the ohmmeter uses internal battery voltages higher than 1½ volts, the resistance measurement should not be made on the R x1 range. Instead, the measurement should be made on a higher resistance range which will limit the voltage applied across the u.h.f. mixer crystal to 1½ volts, or less.

The filaments of small batteryoperated tubes sometimes can be damaged by excessive ohmmeter voltage. The filaments are nonlinear resistors, and will measure correct (rated) values of resistance only when the rated voltage is applied across the filament (typically 1¼ volts). Meter movements can easily be damaged by ohmmeters. The correct method of measuring the internal resistance of a meter is the half-scale method, discussed in many standard technical texts.

Although a v.t.v.m. can be used to measure current, such measurements are seldom necessary, because the voltage drop across a known resistor indicates the current flow (Ohm's law).

Conclusion

Although a v.t.v.m. provides a wealth of information, there are various fields of testing which are closed to the instrument (see Table II). For example, although a v.t.v.m. provides information concerning peak-to-peak voltages, the instrument tells nothing of the voltage waveshape. In many cases the waveshape is even more important than the voltage value. This type of information must be obtained with the oscilloscope. There are times when a peak-to-peak indicating v.t.v.m. gives erroneous peak-to-peak voltages because of excessive circuit loading; such a situation may be encountered at the grid of a vertical blocking oscillator, in ratiodetector circuits, or in self-excited sweep circuits. However, in such cases other instruments can be used to obtain. the needed information,

(TO BE CONTINUED)

TABLE II-V.T.V.M. APPLICATIONS AND LIMITATIONS

TABLE II-V.T.V.M. APPLICATIONS AND LIMITATIONS		
Feature	Applications	Misapplications
D.c. voltage measure- ment, with high input impedance, even on the low-voltage ranges. (Measurements made using shielded cable ter- minated with 1-megohm insolating resistor.)	Checking values of plate, screen, and grid volt- ages; tracing progress of signal by measure- ment of self-bias (only in circuits using over- drive grid bias); check- ing local-scillator oper- ation by measurement of self-bias; checking for amplifier distortion in terms of shift of oper- ating point with applied a.c. signal; measurement of voltages in high re- sistance circuits such as a.g.c. systems, etc.	Attempted measurement of plate voltage of hori- zontal-output tube; high- voltage a.c. pulse dam- ages v.t.v.m. Attempted measurement of grid bias in vertical blocking oscillator circuit when grid leak has very high resistance; v.t.v.m. will load circuit seriously. At- tempted measurement of pulsating d.c. voltage values; v.t.v.m. indicates only the average value.
A.c. voltage measure- ment, in peak-to-peak values, using built in peak-to-peak indicating circuit and low-capaci- tance a.c. test cable.*	Checking peak-to-peak voltages of most of the complex a.c. waveforms found in the sync and sweep sections of the TV chassis. Also, checking line voltage and power- transformer voltages, be- ing certain to convert from peak-to-peak to r.m.s. values of sine waves. Checking most a.f. voltages.	Attempted signal tracing in tuned circuits; rela- tively high input capaci- tance of v.t.v.m. serious- ly disturbs circuit opera- tion, and voltages less than 0.1 volt cannot be measured with certainty. Attempted conclusions concerning waveshapes or frequency components of complex a.c. wave- forms; no information of this sort is provided by a peak-to-peak v.t.v.m.
A.c. voltage measure- ments, in r.m.s. values, with instruments using built-in copper-oxide con- tact rectifier. Frequency limitations are same as v.o.m. with similar recti- fier.	Checking line voltages and power-transformer voltages, and checking the lower audio-frequen- cy voltages in relatively low-impedance circuits. Checking heater voltages.	Attempted checking of complex waveform volt- ages in sync and sweep circuits; indication is al- ways erroneous (peak- to-peak values can be determined only for sine waves). Attempted sig- nal tracing in tuned circuits; no indication obtained.
A.c. voltage measure- ments, in peak values, using external diode probe.	Checking peak voltages of some oscillator cir- cuits. Checking sine-wave audio-frequency voltages. Checking line voltages, power-transformer, and heater voltages, being certain to convert from peak to r.m.s. values of sine waves.	Attempted checking of complex waveform volt- ages in sync and sweep circuits; indication is peak value (peak-to-peak value can be determined only for sine waves). At- tempted measurement of voltage values exceeding input rating of probe. Attempted r.f. or i.f. signal tracing.
A.c. voltage measure- ments, in peak-to-peak values, using external peak-to-peak diode probe. (Provides higher input impedance than built-in peak-to-peak indicating circuit, but input voltage rating is usually less.)	the complex a.c. wave- forms encountered in the sync and sweep sections of the TV chassis. Check- ing a.f. voltages. Check-	Attempted measurement of a.c. voltage values ex- ceeding input rating of probe. Attempted meas- urements in high-imped- ance circuits, such as ratio-detector circuits. Attempted signal trac- ing of r.f. and i.f. tuned circuits.
Resistance measure- ments, when internal ohmmeter battery volt- age is higher than 1.5 (Some ohmmeters pro- vide a low driving volt- age on the low-resistance ranges, and a high driv- ing voltage on the high- resistance ranges.)	front-to-back ratios of all crystal diodes, includ- ing u.h.f. mixer crystals. Measurement of most re- sistance values encoun- tered in TV chassis.	Attempted measurement of high resistance val- ues, such as the leakage resistance of paper or mica capacitors (unless high driving voltage is provided on the high-re- sistance ranges). At- tempted measurement of resistance values in hot circuits, or in circuits with capacitors retain- ing residual charge.
Resistance measure- ments, when internal ohmmeter battery volt- age is higher than 1.5 (on low ranges).	and back resistance of picture-detector crystals,	of the filament resistance of small battery-oper- ated tubes. Attempted measurement of the inter- nal resistance of meter movements. Attempted measurement of resist- ance values in hot cir- cuits, or in circuits with

• Note: The high-voltage d.c. probe which is usually available for use with service v.t.v.m.'s, is unsuitable for use on the a.c. voltage ranges of the v.t.v.m. Attempted use of the probe to measure high a.c. voltage values, such as the pulse voltage at the plate of the horizontal output tube results only in failure.

50 | TEST INSTRUMENTS

Sine and Square Wave Generator

The Eico model 377 ranges from 20 to 200,000 cycles per second

By P. N. MARKANTES

NTIL a few years ago, squarewave generators and precision audio oscillators were considered laboratory equipment rather than repair bench adjuncts.

With the increasing use of widerange audio amplifiers in high-fidelity systems and modern receivers, audio test equipment that can perform a number of functions has become important in servicing.

In the Eico model 377 generator (Fig. 1) the production of pure sine and square waves in the audio range has been combined in a single unit that can perform wide variety of tests for TV and radio servicing. The generator is available in kit form (model 377K) for those who like to assemble their own.

The audio generator portion of the instrument consists of a precision R-C oscillator which produces sine waves from 20 cycles to 200 kc. By covering this spectrum in four bands as follows, a long scale is available:

band A: 20-200 c.p.s.

band B: 200-2000 c.p.s.

band C: 2000-20,000 c.p.s.

band D: 20,000-200,000 c.p.s.

An auxiliary 0-100 linear scale is provided for reference.

Harmonic distortion is below 0.5%, providing a pure sine-wave output.

The audio generator (Fig. 2) consists of a two-stage, high-gain, untuned amplifier and a frequency-determining network consisting of a Wien bridge, shown in detail in Fig. 3. The over-all operation of the oscillator can be seen in the block diagram (Fig. 4).

When voltage is first applied to the oscillator (Fig. 3), a signal voltage appears and is amplified. From the plate of V2, a portion of this voltage, E_{\circ} , is fed through C3 to point (1) of the Wien bridge where it appears between (1) and (2).

In the right-hand arm (1-3-2) this voltage appears across R2 and the lamp, with the portion across the lamp applied to the cathode of V1. Inasmuch as the voltage which originally appeared at the grid of V1 undergoes a phase shift of 180° in V1 and another 180° in V2, E_{\circ} is in phase with the grid voltage of V1. However, that portion of E_{\circ} which appears across the lamp (E_{d}) is applied to the cathode of V1. In other words, R2 and lamp LM constitute a degenerative network.

Moreover, since LM possesses a positive temperature coefficient, any increase in \mathbf{E}_{\circ} results in an increased

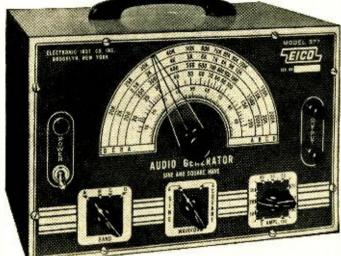


Fig. 1—The model 377 generator.

voltage drop across LM and thus increased degeneration in V1. Thus, the amplitude of oscillations is automatically limited and voltage variations at the input to V1 remain fairly constant throughout the operating range of the oscillator, thus providing linear operation and pure waveform.

 E_{\circ} also appears across the left-hand arm of the bridge (1-4-2) with the portion between (4) and (2) applied to the grid of V1. Since this voltage is in phase with the original voltage variations, it is a regenerative voltage. In this case, however, the magnitude of the regenerative voltage depends upon the frequency of E_{\circ} as determined by the settings of C1 and C2.

At the desired frequency, f_{\circ} , the regenerative voltage is maximum and frequencies on either side of resonance produce voltages which quickly fall off from the maximum value.

R2 is adjusted so that the negative feedback voltage is just smaller than the positive feedback at resonance. At all other frequencies, negative feedback predominates and thus eliminates any undesired frequency.

Strictly speaking, the term Wien bridge as applied to this oscillator is a slight misnomer since the true Wien bridge oscillator uses frequency selective *negative* feedback and untuned positive feedback. At resonance the output of the bridge, and thus the degenerative voltage, is zero.

Square-wave output

Square-wave output is obtained by using the audio oscillator as a timing generator and applying its output to the shaping circuit of V3.

The first half of V3 consists of an unbiased amplifier. A 500,000-ohm resistor (R4) in series with the grid

results in grid limiting because positive alternations of the input signal cause grid-current flow. When this occurs, the grid-to-cathode (R_{g-k}) impedance within the tube drops to extremely low values. Effectively therefore, the input voltage is applied to a voltage divider consisting of R4 in series with R_{g-k} and since R_{g-k} is but a fraction of R4, only a portion of the positive half of the input appears across the input of V3 as indicated in Fig. 5. The negative half of the input is of course unaffected by R4.

Two factors act to produce the waveform shown at the plate of V3-a. First, the negative alternations of the input voltages are sufficient to drive the tube beyond cutoff and thus round off the top of the negative alternation; second, since the tube is being driven to saturation as well as cutoff, operation occurs over nonlinear portions of the tube's characteristic, thus accounting for the increased "squareness".

The output of V3-a is fed directly to V3-b where it is amplified and further squared by operation over nonlinear portions of the characteristic curve. The d.c. component is then removed and a symmetrical wave can be fed to V4.

Both sine- and square-wave outputs are available from a conventional cathode follower, V4, which provides the voltages (shown in table) at all frequencies.

AUDIO-GENERATOR OUTPUT VOLTAGE

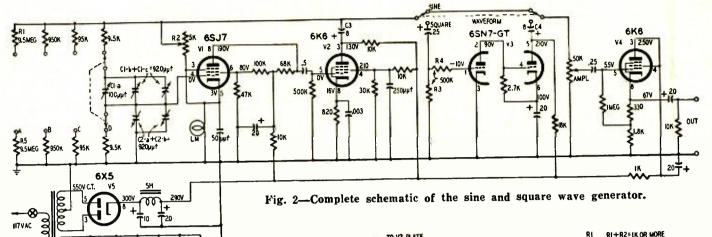
_oad impedance	Voltage output
10,000 ohms or higher	14 volts
1,000 ohms	10 volts
500 ohms	8 volts
n	

Rated power output is 100 milliwatts into a 1,000-ohm resistive load.

Hum level is less than 0.4% of rated output, or 0.04 volt. In test applications

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requiring small signal voltages at very high signal-to-noise ratios, the desired voltage may be obtained by leaving the attenuator at maximum and tapping down the output with an external voltage divider as shown in Fig. 6.

Applications

For laboratory measurements, the 377 generator provides an excellent signal source for the operation of a number of bridge circuits for measuring inductance, capacitance, etc.

An unknown frequency is easily determined by beating the unknown signal against the generator output and tuning the generator to a null, as indicated by headphones or a scope. In the latter method, the output of the generator is applied to the horizontal plates of the scope, and the unknown frequency to the vertical plates. (Both voltages should be adjusted to produce roughly equal deflection.) The null point where the unknown frequency is equal to the frequency setting of the generator is indicated by one of several patterns, depending upon the phase difference between the voltages (see Fig. 7).

Frequencies outside the range of the generator can be measured by Lissajous figures, as shown in Fig. 8.

Thus, in Fig. 8-b, if the generator dial reads 190 kc, the unknown signal is 570 kc.

A most useful application lies in the field of square-wave testing. Scope patterns resulting from the passage of a square wave through equipment can yield considerable information in a minimum of time.

As an example, consider Fig. 9, a typical R-C coupling network.

Since low-frequency response is determined largely by C, any change in the value of C will result in low-frequency distortion.

Under normal conditions, the relation between X_c (reactance of C) and R at the fundamental frequency (frequency setting of the generator) are such that the square wave and the fundamental appear as in Fig. 10-a. After passage through the coupling

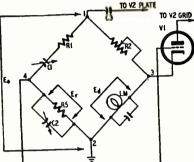
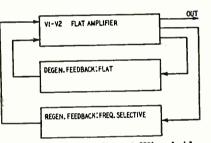
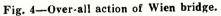


Fig. 3-Diagram of Wien bridge circuit.





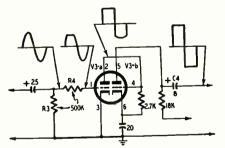


Fig. 5-Formation of a square wave.

network, the square wave should appear as in Fig. 10-b.

An increase in X_c would cause the fundamental to be decreased as in Fig. 10-c, and the square wave would appear as in Fig. 10-d.

A decrease in X_c would cause the fundamental to be increased as in Fig. 10-e, and the square wave would have the shape shown in Fig. 10-f.

Let us consider phase distortion. If E_o leads E_{1n} , and if we plot these two voltages against the square wave, we get the graph shown in Fig. 11-a. The square wave, after passing through the coupling network will have the

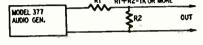
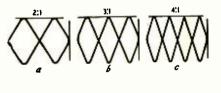


Fig. 6-An external voltage divider.



Fig. 7-Patterns indicate null points.



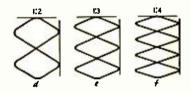


Fig. 8-Making use of Lissajous figures.

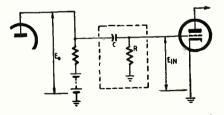


Fig. 9-Typical R-C coupling network.

shape shown in Fig. 11-b. Thus the effect of phase distortion is to tilt the edges of the square wave.

Fig. 11-b indicates that the first visible effects of low-frequency distortion are due largely to phase distortion rather than amplitude distortion.

If other types of coupling are used, phase distortion may occur when E_o lags E_{1n} , in which case the square wave will appear as in Fig. 11-c.

The good accuracy and long effective scale of the 377 generator make it possible to use the instrument as an emergency bar generator for the adjustment of TV receiver vertical and hori-



zontal linearity.

Ideally, of course, the output of a true bar generator is applied to the antenna input terminals, and since the output consists of a high (video carrier) frequency modulated by the test signal, an over-all receiver check is made.

In the absence of a bar generator, rough checks and adjustments are possible by setting the frequency of the 377 generator at 1,200 (20×60) cycles and the selector for square-wave output. This output is fed to the plate of the first video amplifier through a blocking capacitor, thus resulting in 20 horizontal bars on the face of the picture-tube screen. Vertical nonlinearity is indicated by nonuniform spacing of the bars.

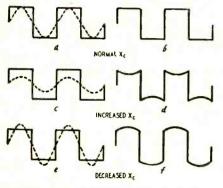


Fig. 10-Effects of reactance variations.

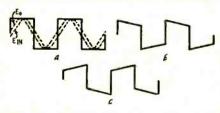


Fig. 11-Effects of phase distortion.

Similarly, horizontal linearity is checked by setting the frequency to 189,000 ($12 \times 15,750$) to give 12 vertical bars.

These are but a few of the many potential uses of the generator. As the user becomes familiar with the instrument, many others will suggest themselves and thus make the 377 a valuable part of a well-equipped service or laboratory bench.

A very common application of the audio generator is in measuring the frequency response of an audio amplifier. The simplest method is to connect a vacuum tube voltmeter across the output of the audio amplifier, and connect the generator to the amplifier input. By observing the variation in the v.t.v.m. readings as the audio generator passes through a range of frequencies, a rough frequency response check is obtained.

More accurate results can be obtained if there was some means of switching the vacuum tube voltmeter from generator output to amplifier output for each new setting of the generator. By doing this, the generator would be monitored for constant output, and more precise results obtained. END

USE A PHONIC

A receiver being checked becomes an important test instrument when properly used with headphones

By VERGNIAUD H. RICHARD

HE most modern radio service shops usually boast a signal tracer among their various testers. The technician who does not have such an instrument, may none the less enjoy its many advantages thanks to the phonic signal tracing system.

Many technicians are averse to using headphones in the plate circuits of detector and audio tubes as a service aid. Like most systems, signal tracing with phones has its limitations. Those of us who have used this method to track down such audio troubles as motorboating, hum, and distortion agree that the advantages greatly outweigh the disadvantages. Of course, it is usually useless in a receiver whose only trouble is low volume. Yet, as a help to enable us to criticize the signal quality, it is most useful, especially in audio servicing, or cases where the trouble is distortion.

First, we check the audio section with the phones to make sure that it is free of the particular trouble involved. Since neither headphones nor the human ear respond to the frequencies in the r.f., oscillator, and i.f. stages; we then proceed to signal-trace the higher-frequency stages by using the receiver itself as a signal-tracing detector.

Suppose a set is brought in to be serviced and the complaint is distortion. Now, the technician knows that this is a trouble that may originate in the r.f., mixer, oscillator, detector, or audio circuits. Tracking it down usually involves a series of tests which consume an appreciable amount of time.

Signal tracing audio stages

For rapid location of the trouble, it is preferable to start at the output of the detector, for we will then know whether the defect is before or after it. Fig. 1 shows the simplified circuit of a typical superhet receiver. Connect the phones and a .02-µf capacitor in series across the detector load resistor R1 or across the volume control. If the signal is clear the trouble lies between this point and the speaker. Connect one lead of the phones to the plate of the first audio amplifier and the other to ground through the .02-µf capacitor. A clear signal at this point shows that the trouble is in the following stage or speaker. Connecting the phones and blocking capacitor from ground to the following plate soon tells the tale. Distortion at this point indicates that the trouble lies between the plates of the first and second audio stages.

Checking the r.f. circuits

If the detector and audio sections are in the clear, we can proceed right away to locate the fault in the stages ahead of the detector. Now here is the most interesting part. Phones do not respond to r.f. signals—so what will we use for a demodulator?

The technician will be surprised to find out that the demodulator (detector) he needs so badly is furnished by the receiver itself. True enough, having made sure that the audio section is O.K., we are going to use it along with the detector to do the signal tracing job. Referring again to Fig. 1, break the connections of the r.f. transformer at point A and do the same thing for the last i.f. transformer at point B. Using a jumper with alligator clips at both ends, join the disconnected lead of the r.f. transformer to the plate of the diode detector. Presto! Chango! The resulting circuit, a t.r.f. as shown in Fig. 2, has taken the place of the more elaborate superheterodyne of Fig. 1. So far so good, but what about the test?

Turn on the set and tune in a station, preferably a local one, the oscillator tube being removed. When a combination mixer-oscillator tube is used, the oscillator portion should be made inoperative. Check the output of the loudspeaker to see if the old trouble has reappeared. If it has, our search is limited to the r.f. transformer, the preselector (r.f. amplifier) tube and its circuits. Loudspeaker volume may be very low from the speaker, so connect the headset in the output tube plate circuit. This enables us to better judge quality by cutting out outside noises.

Having decided that the trouble is elsewhere, we proceed to the secondary of the first i.f. transformer and break its connection at C. Use the jumper as

SIGNAL TRACER

before to hook it to the detector, remembering at the same time to repair the break at A. Restore the oscillator to operation. As a result of this, the superheterodyne circuit reappears minus one stage of i.f. Faulty operation points to the mixer-oscillator circuits and first i.f. transformer as harboring the culprit. If there is no trouble, we turn to the second i.f. transformer (in case of three in a receiver) testing thus the first i.f. tube circuit and the i.f. transformer.

Ground the a.v.c. line and repeat the tests outlined above. Ground the a.v.c. line through a resistor of a few thousand ohms if each grid circuit connects directly to the line, or ground it directly if a.v.c. decoupling resistors are used. If the trouble is still not found after all these tests, the a.v.c. is certainly defective.

The preselector and the mixer can be checked as possible causes of troubles on stubborn alignment jobs. The procedure is a combination trouble-shooting and alignment method. You are able to criticize the signal quality and at the same time manipulate the different trimmers to bring signal strength to normal. Considered from the alignment angle the procedure is most unorthodox.

Right away we break the rules by using the output of the second detector as our starting point. Disconnect the signal source from the antenna post and -ignoring the preselector—clip it on directly to the mixer grid. Now, disconnect the primary of the first i.f. transformer and feed the plate across the phones instead. Disable the oscillator, tune in a signal, and adjust the trimmers for maximum output. This done, reconnect the signal source to the antenna post. There should be an increase in signal strength. Peaking the preselector (r.f.) trimmers should produce additional volume.

If this business of disconnecting leads does not appeal to you who may con-

sider it just plain drudgery, you can call the old analyzer to the rescue. One can be put together for everyday use by using a combination of tip jacks, sockets, toggle switches, etc. The cable can be made of flexible wire or just ordinary lamp cord. Old tube bases will come in very handy as plugs and adapters. In using the analyzer, you will probably experience some trouble by interaction caused by wire capacitances. It may not prevent you from discriminating between the trouble that you are chasing and the one you are creating. On the other hand, you may invite in some squeals, whistles, or motorboating which are most confusing. So, it is safer to stick to the old phones, however toilsome is the process, and spare yourself additional headaches.

The technician is confronted by some troubles in the service business which in sheer desperation make him use the most rudimentary hints and kinks. Any method—despite the inconveniences to which it may put him—is welcome, provided it brings the solution to the problem at hand.

The student of the old school usually frowns on any other form of signal tracing except that with his trusted signal generator. However, he sometimes wants to listen to the actual intelligible signals through the different stages of the receiver. The purpose of this system is to provide him with an inexpensive means of checking troubles related to signal quality.

All systems have their limitations and this one follows the general rule. Its purpose is to isolate the defective stages in trouble-shooting. The operator must not expect it to point unerringly to the faulty resistor, capacitor, tube, coil, or transformer causing the disturbance.

The man who wants to cut servicing time to a minimum will find this system a great help. END

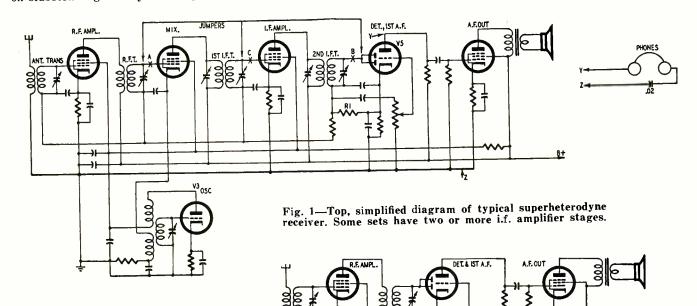


Fig. 2-Right, a t.r.f. circuit develops when the mixer and i.f. are bypassed.

DOUBLE-BEAM SCOPE SWITCH

By T. W. DRESSER

An electric switch for obtaining two traces-ideal for comparing signals

ODAY an oscilloscope is a standard item of equipment in many service shops. Larger numbers of technicians-and amateurs too-are finding them useful things to have around for trouble shooting, checking alignment, and a variety of other purposes. But unfortunately only one trace at a time can be observed on most scopes. This imposes serious limitations on their use, and can be a strong source of annoyance when trying to locate distortion or, say, spotting the cause of a drop in signal strength between two stages. A double-beam scope, in such circumstances, would probably indicate the location of the trouble straightaway and save much time.

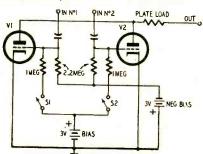


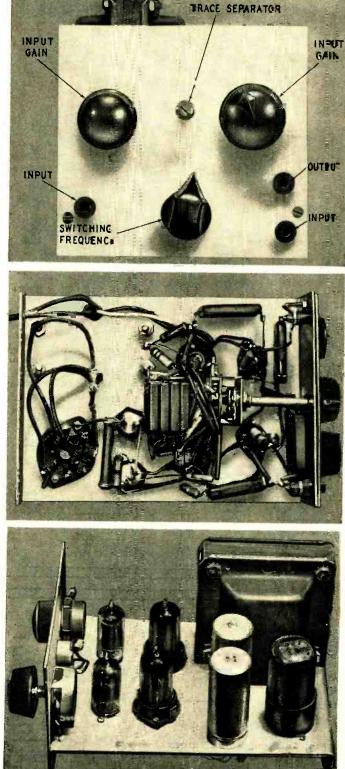
Fig. 1-Fundamental electronic switch.

Before going on to describe a straightforward practical beam splitter, perhaps some idea of what is involved will help in understanding the gear. Fig. 1 shows the diagram of an electronic switch reduced to its bare essentials. The tubes shown are triodes (for simplicity) and are biased to cutoff. When switches S1 and S2 are open there will be no output at the common plate connection. Closing S1 will apply a positive signal to the grid of the first tube, and during the period the switch remains closed this tube will conduct. Opening S1 and closing S2 will cause V1 to cease conducting and V2 to start doing so. If the two switches were operated alternately, there would be two different traces on the scope screen. In other words, we should have an electronic switch-a crude one, because the two traces would be far from simultaneous and they would be superimposed on one another, but a switch all the same.

Two things are necessary to convert this arrangement into a practical instrument for use with a standard scope: One, a means of separating the traces and, two, a method of speeding up the switching, as manual operation is far Front panel view of the scope switch.

Underchassis view shows selector switch.

Double-beam scope switch. 6K8's may be used in place of the European tubes.



RADIO-ELECTRONICS

too slow to give the appearance of simultaneous traces. The first requirement is comparatively simple to obtain once the latter has been decided upon. This is where the gating circuit comes into the picture: it will give us the necessary switching speeds and do it automatically. Fig. 2 shows the basic circuit. The tube shown, a pentode, is

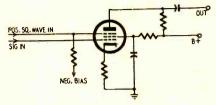


Fig. 2—Basic type gating circuit.

normally cut off by the heavy negative bias on the suppressor grid and will only conduct when a square-wave pulse of positive polarity is applied to this grid. We use two such tubes controlled by a multivibrator. Presenting a positive square wave pulse to each tube in turn will give us what we want—a fast switching circuit, whose speed we can control.

From there on the practical work is relatively easy, although there are still some problems to be solved, such as whether or not time-base synchronizing should be used, whether or not a buffer stage should be inserted, and what the switching speed should be. It depends on the application.

Fig. 3 shows how sawtooth traces will appear on the scope when the electronic switch is set for different switching rates. Note that the traces are in the form of dashes whose length depends on the switching rate. At a the switching rate is close to the frequency of the signal being observed. At this low rate neither trace is sufficiently complete to be useful. Increasing the switching rate as at b and c, greatly increases the detail in each trace.

When the switching rate is sufficiently fast the dashes are so short and close together that the traces appear as continuous lines. These are traces obtainable under the ideal condition of instantaneous change-over, a condition not likely to be attained, and the real performance therefore falls rather short of this, though not enough to matter. Both high- and low-switching speeds have advantages and disadvantages, and provision is made for both, though there is not much doubt but that for most of his work the technician will use low-frequency switching. For those who would like to juggle with their switching speeds, the formula for working it out is given at the end of this article.

Modern multielectrode tubes simplify the construction of an electronic switch (Fig. 4). Two triode-hexodes take the place of the two triodes (the multivibrator) and the two amplifiers. The triode sections are coupled together as a multivibrator, and, as the triode is

its grid, there is no need for coupling capacitors. The hexodes are biased to cutoff; this condition changes when the multivibrator comes into action. Each switching grid in turn then becomes positive with respect to the other, and each hexode conducts until the multivibrator changes over to the other tube. This is determined by the switching speed. The traces are separated by varying the screen voltage on one of the hexodes.

directly coupled to the hexode through

The electronic switch in the photos was constructed around two European triode-hexodes, ECH42's, but 6K8's are identical to them and can be used without making any circuit changes.

