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A Midget Super

By H. G. Cisin



Fig. 1

The circuit of a compact superheterodyne for AC power supply with specially designed tuning inductance and ganged tuning control.

ERE is a midget superheterodyne circuit involving eight H ERE is a midget superheterodyne circuit involving eight tubes for amplification and detection and one for the B supply. Careful attention has been given to the selection in front of the first tube in order to suppress interference, especially of the image type. At first we have a small antenna coil L1 coupled loosely and inductively to a tuned circuit con-sisting of L2 and C1. This circuit in turn is coupled to another and similar circuit consisting of L3 and C2, which is connected across the input of the modulator or first detector. The oscillator is a typical of modern oscillators and consists of a tuned coil L4 with the condensers Co C4 and C3 and a

of a tuned coil L4 with the condensers Co C4 and C3 and a tickler coil L5. Only a part of the voltage developed across L4 is impressed on the grid of the oscillator tube, which is the first in the circuit. The grid is connected to the tap in order to minimize the intensity of oscillation and thus to prevent the generation of harmonic frequencies.

### Condensers Are Ganged

The tuning condensers are ganged as is customary in up-to-date superheterodynes and the ganging is made possible by the use of a condenser C4 in series with the oscillator tuning con-denser C3 and a small trimmer condenser Co across the two condensers in series.

condensers in series. The coupling between any two coils is obtained in the proper degree by placing the windings on one piece of tubing with the correct distance between them. This applies not only to the signal couplers but also the pick-up between the oscillator tuned circuit and the input circuit to the modulator. The diameter of the tubing on which all the coils are wound is 1.5 inches and the number of turns is as follows: L1, 12; L2, 82; L3, 82; L4, 82: L5, 41 turns. The distance between the nearest turns on adjacent coils are as follows: L1 L2, 1/8 inch:

L2 L3, 34 inch; L3 L4, 1/2 inch; L4 L5, 1/8 inch. All the wind-ings are wound with No. 29 enameled wire. The total length of the tubing is 6 inches, which gives about 1/2 inch space at each end for mounting purposes.

### The Modulator

The modulator or first detector operates on the negative bias principle, but the bias resistor R3 is only 2,000 ohms. This is quite satisfactory since utmost detecting efficiency is not essen-tial in view of the fact that the oscillator impresses a strong signal on it and the output is proportional to the oscillator pick-up. Moreover, the low bias makes the tube a good ampli-fier of the intermediate frequency signal generated. There are other advantages. For example, modulation hum and har-monic generation are minimized monic generation are minimized.

### The Audio Amplifier

There are two intermediate frequency amplifier tubes in the receiver, and three doubly tuned intermediate frequency amplifier tubes in the receiver, and three doubly tuned intermediate frequency trans-formers. There are therefore six tuned circuits, all tuned to a frequency of 175 kilocycles. The construction of the inter-mediate transformers is similar to that of the transformers described in a preceding issue of Radio World. Each winding is an 800 turn duolateral wound coil and the two of each trans-former are located preduce a band pass effect.

is an 800 turn duolateral wound coil and the two of each trans-former are loosely coupled to produce a band pass effect. The detector following the intermediate frequency amplifier operates on the bias principle like the modulator, but in this case the bias resistance R3, is 6,000 ohms. The detector works first into a filter consisting of two .0005 mfd. condensers C11 and C12 and an 800 turn choke coil L6. This coil may be one just like the coils in the intermediate frequency tuner. Note

## low to Buil Midget

that the common side of the condensers goes to the cathode of the detector tube. Following the filter is a 250,000 ohm coup-ling resistance R9, a 0.02 mfd. stopping condenser C13 and finally a one megohm grid leak R10. The first audio amplifier tube is a 227, the plate of which is fed through a 250,000 ohm resistor R12 which is connected to the highest voltage tap in the B supply. The grid bias resistor R11 should be 2,000 ohms. The first audio stage and the output stage are coupled by

The first audio stage and the output stage are coupled by means of an audio transformer T4 which is connected be-tween the plate and the cathode, with a 2 mfd. condenser C14 in series to keep out the direct current.

In series to keep out the direct current. The output stage contains two 245 tubes. The secondary of the input transformer is split and a 2mfd. condenser C15 is connected between the low potential terminals. Two 20,000 ohm resistors R13 and R14 are connected across the condenser and the junction of the two is joined to the ground lead.

### The Power Supply

A power supply is built into the circuit and consists of the power transformer T5 and a rectifier. There is one 2.5 volt winding which serves all the tubes in the circuit with the ex-ception of the rectifier. R1 across the 2.5 volt winding is a Humdinger and is used to balance the circuit for the elimina-tion of hum and R2 is the bias resistor for the output tubes. Its proper value is 750 ohms.

The total rectified voltage maintained by this B supply is

300 volts, sufficient for the bias and plate voltage for the 245 power tubes. The voltage for the plates of the screen grid tubes is lowered to the desired value by a potentiometer R16, which has a total resistance of 250,000 ohms. The voltage for the screens and the plate of the oscillator is dropped to the proper value by resistance R6, which has a value of 15,000 ohms. A resistance R8 of 10,000 ohms is put in the screen lead to the detector to prevent this voltage from being too. lead to the detector to prevent this voltage from being too high.

### Volume Control

Two means are provided for controlling the volume. First there is the 250,000 ohm potentiometer controlling the plate voltage on the screen grid tubes and then there is the variable

voltage on the screen grid tubes and then there is the variable resistance R15, a Tonatrol, by means of which the grid bias on the two intermediate frequency amplifiers may be varied. There is no choke coil shown in the B supply filter but terminals are provided for the insertion of a choke or two or a complete filter. These terminals are found at the extreme right lower corner of the diagram, Fig. 1. Compactness was the keynote in the design of this circuit, compactness without crowding. It is built on a chassis measuring 3.5 inches high, 12 inches long, and 10 inches deep. Most of the apparatus is mounted under the sub-panel, only the tubes, the tuning condensers, and the power transformers the tubes, the tuning condensers, and the power transformers being mounted on top. Besides the model illustrated, there is another one, using only one push-pull audio stage.

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#### **Ballast Resistor Values** By Einar Andrews 171-A 171-A 171-A 171-A. 232 232 230 232 230 232 1 RIS R23 R4 Rzz 6 1 **@ 6** R, OA Rz G 171-A 171-A 232 231 171-A 232 171-A 232 132 230

Fig. I Four different combinations of filaments illustrating the computation of ballast resistors.

• HE computation of ballast resistors for different tubes The computation of ballast resistors for different tubes and combinations of tubes, is somewhat of a problem and many have requested a discussion of the method used for determining the values. When all the tubes are the same with respect to filament voltage, or when each tube has its own ballast, the problem is very simple, but when combina-tions are used some thought is required to get the right values. The best way to discuss the problem is to explain twoiced

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tions are used some thought is required to get the right values. The best way to discuss the problem is to explain typical examples, and therefore we give a number of combinations in Fig. 1. Of the four circuits represented there the first, or the upper left, is the most complex. Here we have three 2 volt tubes, each drawing 60 milliamperes, on one ballast R1, and then we have two 171A tubes on a second ballast R2, through which the current of all the tubes flows. Suppose now that the filament battery voltage is six volts, what should the resist-ance of R1 be and what should that of R2 be? We start by determining the current that should flow through R2. Since the current of all the tubes flows through it, and no other current, we get the total by adding up the currents required by the five tubes. The two 171A tubes take 0.18 ampere, one-quarter each, and the three 2 volt tubes take 0.18 amperes, 0.06 each. Hence the total current through R2 is 0.68 ampere.

0.68 ampere.

amperes, 0.06 each. Hence the total current through K2 is 0.68 ampere. Next we have to determine what the voltage drop in R2 must be. We know that the 171A tubes require 5 volts across the filaments, and we have assumed that the voltage of the battery is 6 volts. Hence the drop in R2 must be one volt. By Ohm's law we find the resistance of R2 by dividing the voltage to be dropped by the current flowing through the resist-ance, or R2 = 1/.68 ohms. This gives 1.47 ohms. When this has been determined we go to R1. As before we first determine the current flowing through it. We just found it to be 0.18 amperes. Next we have to find the voltage drop in R1. We know that the first three tubes require 2 volts across the filaments, and we also know that the voltage across the 171A filaments is 5 volts. Since these are connected across the same points as the resistance R1 and the other filaments, the drop in R1 must be 3 volts, the difference between the filament voltages of the two different types of tubes, that is, 5 less 2. Hence resistance R1 is 3/.18 ohms, or 16.67 ohms. If these resistances are connected in the circuit voltmeter V1 should read 2 volts and V2 should read 5 volts, provided that the currents drawn by the voltmeters are so small that they are negligible in comparison with the filament combination of the filaments of the same tubes. In this case R4 should

they are negligible in comparison with the filament currents. The upper right circuit in Fig. 1 gives a different combination of the filaments of the same tubes. In this case R4 should be determined first. As before the voltage drop in this should be one volt and since the same current flows through it in this circuit as in the preceding, the resistance value should be the same. That is, R4 should be 1.47 ohms, obtained as before by dividing unity by 0.68. The 2 volt tubes have individual ballast resistances, and since all take the same current and the same terminal voltage.

all take the same current and the same terminal voltage,

the ballasts R1, R2, and R3 are the same. The current in each tube is 0.06 ampere and the voltage that must be dropped is 3 volts. Therefore each of these resistances should be 3/.06, or 50 ohms. That is just three times as much as resistance R1 in the preceding case.

RI

RzĘ

A

**A**6

7

In the lower left circuit all the tubes have individual resist-ances and therefore each must be treated separately. However, there are only two different resistances, because there are only two different tubes. The voltage drop in R1 must be 4 volts,

two different tubes. The voltage drop in R1 must be 4 volts, the difference between the battery voltage and the filament terminal voltage, and the current is 0.06 ampere. Hence R1 should be 4/.06, or 66.7 ohms. R2, and R3 are the same as R1. R4 is also the same as R5, and either is obtained by dividing unity by 0.25 ampere. Thus each of this is 4 ohms. In the final circuit in Fig. 1 the three 2 volt tubes are put on resistance R1 and the other two are put on individual resist-ances. R1 in this case is one-third as great at R1 in the pre-ceding circuit, or 22.22 ohms, for the voltage to be dropped in the resistance is 4 volts and the current is 0.18 ampere. R2 and R3 for this circuit are the same as the ballasts for the same tubes in the preceding circuit, namely, 4 ohms each. If the two 171A tubes were placed on the same ballast, the resistance should be 2 ohms. The 171A tubes can be replaced by any other 5 volt, 0.25

The 171A tubes can be replaced by any other 5 volt, 0.25 ampere tubes without changing the ballast resistors. These tubes are 201A, 200A, 240, and 112A. Sometimes it is convenient to connect filaments in series or

in series parallel in order to economize on filament power and to avoid a lot of ballast resistors. One method of doing this is illustrated in the upper left of Fig. 2. Here we have the filaments of two 232 tubes in parallel and again the filaments filaments of two 232 tubes in parallel and again the filaments of two 230 tubes, the two groups being connected in series. Then we have a filament of a 231 in series with the others. Each of these tubes requires 2 volts across the filaments and since we have three in series, the total required voltage is 6 volts, which may be supplied either by a 6 volt storage battery or a dry cell battery consisting of four cells in series.

No ballast is required in series, since the voltage is just enough. However, there is a complication. The current required by the 231 tube is 0.13 ampere, while that required by two 230 or two 232 is only 0.12 ampere. If we don't do something about this the four 60 milliampere tubes will get more current than this the four of minimpere tubes will get more current than they should have. The excess is very small in this particular case but we might as well provide for it, for in another case, using different tubes, it may be so large as to endanger the small tubes. The excess in this case is 0.01 ampere. We use the resistance R1 to pass this around the other tubes. The value of this resistance is determined by the fact that the use the career it is 4 wolks and the current that should pass voltage across it is 4 volts and the current that that the through it. We have 4/.01, or 400 ohms. In the upper right circuit of Fig. 2 is a combination in which no resistance at all is needed. Two 222 tube filaments are

(Continued on next page)

# Filter Detecto



The circuit of a special type of detector by means of which it is possible to couple it to a push-pull amplifier with a resistance coupler. This is especially suitable for use in a superheterodyne.

L AST week we discussed a 175 kc superheterodyne tuner and showed the construction of the doubly tuned inter-mediate frequency transformers. Previously we had shown the resonance characteristics of the doubly tuned trans-formers. Last week we also suggested a possible detector-amplifier of a somewhat different type. We shall now discuss this part of the circuit in detail this part of the circuit in detail.

this part of the circuit in detail. For convenience we reproduce the circuit of the detector-amplifier herewith in Fig. 1. The first tube in this circuit is the same as the final circuit in the tuner of the circuit published last week but in this case it is not used as a detector, as in that circuit, but as an amplifier. For this reason the grid bias resistor R1 should be 2,000 ohms, since the tube is a 227. This resistor is by-passed by a condenser C2, which should be 0.1 mfd. or larger. If the tube is used as detector it should be 2 mfd, or larger. The plate supply is by-passed by a condenser C3, the connection being made to the cathode of the tube. the tube.

### Tune Primary

The coupling transformer T1 is similar to the doubly tuned transformers except that only the primary is tuned and that the coupling between the two windings is as close as it can be made practically. The tuning condenser C1 is of the midget type just like those used in the doubly tuned transformers, and it has a maximum capacity of 100 mmfd. The detector in this circuit is of the diode rectifier type, the secondary of T1 being connected in the circuit to supply the signal to be rectified. The object of this rectifier is to permit the use of resistance coupling between this tube and, a push-pull audio amplifier, which is made possible by the fact that neither side of the output circuit is grounded, as in the case of other detectors. Ripple of the signal frequency is removed by a filter consisting of two radio frequency chokes, L1 and L2, one in each side of the line, and two by-pass con-densers should be of the order of .00025 mfd, while the coils may be ordinary radio frequency chokes, anywhere from 5 to 100 millihenries. If the inductance of each be made high, the high notes will be suppressed from the audio signal, and if they be made small the detecting efficiency will not be so good. they be made small the detecting efficiency will not be so good. Two coils similar to those used in the intermediate frequency tuners are satisfactory.

### The Output Magnitude

R2 is a load resistance on the rectifier tube and serves the same purpose as the voltage divider, or rather as the bleeder resistance, in a B supply unit. The principle of this rectifier is exactly the same as that of the half wave B supply rectifier. But R2 also serves as load on the rectifier and thus takes the place of the plate circuits of the receiver connected to the

The principle of detection by means of this circuit is illus-trated in Fig. 2. At top is represented the radio frequency signal wave, assumed to be unmodulated and having an amplisignal wave, assumed to be unmodulated and having an ampli-tude E. This is impressed on the rectifier tube and results in pulses of current with amplitude I, shown in the second twe with respect to the cathode, no current flows through resistance R2. The two condensers C4 and C5 convert the current to the jagged line shown in the third row of Fig 2. The condensers charge up during the current pulses and dis-charge during the inactive half-cycles. Hence current flows (6)—Reduction in receiver noise. This is brought about in-

By J. E.

all the time through the resistance R2 and always in the same directions.

### Chokes Level Current

The chokes level the current still more. That is, they pre-vent the condensers from charging up and discharging as rapidly or as completely as if the condensers alone were used. With the condensers and the chokes in the circuit, the reci-fied current through R2 is virtually a steady direct current. This is represented in the last row of Fig, 2, in which the straight line represents the steady current. There may be some ripple present but it will not do any harm, for it is superaudible superaudible.

It may be argued that a rectifier that turns out ripple-free direct current is not a detector, since the detected component must contain the current fluctuations of which the audio signal is composed. But we started out by assuming an unmodulated signal. When a modulated signal is impressed on the recti-fier the "steady" direct current will fluctuate just as the ampli-

## Computing

(Continued from preceding page) connected in parallel and then in series with the filament of a 120 power tube. The 222 tube takes just half as much current as the 120 and both types may be operated satisfactorily on 3 volts. Therefore the series may be connected across a 6 volt battery without any ballast or shunt.

### Line Ballast Computation

In the lower left circuit of Fig 2 a series of quarter milli-ampere tubes have been put on a 110 volt line. Of course, here a ballast is essential. The resistance R of this ballast may be obtained in the following way: Add the filament terminal voltages of the tubes in the series. Then subtract the sum from the voltage of the line, and divide the difference by the current. There are five 5 volt tubes in the circuit and therefore the sum of the voltages is 25 volts. Suppose the line voltage is 110 volts. The difference is 85 volts. Therefore the value of R should be 85/.25, or 340 ohms. Tubes cannot be connected in series this way unless all the tubes require the same current. They may have different filament voltages, however. If the current requirements are not the same it is necessary to use shunts to pass the excess current around a tube or tubes drawing less than the others.

## 6 Advantages Listed

The Type 551 variable mu tube is announced by Arcturus Radio Tube Company, Newark, N. J. This screen-grid tetrode, designed to eliminate to a large extent the defects of the con-ventional '24 type tube, reduces by a large factor modulation distortion, cross talk and association modulation troubles, and permits partly or wholly dispensing with the precautions neces-sary to overcome these faults. Double pre-selectors, dual vol-ume controls and the local distance switch are rendered un-necessary when designing a circuit around the 551. It is claimed that the variable mu permits distortionless oper-ation with signal input voltages approximately 25 times greater than with present-day tubes and extends the range of automatic

than with present-day tubes and extends the range of automatic and manual volume controls by this factor.

### Advantages of Tubes

It divides maximum cross talk by 500, and effects a marked reduction in receiver hiss.

Tests conducted with the 551 variable mu in standard receivers have indicated the following advantages:

- -Increase of maximum allowable input voltage for distor-
- tionless operation by a factor of about 20. Extension of the range of automatic volume control by a
- (3)-Reduction of crosstalk by a factor of several hundred

(4)-Improvement in uniformity of control over the entire range

(5)-Reduction of hum on carrier (modulation of carrier in RF

# r for Supers

## Anderson

tude of the signal. The current line in the last row of Fig. 2

tude of the signal. The current line in the last row of Fig. 2 will be wavy or undulating. The effect of the modulation is the same as the effect of gradually rising and falling voltage impressed on the power transformer of a power supply. When the input voltage is 110 volts, the steady direct current in the power supply may be 100 milliamperes, say, and when it is 120 volts the current may rise to 110 milliamperes, and when it falls to 100 the current may be 90 milliamperes. The output rises and falls according to the rise and fall of the input voltage. So with the current put out by the rectifier-detector when the input voltage is modulated. modulated.

modulated. The useful output voltage is the drop in the resistance R2 caused by the rectified current. If this resistance is high, say one megohm, the voltage across it will be almost equal to the peak of the signal voltage impressed in the circuit by the secondary of T1. This is because the current that flows is extremely small and the resistance is nearly all the impedance

## **Ballast** Resistors

Suppose, for example, that a 222 tube be substituted for the 240 tube in the series circuit. The 222 takes a current of 132 milliamperes when the voltage across the terminals is 3.3 volts. The difference between .25 amperes and .132 ampere is .118 ampere. A resistance should be connected across the 222 tube filament such that it will pass the .118 ampere. Now the voltage across the tube, and hence across the resistance, is 3.3 volts. Hence the shunt should be 3.3/.118, or 28 ohms. In this case the voltage of the series will be less than it was before, since it has been reduced by the difference between 5 and 3.3 volts. Additional resistance should be added to the ballast R and the amount to be added is 6.8 ohms, which is obtained by dividing the difference between 5 and 3.3 by ¼. Of obtained by dividing the difference between 5 and 3.3 by ¼. Of course this is so small in comparison with the total ballast resistance that it is not essential to add it, for without it the current would be only 2 per cent greater.