The unit can be used as is-that is, the signal can be fed into the grids of the hexodes without any preamplification. But, as the minimum input in this case is approximately 0.1 volt, anything less may not provide a trace of sufficient amplitude, although some gain is secured from the hexodes. An amplifier was added before each hexode, but they are not absolutely necessary. The addition of these extra tubes made little difference to the compactness of the unit, which is built on a 7 x 5 x 2.5inch chassis bent from lightweight aluminum. On the front of the chassis are the four controls: first and second amplifier gain controls (at the right and left respectively) switching frequency switch, and separation control.

Parts for double-beam switch.

Resistors: 2-330, 1-1,000, 2-15,000, 2-22,000, 2-33,000 ohms, 6-1 megohm, $\frac{1}{2}$ watt; 1-10,000 ohms, 2 watt; 2-20,000, 1-25,000 ohms, potentiometer. Capacitors: 1-50, 1-100, 1-200, 1-500 µµf, 1-.001, 1-.02 µf, mica, 400 volts; 2--0.1, 2-0.2 µf, 450 volts, 400 volts; 1-10-10 µf, 450 volts, 1-20-20 µf, 450 volts, electrolytic.

Miscellaneous: I—power transformer, 600 volts ct. 40 ma; 6.3 volts, 2 amp; I—6X5-GT, 2—6AK5, 2—6K8, tubes; I—switch, 2-gang, 6-position; 3—jacks; I— 7 x 5 x 21/2-inch chassis.

When first put into service the unit should be used on low-frequency switching until the technician becomes accustomed to the instrument. After that, any higher frequency can be chosen by switching in smaller capacitors. The ranges covered are from 25 cycles up to 10 kc in six steps.

There are literally hundreds of applications for the beam switch, and once a technician has used it he is unlikely to go back to the single-beam instrument.

The formula for determining the operating frequency of a free running multivibrator is as follows:

$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{\mathbf{R}_1 \mathbf{C}_1 + \mathbf{R}_2 \mathbf{C}_2}$$

R is in megohms, and C is in uf. END

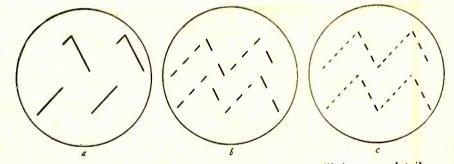


Fig. 3-Switching traces. Increasing switching rate will increase detail.

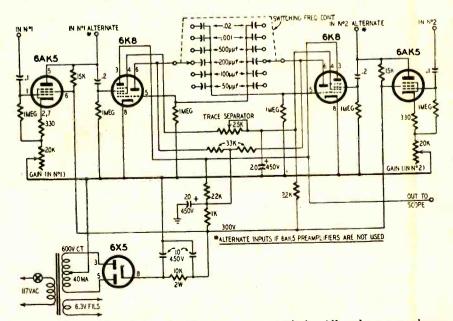


Fig. 4-Schematic of the double-beam scope switch. All values are shown.



The relative field-strength meter simplifies antenna installations.

E have often needed a fieldstrength meter in our installation work; but were always brought up short by the high

cost of such equipment. Yet we noted that the most expensive commercial instruments—costing perhaps several hundred dollars—had the advantage of only slightly greater accuracy than apparatus which, while cheaper, was still beyond the limits of our pocketbook. Possibly a simple, inexpensive instrument—which would still be quite adequate for our purposes—could be constructed.

We thought it over and came to the conclusion that we could do our job just as well, and reduce the cost considerably, if we used a relative fieldstrength meter. In this case we are not concerned so much with an absolute measurement as we are with a relative measurement; a comparison of one signal with another. We thus do away with the expensive and troublesome problem of calibration. In other words, we are not so interested in measuring exactly how many microvolts-per-meter exist at a given location as we are in determining if a signal is satisfactory or unsatisfactory. With this requirement in mind, we set out to construct a simple meter which would easily read such signals.

Since our main concern was for checking TV signals, our first thought was to insert a meter in the detector circuit of a standard television receiver, thus allowing us to read the signal strength as the set is operated as a regular receiver. While this would allow both sound and picture identification, even a small 7-inch set proved too bulky and was not sufficiently shielded. As a result, we set out to build a simple, small, portable meter.

The first item to be considered was the tuner, or "front end" of the meter. A quick glance through the spare parts bin produced a complete television-tuner assembly, covering all 12 v.h.f. channels. This happened to be an RCA type 206E3 tuner assembly, but nearly any of the tuners which are on the market as surplus or replacement units may be used. The tuner thus takes care of the input radio frequency stage, the oscillator and the mixer stage, all in one neat unit, being mounted on a standard

Relative Field-Strength Meter

By HILTON L. REMLEY

9 x 7-inch chassis. The tuning controls project through the front panel of a standard 8 x 10 x 7-inch utility box.

The tuner output feeds both a 25,75 mc i.f. to a video i.f. amplifier and a 21.25 mc i.f. for the sound i.f. channel. We do not need the sound i.f., so we use only the 25.75 mc signal which is fed to the grid of the first i.f. amplifier, a 6BC5 mounted as close to the output of the tuner as possible. The grid is peaked at the i.f. by a slug-tuned coil. This stage also has a slug-tuned coil in the plate circuit, peaked at the i.f., thereby providing considerable gain. This stage feeds a 6AU6, mounted close to the first stage, which is also slug-tuned and peaked at 25.75 mc. With these two stages peaked at 25.75 mc we have sufficient gain to drive the detector. All the i.f. tuned circuits are standard slug-tuned transformers. which may be purchased, or, as in this case, removed from a junked television chassis. The detector is a germanium diode that feeds a filter circuit. From there the signal goes to the meter circuit and a 6AU6 amplifier which drives the monitor headphones.

The meter circuit is conventional up to the multiplier. Here we have used a s.p.d.t. switch to insert either of two potentiometers in series with the 100microampere meter. We thus make our meter a high-resistance voltmeter, connected through the filter and across the diode load resistor. The double-throw switch allows one or the other of the variable resistors to be adjusted so as to multiply the scale reading by say 10 or 20 in one position over that in the other. If desired, a tap switch could be used in this position and other values of resistance added to extend the scale multiplication for strong-signal areas. The series multipliers may be changed to low-resistance shunts if high sensitivity is not necessary.

No provision is made to alter the plate voltage as the range switch is moved, because we are using a relative reading instrument where such changes in gain are unnecessary. If a transformer with a 5-volt winding is available, a 5Y3 or some similar tube may be used in place of the 6X5: this tube was a happy choice only because the transformer at hand when the unit was built had a 6-volt winding.

After construction of the unit has been completed, alignment is the next order of business. This is not difficult since we wish to peak the i.f. amplifiers for maximum response at the video carrier frequency only. This is an amplitude-modulated carrier and gives us all the information necessary. By feeding a signal of 25.75 mc into the mixer (with the oscillator disabled) and adjusting each i.f. tuned circuit for maximum output on the meter, we have our unit tuned! Actually, the unit can be tuned without a signal generator, making use, instead, of a signal from a television station. This might be difficult if the coils are not somewhat near resonance, but later retouching of the circuit can be done at any time by this method.

Some tuners will have sufficient response at the audio-carrier frequency that, combining with the nonlinearity of the detector, the sound signal will be heard. Since this is a frequency-modulated signal, we are not interested in it. The video carrier is always identified by the peculiar buzz due to the presence of synchronizing and blanking pulses present.

Calibration of the meter scale does not become a problem as long as we remember we have only a relative reading instrument. In our case we made up a linear reading scale, reading from 0 to 100. Later, if desired, this dial could be calibrated in any units found to be useful.

The meter has proved to be quite useful in a number of applications. First, it has been very handy, in conjunction with a length of a.c. cord, in setting up and orienting television antennas for maximum signal. We have found that the average television technician who makes these installations has all too often only a vague idea of topography and direction. A surprisingly large percentage of antennas have been found oriented in very odd directions, having nothing whatever in common with maximum signal. It has also been found that a very large number of installations may be improved by relocating the antenna. We don't mean to move the antenna any great distance, but one must remember a move of only one-half wavelength, horizontal or vertical, could mean the difference between maximum and minimum signal. If we move the antenna around the positions available for mounting, observing signal strength on all channels, we will finally find a position where we get nearly maximum signal from all stations in the area.

Second, in fringe area installations, a great deal of time and effort may be saved by use of the meter. The first step here is to determine what relative field strength will give a satisfactory picture





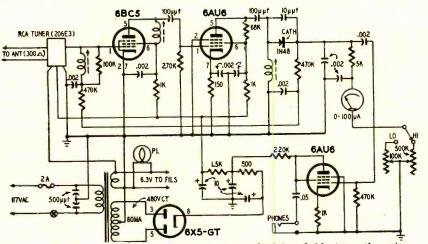
Above-Top view. Potentiometers are conveniently mounted behind the meter movement.

Left—Underchassis view shows layout of components. The tuner is RCA v.h.f. type 206E3.

on the particular receiver chosen by the customer. This can be done by connecting the receiver, through a variable pad, to an antenna system, along with the meter, and observing the received picture as attenuation is added to the received signal until we reach the minimum signal. A reading of the meter then tells us the minimum signal usable

the customer purchases his receiver, thereby increasing customer good will and saving the technician's time and money.

Another use for the meter was recently turned up when an amateur radio operator was discussing some of the measures he had taken to insure his transmitter against interfering with his



Schematic diagram of the relative reading television field strength meter.

with such a receiver. This value must be obtained on all channels, as both field strength and sensitivity vary on all. We can then proceed to the customer's home and, using a temporary antenna installation, determine whether the signals will be satisfactory. Here again, moving the antenna about from one spot to another will be a great help. Often a usable signal cannot be obtained without a booster. We can insert the booster and then once more measure the signal to determine whether it has been sufficiently amplified to provide the necessary input to the receiver. All this may be done much more quickly with the field-strength meter, giving a complete story of the possibilities before

MAY, 1954

neighbors' television reception. He had found that actual detection and location of troublesome interference was the first difficulty. After the source was located, it was much easier to correct the trouble. We suggested use of the signal-strength meter and it turned out to be a useful tool for him.

For this type of work, a short length of line is connected to the input of the meter, with a small tuned pickup loop on the far end. Then, with the transmitter in operation, and the meter set to the interfering signal, it is an easy matter to completely explore the transmitter installation and find exactly where radiation is taking place. It has been found that radiation can, and will, leak from vent holes, cable entrances, around the edges of doors, near hinges, and even around the edges of meters on the panels. Any small hole in the metal seems to be a potential trouble spot, along with any cable that may pass through the metal structure.

Still another use for the instrument is in tracking down radiation from r.f. heating equipment. This type of equipment is composed of the same essential components and often follows

Parts for field strength meter

Resistors: 1-150, 3-1,000, 1-5,000, 1-68,000, 1-100,000, 1-220,000, 1-270,000, 3-470,000, 1/2 watt; 1-500, 1-1,500, 2 watt; 1-100,000, 1-500,000, potentiometers.

Capacitors: 1-10 µµf, 2-100 µµf, 2-500 µµf, 8-.002 µf, 1-.05 µf, mica or ceramic; 1-10-10 µf,

Capacitors: 1-10 µµf, 2--100 µµf, 2-500 µµf, 2-500 µµf, 4-500 µµf, 2-500 µµf, 4-50 volts, electrolytic. Miscellaneous: 1-68C5, 2-6AU6, 1-6X5-6T, fubes; 1-IN48 germanium diade, and holder; 1-0-100 µa meter; 1-TV tuner 1-power transformer, 480 volts; ct, 60 ma, 6.3 volts, 2 amps (Halidorson P-2067); 1-on-off switch; 1-line cord; 1-pilot light and assembly: 1-phone jack; 1-s.p.d.t, switch; 2-input jacks; 1-9 x 7-inch chassis; 1-8 x 10 x 7-inch utility box; 3-slug-tuned i.t. transformers (matched to tuner).

the same general construction methods as amateur equipment.

Our amateur friend has suggested one item that might be of assistance if the unit is to be used extensively for interference work. Addition of a π section filter on each side of the a.c. line at the point where it enters the chassis will prevent any signal from entering the meter via the a.c. line. This will add some assurance that indications on the meter are only from radiations picked up by the probe and not something entering the meter on the a.c. line.

With continued use, the owner of such a meter should find uses which have not been covered, thus increasing the value of the instrument many times. END

FOR

GOLDEN EARS

O N L Y

This is the first appearance of a feature which will appear from time to time as the conditions in the world of audio warrant. All subjects which may interest the audiophile will be discussed in these columns

By MONITOR

HE high-fidelity addict has no objections to having a system which consists of several units and possesses lots of controls. He gets a great deal of pleasure operating the controls. The ordinary consumer, on the other hand, accustomed to automaticdrive automobiles, automatic washers, and even automatic frying pans, has little patience with complication. What he wants is simple assembly and easy operation. Now that high-fidelity is finding an increasing market with users who know little about audio and want only results, the dealer and installer are faced with the problem of meeting the customer's desire for simplicity.

Most of the manufacturers of highfidelity equipment have taken notice of this and are now offering simplified, more compact units combining phonopreamplifiers, control units, program selectors, power amplifier, and power supply—all on one chassis. I have just tested one of these—the Golden Knight (Fig. 1), produced and sold by Allied Radio, in the medium price range at \$79.50.

Golden Knight amplifier

The specifications of the Golden Kright (Table) are above those of the medium price range high-fidelity equipment and, indeed, fall into the de luxe category. The rated power output is 24 watts at less than 1% harmonic and 2% IM distortion (Fig. 2, 3); and the frequency response is specified to be flat within less than 1 db over 20 to 40,060 cycles at full output (Fig. 4). When it is considered that in addition the amplifier includes a two-stage phono preamplifier-equalizer, a two-stage tone control and program selector, and also claims an over-all hum level of -80 db, one can be excused for being skeptical.

I can say that the specifications are not exaggerated. The unit I received was in its factory-sealed package and showed no signs of special treatment. I made my checks without disturbing the factory settings of balance and bias controls. The IM distortion as measured on a Heathkit IM analyzer was well below 1% for all levels under 10 watts and remained under 2% at the 20-watt level. The frequency response was flat to 40,000 cycles until 20 watts of output where it fell off slightly at the extremes but was still within 1 db within 20-20,000 cycles. The hum level was as specified also, with no adjustment of the hum control.

I used the amplifier in my home for some weeks with various loudspeakers: my infinite-baffle wall-mounted combination of 5 speakers plus a bass-coupler built into the floor; the Kingdom Lorenz combination; and the same speakers in a corner horn enclosure.

I have no complaints to make of the performance of the Golden Knight with any of these speaker systems. It also behaved almost flawlessly with my collection of special test records. Since high-quality amplifiers, like high-qual-ity musical instruments, often possess a character of their own, highly critical ears may have a certain amount of preference for slight differences in the tonal qualities of several amplifiers which otherwise are electrically similar. The Golden Knight is no exception. But only the most sophisticated of Golden Ears will find much to quibble with in its performance; and in comparison tests it will hold its own against the field.

As for the general consumer (for whom—rather than the high-fidelity crank—it was designed) I doubt that, given the same program material and speakers, as many as 1% could discern any difference between the Golden Knight and the cost-is-no-object amplifiers. It represents a successful attempt to produce fidelity acceptable to 99% of the market, with simplified controls and at a price well below the average for its specifications.

Although designed primarily for home use, it occurs to me that the Golden Knight would be an especially good choice for high-fidelity installations in smaller restaurants, schools, etc. The high-power capacity would preserve a sufficient, safe reserve of power for good reproduction of peaks even at the high average output levels necessary to override conversation ro sound absorption of heavily populated rooms.

Now let us see how this high performance is achieved at such a low price. There is nothing tricky about the circuit (Fig. 5). The high output power is obtained by using 6L6's as tetrodes with very high plate and screen voltages (465 and 420 respectively). With such high operating voltages, the tubes are being driven to only a fraction of maximum possible output and operate on the flat portion of their curves. A special output transformer with grainoriented core and interleaved windings no doubt accounts for the clean performance at the extremes of the frequency range and at high power output. What appears to be about 20 db of feedback is applied to the three stages of the power amplifier. Finally, the amplifier has potentiometers for adjusting the bias voltage on the output tubes, and the rest of the output tubes. These do much to correct the

GOLDEN KNIGHT SPECIFICATIONS

Rated power output	24 watts
Frequency response	0.75 db, 20-40,000 c.p.s. at rated output
Harmonic distortion	Less than 1% at rated output
Intermodulation dist <mark>ortion</mark>	Les than 2% at rated output (60 and 7,000 c.p.s. tones; 4:1)
Hum level	80 db below rated out- put (inaudible)
Gain (high-level inputs)	0.5 volt for rated out- put
Gain (low-level inputs)	.02 volt for rated out- put



Fig. 1-The Golden Knight 24-watt high-fidelity amplifier.

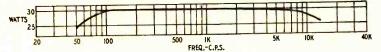


Fig. 2-The power output of amplifier at 1% harmonic distortion.

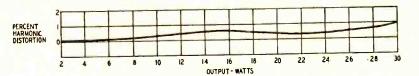


Fig. 3—Graph shows percentage of harmonic distortion at 400 c.p.s.

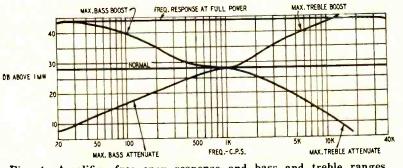


Fig. 4—Amplifier frequency response and bass and treble ranges.

tolerances of tubes, components, and assembly, and to insure that individual units will meet specifications and maintain them with changes of tubes and ageing. These controls should make servicing a simpler matter than is allowed for by most amplifiers.

The hum level is kept low partly by a balanced heater-biasing circuit with a hum-balancing control mounted on the chassis. Incidentally, all three controls are protected against accidental misadjustment or monkey-business by youngsters, with screw-down caps. Obtaining and applying the heater-biasing voltage is very simple. The slider of heater-balancing potentiometer the (hum-balancing control) is returned to the cathodes of the output tubes, which are at a positive potential of 37 volts, an excellent value for biasing. This method saves a couple of resistors or a voltage divider. It could be applied to almost any cathode biased amplifier by adding a 100- to 1,000-ohm potentiometer; or, if the filament winding has a center-tap, just returning the centertap to the output-tube cathodes.

The only other notable point about the amplifier is the simplicity of the various control circuits. Three phonoplayback curves are provided: a 500cycle turnover and flat treble, the AES curve, and the NARTB curve (Fig. 6). The NARTB curve works well with LP recordings, and the AES does well with Ortho discs. Although this choice does not provide complete or exact equalization for all recordings, it is sufficient for the average user. A slide switch provides a change of input resistance for G-E or Pickering cartridges. There is an input for low-level mikes. High-level crystal or ceramic cartridges can be fed into the auxiliary input. Magnetic cartridges with external equalizers could be accommodated through the microphone channel. The bass and treble controls are smooth, are approximately calibrated, and pro-

vide a range adequate for most uses. Any simplification of controls involves compromises; but the Golden Knight appears to have struck these in a way which should make the average user happy.

In short, the Golden Knight is a successful attempt to provide very high quality at low cost.

Baruch-Lang loudspeaker system

Recently when assembling a compact low-cost high-fidelity system I had occasion to use and test the Baruch-Lang loudspeaker system. This system consists of four inexpensive 5-inch speakers in a very small enclosure of rather tricky but effective design.

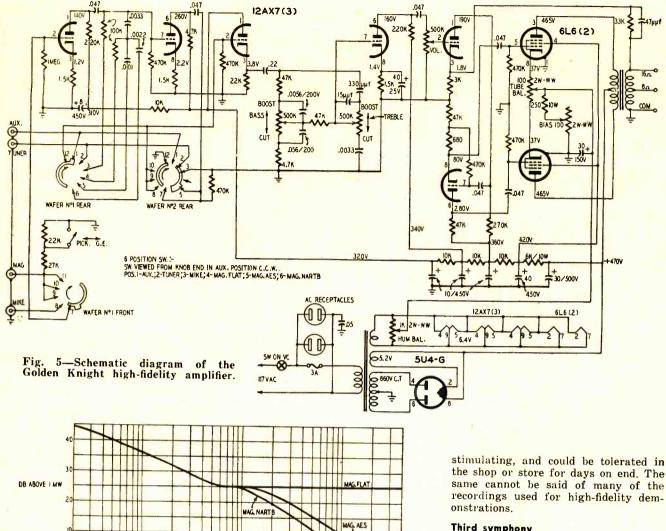
I found it surprisingly good. There is very little if any response below 50 cycles, and the high-frequency slope is rapid beyond about 11,000 cycles; but the reproduction between 60 and 10,000 cycles is excellent. The efficiency is surprisingly high despite the small magnets used in the speakers and the small enclosure. The loss of the octave between 25 and 50 cycles is to be mourned of course; any good system sounds better and more real with it than without it. But there will be very little loss, if any, of the musical content since very little music is written in that octave and even less is found in radio and recordings. Besides, the second octave is well and cleanly reproduced, and since the ear has the curious property of imagining it hears the fundamental when it hears only the harmonics, the absence of the notes below 50 cycles is noticeable only to those who are thoroughly accustomed to their presence. In any case, you can't expect to buy reproduction of the lowest octave for anywhere n<mark>ea</mark>r the \$30 price tag this outfit carries.

The transient response is fair and the over-all quality—especially when the enclosure is mounted in a corneris superior to that of some much larger and costlier systems. It probably provides about all the bass a small room or apartment can stand. The treble response is smooth and adequate.

One could not compare the Baruch-Lang with the best available speaker systems; but it certainly represents a lot of quality-per-dollar. Moreover, its compactness, the freedom of placement which its small size and design makes possible, and the variation in bass response that can be had by placing it in either of several positions, combine to make it a nearly ideal low-cost system. One of the speakers would be an excellent choice to use with a portable tape recorder for monitoring and playback. Two or more could be used also with small public-address systems or guitar amplifiers. I recommend it strongly where every dollar and foot of space counts.

New recordings

I will comment from time to time on new or recent records which are either: unusually striking examples of



500 FREQ.-C.P.S. Fig. 6—Amplifier response—preamp in FLAT, AES, and NARTB positions.

D8

high-fidelity recording; the expression of a new recording technique; suitable for testing various qualities of highfidelity equipment; or useful for demonstration of high-fidelity equipment. I shall not be concerned with the musical content or the interpretationmerely the technical aspects.

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The three corner<mark>ed</mark> hat Manuel De Falla (Paris Opera Comique Orch.) URANIA URLP 7034

Here is an excellent record for listening tests of high-fidelity equipment. It has plenty of prominent bass for checking the bass response of speaker systems; a good deal of high frequencies including those contributed by the typically Spanish percussives; several highvolume bursts of rather dissonant crescendos, excellent for checking distortion and overload; excellent transients, and offers many opportunities for checking intermodulation when a prominent bass accompanies high trable passages.

The recording has good, but not out-

standing presence, and there are several interjections of voices, solo, and in chorus, which furthers the realism. The recording is not up to the standard of today's best, but is sufficiently good to present a fair test. The music itself is interesting and this is the only complete version of the score available.

American concert-band masterpieces MERCURY MG 40006

One of the very best recordings for high-fidelity demonstration; but also useful in portions for testing. For instance, the bass drums, cymbals, and tyn.pani provide a very severe test of dynamic range, transient response, and loudspeaker damping. The contrapuntal writing of some passages, with several instruments running rings around each other, is good for checking definition, since in the good system the separate instruments will be clearly discernible. The whole effect is calculated to make the good system sound very real and attractive even to the complete layman. In addition, the music itself is pleasant,

recordings used for high-fidelity dem-Third symphony

Aaron Copland, (Minneapolis Symphony Orch.) MERCURY MG 50018

Until the arrival of LP records, Copland's El Salon Mexico was my favorite test record. Copland is especially clever in approaching (though never quite reaching) outright dissonance. Such sections provide a wonderful check of system distortion because even a little distortion will throw the music over the edge into extremely unpleasant dissonance.

He is also fond of using several brasses playing in unison or exquisitely close harmony. On a system of poor definition the result sounds like one badly muted horn; but on a good system it is actually possible to count the horns. His deep bass rhythms and more or less onomatopoetic (sounds resembling natural sounds like gunfire, dancing feet) passages are excellent measures of transient response.

In this version of the Third Symphony we have all this and a superlative example of high-fidelity recording at its best with plenty of realism but no artificial high-fidelity effects. The recording is good enough so you can safely assume that any serious aberration in the output of your speaker is the fault of your system, not the record. END

RADIO AND A REELL ON AND A REELL ON A REEL ON

Part IX–Design factors of triode and pentode resistancecoupled amplifiers

By RICHARD H. DORF*

Typical high-quality audio amplifier—includes a phono preamp.

S O FAR we have burned the audio candle at both ends, talking about loudspeaker systems and sound sources. Now we come to the middle—the heart of every sound system the amplifier.

The amplifier is the most important component of a home music system. We said at one point that the audio chain is no stronger than the weakest link and we still agree with this statement. But it is reasonable to place special emphasis on the amplifier even though it cannot neutralize the effects of a poor speaker, a bad tuner or pickup, or a defective record.

The amplifier is usually the most expensive part of a system and therefore the one least likely to be replaced. It is the most complex element of the system, since it performs more different tasks and contains more parts than any other. Most other components, if correctly designed and built in one respect, perform well. An amplifier may have one good portion and other poor ones; all must be good if the amplifier is to be good.

What does it do?

An amplifier's main function is made clear by its name; it amplifies. Its secondary function—but the one that causes the most trouble—is to transform voltage variations into power variations.

The amplifier must amplify without distorting—that is, changing the character of—the signals. It should not change the relative levels of the various frequencies, or the relative amplitudes

*Audio Consultant, New York City.

MAY. 1954

HIGH-QUALITY AUDIO

of the various parts of a single wave. It must not create waveforms that did not exist at the input, nor fail to duplicate waveforms that did exist. It should, in short, act like a magnifying glass through which an object appears exactly as it would if viewed directly, except for over-all size.

Fig. 1 is a diagram of a very simple amplifier. It has the necessary gain for a home music system and furnishes enough power output (4.5 watts) for ordinary listening. The power supply is transformer-operated. Anyone can design such an amplifier in about ten minutes with the aid of the tube handbook. Why do home-music-system amplifiers have to be more complex than this? One answer is that this amplifier has about 12% harmonic distortion, due mainly to the output stage. Another answer is that the effective output impedance is high, giving rise to transient distortion. Still another is that a single-ended amplifier does not allow sufficient power output to take care of peaks, and both reduces and varies the inductance of the transformer primary so that low-frequency performance is restricted and nonlinearity distortion is high at all frequencies.

Basically, designing amplifiers to give high-quality reproduction is simply a matter of observing rules which have been known for many years, using good components (especially a good output transformer), and incorporating a very important ingredient, negative (and sometimes also positive) feedback.

Unlike many other components, amplifiers can be constructed and serviced by the individual enthusiast or service technician. The knowledge necessary for the purpose is not hard to acquire. For that reason we shall go into the subject rather thoroughly.

We can divide our analysis of amplifiers into five parts: voltage amplifiers, phase splitters, power amplifiers, feedback, and power supplies. This is made clearer by the block diagram of Fig. 2 which shows the essential parts of an amplifier. Everything shown in Fig. 2 is present in a high-quality amplifier, except the positive feedback which may or may not be provided.

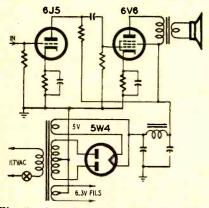
Voltage amplifiers

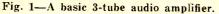
The output of a phonograph preamplifier or radio tuner is on the order of 1 volt. Normally this signal appears across a resistor; therefore there is some current flow through the resistor and some power dissipated in it. The resistance value is kept very high so that current is at a minimum and the signal source is not loaded enough to reduce the voltage. Until the signal actually reaches the power stage, where it will be used to control the power output, we are interested only in amplifying the signal voltage so that it will be great enough to drive the powerstage grids. The stage or stages which do this are voltage amplifiers. The phonograph preamplifier contains only voltage amplifiers which raise the lowlevel output of the pickup to something between 0.5 and 2 volts. The phonograph, tuner, and other sources reach the input to the main amplifier at this voltage level.

Voltage-amplifiers may be resistance-, transformer-, or impedance-coupled, but in home music system amplifiers it is

unusual to find anything but resistance coupling. The reason is-aside from the cost and weight of transformers and inductors-that resistors make ideal loads because they are not frequency-sensitive in the audio range. Transformers and inductors, on the other hand, must have sufficient inductance to maintain the necessary impedance down to the lowest frequencies; may be self-resonant at certain frequencies; and have problems like leakage reactance (frequency-sensitive reactive couplings between windings). In most amplifiers use of an output transformer is unavoidable, but in earlier stages transformers are avoided.

Resistance-coupled (R-C-coupled) amplifier stages are generally standardized. These are shown in Fig. 3, with 3-a the triode and 3-b the pentode amplifier. The components and voltage source are marked to conform with the





symbols used in the RCA resistancecoupled amplifier tables. In Fig. 3-a, the signal is fed to the control grid. Current passing through the tube from ground (B minus) to B plus (E_{bb}) is varied in intensity by the grid. The variations of current through load resistor R_L produce audio-frequency voltage variations across R_L , which are coupled to the next stage through d.c. blocking capacitor C. This capacitor is of large enough value to offer negligible a.f. impedance. Bias is obtained from current passing through cathode resistor R_k. Since the grid is at ground potential for d.c., the grid is negative with respect to cathode. C_k is of large value and filters the audio variations which would otherwise appear across R_k.

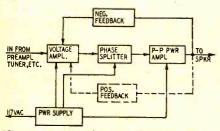


Fig. 2-Essential parts of an amplifier.

The pentode circuit in Fig. 3-b is similar, with the addition of R_{g2} and C_{g2} . Screen current passes through R_{g2} , causing a voltage drop across R_{g2} . The

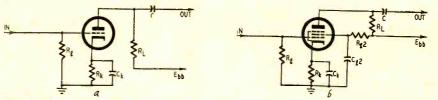


Fig. 3—Diagram of two of the most commonly used resistance coupled amplifier circuits, triode and pentode. Design tables for them have become standardized.

screen voltage thus depends on the value of R_{g2} . Screen current passes through R_{g2} to E_{bb} , C_{g2} smooths out the audio-frequency variations so that the d.c. voltage applied to the screen is steady. If it were allowed to vary at the audio rate, the gain of the stage would be greatly reduced. This is because the screen voltage would always be 180° out of phase with the control grid, thus tending to cancel a.f. plate-current variations.

The design of voltage-amplifier component values is a straightforward process which anyone can carry out by using the resistance-coupled amplifier tables found in the back pages of the RCA RC-16 Receiving Tube Manual or comparable tables in other tube handbooks. These tables are widely used, because resistance-coupled audio-frequency voltage amplification over a wide frequency range.

The first step is to determine the gain needed and the maximum peak output voltage the tube will have to furnish. A suitable tube is easily selected from the last two columns of the tables, which show these characteristics. A tube should always be chosen whose output voltage capabilities are well above those necessary, since distortion rises sharply near and at maximum. Output capability of a stage is de-termined principally by the supply voltage and secondarily by the value of R₁; available output being higher as each of these is increased. The maximum peak grid voltage for the stage is of course the maximum output divided by the voltage gain. The figure obtained is also usually the correct value of bias voltage, since maximum output is that at which the net grid-cathode voltage swings to zero on the positive alternation. This fact is useful in service checking to see if bias is correct.

Resistor and capacitor values

In the tables the value of R_g shown is that for the *following* stage's grid resistor. R_g is effectively in parallel with R_t at audio frequencies, and the net parallel value of resistance is the a.c. load resistance of the stage. Lowering the value of R_g lowers the undistorted output of the stage.

The cathode resistor R_* is chosen so that the current through it produces a voltage drop equal to the desired bias. In a few very-low-level stages where the cathode is grounded, a 5- to 10megohm grid resistor provides contact bias as the result of small gas currents flowing through the resistor from grid to ground. Measurement of this contact bias is impractical since the resistance of the v.t.v.m. is sufficient to lower it substantially.

The value of R_k is far from critical, even for high-quality work, and this is one of the advantages of cathode bias for voltage-amplifier stages; it makes the entire operating condition of the tube more or less self-compensating. If R_k is a little too large, it creates a higher bias voltage, which lowers tube plate current, which in turn lowers the R_k voltage drop. For a given value of R_k , changes in static plate current due to any of a number of causes are compensated by the resultant changes in bias voltage which tend to restore plate current to its design value.

Selection of all the capacitor values follows the principle that capacitive reactance must be negligible by comparison with the associated resistor. Thus the reactance of C at the lowest frequency to be dealt with must be no greater than about one-tenth the resistance of the following R_g to which it is connected. The series C and shunt R make up a high-pass filter, cutoff frequency of which (frequency of 3-db attenuation) is that at which X_e is equal to R. If X_c and R were equal at, say, 30 cycles, the 3-db drop at that frequency would not be serious in itself, but the resulting phase shift would give trouble if, as is usual, negative feedback loops are included in the stage.

The values of C_k and C_{gg} should be high enough so that their X_c is less than one-tenth the resistance of R_k and R_{gg} , respectively. A parallel resistor and capacitor are also a high-pass filter, since the capacitor bypasses more effectively those frequencies at which X_c is smaller. Here again, the more audio current flowing through R_k and R_{gg} , the more degeneration sets in. For flat frequency response and adequate phase response, the capacitor should be practically a short-circuit for audio down to a frequency much lower than the lowest audio frequency to be passed.

The resistance-coupled amplifier tables in the manual specify the capacitor values for a response drop of about 3 db at 100 cycles. For homemusic-system amplifiers the values of the capacitors should be increased by at least 5 to 10 times. The values of R_{α} shown in the tables are minimum values. For smaller distortion with an audio voltage level, R_{α} should be kept as high as possible, though values in excess of 1 megohm may give trouble because of unwanted contact-bias.

Next month we shall conclude our discussion of voltage amplifiers and pass on to phase splitters.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

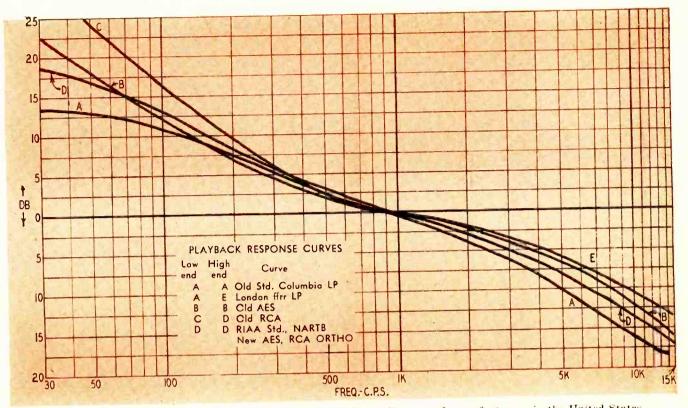


Fig. 1-Graph illustrates various recording curves used by leading record manufacturers in the United States.

NEW STANDARD RECORD CURVE

Phonograph record manufacturers agree on standard recording and playback curve

FTER nearly 30 years of electrical recording and 5 years of LP's, the leading phonograph record manufacturers have at last gotten together and agreed on an industry standard recording and playback curve. If all manufacturers switch over to it, it will no longer be necessary (at least as far as new recordings are concerned) to adjust phono preamplifier equalizer controls to different settings when playing records of different makes. The listener will merely use the normal tone controls (if any) on his equipment to adjust balance for his particular listening room, equipment and loudness level, the same as he now does on a radio program.

The new standard recording and playback curve was adopted by the Record Industry Association of Amer-

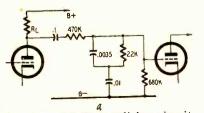


Fig. 2-a—Triode equalizing circuit. MAY, 1954

ica, Inc., and has also been recommended by the Audio Engineering Society to replace the original AES playback curve. The new curve is identical with the Orthophonic curve which RCA Victor adopted in the fall of 1952 and with the recently adopted NARTB transcription curve. It is shown at D in Fig. 1. Comparison with the older LP curves in Fig. 1 shows that at the high end it is midway between the original LP curve (A) and the old AES curve (B). The new curve is also identical at the high end (above 1,000 c.p.s.) with the 75 µsec pre-emphasis curve used in FM broadcasting. At the low end, a 500-c.p.s. crossover is used together with a 3-db flattening at 50 c.p.s. The original LP curve had greater bass flattening as shown at A in Fig. 1.

At the time that RCA adopted this curve it released 2 suggested equalizing

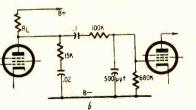


Fig. 2-b-Pentode equalizing circuit.

circuits, shown in Fig. 2. 2-a is a triode circuit and 2-b a pentode circuit.

When designing other circuits the tabulation below may be useful for testing.

AES-NARTB-ORTHO CHARACTERISTIC

Frequency	Response
(c.p.s.)	(db)
15,000	-17.17
14,000	-16.64
13,000	-15.95
12,000	-15.28
11,000	-14.55
10,000	-13.75
9,000	-12.88
8,000	-11.91
7,000	-10.85
6,000	- 9.62
5,000	- 8.23
4.000	- 6.64
3.000	- 4.76
2,000	-2.61
1.000	0
700	+ 1.23
400	+ 3.81
300	+ 5.53
200	+ 8.22
100	+13.11
70	+15.31
50	+16.96
30	+18.61

So far, Columbia, Decca and MGM (in addition to RCA) have indicated that they will use the new curve. Several others use the old AES curve which is within the ± 2 db tolerance of the new curve above 40 cycles. END

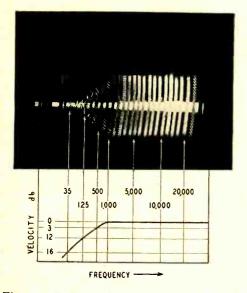


Fig. 1—Pattern of Cook frequency and intermodulation test record, series 10.

A AUDIO generator can be used to test the preamplifying stages of record playing systems; but the pickup, turntable, etc., can be tested only by using suitable recordings. There is a wide and most useful range of test recordings available.

The comments applying to signal generators apply equally to test records, but relatively few records meet audio generator standards. Most records do not deliver any useful signal material below 50 or above 10,000 cycles. One very conspicuous exception is the Cook Laboratories series 10 (or 10 LP) which covers the range from 30 to 20,000 cycles.

Recording problems require that the low portion of the spectrum be attenuated; the high portion may be boosted. Manufacturers of commercial records provide test records made to the same curves used for their musical recordings. If played back on a properly equalized system they will be adequately flat. The most useful test records, however, for servicing and development work are those recorded with a 6-db slope below 500 cycles and flat above 500 cycles. Such a record permits the running of frequency-response curves of various equalizers with relative simplicity. The resulting curve above 500 cycles can be compared directly with the *playback* curves of various makes of recordings and departures will be quickly spotted. The curve below 500 cycles will need more care in interpretation. But in general, when the test record is played back through an equalizer designed for a given playback curve, the response below 500 cycles will also indicate the degree to which the desired playback curve is reproduced.

The most serious exceptions occur when the turnover point of the desired curve is higher or lower than 500 cycles. In this case the comparison is not direct but will require some interpretation, especially around the crossover region. For example, if the test record with a 6-db-per-octave slope below 500 cycles is played through an equalizer for European 78-r.p.m. records whose playback curve calls for a crossover of 250-350 cycles, the frequency run will show a rise in response in the region between 250 and 500 cycles instead of giving a nice straight line. However, by plotting both the playback and the recording curves of each of the two types of recordings, we can interpret the degree to which we do or do not duplicate what we want.

The flatness of a test record can easily be determined by examining its light pattern. This should be done when purchasing one. Examine the record under a bright light, tilting it this way and that until the pattern appears. The more closely the sides of the pattern approach straight lines, the flatter the response. Good test records will be flat to 1 db or better and the points at which the recording departs from linearity are plainly evident when examining the light pattern. Fig. 1 is an actual photograph of the pattern of the Cook series 10 test record. Although this record does not vary in response by more than 1 db from the recording curve, the points where it does depart are plainly visible.

It is easier to obtain a smooth wide range at 78 r.p.m. and with needles of large radius (and wide groove spacing) than at 33 r.p.m., with narrow groove spacing and with a needle of small radius. Some microgroove needles may fall off in response above 10 or 12 kc, even though the pickup itself is flat beyond this point. This effect is also produced by a worn needle. Therefore, the measurement of the loss at high frequencies may offer a clue to the condition of the needle. The Cook series 10 records are recorded with a V groove which can accommodate either the large needles used for wide-space 78-r.p.m. and 33-r.p.m. broadcast transcription, or the 1-mil needle used for micro-

SERVICING HIGH-FIDELITY EQUIPMENT

Part IV-Frequency test records; test instruments for audio work

By JOSEPH MARSHALL

grooves. A comparison of the response of the same pickup with the two needles in the same bands of the Cook record will be helpful in determining the condition of the needle.

Measurement of IM distortion is very important and therefore a record which permits testing the IM of a system is valuable. The same Cook record provides, on side 2, 100- and 7,000-cycle tones in the usual 4-to-1 ratio. There are two IM bands; one has an IM distortion level of not over 4% and the other not over 2%—when new, of course. The output of the equipment under test can be fed to the analyzer portion of an IM analyzer and the IM measured. Clarkstan has a special IM test record, the model 101, which is equally good.

Cook Laboratories now offers an extremely simple means of checking IM distortion by ear with their AN Intermodulation Test record (series 50). This recording ingeniously applies the N-A system used in radio range-finding, so that when the IM exceeds 2%, there is an audible change in the signal. This is an extremely useful record and might well be included in the tool kit for initial diagnosis and trouble-shooting (see Fig. 2).

The record contains two high-frequency tones which sweep gradually downward, always maintaining a 1.000cycle difference. If the reproduction were perfect, only the original frequencies would pass through the cartridge and amplifier. However, if crossmodulation distortion is present, the 1,000-cycle difference tone will be heard.

In the form of a repeated dot-dash, a 1,000-cycle 2% distortion signal is recorded on the disc. If this signal is louder than the distortion due to tracking, only the dot-dash (A) will be heard. At frequencies where the crossmodulation distortion of the cartridge and amplifier is louder than 2%, the A will be lost, and an N (dash-dot) will be heard instead.

For rapid frequency runs and the simplest adjustment of tone-control circuits, sweep-frequency records are extremely valuable and time saving. These records sweep the whole range from 50 to 10,000 cycles, and when properly presented to a scope will produce on the screen a pattern showing the over-all frequency response of the system from record to output. Pips indicate various reference frequencies so that departures from a desired curve can be spotted roughly and then examined in detail with normal frequency runs, using steady-state records, or an audio generator. Clarkstan offers a whole series of these, including one with a response to 15,000 cycles, for both 78-r.p.m. and 33-r.p.m. Walsco offers a similar record, No. 726, in its series of inexpensive test records.

Needle wear is a very serious item in high-fidelity reproduction. Serious wear can be spotted with the naked eye and even by feeling with a sensitive finger tip. Moderate wear, sufficient to produce serious distortion and record damage, is sometimes difficult to discern even through a microscope. The simplest test is by the new Audak Stylus-Disc, recorded with special grooves so that needle condition can be determined by the damage the needle causes in clean grooves. A single Stylus-Disc will permit scores of checks and will quickly repay the investment in profits from new needles.

Wow and turntable rumble can be checked quickly with the Walsco 727 and 728 records. They can also be checked with IM test records since an excess of either will greatly increase the IM distortion.

Tests of transient response-which

are really tests of the damping of a system-are valuable diagnostic tools. It is difficult to find acceptable sources and standards of transients, especially for use with phono systems. The Cook series 20 White Noise record offers such signal and can be most useful. Thermal noise is nothing but transients and covers the entire audible band and more. The Cook record presents a carefully proportioned series of thermal noises in switch bands, in which the high-frequency and low-frequency components of the noise are progressively filtered out. By comparing the sound of the noise output of a system as the record goes through these switch bands, we obtain a quick idea of the transient response and transient cut offs of the system. The record is useful for listening tests and can also be used for more subtle diagnosis with a scope. With experience and skill, it is possible to estimate not only transient response but also bandwidth, distortion, hangover or ringing, and even pickup tracking.1

Oscilloscope

Oscilloscopes first proved their value in audio work and it is to them we owe most of what we know today about audio waveforms and the behavior of such waves in amplifiers. The oscilloscope is an indispensable diagnostic tool and furnishes an indicator for some most important types of measurement; it can make possible extremely rapid and highly convenient testing routines.

For high-fidelity servicing a scope needs some qualities not necessary for TV, or radio work. Most of today's See "White Noise Testing Methods." by Emory Cook. Andio Engineering, March, 1950.

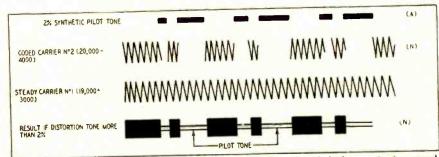


Fig. 2-Diagram shows principle of Cook series 50 N-A beam test record.





Left—The Eico model 425 oscilloscope. Above—The Heath intermodulation analyzer. Right—RCP model 655 vacuum-tube voltmeter.

scopes have more than adequate response at the high-frequency end, but not all are adequate in low-frequency response. We are rapidly improving our ability to record, transmit, and reproduce the lowest octave of sound from 16 cycles up. Also, the behavior of a system at these low frequencies affects the behavior of the whole system-especially from the point of view of distortion-more than any other portion of the spectrum. This is partly because these low-frequency components are of high amplitude and are usually boosted in amplifiers to make up for attenuation in transmission or deficiencies in loudspeakers. The result all too often is that the system is first overloaded in this region. Since a highfidelity system is very flat above this region, any distortion produced there is passed easily to the output, whereas distortion at high frequencies may not be audible at all because the response, at least of speakers, slopes rapidly beyond 12 or 15 kc. Finally, when these low frequencies occur in music, the resultant waveform most nearly resembles a square wave, and it is in this region therefore that square-wave testing is most significant.

Obviously if the scope itself does not have good behavior with low-frequency square waves, it is going to be much more difficult to use square-wave testing methods. So it is necessary that the scope be able to pass at least a 60cycle square wave, and preferably a 20-cycle square wave, without significant deformation. Direct-coupled amplifiers are therefore very much worthwhile in a scope which is to be used for high-fidelity work. There are a number of such scopes, although they are expensive. Good scopes are available in kit form, at considerably lower cost.

The high-frequency response is less of a problem since most modern scopes are flat at least to 500 kc. The distortion level of the scope should be very low, and for this reason a scope with push-pull amplifiers is preferable. High sensitivity is also very important. Often, serious trouble occurs in lowlevel stages, and to trace it a scope should be able to give an acceptable



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trace with input levels at least as low as 100 my and preferably 10 my. Other audio indicators are usually calibrated in r.m.s. volts and measure the effective value of the signal. A scope can indicate and measure the peak-to-peak value, and therefore a means of calibrating the scope for peak-to-peak reading in volts is very helpful.

A little item which is also very helpful is a reticule (grid) marked off in a square, over the scope tube face. Used with the phase-shift method which we shall discuss in the next article, this square offers a convenient and accurate means of observing and interpreting the behavior of the signal as it goes through an amplifier.

It is also desirable that a scope permit push-pull as well as single-ended input. A large part of the quality of high-fidelity equipment is due to the use of push-pull configuration in output and driver stages. Some equipment, like the Golden Ear, Powertron, etc., may be push-pull for several stages. The ability to observe the push-pull behavior of such equipment is very helpful.

If a scope is to be purchased for combination audio-TV-radio use, the special qualities needed for high-fidelity measurement should always be kept in mind.

A.c. vacuum-tube voltmeter

As I pointed out in discussing scopes, it is desirable to measure the signal in low-level stages. On rare occasions, it may be desirable to have an instrument that will read voltages as low as 10 mv. Lacking such an instrument, you can use the scope with a linear grid over the face of the C-R tube; with an oscilloscope calibrator.

A general-purpose v.t.v.m. with a low range of 3 volts (preferably 1) will be suitable for tracing and measuring a.c. voltages in most amplifiers. Most have a.c. input impedances ranging from 200,000 to 500,000 ohms. If you need a v.t.v.m. for general-purpose a.c., d.c., and r.f. measurements, you might consider one of the several models having an a.c. input impedance of about 2.5 megohms.

If you plan to do a large volume of audio servicing, you may need one of the amplifier-rectifier type of audio vacuum-tube voltmeters, with a fullscale deflection of around .01 volt on the lowest range.

I find mine all but indispensable. The lowest scale is .01 volt, but good readings can be made down to 100 microvolts; even the output of many microphones can be measured directly with it. The accuracy and linearity, though not up to laboratory standards, is more than good enough for service work. The instrument is flat from 20 to 50,000 cycles, which is adequate for most needs. The regular shop v.t.v.m. can be used to measure output-if a wattmeter is not available or can't be afforded-while the a.c. v.t.v.m. monitors the generator output and measures voltages and gain, stage by stage.

Audio wattmeter

The power output of audio equipment can be calculated by measuring the voltage drop across a specified load resistance and using Ohm's law. This is a clumsy and time-consuming operation, and an audio wattmeter, such as the Heath AW-1, is very convenient. The instrument makes possible direct reading of power output from 5 milliwatts to 50 watts across normal loads. The loads are provided by the instrument itself and meter multipliers are switched simultaneously so that no translation of any sort is necessary. It is flat from 10 to 250,000 cycles and its accuracy is well within permissible limits for production testing and servicing.

As I already pointed out, power output measurement is a helpful step in diagnosing troubles and adjusting power amplifiers. One of the wattmeter's most practical jobs is that of indicating the improvement made by a change in tubes. It can pay for itself very quickly in this way.

The most significant rating of commercial high-fidelity equipment is in terms of IM distortion at various output levels. The quickest way to check amplifier performance is to check the IM level at maximum rated output. This should be a routine shop procedure at the conclusion of repairs and adjustment and will save much time and argument. After all, a service technician is not expected to do more than restore the equipment to its original specifications. No customer can gripe when shown by measurement that the equipment is as good as new. Of course, not all manufacturers are, shall we sav, conservative in their rating and it sometimes happens that the equipment will not meet the IM specs even when brand-new. Obviously, if the shop also handles the sale of high-fidelity equipment, the above check is a prudent test of whether the manufacturer is meeting his specifications.

It is also significant to know just how much the frequency response varies with the output level. A frequency run at maximum rated output, as well as one at normal output, can be very instructive. So, although perhaps less essential than the other instruments discussed, the wattmeter is often very useful.

Intermodulation analyzer

Rivaling both the scope and generator in usefulness, and perhaps even more important in diagnosing and restoring a high-fidelity system to proper operation, is the IM analyzer. Aside from outright inoperation, caused by a tube or component failure, a large percentage of complaints will involve higher-than-normal distortion. Distortion is not too easy to trace. To make matters worse, high-fidelity addicts are likely to be hypercritical. A means of checking distortion is therefore almost absolutely essential.

An IM analyzer provides a 60-cycle

low frequency and a choice of either 3,000- or 7,000-cycle high frequency. The ratio can be set for any figure between 1-1 and 10-1; including of course the standard 4-1. The IM of the instrument itself is—at least in my own instrument—in the order of 0.2%. Fractional levels can be read easily and without much error. The range of IM readings ranges from this fraction to 30%. The accuracy is well within the needs of production and general servicing work.

The IM analyzer works thus: The mixed 60-cycle and 3,000-cycle (or 7,000-cycle) signal is fed to the input of the equipment under test. The output of the equipment is fed to the analyzer section. Here it passes through a 2stage amplifier which also acts as a high-pass filter and eliminates (for all practical purposes) the 60-cycle component. The remaining signal, now consisting of the high-frequency tone plus the intermodulation, is passed into an infinite impedance detector which demodulates it. The 3,000-cycle component is eliminated in the low-pass filter which follows, and the IM products only are fed to a v.t.v.m. which measures them and reads directly in terms of percent IM.

The entire operation is very simple and fast, and can be performed by almost anyone. The analyzer portion can be used with other signal sources, as for instance IM test records—the filters of the analyzer section being completely suited to the frequencies used on such records.

The signal output of the analyzer can also be used for signal tracing. The device has no means for turning off either the high-frequency or lowfrequency generators; so the output will always be a mixed signal. This, however, is by no means a disadvantage. On the contrary, if the 60- and 7,000-cycle tones be used, we have a tracing signal which gives some indication of both the low- and the highfrequency response as well as distortion. Finally, the voltmeter itself is available for measuring audio frequencies in three ranges, 0-3, 0-10, 0-30 volts full scale. So the instrument is by no means a special-purpose tool but extremely versatile and a nearly ideal single diagnostic tool.

The IM analyzer portion is very sensitive. An input of only 50 mv is sufficient to permit accurate IM measurement. The instrument can be used at the output of an initial amplifier stage, even the phono preamp; and it might, with a suitable test record, be used directly at the output of a Pickering pickup. In tracing distortion, the analyzer input can be moved from stage to stage, beginning with the first one. This is an extremely helpful means of diagnosis.

The next part of the series will discuss actual measurement and testing, with special attention to routines which have proved to be fast in diagnosing equipment faults.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

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68 | AUDIO—HIGH FIDELITY

R-J TYPE 12'' SPEAKER ENCLOSURE

Get maximum bass in minimum space with a 12-inch speaker and a R-J type enclosure



Photo of a combination cabinet with the 12-inch R-J type speaker enclosure.

ANY audio enthusiasts would like to have good bass response from their living-room radio-phonos. A large bassreflex cabinet will do the job but it is usually too bulky for the smaller home of today. I tried to improve my openbacked radio-phono cabinet by incorporating various labyrinths, columns between the wall and cabinet, reflexes, and infinite baffles. Invariably the insufficient volume caused either high bass-frequency resonances with vented enclosures, or excessive speaker damping and loss of bass response with closed enclosures.

Finally an R-J type enclosure was tried with almost unbelievable results. I found that the free-air resonance of a 12-inch speaker could be lowered from about 70 to 55 cycles by slotting the corrugated suspension edges of the cone radially at about one-inch intervals. Good speaker-to-air coupling in the R-J type enclosure permits this speaker modification which could not be used with an open-back cabinet, for instance. This same speaker has a new resonance of about 45 cycles in the enclosure, and does a good job down to 35 cycles with a 10-watt push-pull 6B4 amplifier. Resonance may be easily checked by (Continued on page 73)

By J. W. KORTE

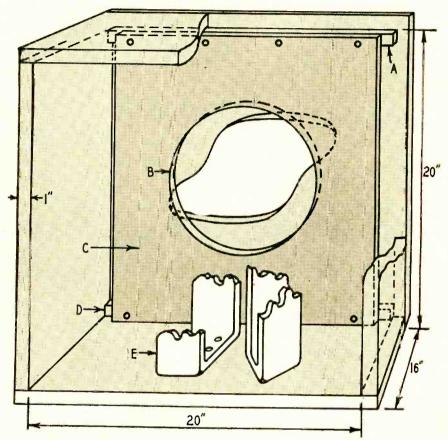
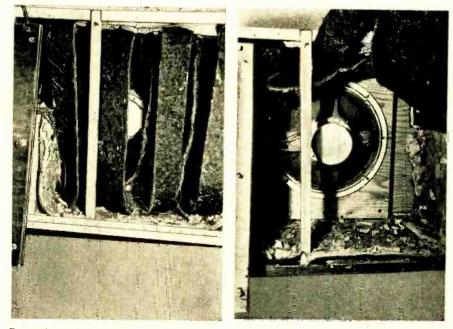


Fig. 1-Construction details of an R-J type enclosure for 12-inch loudspeakers.



Rear-view photos with the airtight back removed to show insides. Left-hand photo shows the normal position of the Ozite strips. The right-hand photo has the strips pushed aside to show how the speaker mounting board is positioned.

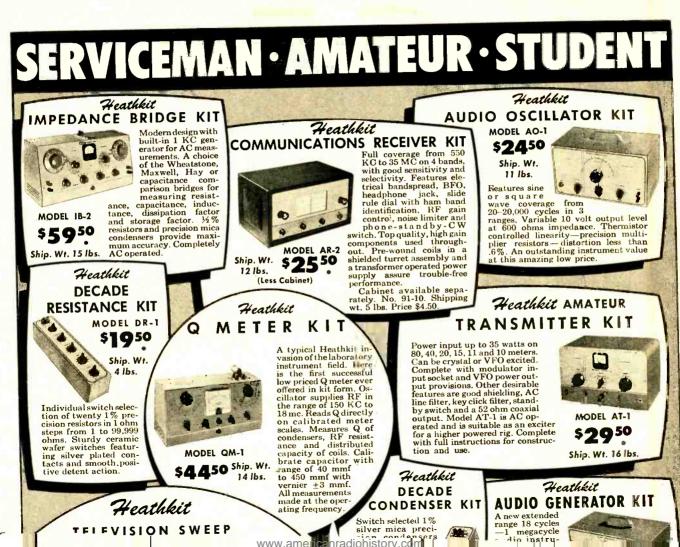


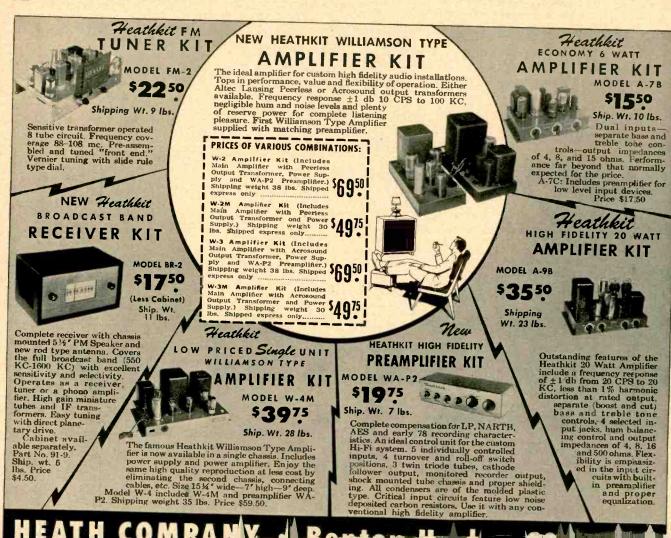
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(Continued from page 68)

adding a resistance in series with the speaker voice coil to decrease electrical damping and measuring voice-coil voltages at various frequencies, higher voltages indicating resonances.