### Combining 2 and 5 Volt Tubes

At the lower right in Fig. 2 is a circuit containing the filaments of three 2 volt tubes connected in series across the 6 volt battery and one 112A in parallel. A ballast R1 of 4 ohms is used for the quarter ampere tube and none for the others. The others need no ballast.

### for Variable Mu Tubes

In receivers employing double pre-selectors directly. (two tuned circuits between antenna and the first tube) for the purpose of reducing crosstalk the gain in voltage between antenna and first grid is comparatively low with the result that the hiss noise is high compared with the signal. The 551 tubes permit the replacement of the double pre-selector by a single tuned circuit with an increase in gain between antenna and first grid which reduces the hiss noise.

Walter L. Krahl, chief engineer of the Arcturus Radio Tube Company, Newark, N. J., discussing the new 51 tube, said: "By a special construction of the grid, or controlling element, of

this new tube, it compensates for the difference between strong and weak signals. Prior to this, two screen-grid tubes would have been necessary to perform the same function.

### **Properties Depend on Structure**

"The grid is so constructed that the amplification factor of this tube automatically varies with the intensity of the signal.

"It has been found that this tube permits a far greater degree of realistic reproduction than any other tube heretofore developed. Dis-tortion and crosstalk effects caused by high-powered local stations are practically eliminated. Loud signals are received with the same tonal clarity as weaker ones, and the unpleasant garbling of the reception gives way to smooth, distortionless reproduction. "The type 51 tube is uncanny in its automatic variation of am-

"The type 51 tube is uncanny in its automatic variation of **am**-plification power. Preliminary reports from radio engineers indicate that the variable-mu principle is the most versatile contribution in the art of vacuum radio tubes." The 551 may be used for a 224.



Fig. 2

This shows how the detector in Fig. I works and how the filter converts the signal to a direct current, which fluctuates at audio frequency when the signal is modulated.

in the circuit. Incidentally, the high resistance makes the filter more effective because of the low current. There is a strong direct current component in the current

through R2 and only the fluctuations are needed on the audio amplifier that follows. For this reason two condensers of 2 mfd. are placed in the circuit, one on each side of the line. Then two one megohm resistors, R3 and R4, are connected in series across the line and the junction of these resistors is in series across the line and the junction of these resistors is grounded. If it were not for the two series condensers the direct current component would flow through the grid leak resistors and it would not be possible to get the same bias on the two push-pull tubes without complex arrangements. Due to the high values of the capacities and the high grid leak resistances there is practically no frequency discrimination even as far down as 10 cycles per second.

### Signal is Split

The audio signal voltage drop in R3 and R4 is the same in magnitude but opposite in phase, due to the fact that the center is grounded. The grids of the push-pull tubes are connected to the opposite ends so that one-half of the output

connected to the opposite ends so that one-half of the output of the detector is put on one tube and half on the other. Thus we have a means of coupling a push-pull amplifier to a detector by means of a resistance coupler. The bias for the power tubes is obtained in the usual manner by means of a bias resistor R5, which is not by-passed, con-nected between ground and the center tap on the filament transformer. For 245 tubes the resistance should be 750 olms. No loudspeaker or output transformer is shown because if full advantage is to be taken of the relatively distortionless amplifier and detector, the output should be fed directly to a push-pull speaker, such as the inductor dynamic. It may also be that the output is to be delivered to a neon tube for tele-vision reception. If a dynamic speaker is to be used, the outvision reception. If a dynamic speaker is to be used, the out-put transformer built in should be used. If this has only two leads it will be necessary to use two high inductance chokes for feeding the plates, one being connected on each side of the circuit.

While the bias resistor in the push-pull stage is not by-passed, the plate circuit is, and the condenser C8, which should be not smaller than 2mfd., is connected from the plate return to the midtap of the filament transformer, that is, to the cathode, or positive end of the bias resistor.

or positive end of the bias resistor. It will be noticed that the heaters of the first and the last tubes are marked X, signifying that the same 2.5 volt winding may be used for these three tubes. The rectifier heater is marked Y to signify that a separate winding should be used for this tube, or even a separate transformer. A separate winding is necessary because the voltage between the heater and the cathode would be of the order of 50 volts when the power amplifier is operated to the limit. This might break down the insulation. down the insulation.

A very strong signal is needed to produce a detected signal strong enough to load up the two push-pull tubes when they are of the 245 type. It is for this reason that the first tube in Fig. 1 is used as an amplifier.

A detector of the type illustrated in Fig. 1 is especially suit-able for use with a superheterodyne, because the coupling between the last RF amplifier and the detector may be tuned once for all. In a broadcast receiver it would be necessary either to use an untuned transformer or an additional tuning condenser, which would complicate the circuit.

# The March "Proceedings'

## By Brunsten Brunn

•• A RADIO Method for Synchronizing Recording Appa-ratus," is described by T. Parkinson, University of Michigan, and T. R. Gilliland, Bureau of Standards, in the March, 1931, issue of the Proceedings of the Institute of Radio Engineers. The object of the method is to drive two fading recorders synchronously when one of them is portable and located far away from the other, and when it is not prac-tical to interconnect the two by a wire line. The recorders are operated by clock type synchronous motors on 60-cycle power. One is driven directly from a 60-cycle power line and the other from the received and amplified power of 60 cycles the other from the received and amplified power of 60 cycles obtained from a lower power transmitter, the carrier of which is modulated by the same 60-cycle power that drives the first motor.

The authors suggest that the scheme may be used in other fields of research, and a similar scheme has already been applied to synchronizing the scanning discs of television transmitters and receivers.

#### 14 \* \*

### European Aviation Radio

European Aviation Radio Gerald C. Gross, Federal Radio Commission, reports on "European Aviation Radio" in a paper which is the result of an inspection trip over the major European airways. Euro-pean aviation radio may be divided into three major classes, according to the author, (1) Communication from ground to plane and from plane to ground; (2) Point-to-point commu-nications in connection with the traffic dispatching of aircraft, and, (3) Meterological communications relating to safe flying conditions. The paper describes the type of equipment used for receiving and transmitting on ground and on aircraft and the power and frequencies used are discussed. The present methods of direction finding is given in detail. Short wave communication is still in a highly experimental stage.

Greenleaf W. Pickard, RCA-Victor Co. of Massachusetts, Boston, contributes a "Note On the Fifteen-Month Period in Solar Activity, Terrestrial Magnetism, and Radio Reception." This contains more evidence for the close relationship that exists among radio reception, terrestrial magnetism and sun spot numbers spot numbers.

"Ten Years of Broadcasting," by C. W. Horn, General Engineer, National Broadcasting Co., is a review of the develop-ment of radio broadcasting during the decade that has just passed. It begins with the original KDKA transmitter, which opened on November 2, 1920, to announce the election returns in the Harding-Cox contest, and ends with the 200 kilowatt transmitter of the General Electric Co. It points out that improvement in broadcasting services in the future will be in the direction of increasing power of the broadcast stations. Network broadcasting, studio development, outside pick-up, tube development, and other phases of radio are discussed.

#### \* \*

### Power and Efficiency of Transmitters

"Measurement of Power and Efficiency of Radio Transmitt-ing Apparatus," by G. Pession and T. Gorio, Rome, Italy, is a paper discussing various methods and results of the measurement of power and efficiency in radio transmitting apparatus. The methods used for measuring the high frequency power are classified as wattmeter, ammeter, calorimeter, and indirect. The direct and indirect calorimeter methods are favored by the authors because of their advantages, which are mentioned.

\* \* \*

Herbert J. Reich, University of Illinois, has developed "A New Method of Testing for Distortion in Audio-Frequency Amplifiers," which he reports in this issue of the Proceedings. "A periodic voltage wave consisting of a series of straight lines is distorted into a series of curves when it passes through an amplifier which gives nonuniform amplification. As such distortion can very readily be detected visually with an oscillo-graph, it affords a means of testing for uniformity of ampli-fication." The claim for the method is that a falling off in the amplification of less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent can be detected with-out difficulty. The method is applicable to any type of ampli-fier and may be constructed out of parts that are usually found in laboratories. One of the chief instruments is a vacuum tube oscillograph.

F. B. Llewellyn, Bell Telephone Laboratories, contributes a note on "A Rapid Method of Estimating the Signal-to-Noise Ratio Gain Receiver." It is shown that the limit to be attained in signal-to-noise ratio in a radio receiving set by design of the set is the ratio of the signal to the thermal noise of the input circuit.