Take care when slotting the cone suspension so that rattle and distortion are not added from excess flexibility. Most of the commercial speakers are quite stiff because they must be suitable for nearly any type baffle. An example of the slotted edges can be seen in the Permoflux line of speakers.

Figs. 1 and 2 may be used generally so that the enclosure can be built into practically any shape as long as the enclosed volume is 4,500 cubic inches. It should be constructed of ¾-inch or heavier plywood with an airtight back and a lining of 1-inch sound absorbent on all inside surfaces except the front and speaker baffle panels. A ½ x 3-inch strip of Ozite or equivalent is looped from top to bottom to fill the inside volume of the box with about 10 irregularly spaced vertical strips. They damp out the box resonance which is in the ycinity of 125 cycles.

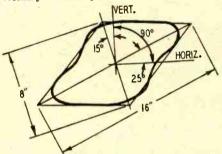


Fig. 2-Details of the lemon-shaped opening in the center of the panel.

Various dimensions were tried for the lemon-shaped opening in the front panel. None were critical. I settled for the dimensions and shape shown in Fig. 2. The shape was obtained by constructing a parallelogram in the center of the front panel and rounding off the corners to give the desired shape. The greatest single benefiting factor seemed to be the suspended Ozite strips.

If the dimensions shown are changed, it may be desirable to vary the 34-inch spacing between the front panel and speaker baffle. Placing the baffle tight against the front panel (reducing the space to zero) increases acoustical capacitance in the system to effectively stiffen the cone and decrease the low-frequency response. The speaker and enclosure capacitances should be balanced out with a like amount of acoustical inductance which is variable by changing the 34-inch spacing. When correctly balanced out, the acoustical resistance remaining loads the speaker cone to the air to the best advantage and the resonances are minimized.

Very little has been said concerning the workmanship of the construction, but it is important that all the cutting and fitting be done with care. Heavy screws should be used, and spaced close enough to give a very strong bond, the back should be especially tight, etc. These extras make a difference. END



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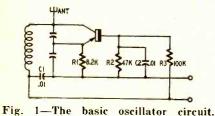
The small transistor phono oscillator in actual operation.

USIC and conversation can be broadcast over short distances with this tiny transistor oscillator. The basic circuit uses one transistor plus a few inexpensive components. An extra audio stage may be added for more amplification.

The idea that junction transistors are useful only at audio and low radio frequencies is fading away. Practically all CK722 transistors will oscillate in the broadcast band. Some will go as far as 3 megacycles. All of the transistors I've been able to get my hands on have worked in the phono oscillator circuit.

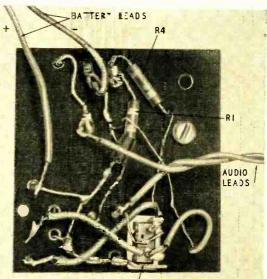
The first experimental circuits with transistor phono oscillators used a separate transistor amplifier to collectormodulate another transistor oscillator. At least two transistors were necessary plus some sort of modulation transformer. The circuit evolved into a simpler one-transistor layout that performed better than the two-transistor circuit.

The circuit makes a single transistor do double duty as audio amplifier and oscillator. The oscillator is grounded base and the audio amplifier is grounded emitter. Let us see how it works.

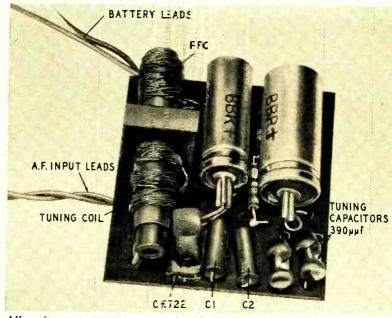


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Circuit

Fig. 1 shows the oscillator alone. Except for resistors R1, R2, and R3 which stabilize the d.c. operating points of the transistor, the circuit is a simple type where feedback is tapped from the tuning capacitors rather than the coil. This is a matter of convenience so permeability tuning can be used. Capacitors C1 and C2 bypass the r.f. around the battery and base resistor.

To also function as an audio amplifier and modulator a few extra components are necessary. (See Fig. 2.) The microphone is connected in the base circuit from the bias resistor R2. This resistor-and also R1-must be bypassed with electrolytics to prevent audio degeneration. Since R1 must be bypassed for audio, we must keep the r.f. feedback from going to ground too. The choke labeled RFC prevents this.

Resistor R4 stops a periodic blocking of the r.f. oscillator by the voltage developed across R1, C3. Two hundred ohms for R4 kills instability for all transistors, but 100 ohms is usually enough. The lowest value that prevents motorboating of the carrier is the most desirable since high values of R4 reduce audio gain.

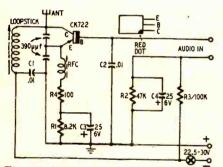


Fig. 2-Diagram of transistor phono oscillator showing component values.

Some of the battery voltage is lost in the stabilizing resistors. So, up to 30 volts can be used without exceeding the transistor ratings. Thirty volts of course gives the greatest power output, but the circuit oscillates down to 15 volts (subject to variations in individual transistors).

Construction

The oscillator chassis is a 2 x 134 x 1/16-inch piece of insulating board. The components are mounted by pulling their leads through holes drilled in the board. As shown in the photographs, the electrolytics and coils take up the greatest room.

The tuning coil and choke are both cut-down Ferri-Loopstick units. Take off the cardboard sleeve over the loopstick winding and cut off the mounting bracket plus most of the form. The oscillator coil and choke are then mounted to the chassis by pushing them into a block of fiber board. The block has a hole drilled in it the same size as the outside of the coil form.

Push the iron core all the way into the choke, otherwise the oscillator may not work at the lowest end of the tun-

ing range. The iron core in the tuning coil is pushed in and out to adjust the carrier frequency. This way the oscillator can be tuned from about 600 kc to over 1 mc.

The transistor plugs into a hearingaid tube socket. It is made into a threepin socket by pushing out two of the contacts.

Some shopping of the mail-order catalogs was necessary to find the smallest inexpensive capacitors. Capacitors C1 and C2 are 200-volt miniature units made by Aerovox (type P83Z). They cost about the same as regular capacitors. The electrolytics are Cornell-Dubilier BBR tubulars.

A few precautions are necessary. Most of the transistor circuit polarities are just opposite to those of vacuum tubes. Note that positive sides of the electrolytics and battery go to ground.

Disconnect the battery before the transistor is removed from its socket.

One end of the socket for the transistor has a raised identifying dot. The socket pin nearest the dot is wired to the collector circuit. This corresponds with the red dot on the transistor case. It certainly will not do the transistor any good to plug it in backward.

The antenna is a whip type, two feet long, mounted by a bananna plug and jack. Antennas this short can be connected directly to the collector. Longer antennas must be connected to the collector through a 30-µµf trimmer. Without this trimmer, long antennas load the circuit so heavily it will not oscillate.

The complete phono oscillator-batteries and all—is mounted in a 1% x 21/8 x 23/4-inch aluminum case.

Operation

To test, connect an earphone to the audio input and slide the iron core about halfway into the tuning coil. Next place a radio within a few feet of the oscillator and tune across the broad-cast band. A "shwoosh" or "shistle" will be heard as the transistor carrier is passed over. If a whistle is heard, the carrier is heterodyning with a broadcast station. To cure this, find a quiet spot on the dial and tune the transistor oscillator to that frequency by moving the core. The oscillator will drift for the first few minutes, so let it operate a while before the frequency is set.

If the carrier motorboats, increase the value of R4. To get an idea of the tuning range of the oscillator, follow the carrier with the radio dial as the tuning slug is moved in and out of the coil. The two 390-µµf tuning capacitors may be changed to other values. If each capacitor is changed to 100 µµf, the oscillator will tune from 1 mc to about 1.8 mc.

Tap on or talk into the earphone and the sound should come through the radio. There will be feedback squeal if the microphone is too close to the speaker of the radio. The earphone gives a pretty good impedance match to the transistor input, but it overloads

and distorts easily on loud sounds. A 3-inch speaker connected through an output transformer to the oscillator makes a better microphone. Carbon microphones are suitable and much more sensitive. Carbon mikes must have a coupling transformer. A small filament transformer will do. Fig. 3 shows

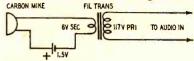


Fig. 3-Circuit for carbon mike input.

how it is connected. The 6-volt side goes to the microphone and battery and the 110-volt winding goes to the transistor.

Clarkstan or Pickering VR cartridges can be connected directly to the oscillator, but the modulation will be very low. A G-E cartridge, because of its lower output, can just barely be heard. Crystal pickups are not satisfactory, even with matching transformers.

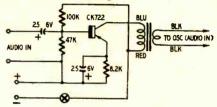


Fig. 4-Schematic of audio amplifier the transistor phono oscillator.

Before the battery voltage is turned on, the microphone should be connected, or a shorting jumper should be placed across the "audio input" terminals.

Parts for phono oscillator Resistors: 1-100, 1-8,200, 1-

Resistors: -100, 1-8,200, 1-47,000, 1-100,000

Resistors: 1-100, 1-8,200, 1-47,000, 1-100,000 ohms, 1/2 watt. Capacifors: 2-390 uuf, ceramic; 2-01 uf, 200 volts, paper (Aerovox P83Z); 2-25 uf, 6 volts, electrolytic (Cornell-Dubilier BBR). Miscellaneous: 1-CK722 transistor; 2-Ferri-Loop-stick; 1-socket for transistor; 1-on-off switch; 1-battery (22,5* to 30 volts); 1-15/6 x 21/6 x 23/4-inch aluminum case; 1-fiber board; 1-2-foot whip an-tenna; 1-jack for antenna.

Parts for amplifier Resistors: 1-8,200, 1-47,000, 1-100,000 ohms, 1/2

watt. **Capacitors:** 2—25 uf, 6 volts, electrolytic. **Miscellaneous:** 1—CK722 transistor and socket; 1—plate-to-line transformer, primary impedance 10,000, 25,000 ohms, primary current 3, 1.5 ma, secondary impedance 200, 500 ohms (UTC SO-3). watt.

Amplifier

Once the oscillator is built you may want to add an extra stage of audio amplification. This gives satisfactory operation with VR cartridges. An amplifier is shown in Fig. 4. Like the oscillator, the amplifier is d.c. stabilized. There is no need to make any circuit adjustments for individual transistors. The output of the amplifier is connected directly to the audio input terminals of the oscillator.

Conclusions

The phono oscillator makes a very good experimental transistor project. The range is limited because of the low power, yet it can transmit a signal from room to room. Except for the transistor itself, standard low-cost components are used in the circuit. END

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Photo A—Civil Defense mobile radio station operated by the Malden Amateur Radio Association under the auspices of the Malden Emergency Corps.

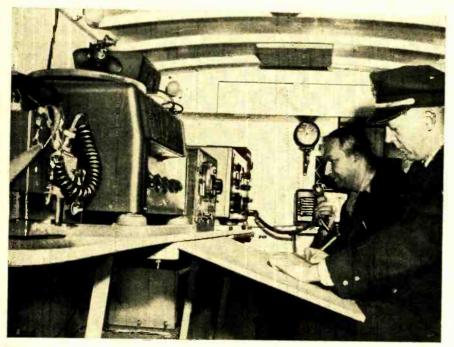


Photo B—Inside of the radio truck. The officer is Sgt. Orin Hood (W1LD) of the Malden police. Author is at the mike.

By ELI NANNIS (W1HKG)*

ANY units of the Civil Defense Radio Emergency Corps want a mobile radio station as part of their equipment, but the budget cannot stand the expense. However, it can be done on a small budget if you have the co-operation of your city and Civil Defense office. It is not necessary to buy expensive commercial equipment and large super-duper trucks to carry it. Let the big companies beat the drums to buy their units at prices untouchable by the average American city. Your city can have a mobile radio station without breaking the budget. We did it in Malden, Mass., and we are quite proud of the results.

Our city, 5 miles north of Boston, has a population of about 60,000 and a CD budget about average for a city of our size. Approximately two years ago we organized the Malden Emergency Corps, and a short time later the Malden Amateur Radio Association was organized. We had no mobile equipment of any type. To save money, we built our own mobile transmitter and converters and distributed them among the members of our net. We soon had a first-class mobile net in operation.

^{*} Radio Officer and Emergency Coordinator, City of Maklen, Mass.



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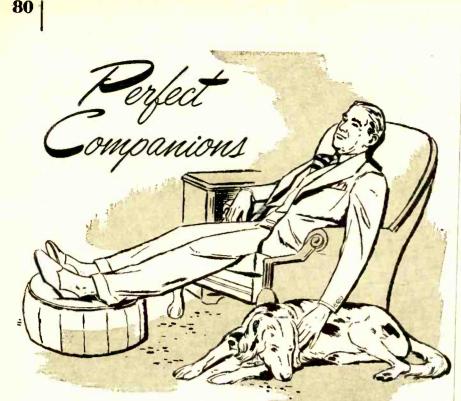
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RADIO

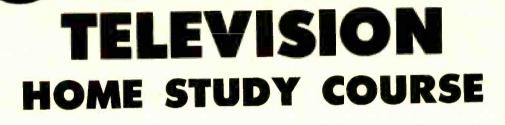
Our main station was located in the basement of a school. Through our communications officer, Sergeant Orin D. Hood (W1LD) of the Malden Police, we found out that the old 1939 Studebaker patrol wagon was to be pensioned off. This wagon was not used very often and was in good condition.

We talked it over with the Civil Defense Director Edward J. Hoffman and Assistant Director Joseph V. O'Donnell. We explained why we wanted the wagon and what we could do with it. They thought it was a good idea and with the co-operation of the City Government the wagon was transferred to the CD office. Thus we had procured what would be the most expensive item of a mobile radio station without a penny coming out of the CD budget. Cities are always buying new vehicles. Grab one of the old ones the way we did.

We also obtained the power supply without cost. The police station had a new 15-kw emergency power plant installed. An 1,800-watt 110-volt a.c. gasoline generator which they used on rare occasions was now surplus and this was also turned over to us. After shopping around a while, we were able to buy a used 2-wheel trailer at a reasonable price. All the work of converting the wagon to a mobile radio station was done by the members of the emergency corps. Truck and trailer are shown in Photo A.

By careful buying we kept the cost of the radio equipment to a minimum. Our spare transmitter and receiver was installed in the wagon, and since we use the same type of transmitter and receiver in our main station we can interchange this equipment in case of failure.

The transmitter shown on the table at the front of the truck (see Photo B) is the popular Harvey-Wells TBS-50C. It operates on all amateur frequencies from 80 through 2 meters. Beside the transmitter is a National NC-183 receiver. Next on the table is an automobile receiver and a converter installed in a home-built cabinet. On top of the cabinet not clearly shown in the photograph is a 10-watt transmitter. This complete unit (the same as we use in our mobiles) operates on the net frequency of 29,540 kc. This is an emergency unit which obtains its power from the truck battery so in case of failure of our gasoline generator we can stay on the air. Next and very prominently shown in the photograph is a 40-watt Silvertone PA system consisting of the amplifier, a dynamic microphone, turntable, and two University 25-watt horns, all procured for a little over \$100. The horns are shown on top of the truck and are mounted on swivels so that they may be turned in any direction. The last two units on the table are walkie-talkies. The one at the end of the table operates on the net frequency and was home-built at a cost of \$35. The other is a commercial unit made by Motorola and it operates on the Malden Police and Fire frequency of 156.21 mc. This unit does not have a speaker, so we use a Police



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RADIO

Alarm unit for receiving on the police frequency. Below this receiver is a CO₂ fire extinguisher (not visible in the photo). The power supply for the transmitter, an 8-drawer metal cabinet and a tool box are under the table. There are both 6- and 110-volt lights inside the truck. On the right side of the truck (not shown in the photograph) is a first-aid kit and an electric fan. Two plywood panels are attached to the bottom of the table so they can be pulled out to form tables to write or work on.

There are three antennas on the truck. The main antenna is mounted on the front of the truck (Photo A). It was purchased from a mail-order house and consists of a heavy-duty spring base and eight 3-foot rods which go up more than 20 feet. It cost only \$10. On the other side of the truck is an 8-foot whip for the emergency unit and on the top rear is the small police type whip antenna.



Mobile unit at scene of tornado.

Decals are used for the lettering on the truck. A spotlight is located in front of the cab and beside it is a flashing red light which is used to indicate that it is an emergency vehicle. There is also a powerful siren mounted under the hood. It was donated by one of our members who services burglar alarms.

Other equipment not shown in the photographs are a 150-foot extension cord for feeding 117-volt commercial power into the truck if available; 100 feet of No. 12 wire for running power from the gasoline generator; two 300watt floodlights which can be mounted on top of the truck if need be; and 100 feet of telephone cable for connecting the two phones contained in the truck.

The members of our emergency corps willingly gave their time to put this mobile radio station together and they did a splendid job. David Smith (W1HOH), a radio engineer for the National Co., designed our home-built equipment. He also keeps our equipment in tiptop shape. Find a "Dave Smith" in your net and take good care of him.

Our mobile radio station has already taken part in a real emergency. After a tornado struck Worcester, Mass., our truck did its part in providing communications and lighting for several days.

82



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MULTIVIBRATORS By ED BUKSTEIN*

HERE was a time when the radio and electronics technician could afford to ignore multivibrator circuits. This is no longer the case. Today, the multivibrator and its many close relatives have found their way into almost every type of electronics apparatus, from television equipment to automatic computers. Variations of the basic multivibrator have become so numerous and diversified in application that accurate classification of multivibrators requires such adjectives as symmetrical, asymmetrical, cathodecoupled, delay, one-shot, etc.

Symmetrical multivibrator

RADIO

The symmetrical multivibrator—the basic circuit from which many variations are derived—consists of two stages, the plate of each being coupled to the grid of the other (Fig. 1). With

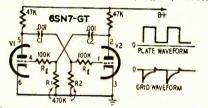


Fig. 1—The symmetrical multivibrator,

this arrangement, one tube conducts while the other is cut off. This condition reverses periodically.

One application of the multivibrator is as a square-wave generator. Since each tube of the multivibrator is alternately cut off and conductive, the plate voltages alternately increase and decrease, producing a square-wave out-

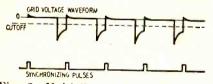
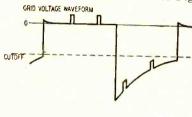


Fig. 2—Multivibrator synchronization.

put. The resistors marked R_e in Fig. 1 improve the quality of the output square wave. If these resistors are omitted, the square wave has a rounded corner on its leading edge. This is due to the loss of the high harmonic content of the square wave as a result of the bypassing effect of C2 through the grid-to-cathode resistance of V1. The grid resistors increase the plate-toground impedance and decrease the attenuation of high-order harmonics.

The operating frequency of the circuit of Fig. 1 can be controlled by changing the values of the coupling capacitors or the grid resistors. A selector switch and several different values of coupling capacitors will permit a choice of frequency range. Within each range, the frequency can be varied by a dual potentioneter used as the grid resistors.

The operation of the circuit of Fig. 1



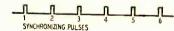


Fig. 3—Multivibrator synchronized at submultiple of input pulse frequency.

can be analyzed most easily by assuming the plate current of V1 is increasing, and noting the consequent changes which occur in the circuit:

- 1. As the plate current of V1 increases, the IR drop across its plate-load resistor increases, and the voltage at the plate decreases.
- 2. As the plate voltage of V1 decreases, capacitor C1 loses some of its charge. The discharge current flows to ground through R2.
- 3. The IR drop across R2 makes the grid of V2 negative with respect to ground, and V2 is driven to cutoff.
- 4. When C1 has completed its discharge (to a value equal to the plate voltage of V1 at saturation), no further discharge current flows through R2.
- 5. With the grid of V2 no longer negative, this tube conducts plate current, and its plate voltage decreases.
- 6. Capacitor C2 now begins to discharge through R1, producing an IR drop across this resistor.

Increasing use of square and sawtooth waves has elevated the multivibrator circuit to one of prime importance

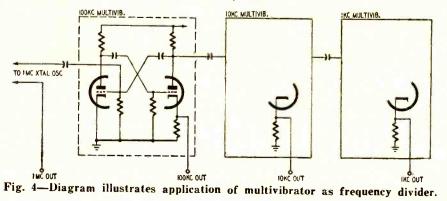
- 7. The IR drop across R1 drives V1 beyond cutoff.
- 8. When C2 has completed its discharge, V1 is no longer cut off.
- 9. V1 begins to conduct plate current, and the cycle repeats.

From this analysis, it is obvious that conduction in either tube causes the other tube to be driven to cutoff. The length of time each tube remains cut off depends upon the R-C time-constant of the grid circuit. When the timeconstants of both grid circuits are made equal, each tube remains cut off for the same length of time-hence the name symmetrical multivibrator. The grid resistors are sometimes returned to E plus rather than to ground. The advantage of this arrangement is that the frequency stability is increased with respect to supply-voltage variations.

Synchronization

In many applications, frequency stability is not a primary consideration and the multivibrator is operated as a free-running circuit. When required, the frequency of a multivibrator can be held constant by synchronizing it with an external signal. The synchronizing signal can be applied to either of the grids or the cathodes of the multivibrator. Although many types of waveforms may be used as synchronizing signals, the pulse waveform is most widely used.

Fig. 2 illustrates the synchronization of a multivibrator by positive pulses applied to one of its grids. The period of the multivibrator in its free-running state should be slightly longer than the period of the desired synchronized frequency. Fig. 2 shows the effect of the positive pulse in driving the tube from cutoff to conduction. The pulse thus initiates the switching action of the circuit, by causing the grid to go suddenly more positive, and the frequency is locked in with that of the input pulses.



RADIO-ELECTRONICS

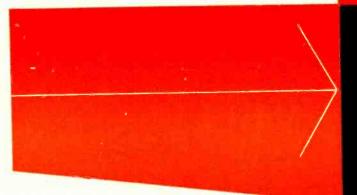
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Negative pulses may also be used for synchronization. The action in this case is very similar, since the negative pulse applied to the grid of the conducting tube is amplified and appears as a positive pulse at the grid of the nonconducting tube.

A multivibrator can also be made to lock in at a submultiple of the pulse frequency (Fig. 3). Pulse 1 drives the tube to conduction and switches the circuit. Pulses 2 and 3 have no effect since they are applied to the grid at a time when the tube is already conducting. Pulses 4 and 5 produce no change in the circuit since they reach the grid at a time when it is far below cutoff. At the time pulse 6 comes along, the grid of the tube is approaching the cutoff threshold, and the pulse is sufficient to

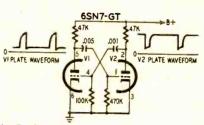


Fig. 5—The asymmetrical multivibrator.

start conduction in the tube. Since every fifth pulse initiates switching action in the circuit, the multivibrator synchronizes at a frequency equal to one-fifth of the pulse frequency.

The use of the multivibrator as a frequency divider is illustrated in Fig. 4. A crystal-controlled oscillator is used to drive a chain of multivibrator circuits, each of which is synchronized to a submultiple of the frequency of the preceding circuit in the fashion of Fig. 3. The output of the 1-mc crystalcontrolled oscillator is used to synchronize the 100-kc multivibrator. The square-wave output of this circuit is differentiated and the resulting pulses used to synchronize the 10-kc multivibrator. The 10-kc output is also differentiated and used to synchronize the following circuit. An output is taken from a cathode resistor of each multivibrator. This cathode-follower arrangement provides a low impedance output and minimizes the loading effect of external circuits. The stability and accuracy of the output frequencies are extremely good, since they are-in effect-crystal controlled. Circuits of this type are useful for testing and calibrating signal generators, oscilloscope time bases, frequency meters, and similar devices.

The asymmetrical multivibrator

If the R-C time constants of the two grid circuits of a multivibrator are made unequal, the duration of the cutoff periods of the two tubes will be unequal. This circuit, known as an asymmetrical multivibrator, is shown in Fig. 5. Since plate voltage is high when a tube is cut off and low when it is saturated, a pulse waveform is produced at the plates of the asymmetrical multivibrator. The tube which remains cutoff for a shorter time will produce a



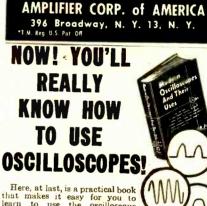
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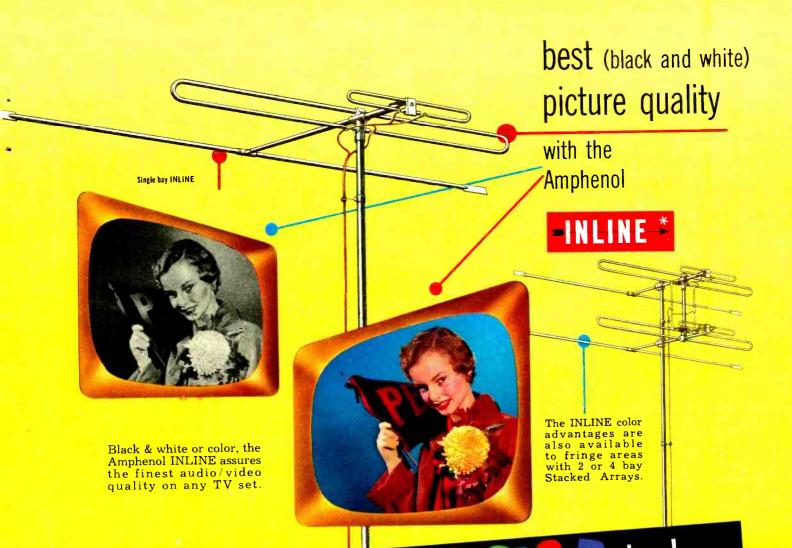
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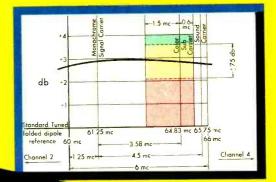
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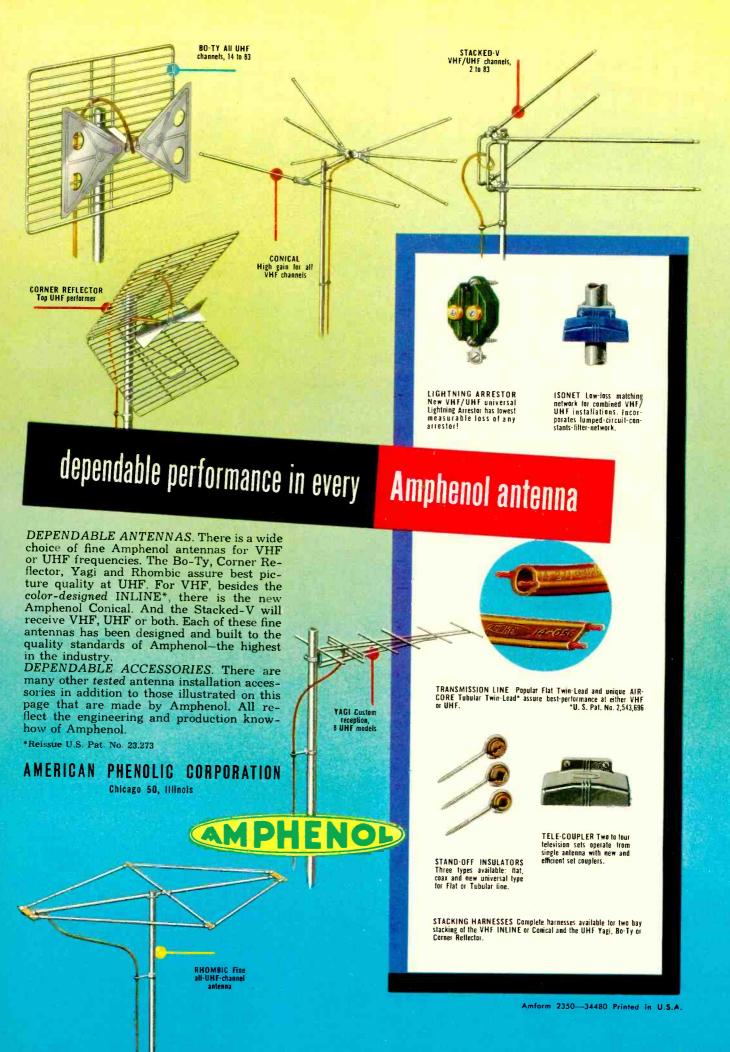
Gain variation over the color modulation band for each VHF channel should not exceed \pm .75 db; the following table gives figures for the INLINE on all channels.

Channel	Gain Variation/db	Channel	Gain Variation/db
2	± 0.40	8	± 0.08
3	± 0.06	9	±0.04
4	± 0.12	10	± 0.03
5	±0.27	11	± 0.20
6	±0.20	12	± 0.30
7	± 0.20	13	± 0.30
		11	

Gain chart showing ± 0.06 db variation over color modulation band for INLINE, Channel 3

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RADIO

positive pulse waveform at its plate, and the tube which conducts for a shorter time will produce a negative pulse waveform. The asymmetrical multivibrator, because of its simplicity and the ease with which it can be controlled, is often used as a pulse generator.

Cathode-coupled

The cathode-coupled multivibrator, shown in Fig. 6, differs from the basic mutivibrator in that the second tube is

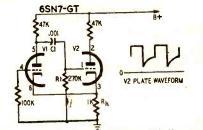


Fig. 6-Cathode-coupled multivibrator.

coupled to the first by the common cathode resistor. To understand this circuit, assume that the plate current of V1 is increasing and note the changes:

- 1. The IR drop across the plate load resistor of V1 increases, and the plate voltage decreases.
- 2. Capacitor C1 begins to discharge. The discharge current produces an IR drop across R1.
- 3. The IR drop across R1 makes the grid of V2 negative with respect to ground, driving V2 to cutoff.
- 4. When the discharge current of C1 has become sufficiently small, the IR drop across R1 can no longer keep V2 cut off.
- 5. V2 begins to conduct and its plate current produces an additional voltage drop across R.
- 6. The extra bias developed across R_k drives V1 to cutoff.
- 7. The plate voltage of V1 increases, and C1 begins to charge. The charging current produces an IR drop across R1.
- The voltage drop across R1 makes 8. the grid of V2 positive.
- When C1 has finished charging, the grid of V2 is no longer positive.
- 10. The plate current of V2 decreases, and the voltage across R_k becomes insufficient to keep V1 cutoff.
- 11. V1 begins to conduct plate current, and the cycle repeats.

A common technique for generating a sawtooth waveform is to connect a capacitor across a tube which periodically goes from cutoff to saturation. A capacitor in this position will charge from the B plus line when the tube is cut off, and discharge through the tube when it conducts. The voltage across the capacitor therefore increases exponentially and then decreases rapidlya sawtooth waveform. The multivibrator circuit meets the necessary qualifications since its tubes are alternately cut off and conductive.

A circuit suitable for this application is shown in Fig. 7. If capacitor C2 were not in the circuit, the waveform at the





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plate of V2 would be a pulse waveform as indicated on the diagram. This negative pulse is produced each time the tube goes from cutoff to saturation. When C2 is connected in the circuit, it charges through R2 as long as V2 is cut off. When V2 begins to co duct, its plate current discharges C2. This type of sawtooth generator has become very popular in the scanning circuits of television equipment.

Electron-coupled

In the electron-coupled multivibrator, one (or both) of the tubes are

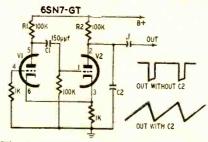


Fig. 7-Generation of a sawtooth wave.

pentodes. The screen grid is used as a plate and is coupled to the control grid of the other tube. This arrangement leaves the actual plate free to provide the output. The load is therefore connected to the multivibrator only through the electron stream of the pentode. A portable high-voltage power supply designed around a 3A8-GT diode-triode-pentode electron-coupled multivibrator is shown in Fig. 8. Each time V2 goes to cutoff, the magnetic

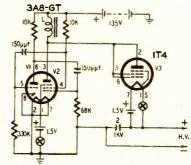


Fig. 8-High-voltage power supply.

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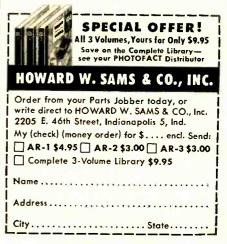


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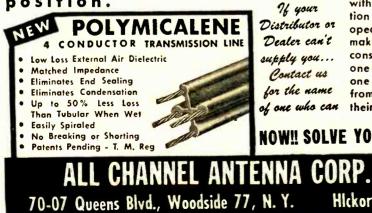
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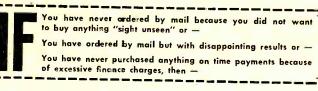


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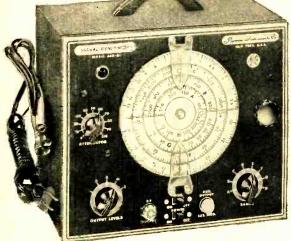
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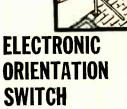


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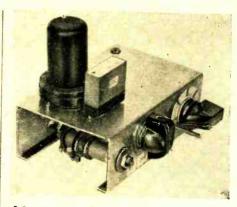
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I.F.-R.F. CRYSTAL OSCILLATOR **USES JUNCTION TRANSISTOR**

By I. QUEEN

MANY experimenters assume that junction transistors are effective only at audio frequencies, so they don't try to use them in high-frequency cir-cuits. Actually most junction transistors I have tried perform well as oscillators through the i.f. range, often beyond 1 mc. This crystal oscillator uses a CK722 junction transistor, and oscillates in the intermediate-frequency and radio-frequency range. It is equipped with an output control and is suitable for measuring, aligning, and calibrating

Fig. 1 shows the hookup. The transistor is powered by a pair of penlight cells that will last a long time. Provision is made for two different frequencies. I used a 1-mc crystal (looks like a metal tube in the photo) and a 375-kc crystal (surplus type). Both crystals are left in the circuit at all times. Only the coils are switched. The circuit oscillates when the collector coil is tuned close to either one of the crystal frequencies

The i.f. coil (L1) is a Grayburne Vari-Choke whose inductance may be varied from 0.65 to 6.0 mh. It may be replaced by a coil with an inductance of about 3.5 mh. For example, I found that a standard 2.5-mh coil in series with a 1-mh coil works fine. The r.f. coil (L2) is a slug-tuned broadcast oscillator unit (for 465 kc i.f.). It tunes to 1 mc with the slug almost all the way in. If a Q meter or test oscillator is available, the coils may be pretuned to the desired frequencies. Final tuning

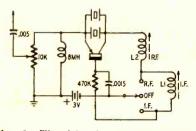


Fig. 1-The i.f.-r.f. crystal oscillator. RADIO-ELECTRONICS

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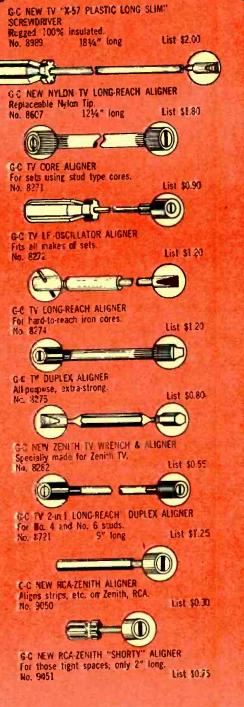
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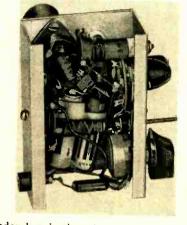
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may then be done in the crystal oscillator.

The i.f. coil tunes broadly; the same setting can be used for crystals ranging from below 375 kc to over 400 kc. Thus, if you have a number of surplus i.f. crystals, you can easily change frequency without retuning. Simply plug in the crystal you want.



Underchassis view shows chassis layout.

The oscillator is adjusted first with the switch in the R.F. position. Set the slug in L2 for output on 1 mc or whatever frequency you select. Next, throw the switch to L.F. and adjust the tuning of L1 for output on the desired frequency in the i.f. range.

Materials for i.f.-r.f. oscillator

I—47,000-ohms, ½-watt, resistor; I—10,000-ohm potentiometer; I—.0015-µf capacitor; I—.005-µf capacitor; 2—crystals; I—CK722 transistor; 3—sockets for crystals and transistor; I—3.5-mh coil; I—slug-tuned broadcast oscillator coil; I—3-position switch; 2 penlight cells.

A single penlight cell is sufficient for the i.f. band. However, I found it advisable to use at least two cells for the 1-mc range; otherwise the oscillator does not start each time and the output is weak. Since transistors are not uniform, you may find that still greater voltage is needed for the r.f. oscillator. You may have to use 9 volts or more. However, of several tried here, I found all functioned satisfactorily. One even oscillated at 1 mc with less than 1.5 volts! END

HAM'S HEADACHE by Jeanne DeGood My neighbor says that I'm

the guy Who's causing all his TVI,

But often he's the guy who wrecks

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I cannot hear a thing upon The bands when his TV is on . . . If he's as friendly as I am, He'll turn it off so I can ham.



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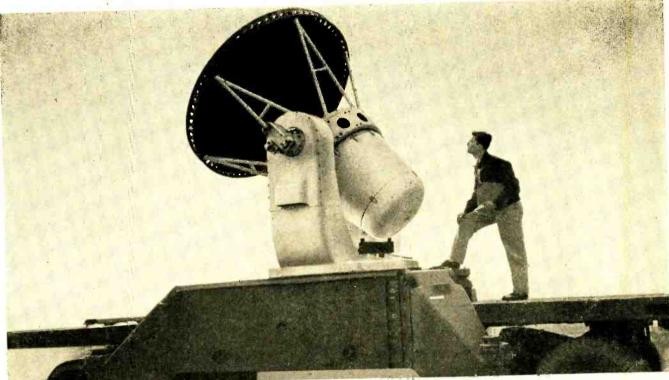
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(Upper left) – Nike's missile climbs to destroy an enemy, under guidance of complex electronic controls. A radar is shown at right. Nike (pronounced Ny'kee) is named after the Greek goddess of Victory.



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IDENTIFYING TUBE TYPES

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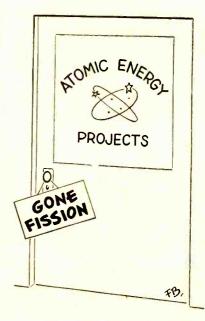
By HECTOR E. FRENCH

FROM DAMAGED ETCHINGS

NE of the greatest irritations suffered by a radio service technician experimenter is to find that the or etched type indication has rubbed off a tube so it cannot be identified. Without this etch, for example, a 6SJ7-GT looks just like a 6SK7, and a 6SN7-GT looks just like a 6SL7-GT (except for the shape of the plates, and nobody can remember which plate shape belongs with which tube anyhow). Luckily, there are at least five different ways to bring out an etch that has become completely invisible from repeated handling.

When placing the etch on a tube, the manufacturer has a choice of a number of different processes. He may obtain a permanent etch by sand-blasting the type number into the glass through a stencil. This method is seldom used because of problems in safeguarding the health of personnel. Or, as another method, the manufacturer could etch the tube identification into the glass with a strong hydrofluoric acid. This would undeniably eat a very permanent etch into the glass-but the trouble is that the acid would eat holes in everything else, including the people operating the machines. In addition, hydrofluoric acid poses an expensive storage problem

Since the manufacturer's intention is to etch the tubes and not his personnel, a less dangerous procedure is required. As a result, each manufacturer has his own concoction of chemicals which is rubber-stamped on the glass during manufacture of the tube. When first stamped on, the etch may be almost invisible, but after the tube has passed through the various processes of manu-



Suggested by James Ward, Milicankee, Wisc.

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facture, and has been heated to almost the softening point of the glass, the etching material has roughened the glass and swollen up into an opaque coating which will adhere to the glass during all subsequent normal handling.

The normal method of reading the etch is by reflected light, in the same manner that this printed page is read. But when the etch is almost gone, there are two other ways to identify the tube.

The first is to read by transmitted light, as though the tube were a pho-tographic negative, held up against the light. This method will frequently permit the etch to be read easily, especially with an older tube.

If the etch cannot be read by transmitted light, it can sometimes be read by diffused, or scattered, light. Allow the light to shine on the etch location from a very small angle with the surface of the glass. If the light is coming directly from the left, for example, the beams which strike the unetched areas simply reflect off toward the right and are not seen. Beams which strike the slightly roughened etched area are scattered in all directions, and the small percentage of this light which is scattered is often enough to make the etch readable.

When these methods fail, there is still another procedure which will almost always work. This procedure, strangely enough, depends on the natural oils of the scalp, which have just the right consistency to bring out the etch on a tube. If the tube is rubbed over the hair at the back of the neck the etched area collects more oil than does the smoother glass areas, and the etch can be read with surprising ease.

About the only time this procedure fails is in cases where the scalp has a deficiency of this oil, or when the person reading the etch is completely bald. Even then, there is no need to despair, because there are still two more ways to make the etch visible.

You will notice that each of these previous methods depend on the slight roughness in the glass left after the etch has disappeared. The next method is therefore almost obvious. An ordinary lead pencil, hard or soft, sharp or dull, depending on the particular etch, will bring out the pattern by careful rubbing. One particular tube may require an extremely hard, sharp pencil, while the next tube works best with a softer lead. In either case, the roughened area collects more of the graphite from the pencil than does the smoother glass around it.

The last procedure in case the previous methods fail is to try refrigeration. That's right, refrigeration-I didn't believe it myself. When the tube is sufficiently chilled, breathing on the tube will make the etch completely clear when all other methods have failed. Once again, the reason lies in the slightly roughened surface left behind when the etch has been rubbed off. The moisture in the breath condenses more readily on this roughened surface



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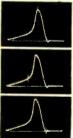
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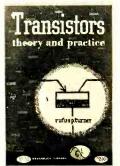
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than on the smoother glass, and makes the etch readable as long as the condensation lasts.

When all these methods have failed, there is probably no hope of ever reading the etch. The only sure way to then find the tube type is by using a tube tester to narrow down the possibilities to two or three types, and then to set up a breadboard layout to measure the tube element currents at various potentials and match these against the various published characteristics. END

CORRECTIONS

A. D. Burnett, of Richmond, Va., calls our attention to the fact that the heater shunt resistor in the picturetube checker (page 145 of the October 1953 issue) should be approximately 14 instead of 33 ohms as specified.

In the article "A Broad-band V.H.F. Antenna," page 53 of the December, 1953, issue, the last sentence in the first column reads as follows: Adding all currents together we see that dipoles A and B cancel each other out . . . The correct statement should be . . . dipoles A and D cancel . . . We thank Mr. Wilfredo Raflores of

Loctugan, Roxas City, Philippines, for calling this error to our attention.

A shunting resistor was inadvertently omitted from the heater circuit of the 12AU7 oscillator in the transmitter on page 134 of the February, 1954, issue. This resistor is for bypassing the excess 150 ma drawn by the 25L6's around the heater of the 12AU7. Its exact value should be 84 ohms. You can use a 100ohm, 5-watt resistor with an adjustable slider set for the correct resistance or two 160-ohm, 2-watt carbon resistors in parallel across pins 4 and 5 of the 12AU7

We thank Cpl. R. W. Bonta of Toppahannock, Va., for this correction.

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- Plan for World-Wireless
- One-Tube Radio-Telegraph and Radio-Phone Transmitter
- Long Wayes and "Strays" on Rogers Antennae, by Lieut. Com, A. Hoyt Taylor, U.S.N.R.F. END

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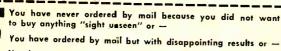
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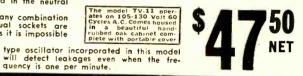
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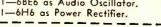
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tode is used as an R.F. oscillator, mixer and amplifier. Modulation is effected by electron coupling in the mixer section thus isolating the oscillator from load changes and affording high stability. • A.F. Oscillator Circuit: A high transconductance heptode connected as a high-mu triode is used as an audio oscillator in a High+C Colpitis Circuit. The output (over I Volt) is nearly pure sine wave. . Attenuator: A 5 step ladder type of attenuator is used.

TUBES USED:

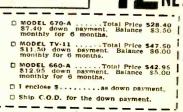
I—68E6 as R.F. Oscillator, mixer and amplifier. -6BE6 as Audio Oscillator.



Name....

City......State......

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RADIO-ELECTRONICS



103

NEW DESIGN



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UA-3-14 Wall / Mounting Receptacle

UA-3-11 Plug



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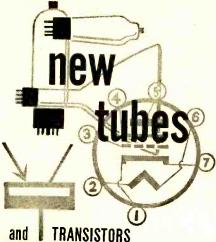
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N KEEPING with the color TV trend, RCA has announced a group of tubes designed for use in color TV receivers. Of particular interest is the 15GP22, a glass-envelope picture tube capable of producing either a color or black-andwhite picture 11½ x 85% inches, with rounded sides. The 15GP22 uses three electrostatic-

Three-gun tricolor picture tube 15GP22.

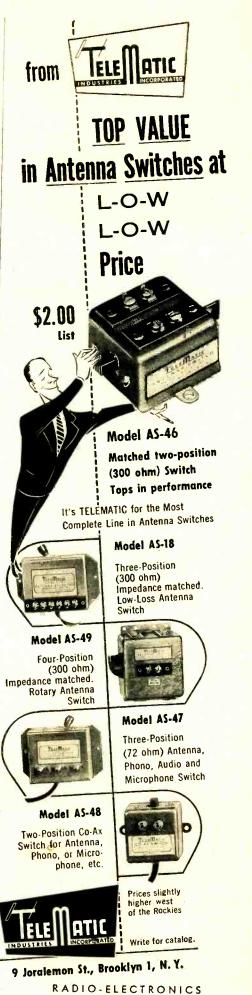
focus guns spaced 120° apart with axes parallel to the tube axis; magnetic deflection; electrostatic convergence; and an assembly consisting of a shadow mask and a plane, tricolor, filterglass phosphor-dot (screen) plate located between the shadow mask and a clearglass faceplate.

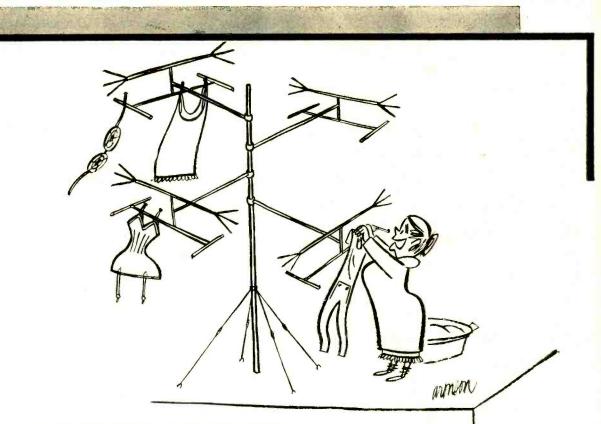
The tricolor phosphor-dot plate serves as the directly viewed screen, and carries an orderly array of small, closely spaced phosphor dots arranged in triangular groups. Each group consists of a green, red, and blue-emitting dot. The phosphor-dot plate has approximately 195,000 dot groups or 585,000 dots and is metalized after the phosphor dots are applied, to give increased light output and contrast, and to prevent ionspot blemish.

The metal shadow mask, placed between the electron gun structure and the phosphor-dot plate, contains round holes equal in number to and centered with respect to the dot groups.

The 3A3 is a rugged glass-octal halfwave rectifier tube, designed for use as a high-voltage rectifier in the scanning systems of color television receivers.

Rated to withstand a maximum peak inverse plate voltage of 30,000, the 3A3 can supply a maximum peak plate current of 80 ma and a maximum average plate current of 1.5 ma.





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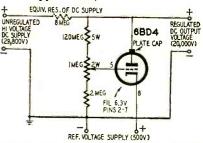


NEW DESIGN

The 6AN8 is a 9-pin miniature general purpose tube containing a mediummu triode and a sharp-cutoff pentode. It is intended for diversified uses in color television receivers.

The triode unit with its relatively high zero-bias plate current is useful in low-frequency oscillator, sync separator, sync clipper, and phase splitter circuits. The high-transconductance pentode unit may be used as an i.f. amplifier, video amplifier, a.g.c. amplifier, and reactance tube. The basing arrangement and internal construction of the 6AN8 are designed so that coupling between the triode and pentode unit is virtually eliminated.

A very interesting tube type is the 6BD4, a sharp-cutoff low-current beam triode designed as a voltage regulator for high-voltage, low-current d.c. power supplies used with the tricolor 15GP22. (See diagram for base connections and circuit application.)



Typical shunt voltage-regulator circuit.

The 6BD4 has a maximum d.c. platevoltage rating of 20,000, a maximum d.c. plate-current rating of 1.5 ma, and a maximum plate-dissipation rating of 20 watts. Heater rating is 6.3 volts at 600 ma.

Development of four new receiving tube types for color TV receivers has been announced by G-E. The new types are the 2V2 high-voltage rectifier, the 5AU4 high-output, full-wave rectifier, the 6AR8 sheet-beam synchronous detector, and the 6BU5 high-voltage pentode for shunt regulation.

The 2V2 is designed for use in flyback types of power supplies. Its high inverse voltage and average current capabilities make it suitable for supplying power to the anode of a color picture tube or to a monochrome picture tube which operates at a high anode voltage.

The 5AU4 is a twin diode designed for use in the power supply of TV receivers and other equipment requiring high output current. In full-wave operation with a supply voltage of 300 per plate, the 5AU4 can deliver a d.c. output of 350 ma.

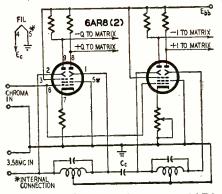
The 6AR8 is a miniature double-plate sheet-beam tube. A pair of balanced deflectors direct the electron beam to either of the two plates and a control grid varies the intensity of the beam. These characteristics of the tube make it especially suited as a synchronous detector in color TV receivers.

In this application, relatively large, balanced output signals of both positive and negative polarities are developed which eliminate the need for phase-

NEW DESIGN

inversion in the matrix circuits.

Other features of the 6AR8 detector circuit (see diagram) include low oscillator injection power requirements, freedom from space-charge coupling effects, and linear output voltages.



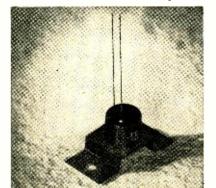
The circuit diagram shows two 6AR8 tubes used as synchronous detectors.

The 6BU5 is a low-current, highvoltage beam pentode designed for use as a shunt voltage regulator in the high-voltage power supply of color TV receivers.

G-E is producing hermetically-sealed ceramic germanium diodes. Although



Hermetically-sealed germanium diode. the announcement listed only three



Experimental high-power transistor. JAN types, the 1N69, 1N70, and 1N81, it stated that within a short time, most G-E diodes will be hermetically sealed.

Transistor Products, Inc., Boston, has announced the availability of an experimental high-power transistor. Designated as type X78, it is a p-n-p diffused junction transistor. The X78 can be used in matched pairs in class-B audio amplifiers, and will provide a power gain of 10 db at room temperature. END



PIX-0-FIX No. 1—Identifies 24 of the more common television receiver troubles by actual TV screen photos. Gives 194 causes and 253 remedies for these troubles. Price separately \$1.25.

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107



WITH THE TECHNICIAN

RECEIVES AWARD

Recipient of the first annual award of the President's Cup of the National Alliance of Television-Electronics Service Associations is Fred Colton (left), chairman of the board of the Associated Radio and Television Service Dealers of Columbus, Ohio. Making the presentation is Frank J. Moch of Chicago, president of NATESA.



The President's Cup was presented to Colton "because of his zealous work on behalf of NATESA during the year 1953, especially for his efforts in the interest of the NATESA annual convention in Chicago."

SERVICE AT ITS BEST

A splendid example of an attractive and businesslike shopfront is this display window of Rhodes Television Service, Paterson, N. J. The proprietor,



Harold "Dusty" Rhodes, is president of the Radio-Television Service Association of New Jersey and Eastern secretary of NATESA.

PROMOTES SAFETY

Service technicians working for the Central Television Service of Chicago may be called upon to take the hinges off a refrigerator, in addition to a number of other duties.

The company is making available as a public service—its 150 service technicians to make safe any abandoned ice boxes called to its attention. Children who play in the neighborhoods will then be unable to lock themselves accidentally in these boxes, as has happened in a tragic number of cases. Central Television Service asks any inCOMPATIBLE COMPATIBLE FOR FOR For Finitessial Fides Generation

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HICKOL

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NOTE FOR VALUE ...

VIDEO

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To the thousands of you who already have a Madel 650, you will appreciate knowing that its design is so complete that only a simple conversion is necessary for color use. This conversion assembly, completely wired, is available from the factory for \$5. You can add this assembly to your present 650 in a matter of minutes and thus convert to provide all features of the latest Model 650C White Dot Generator for Color TV, as well as retain the black dots for black and white receivers.

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MAY, 1954

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MODEL

650 C

WITH THE TECHNICIAN

dividual who sees an abandoned box to phone its dispatcher, and a service technician in the same neighborhood will be made available on an emergency basis.

The versatile service technicians of Central TV will not be at a loss on their new job, as many of them have been trained in the company's other services, which include air conditioning, piano tuning, and master antenna installation and maintenance as well as the more familiar TV and radio repairing.

CITY REGULATES ANTENNAS

A windstorm last January, which blew down several hundred TV antennas, is credited with the recently passed San Bernadino (California) ordinance requiring a permit for erecting TV antennas and setting specifications for their construction and installation. Several of the antennas fell across power lines in the storm, creating fire hazards and danger to life.

TV masts are required to be of standard gauge galvanized steel or doublestrength aluminum tubing. Four guys are to be used, and anchorage points must be more than half the antenna height away from the base of the mast. Ground installations must have a concrete base not less than 12 inches square and buried not less than a foot in the ground. All free-standing masts must be installed according to plans signed by a registered engineer and approved by the city building inspector.

To erect an antenna, a permit must be obtained from the chief building inspector. A fee of \$2.00 is charged for each installation.

ARTSNY SEES COLOR

One of its biggest meetings in several years was the first lecture on color held by the Associated Radio-TV Service-men of New York (City) March 18. The large ARTSNY headquarters hall was crowded before the meeting was due to start. Nearly 400 were present, and over 300 had to be turned away at the door. A number of technicians and engineers of TV and radio concerns were also present at the meeting, as well as representatives of several radio and TV magazines. The meeting was presided over by Max Liebowitz, and Lewis Winner acted as moderator for the lecture during the question-and-answer period.

A new Westinghouse color receiver was present on the platform, and field engineer Gordon Jolly demonstrated color problems and color adjustment with the aid of a Hickok white-dot generator. The large crowd made demonstration of adjustments on the purity coil and similar manipulations impossible, as few could have seen what was going on. Mr. Jolly made up for that, however, by going through a large number of adjustments which produced an effect on the tube face. Most of these could be seen at a considerable distance. Some other points were explained with the help of a blackboard during the question period. END



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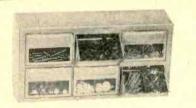
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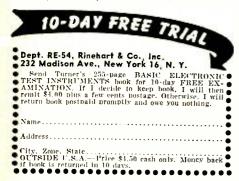
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NEW PATENTS

TAPE RECORDER EQUALIZER Patent No. 2,658,958 Lawrence V. Wells, Charlotte, Mich. (Assigned to Wilcox-Gay Corp.) Tape requires a special type of equalization. It

has a maximum response near 2 kc and the rolloff differs on either side of this frequency. The inventor has designed a simple network that provides flat response from below 70 cycles to above 7 kc.

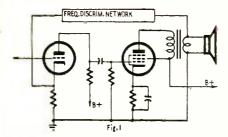
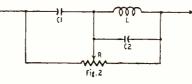
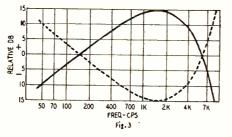


Fig. 1 shows the basic idea. A network couples the speaker and a previous stage. By tuning this network we have various degrees of degeneration over the audio spectrum. A typical network is shown in Fig. 2. Here L-Cl is series-tuned to the frequency that needs minimum gain, near 2 kc. At this frequency the network has minimum impedance, therefore maximum degeneration. This means low gain. Above and below 2 kc, the impedance rises and the phase angle grows, thus the gain is higher



L-C2 is tuned to a high frequency near 6 or 7 kc. The high impedance makes for low feedback and high gain at these frequencies. This raises the high-frequency gain more than the low-frequency, and we have an amplifier characteristic as shown by the dotted line in Fig. 3. This com-



pensates for the typical tape curve which is shown by the solid line. R controls damping of the network. It determines the degree of equalization-that is, the rate of change of the curve slope.

The degenerative network also acts to lessen distortion and flatten out any undesirable peaks that may exist.

FLAT DRY CELL Patent No. 2,666,802

William B. Woodring, Hamden, Conn., and

William W. Eaton, Milford, Conn. (Assigned to Olin Industries, Inc., New Haven, Conn.)