"Oscillation in Tuned Radio Frequency Amplifiers" is consid-ered in detail by B. J. Thompson, General Electric Co. "The wide use of screen-grid tubes renders an understanding of the conditions for stability of tuned radio-frequency amplifiers im-portant. In this paper the relation between the feed-back ca-pacity and the other circuit and tube parameters at the thres-hold of instability is computed for one, two, three, and four stages." A simple relation is worked out for the various cases and the conditions under which it is applicable specified. The and the conditions under which it is applicable specified. mathematical deductions are supported by experimental data. \*

"The Design of Radio-Frequency Signal Generators," by J. R. Bird, Massachusets Institute of Technology, deals with cer-tain factors involved in designing signal generators free from stray voltage errors. The importance of accounting for all circuit details, particularly of wiring elements, is stressed. The impedances of certain connections particularly of impedances of certain connections, particularly of the output connections from the generator to measured receiver, are shown to be important and shielding is considered in some detail.

### High Frequency Impedances

Another contribution from General Electric Co. is a paper on "Measurement of Resistance and Impedances at High Fre-quencies," by J. W. Labus. The paper is mathematical and deals largely with resistances and impedances of transmission lines at very short wavelengths where ordinary methods of measurement fail. The theory worked out has been tested on grid leaks and units in decade resistance boxes and the results obtained agreed with expectations.

From Telefunken-Gesellschaft, Berlin, comes a mathematical treatment on the "Calculation of Electric and Magnetic Field Strengths of Any Oscillating Straight Conductors," by R. Bech-man. The expressions that have been derived make possible simple calculation of the radiation conditions near the con-ductor, and are of practical importance in the calculation of radiation characteristics and radiation resistances of any linear antenna arrangements. \*

Hajime Iinuma, Electrotechnical Laboratory, Ministry of Communications, Tokyo, contributes a paper on "Resonant Im-pedance and Effective Series Resistance of High-Frequency Parallel Resonant Circuits." Results are given on measure-ments in the band of high frequencies from 6,300 to 26,300 kilocycles. \* \*

### Wave Propagation

"Some Details Relating to the Propagation "Some Details Relating to the Propagation of Very Short Waves," by R. Jouaust, deals with the laws governing propaga-tion of very short waves and shows they are the same as those governing the propagation of luminous vibrations. However, because of the difference in frequencies, the absorption is less for very short waves than for light, which explains the very great distance traveled by these waves. Communication by means of very short waves have been carried on between points not in direct line of vision and the phenomena of atmospheric refraction seem to account for this to some extent, according to the author to the author.

James R. Nelson, Raytheon Production Corp., Newton, Mass., contributes a paper on "Grid Circuit Power Rectification." This important paper is of special interest to radio fans and others who design and build radio receivers. Grid circuit power recti-fication is investigated by studying the ideal rectifier and apply-ing the results obtained to the case of a tube restifier. Charactering the results obtained to the case of a tube restiner. Character-istic curves are used in this study to obtain the optimum condi-tions for rectification and the order of the output voltage is obtained. Conditions for minimum loading of the circuit pre-ceding the detector and audio-frequency discriminations as a function of grid circuit impedances are discussed and experi-mental evidence is adduced.

## Facts that Determine Operation of a Tube

Scientific information about radio tubes which enables radio manufacturers to utilize numerous different forms of tubes successfully are learned through regular laboratory tests of tubes to determine the tube characteristics.

Among the important facts obtained by these are these: amplification factor, or the number of times an impulse is amplified by the action of the tube; plate impedance and mutual conductance.

# Midget for Short Waves

By Henry B. Herman

SHORTwave midget receiveradapter, for earphone use or for plugging into a set, was described last week, issue of March 28th. MFD. Herewith the battery model is diagrammed.

It was explained that it is necessary to mount the condensers to the s u b p a n el inde-pendent of the dial mounting, unless one drills a



center hole through a bracket that is on the condenser. Preferably use a No. 30 drill and tap for 6/32. Otherwise it might be difficult to fasten a nut inside the condenser; in fact, there would be danger of the nut touching the stator plates. Even if the screw is too long this condenser would be thus short-circuited. Therefore if the screw is excessively long, cut off the excess, which may be done by estimating, before the screw is inserted. screw is inserted.

Three 0.1 mfd. condensers are used. All three are in one shield case. There are three red leads, each representing an individual capacity. The black lead is common and goes to B minus, while the red leads go to the respective destinations, cathode of RF tube, screen of RF tube and screen of detector tube.

The shielded short-wave coils are regular inductances wound on tube-base type forms. Since the shield has a removable screw top, this top is taken off. A hole is drilled through the center of the coil form at bottom (if a hole isn't there already), so that a screw may be put through this hole and through the shield cover.

It is necessary to drill four or five holes in the removable top, to clear the prongs of the plug-in coil form. If you have UY type forms, with four prongs, use them for the antenna input.

In the UY type follow this code: aerial to cathode prong of coil form; end of primary and end of secondary to heater prong next to the cathode; grid connection of the secondary to grid prong of the coil form.

The winding may be done so that primary starts at top, end of primary adjoins end of secondary, and extreme of secondary, near bottom, goes to grid.

For the other coil, using five-prong type bases, the shield may be used as ground, since a metal chassis is used, therefore only five connecting points are required of the plug or socket, and these may be: cathode of coil prong to plate of RF tube, heater next to cathode to B plus; low end of secondary to the shield, other end of secondary to the grid prong; plate of detector to the plate prong and heater next to plate to the 50 mlh. choke coil coil

To effectuate this system, care should be taken that the shield is grounded to the metal chassis. In any circuit the shield must be grounded to the metal chassis. In any circuit the shield must be grounded if it is to be a shield. Here, in the AC model, B minus is ground, as explained, and no external ground connec-tion is to be made. Two phosphor bronze spring clips on the chassis, to grid either side of the shield, will serve connection purpose very nicely.

# Plug-in Coils Are Popular

HE plug-in coil system is extensively used on wavelengths under 200 meters. It is convenient for receiving television signals, short-wave broadcasting, amateur code and phone stations and other signals found in the higher frequencies

(shorter waves). The plug-in coil is wound on a suitable form or tubing that is attached to a plug that fits a receptacle. In this way one coil may be withdrawn and another one inserted at will. This system avoids the need for a separate receiver for each section of the short-wave band. Home radio builders display great ingenuity in the construction of clus in acids.

great ingenuity in the construction of plug-in coils. The bases of old radio tubes are the most popular units for the plug-in system, because a regular tube socket may be utilized as the coil holder.

The glass part of the tube is broken and removed. For the smallest size coils, for 15 to 35 meters or so, the wire may be wound right on the tube base remaining, and small holes drilled into the material serve to pass the ends of the wire through. Contact is made to the prongs very easily by pushing the wire as far as possible into the prong, touching the tip with a hot soldering iron to melt the solder and allow the wire to break through. Then the wire is pulled through tightly before the iron and solder are again applied.

For larger size coils, special wooden, cardboard or composition forms are attached in various ways to the tube bases.

Usually the circuit calls for two windings on the single form or a single coil of wire with a tap or connection near one end, so that only three wire ends are brought down to the base.

One winding is for the tuning, while the other is for the feedback or regeneration.

When still larger coils are made, as for broadcast waves or above, another winding usually is added as an antenna coupling coil, thus using all four of the prongs on the base. Generally. however, this plan is not suitable for broadcast

work, since the selectivity is not good enough, and unless the set is operated with extreme care, whistling interference will be caused to annoy listeners nearby. Some day, when short-wave reception is as common as broadcast reception today, special sets will have to be developed to avoid the same sort of inter-ference that broadcast reception got into a number of vacance. ference that broadcast reception got into a number of years ago

through the wide use of regenerative sets. So do not look on the short-wave plug-in coil system as a universal receiving system, even though it may be used to some

degree of success for broadcast waves. The larger sizes of tuning condenser required for broadcast waves in itself interferes with the spread of this method of receiving much above 200 meters, for large condensers call for too critical adjustments on short waves.

The above remarks about tuning in broadcast waves refer to short-wave receivers, not to converters, as converters are selective enough in broadcast work.

## The April Special!

Next week's issue of RADIO WORLD, dated April 11th, will be The April Special. It will contain 32 pages of most interesting articles The April Special. It will contain 32 pages of most interesting articles on circuits, also latest news of stations, studios and personalities, besides highly interesting advertising, and will have the complete list of broad-casting stations in the United States, by frequencies. This list will give full details, including frequency, wave, call, owner, location, power and time sharers. It requires a weekly magazine to furnish you with an up-to-date list. Tell your newsdealer to reserve a copy for you, or send in your subscription to us, beginning with the April 11th issue, @ \$6.00 for 1 yr., \$3 for 6 mos. or \$1.50 for 3 mos. The May Specal, also of absorbing content, will be dated May 2d. Radio World, 145 West 45th Street, New York, N. Y.



By Herm



• HE problem of obtaining the B voltage from a receiver in con-nection with which a short-wave converter is worked resolves itself into tapping into the receiver somewhere. Otherwise one has to use independent B batteries or a converter with rectifier built in.

If the receiver itself is battery-operated, of course the B voltage problem is solved, since the batteries are accessible. But in many AC receivers, the sealed-in shield type of construction is used, and one can not readily get at the voltage divider.

#### Methods Outlined

Then the voltage would have to be obtained from one of the tube con-ections. The principal methods follow: nections.



FIG. 2 The DX-4, an all-wave converter (10 to 600 meters at any inter-mediate frequency), built according to panel plans published last week.