This invention is a new dry cell made of flat elements to take up very little space. Elements are heat-sealed to each other.

In spite of the small size of this cell, it has remarkable energy content, due to the large active area and to the low resistance between elements. A typical cell, 6 inches in diameter, and .012 inches thick, showed the following characteristics :

Open-circuit volts, 1.81. With 0.75-ampere load, the terminal voltage

was 1.52. After 30 minutes of continuous discharge, the

This cell is protected against drying out be-cause there is practically no path through which moisture may be lost.



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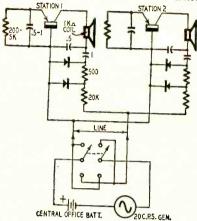
FENTON COMPANY • 15 Moore Street, N. Y. 4, N. Y. Tel. BOwling Green 9-3445

TRANSISTOR SIGNALING

Patent No. 2,666,812

Reymond J. Kircher, Summit, N. J. (Assigned to Bell Telephone Laboratories, Inc.)

Transistors have found many applications in Transistors have found many applications in land-line telephony. Here is still another—it is used to replace the bell or buzzer in signaling. Although power consumption is very low, an acoustic level of about 25 microwatts is available. This is sufficient for a clear, audible tone. The diagram shows the arrangement for a typical two-party line. A central-office battery,



in series with a 20-cycle ringing supply, feeds power through the telephone line to subscribers. Pulsating d.c. flows through a two-section recti-fier at each of the two stations. With the switch S in either position, the rectifiers at one station will be biased for conduction. At this station, the ringing current will be shorted out and cannot excite its transistor. The rectifiers at the other station are oppositely poled and cannot rectify. The ringing current will be fed to the point-contact transistor circuit, which oscillates at about 500 cycles. The position of S determines which station will be called when ringing current is applied to the line. power through the telephone line to subscribers. is applied to the line.

The circuit shown is suitable for point-contact transistors. A junction type may be used in a modified oscillator circuit.

TRANSISTOR "FOLLOWER"

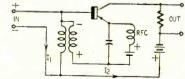
Patent No. 2,663,796

Gordon Raisbeck, Morristown, N. J., and Robert Lee Wallace, Jr., Plainfield, N. J. (Assigned to Bell Telephone Laboratories, Inc.)

The transistor is the dual of a tube. This means The transistor is the dual of a tube. This means that semiconductors behave with respect to cur-rent just as tubes do with respect to voltage. The new circuit was designed to be the dual of a tube cathode follower. It provides considerable toware rein and the dual

The new criterio was designed to be the dual of a tube cathode follower. It provides considerable power gain and handling capacity. Its input re-sistance is very low, its output resistance very high. It has less than unity current gain but considerable voltage gain. A phase reversing transformer couples the in-put to the emitter. The signal may be a.f. or r.f. The diagram shows polarity at a particular instant. Due to phase reversal, the emitter re-ceives a positive signal. Conduction increases and the impedance between collector and base becomes smaller. Now the input voltage is the sum of the load voltage and the collector-to-base voltage. The first of these increases, while the second decreases. Thus the net input voltage (for any given signal current) is small.

The input current I1 is the sum of two cur-The input current I_1 is the sum of two cur-rents. One is the load current I_2 . The other cur-rent flows through the transformer primary. Obviously I_2 is smaller than I_1 . In spite of this,



power gain does exist because the output resispower gain does exist because the output resis-tance is so much higher than the input resistance. The input resistance can be controlled by add-ing a resistor in series with the base. In a typical case, a transistor connected as in the diagram had an input of 71 ohms. Adding 800 ohms in series with the base lowered the input value to cult 3 ohms. only 3 ohms. END

YOUR BEST BET for BLACK & WHITE and COLOR TV



RCA WR-59C Television Sweep Generator

In color receivers, all of the color information is contained in the region from about 2 Mc to 4.1 Mc on the overall rf-if response curve, as shown in Fig. 1. Any loss of gain in this re-

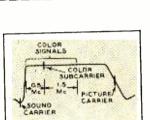


Fig. I. RF-IF Response

gion will weaken the color signals. If the loss is appreciable, it may result in such effects as poor color sync, poor color "fit" (incorrect registration of color and brightness information on the kinescope), or cross-talk or color contamination between I and Q channels.

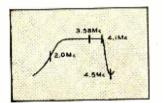


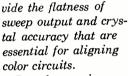
Fig. 2. Bandpass Filter Response

The rf-if amplifier must be aligned correctly to provide flat response for modulating frequencies up to 4.1 Mc. The RCA WR-59C Sweep Generator and WR-89A

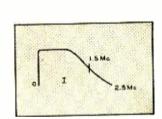
Marker Generator pro-



Crystal-Calibrated Marker Generator



In color receivers, there are a number of video-frequency sec-

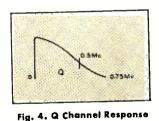


RCA WV-97A

Senior VoltOhmyst®

Fig. 3. | Channel Response

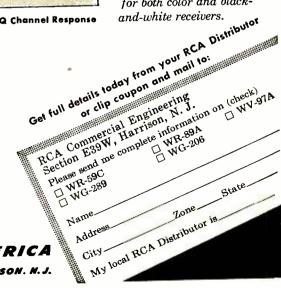
tions, including the video amplifier, the bandpass amplifier, I and Q channels (See Figures 2, 3, 4), and the green, red, and blue matrix networks including the adders and output stages. A flat video sweep extending down to 50 Kc is a necessity in checking or aligning the tunable bandpass filter and the I and Q filters. Late



models of the RCA WR-59C Sweep Generator now provide a flat video sweep extending down to 50 Kc. It also covers all rf and if ranges required for both color and blackand-white receivers.

REMEMBER that the high voltage (up to 30,000 volts and more) must be set to the specified value before adjusting purity or convergence. The RCA VoltOhmysts can be used with the RCA High Voltage Probe (WG-289 and WG-206 Multiplier Resistor) to measure dc voltages up to 50,000 volts. RCA WG-289 High Voltage Probe





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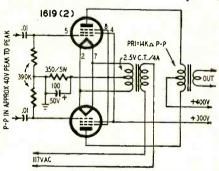
channels.

QUESTION BOX

PUSH-PULL 1619 AMPLIFIER

? I want to use push-pull 1619's in the output stage of an audio amplifier, but I'm not sure how to go about it because the tubes are pentodes with directly heated filaments. I want to use the tubes in class AB1. Please print a suitable circuit.—A. J. S., Philadelphia, Penna.

A. The push-pull 1619 stage is shown. The suppressor leads should connect directly to the center-tap on the secondary of the 2.5-volt, 4-ampere filament transformer. Cathode bias is developed across the 350-ohm resistor between the center-tap and ground. It is best to feed the screens from a separate



power supply, but you can supply them from the 400-volt plate supply if you use a suitable dropping resistor and V-R tubes to stabilize the voltage.

The grid resistors and coupling capacitors are determined by the gain and frequency response you desire from the circuit. Values shown are typical for PA circuits. About 40 volts peak-topeak is required on the grids for full output. This can be supplied by many conventional push-pull drivers and phase inverters.

AUTO VIBRATOR FREQUENCIES

? Recently, while servicing an auto radio, I did not have a 115-cycle replacement so I tried a 90-cycle unit. All voltages were normal and the set operated perfectly. Is there a possibility of damaging the set by making this substitution?—G. E. H., Elwood City, Pa.

A. It is surprising that you had a 90cycle vibrator. Engineers for various vibrator manufacturers informed us that these units are made in comparatively small quantities and that the major output of the industry is in 115-cycle units.

A 90-cycle vibrator will operate in **a** circuit designed for 115-cycle operation, but it is highly possible that its life will be shortened because the buffer capacitor will not match it. Too, there is a possibility of the power transformer being damaged or burning out because it is not likely to have enough iron in it to enable it to operate as efficiently on 115 cycles. Play safe and install a 115-cycle replacement as soon as possible.

MICROPHONE PREAMPLIFIER

? I built the amplifier on page 134 of the February, 1954, issue. It works nicely. Now, I want to provide for high-

RADIO-ELECTRONICS

and test antennas to see which brought in clearer,

sharper pictures and the least interference on all

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Stancor transformers are listed in Sams Photofact Folders and in Counterfacts.



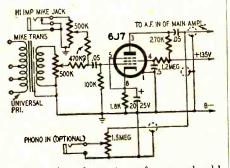
CHICAGO STANDARD TRANSFORMER CORPORATION

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QUESTION BOX

and low-impedance microphones with independent volume controls. Please show me how.—H. E. O., Lansing, Ill.

A. You will probably need a preamplifier to get good results from a microphone. The diagram shows a suitable preamplifier circuit. A 6J7 is specified instead of a 6SJ7 or similar newer type because its hum level is lower.

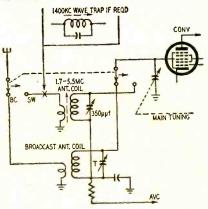


The microphone transformer should be a high-quality unit with a primary impedance to match the output impedance of the low-impedance microphone that you use. If you have several with different impedances, use a transformer with a universal primary. If you construct the preamplifier as a separate unit, you can plug its output cable into the input jack on the main amplifier. The diagram also shows how you can connect an auxiliary phono input jack with separate volume control.

SIMPLE SHORT-WAVE CONVERSION

? My Airline 93BR-717A receiver tunes from 550 to 1780 kc and 6 to 18 mc. I want to receive a fire department station on 2.366 mc with this receiver. Please print a circuit of a converter or show how this set may be adapted to cover the desired frequency.—H. S., Belmar, N. J.

A. A converter won't be necessary. You can receive the desired signal by modifying the receiver's antenna circuit. The diagram shows a simplified circuit of the input section of your receiver as modified for 2-mc reception. Note that the shortwave 6-18-mc coils and the built-in bandswitch have been omitted.



Add a 1.7-5.5-mc shortwave antenna coil and d.p.d.t. switch as shown. Connect a 350-µµf mica or ceramic trimmer across the shortwave coil. With this



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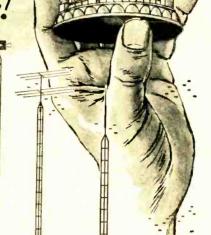
nending.

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QUESTION BOX

setup, the antenna circuit is tuned to the normal image frequency of a broadcast signal for shortwave reception. The set's tuning dial is set to a frequency equal to the desired shortwave frequency minus twice the i.f. (465 kc in your receiver). So, to receive signals on 2366 kc, you must tune the receiver to 1436 kc.

This method will enable you to receive signals between 1945 and 3095 kc.

If you use this system for short-wave reception on a set tuning from 550 to 1600 kc with a 456-kc i.f., the tuning range is approximately 1915 to 2965 kc.

The circuit is easy to adjust. Set the receiver's original bandswitch to the broadcast band. Feed a strong modulated signal from a signal generator tuned to 2366 kc into the receiver's antenna post. With the auxiliary bandswitch set for broadcast, tune the receiver toward the high-frequency end of the band until you pick up the signal. Peak the signal with the tuning control. Throw the auxiliary switch to short-wave and then adjust the shortwave trimmer and slug for maximum signal.

In some areas, strong broadcast stations on the high end of the band may ride through and interfere with 2-mc shortwave reception. This can be prevented by connecting a tuned wave trap in series with the antenna lead to the primary of the shortwave coil as shown. Tune the trap for minimum interference

The new antenna coil may be a Stanwyck type 411 or J. W. Miller type B-5495A. The wave trap may be a J. W. Miller type 811-BC1.

INTERMITTENT VERTICAL CENTERING

In an Admiral 20T1 receiver the picture changes position vertically, leaving a dark area at the bottom. This occurs only once every several hours and returns to normal almost immediately. I have tried tube changes but this did not help. When the antenna is disconnected, the same thing happens to the raster. What checks should I make to find the trouble? T. C., Philadelphia, Pa.

A. If centering disturbance in a vertical plane is the only symptom, it could be caused by a variation in the voltage applied to the vertical deflection coils. Initially, check the low-voltage power supply feed to the vertical deflection coils. Then check for defective components in the vertical output circuit, particularly the voltage feed to the oscillator and output tube. Also check the vertical size-control potentiometer for an intermittent-contact condition or change in value.

The B plus for the vertical oscillator and output tube is derived from the voltage boost system in the 6W4-GT damper circuit. Any voltage change in the damper (or a change in the horizontal circuit flyback characteristics) will influence the vertical circuit. Try a new damper; if this doesn't help, check the components in the voltage boost system. END



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MAY, 1954

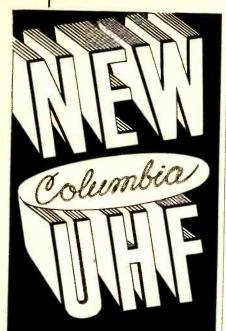
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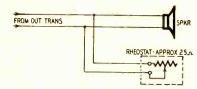
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TRY THIS ONE

QUICKLY CONNECTED REMOTE VOLUME CONTROL

A volume control to change the sound level of a radio or television loudspeaker from a remote point is often desirable. The arrangement shown is somewhat unconventional in that it reduces the loudness by bypassing part of the signal around the speaker. It is practical for connections which must be made on the spur of the moment. For example, the control can be quickly made on a public address setup where the operator wants to be located away from the amplifier so he can better judge the sound from the speakers and can reduce the volume at once in case of feedback



Two wires are connected between the loudspeaker voice coil and the remote point. A rheostat is hooked across the ends of the wires, allowing the amount of bypassing to be adjusted. The resistance element should be wire-wound, and for most speakers its value should be about 25 ohms.

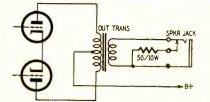
When the control is set at the highest resistance the speaker operates at full strength, as determined by the regular volume control. As the rheostat is moved toward smaller values the volume decreases. Unless the resistance element happens to be tapered, most of the volume change occurs within a range of about a quarter of total knob rotation.

For small sound systems the wattage rating of the rheostat is not critical because it would ordinarily be set for only a slight reduction of volume. Tone quality is not noticeably affected, and in low-powered amplifiers there would be no damage resulting from the extra loading.

When several speakers are used in parallel, all would be affected alike. Where individual control is required, L pads may be purchased so that each speaker can be adjusted separately.

AMPLIFIER SAFETY KINK

Output transformers of phono and PA amplifiers may be damaged by high voltages if the speaker or load is accidentally disconnected while the power is on. When constructing my latest amplifier, I decided to guard against such damage by inserting a circuittransfer jack in the output circuit to



automatically connect a resistive load if the speaker should open or be disconnected.



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TRY THIS ONE

The diagram shows how a jack and a 10-watt resistor are connected to the transformer secondary. The resistor value is not critical as long as it is comparatively low. I used a 50-ohm unit. A resistor equal to the output impedance would be ideal.-Paul S. Lederer

CAPACITOR SUBSTITUTION BOX

This simple capacitor substitution box uses 2 switches to obtain 30 different capacitance values with only 20 fixed capacitors. The circuit shows how the capacitors can be connected in series, or parallel, or used singularly to give values that are one-half, one, and two times the basic value. A 12-point rotary switch selects the basic value and a double-pole, 3-position lever switch sets the multiplier range. A neon lamp was connected in the 11th position as a handy voltage indicator and test gadget.

500µµ1 16 -16 -03 .004 11 -04 .005 .03 -05 -11 11 -11 11--07 -11--11--08 -16 +1+ -09 0-+1f +40 -010 ·+16 -01 OFF 12 0 0 0 X2 XL 0 X.5

Parts for substitution box

Parts tor substitution box Capacitors (Miniature mica, ceramic, or paper): 2-500 μ ut, 2-.003, 2-.004, 2-.005, 2-.03, 2-.04, 2-.05, 2--0.5 μ f, 600 volts. (Electrolytic) 2--8, 2--40 μ f, 150 volts. Miscellaneaus: 1-miniature rotary switch, 2 cir-cuits, 12 positions; 1-miniature lever, side, or rotary switch, 2 circuits, 3 positions. Small utility box, NE-2 neon lamp, 2-jacks for test leads, tie-noints.

All capacitors in the unit are 600-volt types except the 8- and 40-µf pairs which are rated at 150 volts. Use the smallest (physically) available capacitors and you will be able to fit the whole works into a 4 x 4 x 2-inch metal box. -R. Weingarten

RESISTOR STORAGE

When a service shop has lots of room for spare parts, a separate bin or compartment can be allotted for each resistor value. Where storage space is at a premium, store all the resistors in 10 compartments, labeling each only with the number of coded zeros on the resistors.

By using the last color as a marker, it is necessary to look through only 10 compartments.-Harvey Muller END

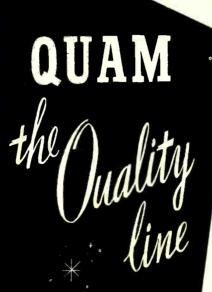
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	6AL5 6AT6		12AV6 12BA6
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	1R5 1T4		6CB6 6SA7
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******	354 3L4		6V6 125A7
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	68L7 6L6	AT 704	1978
QUANTITY	TYPE	AT 79¢	TYPE 6827
	68Q6 68Q7	AT 99¢	25BQ6
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trouble-shoot radios. Tou will rearn coue. Tou will tearn coue. To the state of the

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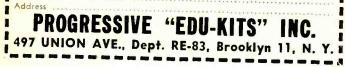
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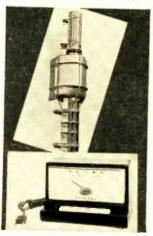
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NEW DEVICES

TV ANTENNA ROTATOR

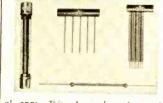
TV ANTENNA ROTATOR JFD Manufacturing Co., Inc., 6101 16th Avenue, Brooklyn 4, N. Y., announces production of the new Rotenna, a TV antenna rotator featuring 360° rota-tion, a cartridge-type detachable drive unit, in-line mast collars, a finger-tip control switch with pointer-type direction indicator, and stop-watch turning accuracy. The latter feature describes the ability of the unit to be stopped at exactly the same predetermined point when approached from either direction; and close track-ing between the antenna and the di-rection indicator. The control unit, finished in mahog-ony, has a finger-tip bar-type control switch. Pressing the switch once actu-ates the pointer to show the present antenna direction. Pressing it a second time starts the rotator which continues to run until the switch is released.



SELENIUM RECTIFIERS

Radio Receptor Co., Inc., 251 W. 19 St., New York II, N. Y., has odded a new range of cartridge type selenium rectifiers to their Seletron line. In-cluded in the new group are hermeti-cally sealed, glass-encased units phenolic-encosed half-wave axial lead units, the phenolic encosed bridge type and unmounted cells for special assembly. assembly.

assembly. These rectifiers, the GA series, pro-vide a true hermetic seal by using metallized glass, solder-sealed to met-



al caps. This class of enclosure is desirable wherever long life is required under extremely adverse conditions of humidity or atmospheric contamina-tion. Ratings can be exceeded where only limited life is expected. Holf-wave stacks may be used in combination for doublers, bridges, and center-tap circuits. Typical appli-cations are in power supplies for radar indicators, photo-flash oscillators, Gei-ger counters, precipitron dust collec-tors and relay coils. They are also used in a wide variety of computer, control instrument, and communica-tions circuits.

NOISE SUPPRESSOR

Hermon Hosmer Scott, Inc., 385 Put-nam Ave., Cambridge 39, Mass., has designed a dynamic noise suppressor



as an accessory unit for use with their model 99 transcription amplifier or their model 214 remote-control ampli-fier. The unit virtually eliminates turn-table rumble and record scratch or hiss, but without losing music audible to the ear as occurs with fixed filters. This is done by restricting the band-width during soft passages when the human ear is relatively insensitive to extremes of treble and bass, and then by opening the bandwidth to the full range, allowing complete passage of oud music which itself drowns out any extraneous noise. The fequency response is flat from 19 to 20,000 c.p.s. Two controls are pro-vided, the Dynaural control for adjust-ing the degree of noise suppression, and the Dynaural control for adjust-tion fifters) each with both rumble and scratch suppression, a position for dy-namic rumble suppression oft. as an accessory unit for use with their model 99 transcription amplifier or

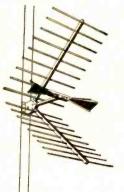
INDICATING FUSE POST

Littelfuse, Inc., Des Plaines, III., has introduced a miniature indicating fuse past designed for 3AG and 3AB fuses in ratings up to 15 amperes and 250 volts maximum. The device, No. 344010, measures 2% inches over-all, ¼ inch obove panel, 1% inches below panel, includ-ing the solder terminals.



UHF ANTENNA

Acme Tool & Specialties Co., 224 N. Loomis St., Chicago 7, III., has intro-duced a u.h.f. all-channel corner re-flector featuring moided glass fiber construction and a new reverse V di-pole design, the Acto-tenna. The two reflector screens are pro-duced by permanently moiding a series of U-shaped aluminum reflectors into a glass fiber spine. This molded con-struction guarantees the critical spac-ing of the reflectors in a weatherproof, vibrationproof mounting. The antenna has high horizontal and vertical direc-tivity.



MINIATURE INSTRUMENTS

Weston Electrical Instrument Co., 614 Frelinghuysen Ave., Newark 5, N. J., has announced a new line of miniature



RADIO-ELECTRONICS

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portable d.c. instruments incorporating a self-shielded mechanism, moael 281. The core-magnet mechanism insures accuracy within 1%. The larger mov-ing coil employed gives improved per-formance with a high torque-to-weight ratio, and allows increased sensitivity where needed.

The second second sensitivity where needed. Furnished in complete bakelite cases, model 281 instruments withstand a dielectric test of 2,600 volts a.c.r.m.s. between case and terminals, applied in accordance with A.S.A. specifica-tions, Scales are hand-calibrated, with mirror and knite-edge pointers com-bined to eliminate parallax errors. They are supplied in a wide variety of ranges in single and multirange volt-meters, ammeters and volt-ammeters. Measuring only approximately 4½ x 4½ x 1½ inches, these instruments are especially adoptable for use in labora-tories, in inspection, in educational work, and wherever else a precision instrument of miniature size is re-quired. quired.

PROXIMITY PICKUP

Electro Products Laboratories, 4501 N. Ravenswood Ave., Chicago 40, III., hos developed a new proximity pickup im-pulse generator, model 4900. The unit works on a principle similar to the



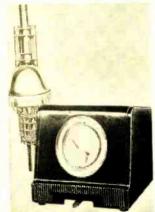
military mine detector and may be excited either by magnetic or non-magnetic metals. This new pickup system consists of a

transducer connected by a 10-foot cable to a control unit which contains the power supply and other electronic components. It produces a d.c. voltage of constant amplitude when any metai-lic mass is brought near the pickup. No mechanical contact is made with the exciting metal. The d.c. voltage remains constant as long as the excit-ing metal is in close promixity to the pickup and drops to zero when it is removed. The rise and delay time of the voltage produced is extremely fast, thereby producing a definite snap oction. oction

ANTENNA ROTATOR

Cornell-Dubilier Electric Corp., South Plainfield, N. J., and its subsidiary, Radiart Corp., 3455 Vega Ave., Cleve-land, Ohio, announce the model TR-4 Rotor. This

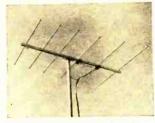
Notor. This antenna rotator has a meter cabinet using 4-wire cable and can handle a load of as much as 150 pounds.



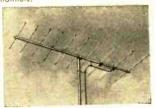
THREE NEW ANTENNAS Trio Mfg. Co., Griggsville, III., has 1.10

their added three new antennas to

The model 98 is a high-gain une model 98 is a high-gain v.h.f.-u.h.f. covering channels 2 – 83. The u.h.f. section is rhombic and the v.h.f. section is conical in design. Model 713-6 is a 6-element dualvhf



driven broad-band Yagi for channels 7 – 13. It uses two folded dipoles and multiple parasitic elements, and has 71/2 to 8 db gain throughout all seven channels.



Model 713-10 is a 10-element dual-driven broad-band Yagi for channels

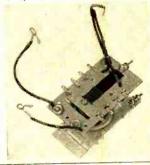
7 – 13. Its forward gain averages 10 db across channels 8 – 13. TUNER CLEANER

Walsco Electronics Corp., 3602 Cren-shaw Bivd. Los Angeles 16, Calif., has announced a new tuner cleaner, the Clean-O-Matic. Unlike conventional, brush-like clean-ers that cover only one set of contacts at a time, it fits all Standard Coil tuners, and cleans and protects all contacts except the one in use.



TV REPLACEMENTS

Triad Transformer Corp., 4055 Redwood Triad transformer Corp., 405 technolog Ave., Venice, Calif, has added six fly-back transformers to their line, making a total of nineteen. Of the new addi-tions, four are universal type and two are replacements.





Yes, you get this big, new 1954 book, "150 Radio-Television Picture Patterns and Di-agrams Explained", absolutely FREE! Just off the press! Gives complete 11x22" Sche-matic Diagrams on leading models Radio and Television Sets. Fast to read large 81/211"

Television Sets. Easy-to-read, large 81/2x11" pages, with full instructions on how to read and use the diagrams. A "must" in every Radio and Television service-man's repair kit. You get this valuable book as a FREE Gift for asking to see Coyne's great new 6-book set, "Applied Practical Radio-Television"!

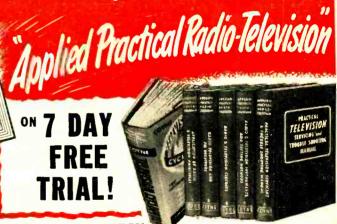
Practical Radio-Television"! At Last! Money-Making "Know-How" on Transistors, Color TV and Servicing Coyne's great new 6-volume set gives you all the answers to servicing problems—quickly! For basic "know-how" that is easy to understand, you'll find everything you want in vol-umes 1 to 5 which contain over 5000 practical facts and data. They cover every step from principles to installing, servic-ing, trouble-shooting and aligning all types of radio and TV sets. So up-to-date it includes COLOR TV and UHF, adapt-ers, converters. Also covers latest data on TRANSISTORS. Extra! 802-Page Television Cyclopedia Included

ers, converters. Also covers latest auta on TRANSTORK Extra: 802-Page Television Cyclopedia Included And then, for speedy on-the-job use, you get volume 6—the famous Coyne TELEVISION CYCLOPEDIA. It answers today's television problems on servicing, alignment, installa-tion and others. In easy-to-find ABC order, cross indexed. Use this 6 volume TV-RADIO LIBRARY free for 7 days; get the valuable Servicing Book ABSOLUTELY FREE!



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ALL-PURPOSE ANTENNA

NEW DEVICES

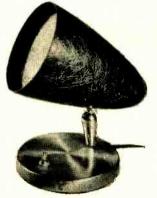
Brach Manufacturing Corp., 200 Cen-tral Ave., Newark, N. J., a division of General Bronze Corp., has announced the development of an all-purpose tel-evision antenna, designed especially with color television in mind. The new No. 555 Delto-V-Beam antenna elimi-nates the need for mixers, couplers, networks, and switches to combine u.h.f. and v.h.f. signals on a common transmission line. transmission line.

The new antenna has been tested in the New York - New Jersey area, and has proved very effective in dis-criminating against reflections.

EXTENSION SPEAKER

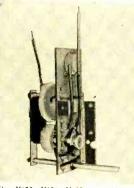
EATENSION STEARER Sootins, Inc., 321 N.W. 3rd Ave., Miami 35 Fla., has announced the *Floritone* extension speaker for TV sets. The model uses a 5-inch Quam heavy-magnet PM speaker encased in a Fiberglas cone and mounted on a swivel on an aluminum base. It has a 4-way switch enabling the user to play either the TV or the extension speaker or both, or to shut off the sound com-pletely.

or born, or no such pletely. The Floritone is available in white, gray, blue, green, coral, and buff, and can be used for "personalized listen-ing," late evening programs, and the



MOTOROLA REPLACEMENTS

Ram Electronics Sales Co., South Buck-Rom Electronics Sales Co., South Buck-hout St., Irvington-an-Hudson, N. Y., has announced the X103, X104, X105, and X106. These units are exact re-placements for all the flybacks used in Motorola chassis TS-14 to TS-505 with practically no exceptions. Spe-cifically, 40 chassis and 416 models are covered. The flybacks apply to 29 dif-ferent Motorola flyback numbers.



The X103, X104, X105, and X106 are autotransformers which are engineered to operate in the 66- to 70-degree hori-zontal deflection angle system. They deliver 10, 14, 16, and 16.5 kilovolts, respectively.

NEW FUSE

Sightmaster Corp., New Rochelle, N. Y., is producing an indicator-re-peoting fuse for home and industrial use. The item features a neon indicator which lights up when a fuse ceases to

which lights up which a light to switch to the function. The light is a signal to switch to the next position on the fuse. Since there are six positions, it can be used re-peatedly without replacements. It will

be manufactured with ratings of 15, 20, 25, and 30 amperes.