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Connection to the screen of a radio frequency tube. This pre A. supposes the presence of screen grid tubes in the receiver. If series resistor drops some higher voltage to the voltage re quired for the screens, the system will not work well, if at all, becaus the converter's B current would flow through the resistor, and the volt age not only to the converter but to the screens of tubes in the se would be too low. Some sets have such a series resistor, but it doe not include in the circuit the tube just ahead of the detector, so favo that tube. Loop the bared end of the B plus lead from the converter slip the loop over the screen prong of the tube removed from the set and reinsert the tube in the set.

Connection to the center of the power tube's filament. Since a **B** Connection to the center of the power tube's filament. Since al power tubes have a negative grid bias, the filament is positive in respect to ground, or grounded B minus, hence if you pick u the filament center and ground, you pick up the positive voltage. This method is workable only with 171, 171A, 245 and 250 tubes, and th positive B voltage for the converter is equal but opposite in polarit to the negative grid bias voltage of the power tube. The reason for the limitation to these four tubes is that the converter B current (while would include screen current, if any) must flow through the power tube, and other tubes than these will not stand the extra current. fact, if the converter draws more than 8 milliamperes, the 171, 17, and 245 should be ruled out also, while the 250 will stand 20 mill and 245 should be ruled out also, while the 250 will stand 20 mill amperes increase. The bared looped wire method of connection ma be used, or a wafer adapter that establishes the same connections, center-tapped resistor of 30 ohms to 100 ohms, is used, with center serv ing as B plus. The converter must have a bypass condenser of at least 0.1 mfd. from B plus to B minus, so that the oscillator will oscillate.

A new method is one that requires "killing" the first radio frequency amplifying stage in the receiver. The plate has a pos-tive B voltage, and a high one, so that may be used for the converter. However, the plate also has a load on it, usually the primar of a radio frequency transformer. It is well to kill the effect of the primary and a 10 mill condense server effectively as a chect of the primary, and a 1.0 mfd. condenser serves effectively as a short-circu for this load. Now the plate may be used as the B plus lead to con-verter, by the looped bare wire method. The output of the convert now goes to the grid circuit of the second radio frequency tube of the set, which becomes the first effective tube in the receiver.

The same method as outlined in (C) may be used with a pr chosen method of coupling, to get rid of any troubles due poor coupling methods. The mixer is followed by a stage

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stage.

# tage for Converters

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tuned radio frequency amplification built into the converter assembly. The B voltage for the converter is obtained as in (C), but instead of connecting to the grid of the first RF tube in the receiver, a stage of TRF is built into the converter to atone for the stage killed in the receiver, and a cable connector is used to plug into the second radio fre-quency socket, picking up the plate lead only. On the other hand, a rectifier may be built into the converter, whereby

the primary of the filament or heater transformer is converter, whereby either side to the joined grid-plate elements of a 227 tube, with the other side of the primary serving as B minus. A B supply choke coil may be used, and if it is a small one, then the capacities used for filtra-tion may be large. Electrolytic condensers of 8 mtd. are suggested. In using this rectifier, a series condenser should be in the aerial circuit of the converter, of any capacity from .00025 mfd. up, while no ground connection is made to the converter, since the AC line is itself grounded, and this rectifier system simply requires connection of the AC line across the rectifier and converter.

### **B** Minus in Other Instances

In all converters that do not have this type of rectifier, the ground lead from the set is the B minus lead for the converter. Therefore when the converter ground post is connected with a wire to the receiver ground post, B minus is thus picked up from the receiver by the converter.

Therefore there are only four methods of obtaining the voltage from the receiver : one is by direct connection to receiver's B batteries or voltage divider, and the three other methods by the indirect process of gaining access through the receiver tube sockets. These three are screen of screen grid tubes, plate of the first RF tube, and center of These three are power tube filament.

If you have a converter that requires that the B voltage be supplied, and you have no method of furnishing that voltage from the receiver, since it is an AC set with inaccessible voltage divider, and you don't want to use any of the three substitute methods outlined, you may al-ways connect B batteries, with negative to ground of the receiver, and positive to the B plus lead of the converter. Use two batteries of 45 volts each, in series, for 227 tubes in the converter, and three batteries of 45 volts each, in series, for converters using screen grid tubes. The screen grid models will work from about 50 volts up, but the higher voltage will furnish more kick. The lower voltage for the screens of screen grid tubes need not prove troublesome, as models embodying these tubes usually have a resistor to here the determined will these the desired woltage to the reduction is

drop the maximum voltage to the desired voltage, so the reduction is automatic. The proportion will remain substantially the same, although the applied B voltage may be different in various installations.

### Boon to Novices

If the B voltage can not be obtained from the receiver the converter can not be worked, unless external B batteries are used, or a rectifier is built to furnish the B voltage.

If the B voltage is satisfactorily obtained, the converter will work just as well with the supply as furnished, as if a rectifier were built in. However, only with the rectifier type can you be absolutely certain that persons unfamiliar with radio technique you will have no B voltage trouble, since the circuit of the receiver used may not be known to the possessor. A copy of the circuit diagram, however, will be found in one of the service manuals that publish these circuits. If you can gain access to a voltage divider, and are doubtful as to where to tap in, you will have to get one of these books, and be guided by the circuit diagram.

The simple rectifier shown is one that works very well. If the choke coil is of fairly high inductance, say, 15 henries actually, then the filter capacities may be smaller than 8 mfd. each, but it is well to bear in mind that the average converter draws about 15 milliamperes, and that

mind that the average converter draws about 15 milliamperes, and that for every 100 ohms of resistance at this current flow the voltage drop is 15 volts. Of course, with all resistance values of this choke coil, as compared with omission of the choke, the total drain will be less, be-cause of the extra resistance, but the choke always drops only a little voltage, and if it has a DC resistance of 400 ohms, you can rely on the drop being not more than 8 volts, which certainly is not too severe. Converters requiring an external B voltage have been featured in these columns, including the following models: 3-A, for about \$5, re-quiring also an external filament transformer; nc plug-in coils; 3-B, for about \$5. the equivalent battery model, using no transformer; FS, for about \$5. the equivalent battery model, using no transformer; RC, plug-in coils; RC, for about \$10, with built-in filament transformer, no plug-in coils; RC-B, the equivalent battery model; 1-A, for about \$20, using de luxe parts, and three screen grid tubes, with built-in filament transformer and precision plug-in coils; DX-4, for about \$27, using three screen grid tubes and a 227 rectifier, with de luxe parts through-out. Only the 1-A Unit uses two tuned circuits, all the remainder one tuned circuit. Only the 1-A and the DX-4 use screen grid tubes.

Last week diagrams showed the DX-4 front and subpanel dimensions, while text outlined constructional details (issue of March 28th). Herewith is published a photograph of the DX-4, built accord-ing to those plans. Four precision type plug-in coils are used in the coil socket, one at a time, to cover from 10 to 600 meters, no matter what intermediate frequency is used (that is, no matter what frequency the receiver itself is tuned to), so full coverage of bands is assured.

### Covers 10 to 600 Meters

In regard to the higher frequencies, it is assumed by some that con-verters as described in these columns work fine over part of the smaller coils, but the oscillator ceases to function over the lower capacity set-tings of the condenser tuning it. This is a mistake. The oscillator oscillates at all frequencies to which it can be tuned, but as most per-our liter instruction over the lower capacity frequencies to which it can be tuned.

oscillates at all frequencies to which it can be tuned, but as most per-sons listen in at night, they hear virtually nothing on these higher fre-quencies (15,000 kc up), because reception is usually obtainable in this region only during daylight. It is one of the short-wave phenomena. The presence of only one tuned circuit need trouble nobody, since the function of the oscillator is simply to generate frequencies that, when mixed with the desired incoming frequency, produce the inter-mediate frequency. Hence the oscillator, strictly speaking, has no selectivity. It is simply a frequency generator. The selectivity is de-rived from the intermediate channel. Any set even if only fairly selective for broadcast nurposes will be

Any set, even if only fairly selective for broadcast purposes, will be sufficiently selective for conversion purposes, because for broadcast work it has to meet a situation often demanding 10 kc separation, whereas on short waves a separation of 100 kc is the more likely re-quirement, and there are a few stations on short waves that transmit a band even 1,000 kc wide.



View of a battery-model converter, using no plug-in coils.



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The circuit of a six tube receiver that is suitable for a portable set either for use in a car or motorboat.

### Short-Wave Band Pass Filter

Short-Wave Band Pass Filter W OULD it be practical to use a band pass filter for tuning a short-wave receiver? What difficulties would be encountered in such a tuner? What method of coupling the two tuned circuits would be the best in case it is practical?—B. W. C. It would hardly be practical to use a band pass filter for tuning in the short wave signals because stations are located so closely to-gether, relatively, that the transmission characteristic of the filter would include many channels. Lack of selectivity would be the main difficulty. There is no real object of using a band pass filter on the short waves. In case one is used the best method of coupling would be by means of a common condenser. The characteristic of such a filter is that the coupling decreases as the frequency increases, and as the need for greater sharpness increases. When the short-wave receiver is of the superheterodyne type a band pass filter in the inter-mediate frequency amplifier would be advantageous, and this might consist of a transformer with tuned primary and second with loose coupling between the two tuned windings. \* \* \*

### Non-Reactive Oscillator

S IT possible to make an oscillator which is entirely non-reactive, that is, one which does not contain either inductance or capacity? If so, please give the resistance constants for a 224 screen grid tube.—L. F.

It is not possible to make an oscillator with resistances alone be-It is not possible to make an oscillator with resistances alone be-cause for oscillation it is necessary to have both inductance and ca-pacity, or their equivalents. The nearest approach to a non-reactive oscillator is the Abraham multivibrator, which uses two tubes in a kind of push-pull arrangement. Resistances and capacities are used. It is not a true oscillator but it does generate something from which oscillations may be obtained. It is used when a fundamental and a large number of harmonics are wanted. \* \* \*

### Using AC on Filament Tubes

I S there any objection to connecting the filaments of 201A tubes in series on a 110 volt AC line? If this is not practical what would be the main objection?—H. B. N. Hum would be the main objection. It would be so great that nothing but hum would be heard in the loudspeaker attached to the

set

### Two-Volt Tube Receiver

Iwo-Yolt lube Receiver SHOULD like to build a receiver for portable use containing all 2-volt tubes, 232 for radio frequency amplifiers, 230 for detector and first audio, and 231 for output tube. I should like to have resistance coupling in the audio amplifier because I want to make the receiver as light as possible. I should also like to have at least three tuners, preferably two in front of the first tube. If you have a diagram of such a receiver will you kindly publish it?—G. B. In Fig. 904 is just such a circuit as you request. It is quite suit-able for a portable set.

### Quartz Crystal Tuner for IF

OULD a quartz crystal be used as the main selector in the intermediate frequency amplifier of a short-wave superhetero-dyne? What would be the advantages of such a tuner, if any? Would this tuner be effective in eliminating image interference?-S. H. A quartz crystal could be used just as it is used in the Stenode

Radiostat. Such a selector would be extremely selective, possibly too selective. Yet it would not be a safeguard against image interference because no intermediate frequency selector can be selective enough to stop it, if it is to bring in the desired signals. Image interference must be stopped in the high frequency level by tuning out completely stations operating on frequencies differing from the desired frequency by twice the intermediate frequency.

### Variable Mu Tube

HAVE read your comments on the variable mu tubes and I am

I HAVE read your comments on the variable mu tubes and I am wondering whether or not they would improve my receiver. My set is very sensitive and selective and does not hum at all, but I should like to have still more sensitivity.—A. B. If your set is now selective and does not hum, and if there is no modulation cross talk, there would be little advantage in changing the tubes. The variable mu tubes have been designed especially to prevent detection in the radio frequency amplifiers, detection which results in hum when AC is present and in cross talk when the selec-tion is not thorough in front of the first tube. But when you have occasion to get a new tube you might get one of them and put it in occasion to get a new tube you might get one of them and put it in the first radio frequency stage.

### Compensating Audio Amplification

Compensating Audio Amplification I S IT possible to compensate for the suppression of the high audio frequencies in a sharp tuner by any simple means? If so, will you kindly suggest how it may be done?—W. H. J. There is no practical tuner so sharp that there will not be some transmission on the high audio frequencies, and as long as there is something to work on it is possible to build it up. It may be done by tuning the audio frequency amplifier at a high audio frequency, say 5,000 cycles, or 10,000 cycles. If the selectivity of the audio frequency tuner is adjusted properly just the right amount of com-pensation may be effected. Another way in which it might be done is to regenerate at a high audio frequency in one of the audio fre-quency circuits. It is a common thing that regeneration spoils the frequency characteristic of an otherwise good audio frequency ampli-fier. Usually it makes the amplification too high at some frequency. frequency characteristic of an other wise good autob frequency ampli-fier. Usually it makes the amplification too high at some frequency. It is always possible to make good use of this phenomenon by caus-ing regeneration, in the right amount, at a desired frequency. In order to get the correct compensation it is necessary to know

just how much is needed and then to supply that amount. An output curve might be taken first before any compensation has been intro-duced and then another after the characteristic has been altered by the regeneration or tuning. It is then possible to estimate how much more should be used, or less, in order to bring out just the right amount.

### Computation of Voltage Divider Resistance

W HEN computing the resistances in a voltage divider what current should be used in determining the resistance between any two taps to give the desired voltage difference between these two taps?—S. W. C. The current through the resistance to be determined should be

The current through the resistance to be determined should be used. Any other current has nothing to do with it. Starting with the bleeder resistance, which is the lowest section of the voltage di-vider, that is, the one next to B minus, we use the bleeder current. This is entirely arbitrary but should be chosen within the limits of 5 and 25 milliamperes. Naturally, it is chosen so that a resistance that is available may be used. For example, if the lowest section of the voltage divider is 4,500 ohms and the first tap above B minus

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is to be 45 volts, the proper bleeder current to choose is 10 milli-amperes, because 45 volts divided by 4,500 ohms gives 10 milli-amperes. The next section is determined by adding the current into the 45 volt tap to the bleeder current. Suppose the current to the 45 volt tap is 5 milliamperes. The current in the second section is then 15 milliamperes. If the second tap is to be at 90 volts, the drop in the second resistance section is 45 volts and the resistance should be 45/.015, or 3,000 ohms. For the third section we have to add the current that flows into the 90 volt tap to the sum of the pre-ceding two, that is, to 15 milliamperes, and so on to the top of the that some grid bias resistance is not mistaken for the first resistance that some grid bias resistance is not mistaken for the first resistance section. Sometimes the voltage divider unit is split up so that the lowest section is used for grid bias for a power stage. This should not be taken as the first but the count should be from B minus.

### Modulated Oscillator

AM planning to build a modulated oscillator consisting of two tubes, one for radio frequency and one for audio frequency. The circuit should be such that coils of different inductance can be plugged in for covering a wide band of frequencies. Will you

kindly publish a suitable circuit, either in an article or in the University columns?--W. H. G. In Fig. 905 is a modulated oscillator of this kind. C1 is an ordinary tuning condenser provided with a good dial and T1 is the oscillation transformer which may be of the plug-in type. It has three windings but it may be put on a UX type base since it has only four independent terminals. Ch1 is a radio frequency choke of 50 millihenries and Ch2 is an audio choke of 30 henries. C2 should be a condenser of 2 mfd. or larger and the transformer on the right is an ordinary audio frequency transformer. The circuit is arranged so that the oscillation may be modulated with a microphone, phonograph pick-up, or by oscillation in the second tube.

### Combination of Capacities

\* \*

OW do you figure the capacity of three condensers con-In nected so that two are in series and the third is connected across the two? These three condensers are in the tuned circuit and one is a tuning condenser, another is a fixed con-denser in series with the tuning condenser, and the third is a trimmer condenser connected across the other two.—J. W.

First find the capacity of the two condensers connected in series by multiplying the two capacities together and then divid-ing the product by the sum of the two. Then add the capacity of the condenser connected across the two and the result is the capacity of the combination.

### Condensers for Short-wave Converters

RE midget tuning condensers just as good for short-wave A converters as ordinary large condensers as good for short-wave cast receivers?—V. M. A midget condenser is just as good as a large condenser of the same capacity. Indeed, it is better because it takes less room

and serves the purpose of tuning just as well. As a rule, for short-wave reception a small capacity tuning condenser is better than a large capacity tuning condenser because it makes the tuning less critical. However, a small condenser requires more plug-in coils to cover the short-wave region from 1,500 kc to 20,000 kc or higher. \*

### **Ratio Versus Volume**

N buying audio transformers to modernize my set, would a ratio of 2-to-1 be much worse in volume than one of 4-to-1? It is queer, also, that the higher ratio is less costly.—S. F.

The lower ratio is perhaps the better choice. A high ratio usually means that the primary coil is skimped and has too low an impedance. This may theoretically furnish less amplifica-tion, but in actual practise the 2-to-1 of a better type will prove not only better in tone but greater in volume. In modernizing a set, be sure to select good audio transformers, with a wide frequency range.

### Ten Kilocycle Selectivity

OW can you tell whether or not your set is capable of

H 10 kc selectivity or a greater selectivity? Is capable of 10 kc selectivity or a greater selectivity? Is there any meter by which the selectivity may be measured?-L.M. Take a transmission curve of your set and see whether or not it meets with your definition of 10 kc selectivity. Ten kilocycle selectivity, or any other selectivity expressed in that manner, has no significance. That is why you have to use your own defini-tion of selectivity. There is no meter that measures selectivity directly, but there is a decrement meter, which is nearly the same thing. The proper way is to take the transmission curve.

### \* **Cross Modulation**

AM troubled with cross modulation in my superheterodyne and I should like to know what can be done about it. I can tune in any station with good volume but as I detuned the station disappears and then reappears about 10 divisions away. It is this second response I should like to get rid of if pos-sible.—H. V. This is not due to cross modulation but is a normal behavior of a superheterodyne. It results from the heating of harmonics

of a superheterodyne. It results from the beating of harmonics.

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### FIG. 905

This circuit consists of a radio frequency oscillator and another tube which may be used either as an audio frequency or oscillator for modulating the output of the radio frequency oscillator.

To eliminate it, reduce the coupling between the oscillator and the modulator, reduce the intensity of the oscillation in the oscillator tube, or reduce the intensity of the input to the modulator from the radio frequency amplifier. Don't attempt to reduce the intensity of the oscillation by reducing the plate or filament voltages on the oscillator, for this will make it worse. Reduce it by reducing the tickler turns or by using a potentiometer across the tuned circuit and putting only half of the total voltage on the grid. Cross modulation manifests itself in the following way: When a given station is tuned in the signal comes in strongly but in the background a second station is heard, usually a strong local. As you tune out the desired station both go out together. The undesired station comes through in the same manner as modulation hum. That is, the disturbance appears only when there is a carrier present and the circuit is tuned to it. The cause of cross modulation is detection in the radio frequency amplifier, usually in the first tube, and the remedy is to tune the circuit sharply ahead of the first tube. Adjusting the bias so that the tube does not detect also helps. To eliminate it, reduce the coupling between the oscillator and detect also helps.