AMATEUR RECEIVER

AMATEUR RECEIVER The National Co., Inc., 61 Sherman St., Malden 48, Mass., has added a new preceiver, the NC-98, to its line of amateur and short-wave listening ra-dios. The NC-98 is equipped with a crystal filter. S-meter, and accessory socket, and is calibrated with either har or short-wave bands. The receiver has 550 kc-40 mc cover-age, 8 miniature tubes plus a rectifier, r.f. stage, 2 i.f. stages, slide-rule dials, an antenna trimmer, a noise limiter, provision for narrow-band fre-quency modulation, and a separate high-frequency oscillator.



SIGNAL GENERATOR

Precision Apparatus Co., Inc., 92-27 Horace Harding Blvd., Elmhurst 4 L. I., N. Y., is producing a new model of their E-200C signal generator, with a direct reading frequency coverage from 88 kc to 240 mc, fundamentals to 60 mc. The circuit uses a 6AU6 in a stable electron-coupled oscillator cir-cuit, modulated by a 6U8 sine-wave oudio oscillator, and a 5Y3-GT full-wave rectifier. wave rectifier.



ALL CHANNEL U.H.F. ANTENNA

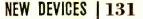
JFD Manufacturing Co., Inc., 6101 16th Ave., Brooklyn 4, N. Y., has announced a u.h.f. antenna, the Bowtie-Flector, model 615. The antenna features a rigid wire grid reflector and aluminum bowtie dipole. The reflector is plated with cadmium to resist rust and cor-rosion. Extensive field testing in Penn-sylvania reveals an overage gain of 6.5 db across the u.h.f. spectrum (over half-wave folded reference dipoles).



TV COMPONENT TESTER

Tronsvision, Inc., New Rochelle, N. Y., is manufacturing a TV component tester which tests flyback transformers and yokes, selenium rectifiers, and pic-ture tubes, and also reactivates worn-out picture tubes. As a flyback transformer and yoke tester, it checks for sharted turns. Posi-tive reading shows if flyback output

RADIO-ELECTRONICS



transformer or yoke need replacing. As a selenium rectifier tester, it checks rectifiers in half-wave circuits and tests all radio and TV power supply rectifiers. As a picture-tube tester, it provides for checking the picture tube without removing it from the set, mea-sures cathode emission occurately, lo-cate check between alamaet. sures cathode emission occurately, lo-cates shorts between elements, locates high-resistance shorts or leakage os high as 3 megolims. As a picture tube reactivator, the unit provides for re-activating a picture tube in or out of a set, restores brightness and detail, and prolongs lite of picture tube.

2



RADIO AIDS Superex Electronics Corp., 23 Atherton St., Yonkers, N. Y., has approunced two



Compiled by N Beitman.

MAY, 1954

1954

М. radio engineer teacher, author & serviceman.



new items, the Vari-Tenna and the Energized Ferri-Loopstick. The former is a coil with an extremely high-Q winding and a ferrite core, designed to replace the antenna coil and long hank of wire in old radios. The loopstick is a miniaturized "bar loop" for use where space is a lactor. Because of the exceptionally high Q of the ferrite rad (Q up to 400), a core length of only 2% inches is re-quired to give superior results. A quick-lock vinyl collar is used to maintoin the core in its adjusted posi-tion.

The unit is not intended as a re-placement for the Ferri-Loopstick or Vari-Loopstick. It is a supplement for use in cases where their excellent per-formance has to be surpassed, such as in small portable radios.

TEST INSTRUMENTS

Hickok Electrical Instrument Co., 10531 Dupont Ave., Cleveland & Ohio, has announced o u.h.f. sweep-alignment generator and a u.h.f.-v.h.f. marker generator.

generator. The sweep-alignment generator, mod-el 697, is an all-electronic sweep that has no moving parts. It provides fundamental output on channels 14–83.



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Its amplitude is constant over the en-tire sweep range. The 697 features a piston-type attenuator. It is designed to provide bare minimum loading ef-fects on u.h.f. circuits under alignment. This instrument was described in the March issue, but the illustration with it was that of the model 690 u.h.f.-wh f. marker conceptor described bas

it was that of the model 690 u.h.t. v.h.f. marker generator, described be-low. Both photos are shown here. The u.h.f.v.h.f. marker generator, model 690, covers frequencies from 4.25 to over 225 mc on fundamentals with a 0.25 volt r.f. output, and pro-vides dual markers with any V sweep generator. Marker setting of 0.05% ac-curacy is featured.

ROTARIES

Telrex Inc., Asbury Park, N. J., has announced their Beamer Power rotaries



for 2-, 6-, 10-, 15- and 20-meter per-formance. These arrays feature a bol-un with a T transformer for optimum coaxial line coupling, broad-band re-sistive match, balanced pattern, no matching problems, and minimum interference.

REPLACEMENT FLYBACKS

Chicago Standard Transformer Corp., Addison & Elston, Chicago 18, 111, has announced three new replacement fly-backs for RCA sets. These are Nos. A-8233, A-8234, and A-8235. They may

be used in over 40 chassis and more than 100 models, and may be installed without any chassis or circuit alterations.

SERVICING AID

Raytheon Manufacturing Co., Receiv-ing Tube Division, Newton 58, Mass., has onnounced the Brow-Lite, a flash-light which frees both hands. The device fits easily above glasses and har a mayable sected which ad

and has a movable socket which ad-justs light to any angle, eliminating



unnecessary head motions. Using stand-ard parts, the light is pocket size easy to carry, and constructed of durable plastic.

INDOOR ANTENNA

Brooklyn Television Co., Inc., 72 Steu-ben St., Brooklyn 5, N. Y., hos an-nounced on indoor TV antenna, the *Flash-O-Matic*, for FM v.h.f., u.h.f., and color reception. The antenna is mounted on a nontip cut-glass base and a revolving swivel. END



All specifications given on these pages are from manufacturers' data.



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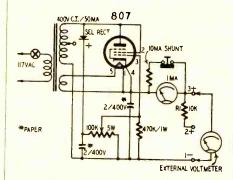
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RADIÚ-ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS

REFORMING ELECTROLYTICS An electrolytic capacitor that has been in storage or idle for six months to a year may have an abnormally high leakage current when voltage is first applied across it. This current will gradually taper off to normal as the capacitor reforms. But in many instances it does not taper off fast enough to prevent internal heating. This increases the leakage current and leads to early breakdown. To prevent such occurrences, clectrolytics which have not had voltage applied to them for a comparatively long time should be reformed before being placed in service. The process consists of applying normal working voltage to the capacitor through a series resistor to limit the current to a safe value.



The diagram shows the circuit of a variable-voltage power supply designed for reforming electrolytic capacitors. It was described originally in *The Radio Constructor*, an English publication. Voltage for reforming the capacitor is supplied by a triode-connected 807 used as a grid-controlled half-wave rectifier. Its output voltage may be varied between about 40 and 400 by varying a positive voltage applied to the control grid. This bias voltage is developed by a metallic rectifier and is tapped off the 100,000-ohm, 5-watt control.

The capacitor to be reformed is connected across terminals 1 and 2. R1 is placed in series with the capacitor to limit the leakage current to a safe value. A value of about 10,000 ohms is sufficient for an 8- μ f, 450-volt capacitor.

The maximum safe leakage current in *microamperes* is 0.15CV for dry electrolytics, 0.35CV for wet electrolytics, and 0.3CV for reversible electrolytics, where C is the capacitance of the unit in microfarads and V is the working voltage.

Connect the capacitor to be reformed across terminals 1 and 2, set the voltage control to minimum, and connect a 400-volt d.c. meter across terminals 1 and 3. Increase the voltage until the current rises to the maximum safe value. Leave the voltage at this level until the current drops, then gradually increase the voltage—without drawing excessive current—until the leakage current does not exceed the maximum with full working voltage applied. Reforming current is read on a 1-ma meter that is shunted to read 10 ma full scale. When the current drops



RADIO-ELECTRONICS

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RADIO-ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS

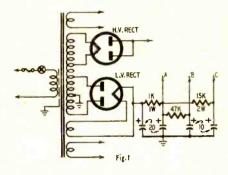
below 1 ma, pressing the switch removes the shunt and makes the meter easier to read.

STABILIZING THE HEATHKIT SCOPE

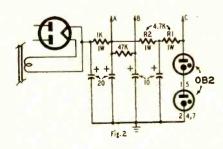
A simple modification may improve the stability of the direct-coupled vertical amplifier circuits of the Heathkit model O-8 oscilloscope and make the instrument easier to use in areas where line voltages fluctuate.

In this instrument, the 6C4 phase inverter is direct-coupled to half the 12AT7 vertical voltage amplifier. Voltage fluctuations on the power line cause proportionate changes in the B voltages delivered by the scope's power supply. In the direct-coupled amplifier circuit, these voltage changes affect the amplifier gain and cause the trace to jitter.

Fig. 1 shows the original B plus circuit in the 0-8. Point C on the supply feeds the plate circuits of the 6C4 phase inverter and 12AT7 amplifier. By adding two series-connected 0B2 voltageregulator tubes, the voltage at this point is stabilized at 210.



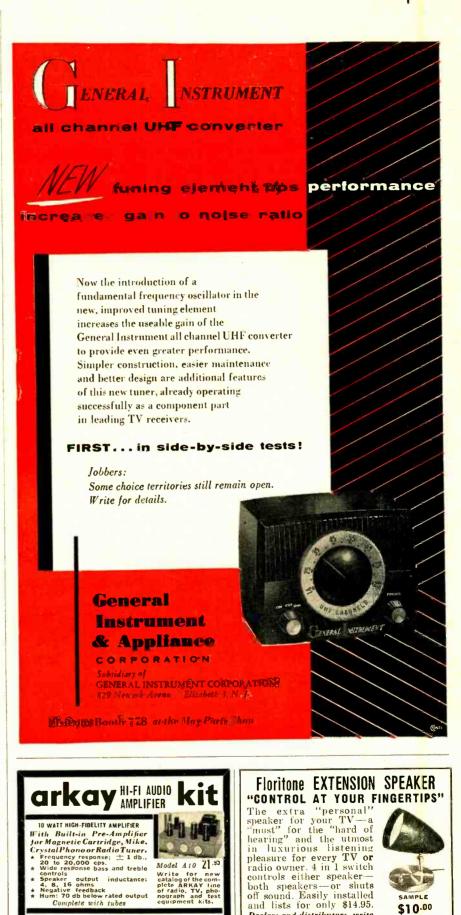
The modified diagram in Fig. 2 shows how the 15,000-ohm, 2-watt resistor between A and C is replaced by two 4,700ohm, 1-watt resistors (R1 and R2) in series. The 10-µf filter capacitor for point C is removed and reconnected to the junction of R1 and R2. The values of R1 and R2 were selected to provide a current of approximately 20 ma through the voltage-regulator tubes to assure stable operation.



With this modification, the scope now operates satisfactorily in any area where heavy electrical equipment causes the line voltage to fluctuate. This simple modification is well worth the time and expense to any user of the O-8 oscilloscope.-R. K. Schaefer

TYING SCOPE TO RECEIVER

Scopes are often connected across the output of the i.f. amplifier of communications receivers to check frequency shift and modulation percentage of in-



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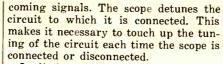
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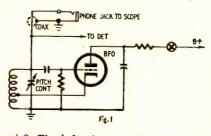
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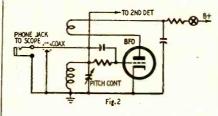
RADIO-ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS



I eliminated this problem by connecting the scope across the b.f.o. coil and adjusting the b.f.o. pitch control for maximum pattern height. Typical b.f.o. circuits and the method of connecting the scope are shown in Figs. 1



and 2. The b.f.o. is turned off when the scope is used for checking phone signals so its performance is not affected in any way. Mount a phone jack on the front or back of the receiver so the scope can be plugged in at will. Use low-capacitance coaxial cable such as RG-59/U for the connection.

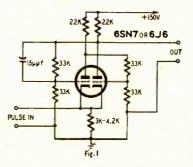


The height of the pattern on the screen depends on the strength of the incoming signal and on the sensitivity of the scope. A strong signal will produce a trace 3 or more inches high on a 5-inch scope with vertical deflection sensitivity of 10 mv.-G. P. Oberto

THREE-STATE FLIP-FLOP

The Eccles-Jordan circuit is widely used as a scale-of-two counter in radar, loran, computers, and in timing and calibrating circuits. It is similar to conventional multivibrators except that the cross-connected grids and plates are direct-coupled.

While developing register circuits for an electronic computer, Andrew D. Booth and H. Ringrose discovered that it is possible for the Eccles-Jordan flipflop circuit to have three stable states instead of only two as we have grown to expect. A report on the scale-of-three flip-flop counter appeared in Electronic Engineering (London, England). The circuit is shown in Fig. 1.





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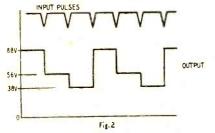
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RADIO-ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS

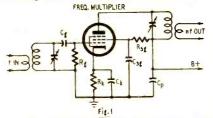
With this circuit, three stable conditions can be obtained with a 6J6 or 6SN7-GT. The 6J6 operates in this manner when the common cathode resistor has a value of from 3,800 to 4,200 ohms. The 6SN7-GT requires a cathode resistance of 3,000 to 4,000



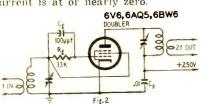
ohms. Fig. 2 shows the output waveforms available with six successive trigger pulses. The authors report that the circuit will not have the third steady-state condition if the second plate-to-grid coupling resistor is bypassed.

UNUSUAL PENTODE DOUBLER

The diagram in Fig. 1 shows a conventional pentode frequency multiplier stage. Operating bias—three to five times cutoff—is developed by grid-current flow through $R_{\rm g}$. Cathode bias to protect the tube against excessive plate dissipation when excitation is removed is provided by the drop across $R_{\rm k}$. $R_{\rm sg}$ is the screen-dropping resistor. A British amateur, G2JAM, has developed a novel circuit which eliminates the need for the screen and cathode resistors and their bypass capacitors $C_{\rm sg}$. His circuit is shown in Fig. 2.



In the revised circuit, the screen grid operates with zero d.c. voltage. Its operating potential (approximately 150 volts) is supplied by the positive halfcycles of the r.f. driving signal. Class C bias for the control grid is obtained through the drop across R_g as in Fig. 1. There is no need for protective cathode bias because in the absence of driving voltage, the screen is at zero and plate current is at or nearly zero.



The simplified circuit in Fig. 2 is one of the doublers used in G3JAM's allband exciter described in *The Short Wave Magazine*, a British amateur publication.

This circuit is applicable to circuits using tubes where the screen-grid voltage is only about five or six times cutoff bias. END

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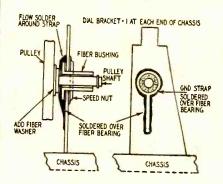




TECHNOTES

RCA 2XF-91 DIAL DRIVE

Dial-cord slippage is a frequent complaint on the RCA 2XF-91 a.c.-d.c. AM-FM receiver. The AM and FM pointers and drive pulleys are mounted on fiber bushings to insulate them from the chassis. Seemingly, the speed fasteners used on this model are not sufficient to hold the bearing against the tension of the dial cord, because time after time, they have loosened up shortly after I've tightened them. This consumes the technician's time and can be dangerous to the set owner when the bearings loosen enough to let the pulleys drag on the chassis brackets. This places the metal dial pointers at chassis potential which may be 117 volts above ground under some conditions.



To correct this condition permanently, solder a volume-control ground strap over the lip of each fiber bushing as shown in the illustrations. The straps supplied with most replacement volume controls are just right for the job. They are large enough for soldering to the mounting bracket and thin enough to fit in the available space.

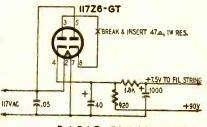
Before reinstalling the dial-drive pulleys in their bushings be sure to insert a thin insulating washer between the pulleys and the surface of the volume control ground strap. This insulates the pulleys from the chassis and eliminates the possibility of shock to anyone touching the dial pointers. If the insulating washer is too thick, file enough material from the small end of the fiber bearing to allow the C washer to slip into the slot on the pulley shaft.— *George D. Philpott*

CROSLEY 56PA 3-WAY PORTABLE

A number of these sets have come in for servicing with the complaint that the 3V4 output tube burns out frequently when the set is used on a.c.

The burnouts occur most often when the set is first turned on, so the trouble is probably caused by a voltage surge which occurs as the filter capacitors charge.

I have cleared up this trouble and



RADIO-ELECTRONICS

TECHNOTES

minimized callbacks by removing the jumper between terminals 3 and 8 on the 117Z6-GT socket and inserting a 47-ohm, 1-watt resistor between these points. The diagram shows the powersupply circuit of this set.—George R. Anglado

MOPAR 606

The complaint was intermittent reception with occasional traces of smoke coming from the receiver chassis. This trouble is caused by an intermittent short in the spark-plate on the i.f. chassis at the point where the B plus lead connects to the second i.f. transformer. This overheats and damages the 1,000ohm filter resistor on the power and audio chassis.

Replace the spark plate or disconnect it and install a suitable B plus bypass capacitor. Replace the 1,000-ohm resistor in the filter circuit.—Harry C. Keller

WESTINGHOUSE TV SETS

Faint light and dark vertical lines on the left of the raster may be caused by ringing in the horizontal linearity coil. It can usually be suppressed by shunting a 5,000-ohm resistor across the coil. --Marty Britt

PACKARD-BELL TV SETS

The set came in with no high voltage. The entire horizontal sweep string seemed to be dead. I could not drive the output stage with an external oscillator. All voltages were near normal except the horizontal oscillator and the grid and cathode of the 6BG6-G. Plate voltage was low at pin 5 of the 6SN7-GT oscillator and a.f.c. tube.

After removing and checking most of the horizontal components without success, I tried replacing the horizontal oscillator transformer. The set's performance returned to normal. I had previously checked and rechecked this transformer with an ohmmeter without finding anything wrong. Apparently the defective unit had a few shorted turns deep within its winding.

The external sweep oscillator would not drive the output stage because I had overlooked the fact that the circuit returns to 100 volts negative and I had not used the correct ground return.— E. V. Snider, Jr. END



"You wear the antenna in place of your usual tie"





CORRESPONDENCE

HIGH-FIDELITY SPEAKERS *Dear Editor*:

H. A. Hartley's Part I of his article on High-Fidelity Loudspeakers shows, by far and away, the best approach to this subject I have ever seen. By this I mean very definitely to indict the many mathematical approaches to this subject which are all but worthless; even, I strongly suspect, to those who made them. My hat is off to Mr. Hartley for a down-to-earth appraisal based on physical concepts and good ears.

His reference to Hans Vogt's Oscilloplan capacity speaker is much to the point. I spent several days with Mr. Vogt at Berlin in 1930 and brought back one of these speakers with its high-voltage rectifier, and polarizingvoltage supply apparatus. All of this I still have in my laboratory.

Mr. Hartley-through no fault of his own-credits Rice and Keilogg with the introduction of the first real dynamic speaker in 1926-27. I would like to make claim to an earlier date; for in 1921, while developing the first electro-phonographic recording and reproducing apparatus for the Brunswick-Balke, Collender Co., in Chicago, I produced such speakers. One of these used the earliest Magnavox electrodynamic horn-loaded speaker to which Mr. Hartley refers, but fitted with a very thin and radially-ribbed (and therefore, very stiff and light) diaphragm provided with a tensioned, thin, annular rubber ring at its edge for support. This replaced the circularly-ribbed diaphragm normally provided with these speakers. Its high frequency response was not thereby impaired, but the bass was phenomenal and smooth. The other of these used a massive electromagnetic pot 12 inches in diameter and 4 inches high, with a 2-inch diameter voice coil and a 12-inch diameter, flat, thin, radially-ribbed, aluminum diaphragm as a direct, hornless radiator. Its outer edge was also supported by thin, stretched rubber.

But these speakers had what I then termed "transient dissonance," when reproducing music, due to too low a damping rate of the moving system. This caused the residual vibration (mostly of the diaphragm and voice coil from one tone) to beat with other tones after the tone in question had quit the stage. This speaker defect is now finally being recognized, and efforts are being made to suppress it by electrodynamic damping of the voice coil itself, or by inverse feedback, high flux density in the air gap, and the like. The ideal condition here, of course, is an aperiodic moving system, which is what, in effect, Mr. Hartley says, when he speaks of a speaker without "personality," or with absolutely no resonance.

Mr. Hartley mentions briefly a nodal vibration pattern (Fig. 5) due to axial compliance of the cone. There appears to have been no general notice of this defect among speaker engineers.

It is due to a standing-wave pattern (for a fixed frequency) caused by interference between the direct wave





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CORRESPONDENCE

motion from the voice coil vibration source and the reflected wave from the cone edge support. Aurally, it shows up as a wholly foreign frequency tone, usually an octave lower than the test frequency, and is generally in about the 1,000-1,500 c.p.s. frequency range. Speakers rated at say 50 watts can only be used at 8 or 10 watts input due to this "cone break-up." Radial ribbing near the cone rim can cope with the tendency for the cone to develop the "flower" nodal pattern, but these circular corrugations have no appreciable effect on the other type. (Fig. 5). Shallow cones are especially subject to this (Fig. 5) effect.

I have found an effective solution for this, by using cemented-on, radial stiffening tubes (experimentally I've used 32 common, paper, soda straws for this). A frequency-sound level output curve shows only a 1 to 3 db drop in sound level at some parts of the audio range when directly compared with an otherwise identical (Jensen) 12-inch electrodynamic speaker, but the power handling ability is much higher.

As to directional effects: in 1926, I published measurements on cone, horn and flat diaphragm transducers (both microphones and speakers). While with the Brunswick Co. (1921), I used flat horns with vertical slot openings to give a more nearly uniform dispersion from low to high frequencies. I even had a very narrow, axial slit along one side of the horn to prevent horn resonances, and these horns were lined with sheet lead to reduce side wall resonance of the (wood) enclosure.

The non-uniform directional effects of speakers produce a serious and not yet fully recognized type of distortion. Comparing the acoustic situation with a visual analogue, the loudspeaker is like a lamp which generates white light of all visible frequencies from near infra-red to near ultra-violet. It should equally illuminate all parts of a room with the mixture of separate frequencies contained in its white light. The lamp, we will assume, is the ideal, aperiodic-moving-system loudspeaker. with every link in the chain leading up to it from the original sound source, perfect in every respect. This includes the loudspeaker cone, as to flat frequency response, linear power response, and no harmonic, intermodulation, or other defects, such as extraneous noise or tones.

However, this lamp light must pass from its source through a sort of prismatic device which strongly refracts the light rays, so that the highest frequency, violet-end-of-the-spectrum rays are concentrated, beam-like, along the lamp's axis, instead of spreading uniformly all around. The medium-frequency blue and green waves are less concentrated in a broader beam; the lowest, from yellow to orange and to red frequencies spread more and more uniformly all around the room.

As a result of this, there is no place in the room where one can see the desired, white light. Way off of the light

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INDIANA TECHNICAL COLLEGE 1754 E. Washington Blvd., Fort Wayne 2, Indiana axis, one sees mostly red and orange, while between these points and the axis, the light color is generally yellow to green. As we approach the axis, the color changes again to blue and finally violet, because the longer wave lengths there are very weak, due to their spreading out through such a wide angle. This of course, assumes a room with completely absorptive walls, floor and ceiling, such as an anti-echoic room or no room at all. A room-enclosed speaker is not as bad as the above analogue would depict since the reflections tend to equalize, at least near the room boundaries, the various frequency sounds of the acoustic spec-trum. But as one approaches closer and closer to the speaker, the analogue is more and more nearly a true one, since there the relative amplitude of direct and reflected sounds are vastly different.

Practically nothing has ever been done commercially to solve this problem of direct-radiator, single speakers. The ideal type of sound radiator would of course consist of a pulsating, spherical surface. A radiator of very small dimensions, at least as small or preferably smaller than the wavelength of the highest sound to be reproduced would also answer the problem.

The very early "speaking arc light" is an example of such a radiator but the thermal modulations of the ionized air in the arc would have to be very great to derive sufficient sound energy from such a small-area source, and the arc would have to be energized by a current of ultra-sonic frequency, modulated by audio frequencies. A horn speaker with a horizontal, annular slot opening is helpful, except for the variable-phase relations at any given listening point of sound waves from diametrically opposite sides of the annular slot.

As previously mentioned, a horn with a narrow, vertical slot opening will spread the frequencies laterally around the room, and at the same time confine the radiation in a horizontal, fanlike beam, but this is still subject to some of the same objections, due to the variable dispersion through the vertical planes of its radiation.

I have wrestled with this problem over many years and perhaps others have also; it is an elusive one but, if solved, will do much toward that longsought solution for perfect reproduction of sound.

We have come closer to this goal but the loudspeaker is still the imperfect link in the chain.

BENJAMIN J. MIESSNER Morristown, N. J. END

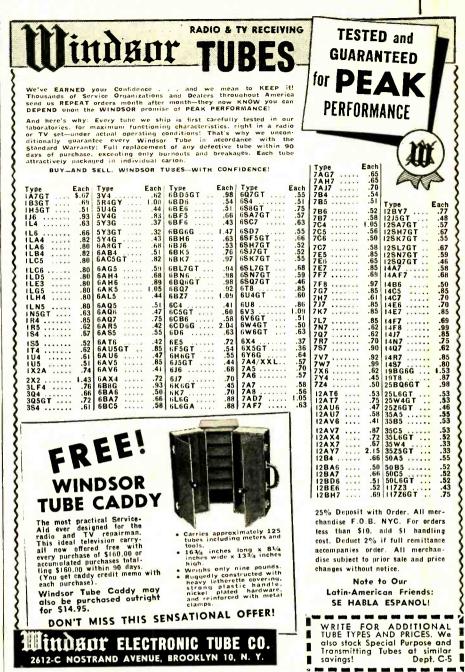
CORRECTION

Our printer inadvertently inverted the formula on page 137 of the November, 1953, issue. The formula, used for finding one wavelength (in inches) at the center of a u.h.f. TV channel, should read:

11,800

 $\lambda (inches) = \frac{1}{(6 \times u.h.f. channel No.) + 389}$ We thank C. A. Tracy, of Sewickley, Pa., for this correction.

MAY, 1954



OPPORTUNITY ADLETS

Rates—45¢ per word (including name, address and initials). Minimum ad 10 words. Cash must accompany all ads except those placed by arcredited agencies. Disrount, 10% for 12 consecutive issues, Misleading or objectionable ads not accepted. Copy for July issuemust reach us before May 21, 1954.

Radio Electronics. 25 W, Broadway. New York 7. N. Y.

PASS AMATEUR THEORY EXAMS, CHECK YOUR-SELF with sample FCC-type questions and novice and general class examinations, All for only 50e, American Electronics, 1203E Bryan Ave., New York 59, New York,

STEAKER REPAIRS ON ALL MAKES, Jobbers wanted, Amprite Speaker Service, 70 Vesey St., New York 7, N. Y.

RADIO REPAIR SHOP AND FOUR RENTAL UNITS ON ACRE. Stock. Furniture. Station Wagon-genuine. Any trial. Retiring \$12,000-half cash. C. E. Buckingham, 1728 G Street, Sacramento, California.

DIAGRAMS FOR REPAIRING RADIO \$1.00 TELEVI-SION \$2.00, Give make and model. Diagram Service, Box 672-RE, Hartford, Conn.

TEST EQUIPMENT REPAIRED AND CALIBRATED by factory staff, All makes, Solar, Simpson, Triplett, Heath, etc., Immediate service, Douglas Instrument Laboratory, 176a Norfolk Avenue, Boston 19, Mass. TUBES-TV. RADIO. TRANSMITTING. AND SPECIAL PURPOSE TYPES BOUGHT. SOLD AND EXCHANGED. Send details to B. N. Gensler W2LNI. 136 Liberty. N. Y. 6, N. Y.

ALL MAKES OF ELECTRICAL INSTRUMENTS AND TESTING equipment repaired. Write for free catalogue on new and used instruments at a savings. Hazelton Instrument Co., 128 Liberty Streel, New York, N. Y.

SALESMEN WANTED-SELL AT MANUFACTURERS, LOW PHICES-Television Wire to Retail Outlets, 10% commission on Original and Repeat orders. All Territories Open, King Mfg. Co., 45 Huron Road, Mohegan Heights, Yonkers, New York.

BUILD YOUR OWN ELECTRONIC ORGAN, OR MINIA-TURE electronic brain. Jim Kirk, W6JKN, 1552 Church Street, San Francisco 14, California.

WANTED: AN/APR-4, other "Al'R-", "TS-", "IE-", ARC-1, ARC-3, ART-13, BT-348, etc. Microwave Equipment, Everything Surplus, Special tubes, Tee Manuals, Lab Quality Equipment, Meters, Fast Action, Fair Treatment, Top Dollar! Littell, Fairhills Box 26, Dayton 9, Ohio.

COMMUNITY TV OPERATORS: FOR SALE 80' Twin Steel Tower, 20' catwalks, 25' top extensions. Paid \$1050: sell for half. Pocono TV Relay, Inc., Stroudsburg, Pa.

ALUMINUM TUBING, ANGLE AND CHANNEL. Plain and perforated sheet. Willard Radeliff, Fostoria, Ohio,

TELEVISION SETS \$30 UP. W4API, 1420 SOUTH Randolph, Arlington 4, Virginia.

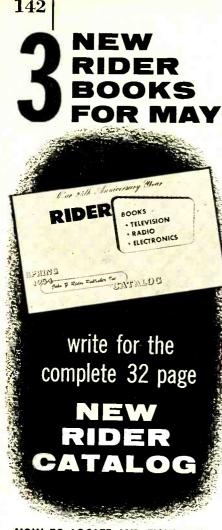
TV FM ANTENNAS. ALL TYPES INCLUDING UUF. Mounts. accessories, Lowest prices. Wholesale Supply Co., Lunenburg 2, Mass.

141

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111



HOW TO LOCATE AND ELIMINATE **RADIO & TV INTERFERENCE** by Fred D. Rowe,

Northern California Electricity Bureau

An expert from the Northern California Electricity

TECHNICIAN'S GUIDE TO TV PICTURE TUBES by Ira Remer

A picture tube servicing guide for the television installation and repair man. Covers the care, methods of handling, replacement maintenance and repair of the picture tube. It is written for the technician who desires basic and specific information on the picture tube and its accessories (in-cluding conversion) without wading through reams of technical data, complicated circuit explanations. 140 (51/2 x 81/2") pages, illus\$2.40

FUNDAMENTALS OF TRANSISTORS

by Leonard Krugman

The transistor is now evolved to a point where it is suitable for many applications, both as a direct replacement and as a supplement to electron tubes. An expert has consolidated in practical form for the repair man, the engineer, the hobbyist and the en-gineering student the explanation and application of the transistor. Basic transistor operation, characteristics, performance and applications are explained explained. \$2 70

160 (51/2 x 81/2") pages, illus..... Buy these books now from your jobber, bookstore -if not available from these sources, write to:



PEOPLE

Charles A. Hansen joined Gramer



turing Co. He is past chairman of the Association of Electronic Parts

tributor

Jensen

Manufacturers and former president of the Electronic Parts Show.

F. Birney Farrington, founder of Xcelite, Inc., Orchard Park, N. Y., hand tool

manufacturing firm, was elected president at the annual stockholders' meeting. Other officers include John O. Olsen, vice-president, and Clarence Schwabel, secretary. Arch Warden, sales manager, was newly elected to the office of treasurer.



F, B. Farrington

Warren M. Stuart, former Central District manager for Belden Manufactur-



Philadelphia territory.

ing Co., Chicago, was promoted to sales development manager. He will continue as manager of the East Central District. Robert N. Alvis was promoted to West Central Dis-

trict Manager, and Edwin D. Stull, Jr., formerly in Belden's Mid-Western Sales Service Division, was transferred to the

George Kollar joined Finney Co., Cleveland, as special assistant to M. L. Fin-

ney, Jr., sales manager. He will initiate and co-ordinate the company's field promotion program. Kollar was formerly with Streator Brick Co. At the same time, Victor Trebules, formerly of the mechanical engineer-



G. Kollar

can Screen Prod-

ucts Co., Miami,

Fla. He will be in charge of sales of

television antennas

and accessories

which he formerly

designed for the company as a con-

ing department, was promoted to the position of plant superintendent.

Ralph C. Powell was named product manager of Ameri-



R. C. Powell



Address.

City.....State

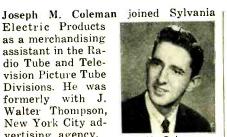
RADIO-ELECTRONICS

www.americanradiohistory.com

sultant.



Electric Products as a merchandising assistant in the Radio Tube and Television Picture Tube Divisions. He was formerly with J. Walter Thompson, New York City advertising agency.



J. M. Coleman

Obituaries

2

Walter R. Jones, Professor of Electrical Engineering at Cornell University, and an authority on the design and con-struction of vacuum tubes, died of a heart attack in Ithaca, N. Y. Before going to Cornell in 1948, Jones spent 19 years with Sylvania.

Fred Aylesworth, of the Chicago Standard Transformer Corp. sales staff in the Southern California area, died at his home in Hollywood, Calif. He was a pioneer in the radio industry.

Personnel Notes

... Roger H. Bolin was appointed manager of general advertising for Westinghouse Electric Corp., succeeding Harry J. Deines, who joined the J. Walter Thompson Co., New York advertising agency. Bolin was previously assistant to J. M. McKibbin, vice-president and general manager in charge of the Westinghouse Consumer Products Division.

. . A. C. "Chuck" Elles joined I. D. E. A., Inc., Indianapolis, Ind., manufacturers of Regency boosters and converters, as assistant industrial sales manager. He will work under E. M. Sheridan, industrial sales manager, primarily with Radell Corp., an affiliate company.

. . Clark C. Rodimon rejoined Raytheon Manufacturing Co., Waltham, Mass., as staff assistant to the manager of Government contracts. For the past four years, Rodimon was with National Co., and Melpar, Inc.

. . Seymour Mintz was appointed president of CBS-Columbia, Long Island City, N. Y., and a vice-president and director of Columbia Broadcasting System. He was formerly vice-president of Admiral Corp. He succeeds David Cogan who resigned as president of CBS-Columbia and vice-president of CBS.

. . . Robert L. Parrish was named manager of the new Sprague Electric Co. plant in West Jefferson, N. C. He had been associated with the main plants in North Adams, Mass., for some time.

. Elmore E. "Kay" Kayser joined Krylon, Inc., Philadelphia, Pa., as advertising and sales promotion manager. He was formerly with Sun Oil Co.

. . . Gene Royster was named administrative assistant in the Sales Department of Merit Coil & Transformer Corp., Chicago, Ill.

MAY, 1954

Here's all you do. Insert one edge of Insert one evaluation of split-washer into hole . . . twist . . . and entire bottom of mounting base slips into position beneath cowl or fender.

NLY **LMAN**

is needed

TO INSTALL THE FAMOUS

HADELCO

CREW BALL "

AUTO ANTENNA

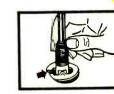


2 Slide ball-top into place over mounting hole ... adjust antenna to proper angle ... tighten ... and the mounting job is done. Quickly! Easily!

Entire mounting job is done from the top. It's speedily and easily installed by one man ... and without the use of special tools or gadgets.

There is absolutely nothing like it on the market! The "screw" portion of the assembly assures quick and economical installation. The "ball" provides angular adjustment for every type of cowl or fender contour.

MANUFACTURING CO. 7560 G			5, OHIO
RADELCO 7690 C	EZ-2 EZ-3	\$3.55 5.10	2-49" 3-57"
ATTRACTIVELY LOW PRICED	MODEL	LIST	SECLEN.



IT'S THE EASIEST AND QUICKEST

OF ALL ANTENNAS TO INSTALL!



IT'S

BETTER

DIFFEREN

PEOPLE

... Jno. J. Cahill, well-known West Coast advertising man and sales executive, joined Ralph W. Harker & Assoc., Los Angeles, advertising representative for RADIO-ELECTRONICS. Cahill will head the San Francisco office. Robert A. Harker, son of the founder of the firm, will be Cahill's associate in the San Francisco office.

... C. Russell Feldmann, New York industrialist and chairman of the Board of National Union Radio Corp., Hatboro, Pa., was elected president of the company. He succeeds Kenneth C. Meinken who resigned.

... Anthony L. Conrad, former manager of the Technical Operations Section of RCA Service Co., Camden, N. J., was promoted to manager of the RCA Missile Test Project, Government Service Division. In 1953, Conrad received the RCA Victor Award of Merit, the company's highest award for salaried employees, for his work on guided missiles.

... Edmond I. Eger joined Admiral Corp., Chicago, as vice-president, advertising. For the past year he had been vice-president of Russel M. Seeds Co., Chicago advertising agency. Eger has been handling Admiral advertising.

... Oscar Kraut joined the sales staff of G & H Wood Products, Brooklyn, N. Y. He will handle the sale of the Cabinart line of cabinets in Metropolitan New York, upper New York State, and New England. He had been with both Arrow Electronics and Hudson Radio.

... Charles T. Carroll, former chief of Government Engineering for Hallicrafters, Chicago, was promoted to director of engineering.

... Eugene C. White was named product manager for General Electric industrial and transmitting tubes. His office is in the Tube Department headquarters in Schenectady, N. Y. He was formerly industrial specialist for the Tube Department.

... Ralph Mendel, manager of the Engineering Products Division of Radio Receptor Co., Brooklyn, N. Y., was upped to the post of vice-president in charge of the division.

... Raymond L. Johnson joined the Instrument Division of Allen B. Du Mont Laboratories, Clifton, N. J., as technical sales engineer. He was formerly with the Public Service Electric & Gas Co.

... H. J. Tutwiler and Lt. Commander Thomas A. Marshall, U.S.N. (ret.) joined Miller Television, Burbank, Calif., as national sales manager and development engineer respectively. Tutwiler has spent a lifetime in selling and Marshall has held many naval assignments in radar, and radio work.

END

Your customers... and your cash register... will tell you... hallicrafters

are the finest—fastest selling on the market!

SHORT WAVE RECEIVERS

F^{OR} twenty years hams all over the world have agreed that Hallicrafters receivers – dollar for dollar–are the finest on the market. They are in a class by themselves.

Your own customers know this. They talk about it—on the air and off. They will tell you—so will your cash register—Hallicrafters is the fastest moving, most profitable line you can handle!

Stock — Feature — Display Hallicrafters — IT PAYS!



Finest buy in SW-the S-38C The 38-C is the finest buy in all shortwave. 540 kc to 32 mc in four bands. Broadcast reception that far exceeds ordinary sets. Maximum sensitivity per tube. Built-in speaker. Has band-spread control. 4 tubes plus rectifier. Operates on 115 V AC or DC.



Amateur's favorite — the 5-40B

2

Electrical band-spread tuning to separate crowded stations. Switches for automatic noise limiter, code reception, three position tone control. One r-f, two i-f stages. Broadcast plus three short-wave bands, 1680 kc to 44 mc. Built-in speaker \$119.95

The Name is Famous 4401 West Fifth Avenue Chicago 24, Illinois Radio • Television • High Fidelity RADIO-ELECTRONICS

ers

Miniature Phenolic Switches

Centralab

New!

They're small in size! They provide flexibility! They offer positive protection!

Dependability that gives you confidence. Flexibility that helps you do a better job! These are things you can count on getting in Centralab's new PA-1000 Series. See for yourself:

You get high-strength, high-resin, laminated phenolic insulation that exceeds Phenolic Standards Grade XXX.

You get one-piece shaft construction for accurate indexing. Adjustable stop permits selection of positions or continuous rotation (11 active positions, 1 off-position).

You get steatite spacers with nickelplated brass shafts, bushings, tierods, and nuts. All other metal parts are treated to pass 50-hour salt-spray test — a must for applications in a humid or salt atmosphere.

You can get complete switches or separate miniature phenolic sections, index assemblies, hardware, and accessories.

That's only part of the PA-1000 story. Get it all — send coupon for Centralab catalog sheet 28-1.

Then order Centralab Miniature Phenolic Rotary Switches from your Centralab distributor. SEE US AT BOOTH 790.

SEE US AT BOOTH 790.

CENTRALAB, A Division of Globe-Union Inc. 922E E. Keefe Ave., Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Send me Centralab catalog sheet 28-1.
Name
Company
Address
CityZoneState.
*

ELECTRONIC LITERATURE

Any or all of these catalogs, bulletins, ar periodicals are available to you an request direct to the manufacturers, whase addresses are listed at the end of each item. Use your letterhead—do nat use pastcards. To facilitate identification, mentian the issue and page af RADIO-ELECTRONICS on which the item appears. All literature affers vaid after six months.

SUBMINIATURE CAPACITORS

Dumont—Airplane & Marine Instruments has issued Catalog 53 on their Milcaps (glass-to-metal hermetically sealed subminiature capacitors) which are designed to meet the operating requirements of military specifications MIL-C-25A.

The 17 pages are devoted to the electrical and physical characteristics of their various capacitors of the stabilized Halowax, mineral oil, and Duroil types.

Request Catalog No. 53 from Dumont —Airplane & Marine Instruments, Inc., Clearfield, Pa.

ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS

Stackpole's 56-page Catalog RC-9 gives electrical and mechanical specifications and application data on their complete line of fixed and variable composition resistors, line and slide switches, fixed composition capacitors, powdered-iron cores, molded coil forms, and ferromagnetic cores.

Copies available free on letterhead request to Stackpole Carbon Co., St. Mary's, Pa.

MASTER TV SYSTEMS

Blonder-Tongue has released a new manual, *How to Install Master TV Systems*, which includes complete instructions and diagrams covering all phases of planning and installation.

Antenna installation, choice of transmission lines, signal amplification and distribution to TV sets are all clearly explained and illustrated with charts and tables.

Available at no charge from the Blonder-Tongue Sales Dept., 526 North Ave., Westfield, N. J.

HYBRID JUNCTIONS

Microwave Development Laboratories has released a bulletin on short-slot hybrid junctions, which describes special features and gives electrical and physical characteristics of these units which have found wide application in high-frequency radar and communications. Some applications are illustrated and described.

Obtainable gratis on request to Microwave Development Luboratories, Inc., 220 Grove St., Waltham 54, Mass.

WIRE-WOUND RESISTORS

IRC's 4-page Bulletin D-1 gives comprehensive data on characteristics, applications, construction, ranges, ratings, tolerances, terminals, insulation, temperature coefficients, and derating of MIL type wire-wound resistors. The bulletin is illustrated with photographs, charts, and graphs.

you NPN Tra	's production chang nsistors at this sense amplifiers, oscillation	ges now make i ational price. U rs, keyers, R.F.	& I.F. amplifiers.	\$ 9	95
First quality	units! Guaranteed	GROUNDED OSCILLAT	BASE GRO	UNDED EMITTER DOSCILLATOR	
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with any order We guarantee the same day th All our tubes a TYPE PRICE 024 PRICE 143 151 146 51 146 51	TYPE PRICE GQ7 .40 GA84 .43 GA85 .52 GA444GT .65 GA55 .96 GA45 .96 GA45 .96 GA45 .96 GA45 .96 GA45 .48 GA76 .37 GA76 .37 GA76 .37 GAV6GT .60 GAX6GT .60 GAX6GT .60 GAX6GT .60 GAX6GT .68 GBA76 .58 GBA76 .48 GBA7 .48 GBA7 .48 GBA7 .48 GBF5	TYPE TYPE	7% 6U8 78 6V3 GT 90 6W4GT 95 6W6GT 95 6X5GT 41 6X8 51 7F7 1.65 12A15 40 12AU7 1.05 12AV6 61 12AV7 1.05 12AV6 61 12AV7 1.65 12B47 45 12B47 45 12B47 60 12EY7 71 12B27 38 12B46 60 12EY7 71 12B27	48 125k 43 125k 53 125k 37 125k 38 125k 49 25k6 49 25k7 43 25k7 43 25k7 43 25k6 43 35k6 43 35k6 43 35k6 43 35k7 43 35k6 500 354 46 504 46 504 46 504 46 504 455 117	7GT 51 7GT 31 6G 1.44 77GT 4 6GT 4 4GT 4 4GT 4 4GT 4 4GT 4 4GT 4 4GT 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 5 5 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4



Free from International Resistance Co., 401 N. Broad St., Philadelphia 8, Pa.

ELECTRONIC PARTS

Clum's 7-page 1954 catalog describes and illustrates antennas for radios and crystal sets, TV coils, video clears (interference eliminators), r.f. chokes, terminal strips, and oscillator coils.

Available without charge from Clum Mfg. Co., 601 W. National Ave., Milwaukee 4, Wis.

BRACKET-MOUNTED SOCKETS

Dialight's 24-page, 2-color catalog, L-154, describes bracket-mounted sockets used in electrical appliances, equipment, and instruments. They are divided into groups, of those with soldering terminals or those with wire leads. Schematic diagrams with dimensions occupy the left-hand pages. On the right-hand pages are descriptions of the sockets, with suggested lamp types.

Units described fall into five groups, and for each group a choice of 12, 14, or 15 basic types of mounting brackets are illustrated. Units are UL approved.

Available without charge from Dialight Corp., 58 Stewart Ave., Brooklyn 37, N. Y.

HIGH-TEMPERATURE UNITS

Astron has published a technical data bulletin on the high-temperature capacitors in their metallized paper line. These capacitors are designed for operation over a range of -55° to $+125^{\circ}$ C.

The bulletin, AB-19, describes the standard sizes, ratings, mounting styles, and engineering characteristics.

Copies may be secured by writing to Astron Corp., 255 Grant Ave., East Newark, N. J.

ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS

Development, Design and Production is a 6-page brochure describing these aspects of electronic equipment manufacture at the Rollins Corp.

The brochure describes the operation and the type of products manufactured. Included in the corporation's product line are all types of transformers, filters, control units, and subassemblies. Copies are available free from Department 101, Rollins Corp., Lewes, Del.

COIL DATA

Meissner's Catalog 54-A contains 83 schematics covering approximately 300 coils, cross references to competitors' numbers, 62 new TV coils, a new r.f. heater supply, and complete listings of its hi-fi components and kits.

Gratis from Dept. C, Thordarson-Meissner, Mount Carmel, Ill.

AUTO SPEAKER

Utah Radio's Catalog AR100 lists the correct replacement speaker for more than 95% of all auto radio speakers. It is indexed by make of auto, receiver manufacturer, receiver model number, and speaker part number.

Available free from Utah Radio Products Co., Inc., 1123 E. Franklin St., Huntington, Ind. END

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incorrectly

PRACTICAL TRAINING MANUAL (Volume 1, Basic Radio). Published by Howard W. Sams & Co., Inc., 2205 E. 46th St., Indianapolis 5, Ind., 8³/₄ x 10³/₄ inches, spiral binding, 240 pages. Price \$5.00. This manual is a combined text and workbook prepared from lectures, laboratory and classroom material used by one of the country's largest trade schools. It can be used alone as a basic text on radio theory but is at its best

when supplemented by one or two standard radio texts. The first section of 196 pages contains 36 lessons, each covering a basic phase of radio study. Each lesson begins with a statement of its objective. Next is the lesson content material broken down into paragraphs, sub-paragraphs, and sections. Each lesson concludes with a summary and a group of questions related to the text. Ruled lines are provided for writing the answers to the questions and for listing pertinent references. Schematic and pictorial diagrams, graphs, tables, and photographs are used to iliustrate the lesson.

The second section of the manual contains 13 suggested job projects or experiments designed to supplement the material in the first section. Each experiment or job lesson begins with a statement of the objective and references to lessons in the first section. Following the list of materials required is a step-by-step procedure for performing the experiment. A number of trueor-false questions are included at the end of each job lesson.

Although the manual is written as an aid to instructors, we feel that it will prove to be exceptionally useful to the self-taught technician, experimenter, and home constructor.—RFS

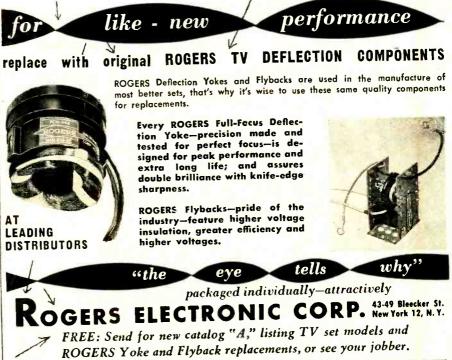
FIELDS and WAVES IN MODERN RADIO, Second Edition, by Simon Ramo and John R. Whinnery. Published by John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 440 Fourth Ave., N. Y., N. Y. 6 x 9 inches, 576 pages. Price \$8.75. This text is a second edition, con-

This text is a second edition, considerably expanded from the first (see RADIO-CRAFT, November 1944) to include postwar developments in electromagnetic theory.

As might be expected, most of the new material in the text is related to microwaves. Slow-wave guiding structures and other miscellaneous systems have been added. The chapter on radiation includes new material on horns, slot antennas, paraboloids, and receiving antennas. Outstanding among this new material, is the chapter on microwave networks. Definitions and network theorems are developed. The chapter is very strong on waveguide junctions and cavity coupling, concluding with simple discontinuities and analytical approaches.

The helix as a guiding system was chosen because it illustrates the behavior of waves with phase velocities less than the velocities of light, the sectoral horn guide because it illustrates the phenomenon of a gradual cutoff, and the wedge guide because it so clearly illustrates the principle of quality.—JK

MAY, 1954



Non-mathematical home study course **••TV STUDIO OPERATIONS**?? helps you grow with television

The four major networks cooperated with CREI in the preparation of this course (so up-to-date it contains two lessons on the approved color system). Non-mathematical but *not* non-technical, it is for broadcast engineers and technicians who must convert to tv, as well as for inexperienced personnel who want to increase their income in the rapidly expanding field of television operations. Field-tested for more than a year, course is backed by CREI's 27 years of technical teaching experience, by 15 years experience with our own tv studio facilities, by engineering leaders in the industry. You proceed at own speed in spare time; does not interfere with your present work. For complete details-course outlines and costs--use coupon today.



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Step-by-step information on all types of commercial re-ceivers—how to install, serv-ice, and repair them. Shows

hee, and repair them. Shows how to do most testing with just three pieces of equipment: vacuum-tube voltmeter, oscilloscope, and alignment generator. Dozens of trouble-shoot-ing charts... suggestions about going into a servicing business. By Carter V. Rabinoff, Dean; and Magdalena Wolbrecht. Vice-Pres, Amer. TV Lab. of Calif. 560 pp., 375 illus. \$7.50.

TELEVISION FUNDAMENTALS

FUNDAMENTALS Written by General Electric Co. experts, this book gives a simple presentation of basic TV principles that a radio technician must know to advance to TV service and installation work. The treatment is sound and theoretical, describing each element of the receiver from antenna to pic-ture tube. Includes practical installation pro-cedures, and trouble-shooting charts for quick spotting of receiver faults. By Kenneth Fowler and Harold B. Lippert, both of the General Elec-tric Co. 524 pp. 444 illus., \$7.00

RADIO OPERATING QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

Thorough, easy-to-study book gives you complete "passing" answers to every single question in the latest FCC "Study Guide and Reference Material for Commercial Radio Operator Examinations." Material is grouped by topics, such as Laws, Power Supplies, and Theory. Covers everything in the exam, including the advanced material on aircraft radiotelegraph and ship radar. By J. L. Hornung, Hopkins Engr., Co., and Alexander A. McKen-zie, Assoc. Ed., *Electronics*. 11th Ed. 345 pp. 139 illus., over 1900 answers, \$6,00

Principles of RADAR

KAUAK Deals with the fundamental concepts and techniques of pulse radar. Describes the general features of radar sys-tems and system components : discusses pulse cir-uits and their application to radar modulators, indicators, and receivers. Covers radio-frequency aspects of radar, including basic concepts pertain-ing to transmission lines, wave-guides, cavity resonators, and antennas, and the techniques of their use in radar systems. By the Massachusetts Inst. of Technology Radar School Staff. Revised by J. F. Reintjes, MIT, and G. T. Coate, formerly of MIT. 3rd Ed. 887 pp., 565 illus. \$7.73

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ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS Reference manual on 433 industrial electronic circuits for immediate practical use. For each circuit there is a clearly drawn diagram along with a brief yet comprehensive description— how it works, performance characteristics, appli-cations, etc. Values of all the important com-ponents are given to facilitate conversion of the theoretical circuit to actual practice. Contains all types of circuits, from counting to welding control, both simple and advanced. Brings you hundreds of war-developed industrial circuits. By John Markus, Associate Editor, and Vin Zeluff. Managing Editor of Electronics. 272 pp., 433 diagrams. \$7.50

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LOW-FREQUENCY AMPLIFICATION, by Dr. N. A. J. Voorhoeve. Published by the Philips Technical Library, Eindhoven, Holland. Distributed in the U.S. by Elsevier Press, Inc., 155 East 82 St., New York 28, N. Y. 6 x 9 inches, 497 pages. Price \$9.50.

BOOK REVIEWS

Occasionally a book is written with such meticulous care and thoroughness of detail that it becomes difficult to express the reader's satisfaction in words. Such a book is Low-Frequency Amplification

While the author's aim is to furnish the audio engineer with a thorough insight into the many subjects he may encounter in his practical work, the text is not excessively technical. When it does go into abstruse theoretical detail, such matter is printed in small type that may be skipped without destroying the continuity of the text,

The sequence of subjects is conventional. The book begins with a chapter on the principles of audio, and follows through with chapters on amplifier tubes; preamplification; output amplification; feedback; matching, control, and limiting; and electrical components. The author scrapes rock bottom, to a practical extent, on each topic. His discussion on feedback is particularly outstanding.

The latter half of the book discusses more integrated units such as power supplies, amplification systems, and radio relay systems. A discussion on the principles of acoustics and their applications in audio techniques is unusually comprehensive. The final text chapter, "Measurements on Sound Systems," covers the standard tests and measurements in great detail.

If the book has a weakness, it will be apparant only to the American reader. Written as part of the Philips Technical Library, the author consistently uses European tube types, equipment, and expressions.

Rich in bibliobraphy and copiously illustrated and diagrammed, Low-Frequency Amplification is by far the most comprehensive work on the subject yet published.-JK

DIAL CORD STRINGING GUIDE (DC-3 and DC-4). Published by Howard W. Sams & Co., Indianapolis, Ind. 5½ x 8½ inches. Pages not numbered. Price \$1.00 each.

These are Volumes 3 and 4 of the Dial Cord Stringing Guide. They show the service technician the correct and easiest way to restring the intricate dial-drive mechanisms on present-day automobile, AM, FM, communications, and TV receivers. The third volume (DC-3) has 394 dial-stringing diagrams, a short discussion on the properties of a good dial cord, and a few general notes on restringing dial-drive mechanisms. Volume DC-4 has 347 diagrams.

Both volumes have comprehensive indexes listing all receivers covered in previous editions. Volume and diagram numbers are given. Thus, the technician need look only in the latest volume to find the number of the diagram for the set being serviced. All diagrams are numbered consecutively .--- RFS END



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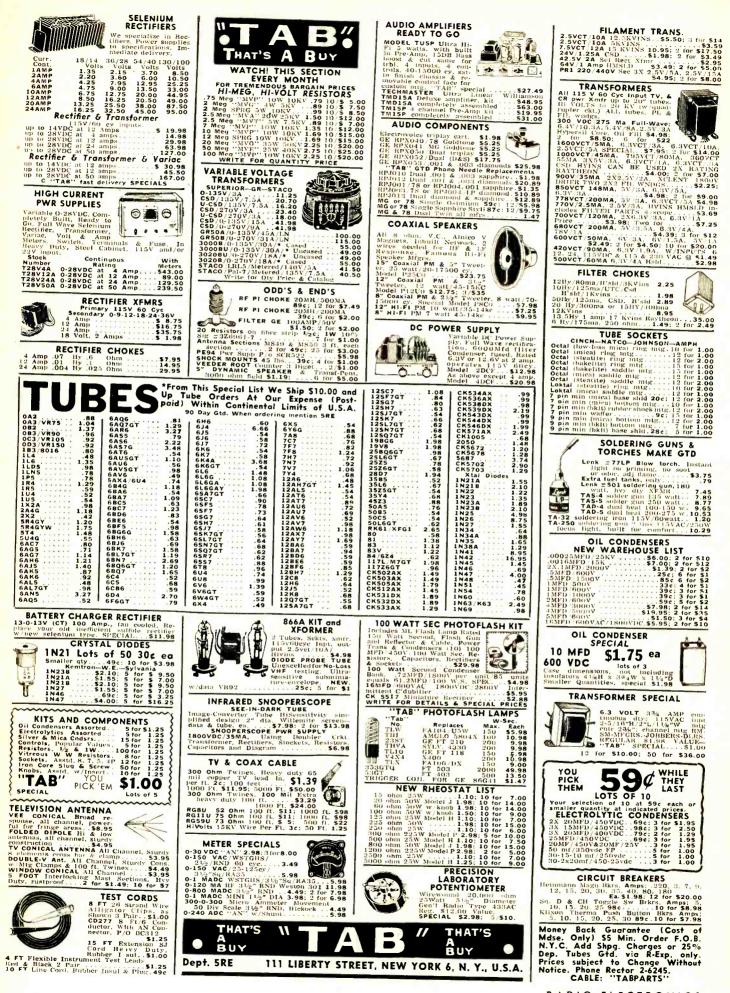
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