### Use of a Baffle

S a baffle board always required with a dynamic loud

speaker? No, not when the speaker is purchased already assembled in a cabinet, as that serves as a baffle. If you mean the chassis only, then a cabinet or a baffle board is required to obtain satisfactory tone qualities. Without the baffle or cabinet, only the higher tones will be heard.

### Extending the Range of a Tuner

HAVE built a radio receiver which is very satisfactory respects but one. It does not cover the broadcast band. WMCA

respects but one. It does not cover the broadcast band. WMCA comes in at 96 on the dial but the lowest I can go is 230 meters. There are many stations below this that I should like to get once in a while. What can you suggest?—T. M. R. You either have too small tuning condensers or you have over-done the shielding of the tuning coils. If the condensers are smaller than .0005 mfd. it is practically impossible to cover the broadcast band, especially when the coils are well shielded. Hence if you have .00035 mfd. condenser they are the cause of your trouble. If you don't want to change the condensers you have to extend the range of the tuner by using larger shields over the tuning coils the range of the tuner by using larger shields over the tuning coils or by partly removing them.

### Screen Grid Versus Space Charge

K INDLY explain the difference between a straight screen grid tube and a space charge tube.—J. Z.

The difference is in the use. The four-electrode tube has a filament, two grids and a plate. In the screen grid system, the control grid (connected to cap at top of tube), is connected as the grid of a three-element tube, and it is the grid nearer the filament. The extra grid, which is nearer to the plate, is connected to a positive tap on the B battery or eliminator or to an adjustable resistor so this voltage may be changed. In the space-charge system, the two grid con-nections are reversed, providing a system sometimes useful for detection and other uses.

### Result from Screen Grid Tube

INSTALLED a screen grid tube in my set instead of a 201A

amplifier. The result is not good, because of very bad inter-ference, although the stations come in with fine volume.—C.F. This is characteristic of screen grid tubes. They are not adapted to circuits intended for 201A tubes, because of the much greater amplification, the circuit not having the selectivity. Use a band pass filter pre-tuner. Screen grid tubes require a suc-cession of stages to obtain satisfactory selectivity and realize on the volume of which they are capable.

## SYNCHRONIZED SENDING HELD VAST BENEFIT

Synchronization points the way to the Synchronization points the way to the practical solution of major difficulties in broadcasting, said C. W. Horn, general engineer of the National Broadcasting Company, commenting on the synchron-ization of WJZ, New York, with WBAL, Baltimore, and WEAF, New York, with WTIC, Hartford. Part of each day the synchronization is effected, WBAL and WTIC operating on their own wave the WTIC operating on their own wave the rest of the time. Synchronization, as now constituted in

these instances, means the simultaneous operation of two stations on the same wavelength. "The move is revolutionary, since hitherto a separate broadcasting channel has been required for each trans-mitter, and the knotty problem the new system may eventually clear up is the congestion on American wavelengths,'

congestion on American wavelengths, said Mr. Horn. "There are more than 600 radio stations in the United States," he added, "and only ninety practical wavelengths to divide among them. Part-time operation, regional assignments, limitation of power, and a congested dial for the listener have resulted from the necessity of parcelling out only ninety waves among 600 transmitters.

### Each Has Full Time Now

"Synchronization presents a natural solution for this problem. Inauguration of our synchronized schedules with WTIC and WBAL, however, is only the start-ing point. It will take much further ditions to bring synchronization into gen-eral use."

eral use." Meanwhile, another more immediate advantage has been gained by the syn-chronization schedule begun last week. WTIC and WBAL, which have hitherto been heard in their respective areas on a part-time basis, are now able to give their listeners full-time service by alter-nations in synchronization with one of

their listeners full-time service by alter-nating in synchronization with one of NBC's key stations in New York. WTIC synchronizes with, and receives programs from WEAF, while WBAL broadcasts independently on the wave length of 1,060 kilocycles, which it shares with WTIC by Federal allotment. Then when WTIC ceases synchronizing and takes over the 1,060 kilocycle channel, WBAL, instead of remaining silent, con-tinues to operate by synchronizing with WJZ in New York. In other words, WTIC synchronizes for half the broadcasting day, while WBAL operates independently, and then WTIC broadcasts on the sepa rate channel for the remainder of the day, while WBAL synchronizes.

### First Benefit to Regional Stations

The stations which are now operating on the regional wavelengths, Horn be-lieves, may well be the first to benefit from the development of synchronization. At the present there are certain stations throughout the country which operate on the same wavelength because they are spaced far enough apart geographically to permit some sort of service locally. These are the regional stations. To allow such service on the same wavelength without synchronization, their power must be restricted to very low values.

## **Electron** Called **Diamond Rater**

After a piece of willemite stone has been placed under a Lenard ray tube and bom-barded with millions of tiny electrons, it glows and emits light.

This tube is used by Dr. H. M. Elsey to make a rough check on the fluorescent qual-ity of new synthetic minerals created by H. M. Kraner, noted ceramist of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company.

It is said that an indication of the quality of diamonds may also be obtained in this way.

## **BAGLEY PASSES 6TH AIR YEAR**

The Tower Health Exercises, directed by Arthur Bagley, entered its seventh year recently

While establishing a record of more than 2,300 broadcasting hours, the equivalent of 12,000 station hours, Bagley has built up a following estimated at 4,000,000 people, who have mailed more than 1,000,000 fan letters.

letters. Bagley reads 400 letters daily. He keeps a force of fifteen secretaries to handle his 14,000 letters each month. A majority of the mail contains requests for exercise charts, 806,000 of which have been sent out since 1925. More than 890,000 copies of health pamphlets were also mailed during that period, the most popular being "Overweight," with the "Cook Book" run-ning close second and "Rheumatism" third.

Many requests are for exercises designed to reduce the abdomen and hips.

Bagley says he has interviewed more than 10,000 visitors since his broadcasts began.

His day begins with the exercises, fol-lowed by breakfast. Then he reads let-ters during the morning and generally is a luncheon speaker about town. In the afternoon he schedules his "bicycle itinerary' In the and poems.

### Westinghouse's 1930 Business \$180,283,579

The annual report of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company shows the following income account for the year ending December 31st, 1930, as compared with the previous year:

Gross earnings 1930	1929
Sales billed\$180,283,579 \$216,	364,588
Cost of sales 171,971,118 194,	371,987
N e t manufacturing	
profit	992,601
Gross income from	216 244
Net income available	510,544
for dividends and	

other purposes... 11,881,705 27.062.611

Reduction in sales and income in 1930 reflects removal of manufacture of radio sets and tubes, as well as decrease in general business. The net earnings per share were \$4.45. As of December 31st, 1930, unfilled orders amounted to \$40,208,181, which com-pares with \$62,025,399 for the preceding year. During the year, four quarterly divi dends were declared on the common and participating preferred stocks, each at the rate of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. (\$1.25 per share), a total for the year of 10 per cent. (\$5.00 per share).

## **TUBE CARILLON** DEMONSTRATED to engineers

The electric carillon, a new musical device which can boom out bell tones louder than the largest bells in Christendom or can tone down these same notes to the tinkle of the chimes in a boudoir was demonstrated by Dr. Alfred clock, was demonstrated by Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith, vice-president and general engineer of the Radio Corporation of America in an address on "The New Music of Electric Vibrations," before the New York Electrical Society in the En-gineering Auditorium, 29 West 39th Street, New York City. This device, developed under the super-vision of C. J. Young, of the RCA Victor Company, Inc., consists, Dr. Goldsmith explained, of a series of small steel chimes, not unlike those of a household clock,

chimes, not unlike those of a household clock. These chimes are struck by tiny electric hammers actuated by a keyboard like that of a piano. The tiny tones thus produced are audible only a few inches away but the vibration of the steel chimes is made to create small electric currents in devices like the familiar pick-up used on electric phonographs. These feeble currents then are amplified millions of times by a vacuum tube amplifier and are played to an auditorium audience or from a church tower by means of giant loudspeakers.

#### Can Be Heard Miles

The operator of this electric carillon not only controls the notes to be played but can vary the volume of the tone from a faint sound, audible only a few feet away, to intensities loud enough to be heard for miles. The device, Dr. Gold-smith said, is a "flexible lion which can be made to sound like a lamb." Runs or trills can be played even more rapidly than on a piano, something never before possible with chimes. These notes may start softly and then be swelled to enor-mous volumes, another impossibility on any other kind of bell instrument. No great physical effort is required from the operator, as it is for example, when

the operator, as it is for example, when ordinary bells are rung by levers or ropes. The electric carillon is but one example, Dr. Goldsmith believes, of the enormous possibilities of electric music. The variapossibilities of electric music. The varia-tion of volume is so great, for example, that a flute tone may be played as loudly that a flute tone may be played as loudly as a trombone or an organ. By electric control of overtones the instrument can change the tone quality also. "If the mu-sician of the future," Dr. Goldsmith said, "desires to get violin effects but happens to have special ability in playing on a piano keyboard, there is no reason why he should not produce violin tones by this latter means. If, on the other hand, he prefers the technique of howing a he prefers the technique of bowing a he preters the technique of bowing a string or pressing buttons or waving his hands and yet desires to produce the tone quality of a trombone, electricity will enable him to satisfy his desires. Even entirely new sounds of kinds pre-viously unknown on earth will be avail-able, Dr. Goldsmith predicted, to increase the richness and flexibility of the electric music of future ages." music of future ages."

### Artist Survives This Invention

Dr. Goldsmith disagrees emphatically Dr. Goldsmith disagrees emphatically with those who believe that these elec-tric developments mean the elimination of the artist. On the contrary, he in-sisted, "the artist and musician will be-come more important in the future be-case of the advent of electric music."

Eyes are being provided for the here-tofore blind radio audience, with the early inauguration of regular programs from the first sight and sound broadcasting studio in New York City. The Jenkins Television Corporation's television trans-mitter W2XCR and the General Broad-casting System's station WGBS, are co-portating as outlets for the sight and operating as outlets for the sight and

With a corps of electricians and me-chanics completing their work on the radiovision studios and television transmitter at 655 Fifth Avenue, New York City, entertainment and enlightenment will soon be projected by sight and sound to the homes of the metropolitan area as well as to other parts of the country.

### How to Tune in Both

The W2XCR television transmitter is located in the same building, while the WGBS sound transmitter is located at Astoria, L. I.

Performers will face the radiovision camera in the studio, so that their image may be sent to the television transmitter, while the microphone nearby will pick up the voice or other sound for transmis-

sion over wires to the WGBS control room from that point to the transmitter. Lookers-in will employ a special radio-vision receiver for tuning in the pictures, while the standard broadcast receiver, tuned in to WGBS, will bring in the syn-chronized sound for the complete acdia chronized sound for the complete radio talkies.

talkies. Television transmitter W2XCR will operate on a frequency of 2035 kilo-cycles, or 147.5 meters. It is licensed for an output up to 5,000 watts, so as to cover not only the New York metro-politan area, but also a good portion of the United States.

### Starts Early This Month

The new television transmitter will go The new television transmitter will go on the air experimentally early this month. The regular program service will be announced later. In the near future the first combined sight and sound studios in New York City will be on the air each day from 3 to 5 p. m., and for a period during the evening, with regular and entertaining programs, following the short period of experimentation. The studios will bring leading person-alities of the entertainment world, as

alities of the entertainment world, as well as leading men in the public eye, before the combined television camera and broadcast microphone.

### Caldwell is Worried **Over Low-price Sets**

Dangers threatening the entire radio in-dustry, as well as entertainment of the listening public, were the subject of a warn-ing in a talk by O. H. Caldwell, former Federal Radio Commissioner, broadcast over the WEAF network. Mr. Caldwell was deeply concerned over

Mr. Caldwell was deeply concerned over a tendency on the part of some radio man-ufacturers to sacrifice tone values, and high quality generally, to cater to a low-price market. He holds that this tendency is likely to nullify the great progress made in broadcasting and to deprive listeners of the full homeft of fire activities and the second the full benefit of fine, artistic programs.

## **Television** Plan for Opera House

Leopold Stokowski, conductor of the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra, said: "Television would enable me to offer opera, ballet and drama to all American radio listeners. Modernistic music is often complicated and difficult to understand. Television would smooth the way for popularity of the works of present-day composers. By television I could bring entire operas to the radio audience and

synchronize impressions of eye and ear." Stokowski indicated that plans for the proposed Philadelphia Grand Opera House, to be erected on the new Parkway, include provision for television broadcasting of stage productions, with special lighting effects and radio facilities.

## TAYLOR GIVES **OPERA COURSE**

A series of Sunday afternoon broadcasts to acquaint Americans with grand opera is being undertaken by Deems Taylor, American author-composer, in cooperation with the National Broadcasting Company. The opera appreciation course, to be known as the Deems Taylor Musical Ser-

ies, will continue through ten weekly programs with leading opera singers and con-ductors assisting the composer in chronolog-ical explanations and musical illustrations. The programs will be broadcast at 2 :00 p m.,

Eastern Standard Time, except the last one. Arias will be sung in English. "My talks are not directed to the opera audience we have today," said Taylor, "but are planned for the average American who never has seen grand opera on a metropoli-

tan stage, nor wanted to, and probably never will see such opera." The composer of the two most successful American operas, "The King's Henchman" and "Peter Ibbetson," says appreciation of grand opera, in this country, should spread beyond the diamond horseshoe to city apart-ment, farm, ranch house and tenement.

Opening and closing programs will re quire forty-five minutes each, all others be-ing half an hour. The time will be divided between Taylor's talks and the musical dem-

between Taylor's talks and the musical dem-onstrations, consisting of excerpts from operas under discussion. As America's leading opera composer, and as an author and former newspaperman Tay-lor was selected as eminently qualified to arrange, direct the series and give verbal illustrations in descriptive language intelligible to all.

gible to all. The complete schedule, after the opening broadcast, follows: March 29, "Opera in America Today"; April 5, "How Opera Started"; April 12, "Opera is Taken up Socially"; April 19, "The First Reformation and the Two Schools"; April 26, "The Ten-Twenty-Thirty Period of Opera"; May 3, "The Sec-ond Reformation"; May 10, "The Revolu-tion"; May 17, "Verdi, Before and After Wagner"; May 24, "Opera After Wagner"; May 31, "American Composers and Ameri-can Opera."

### HOLMES JOINS STEVENS

Harry Holmes, former general sales manager of the DeForest Radio Com-pany, has joined the Stevens Manufac-turing Corporation, 42 Spring Street, Newark, N. J., as general sales manager. The Stevens Corporation manufactures Burtex diaphragms for loudspeakers, com-late loudspeakers, complete ampliplete loudspeakers, direct-coupled ampli-fiers and other sound-reproducing equipment.

## **ESTIMATE PUTS** LISTENER GAIN AT 10,000,000

17

Despite the wide use of radio and tremendous growth of broadcasting, an esti-mate today of the Radio Manufacturers Association is that 10,000,000 or more per-sons will be added during 1931 to the already enormous army of radio lis-

"Recent surveys," said Bond Geddes, executive vice-president of the association, "indicate prospective sales in 1931 of be-tween 3,500,000 and 4,000,000 new receiving sets. Of these probably 1,000,000 will re-place antique radio sets. Calculating four listeners to each radio set, according to the average of recent Government Census Bureau and broadcasters' figures, there will be 2,500,000 to 3,000,000 new pur-chasers of modern receiving sets and thus about 10,000,000 new listeners.

### Midgets An Important Factor

"Many of these will be in rural communities, especially if the Federal Radio Commission, as it is hoped, grants appli-cations of broadcast stations for high power with consequent opening of new markets, especially in the Southern States, and improved recention for other lise and improved reception for other listeners.

"The new and popular midget radio set is an important factor in replacement of antique radios. Late last year a large proportion of radio sales was of midget proportion of radio sales was of midget sets. With business conditions improv-ing, the proportion of console sales is expected to increase, although possibly 50 per cent. of 1931 sales may be of the midget type. "In the new 1931 radio development, with better sets at lower cost to the pub-lic, a popular price receiving set selling

lic, a popular price receiving set selling under \$100, promises to be an important factor this year.

### Wants Modern Sets Used Throughout

"Preliminary Census Bureau figures estimate that about 14,000,000 American families now possess receiving sets. Of these only about 11,000,000 AC, or lightsocket operated sets, are estimated to be in use. "Those radio listeners who do not know

the enjoyment of modern radio and modern broadcasting, it is hoped will be in-duced to discard their apparatus and join the millions enjoying modern radio."

### **Optimism** in Trade

L. P. Naylor, sales manager of Arc-turus Radio Tube Company, Newark, N. J., returned from a four weeks' trip

to the Middle West and South. "It is gratifying to note," says Mr. Naylor, "the decided optimism prevailing among jobbers and dealers. This attitude is in sharp contrast to the conditions existing this time last year, when I took

a similar trip. "In the Middle West, the employment situation has considerably improved. This, together with a renewed tendency on the part of the listening public to once again become radio-conscious, is begin-ning to make itself felt among the radio trade.

"The South, with its textile mills opening up and stepping up capacity, is in a highly optimistic mood. Jobbers and dealers seem to have a new lease on radio life. The consensus stresses the return of good radio business in 1931."

### A THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

RE crooners over the air at the height of their popularity and success? Some  $\boldsymbol{\Lambda}$ say they are and others assert that the crooned song will be with us just so long as the public attention is not attracted to something more original or of better artistic value. There's one thing to be said for crooning-many a singer has become a high-salaried entertainer in spite of the fact that he hasn't any voice, no musical culture and is expert at nothing except croonology. Give the devil his due, however; the crooner wakes up fewer sleeping infants than do the more talented and lusty-voiced singers before the mike. Proving, perhaps, that every dark cloud has its silver lining. But is everybody interested in clouds?



The First and Only National Radio Weekly Tenth Year

Owned and publiched by Hennessy Radio Publications Corporation, 145 West 45th Street, New York, N. Y. Buland Burke Hennessy, president and treasurer, 145 Vice-president, 145 West 45th Street, New York, N. Y.; Herman Bernard, secretary, 145 West 45th Street, New York, N. Y. Roland Burke Hennessy, editor; Herman Bernard, managing editor and business manager; J. E. Anderson, technical editor; L. C. Tobin, advertising manager.

### **Remedies for Troubles**

HE modern, electrically-operated radio set is a well-made instrument in almost all cases, and as a rule comparatively troublefree and deit is pendable. There are, however, certain difficulties that may arise, and it is well for the set owner to know about them, and what he can do to improve his re-

ception. The troubles ordinarily encountered are hum, interference, noise, insensitivity, poor reproduction.

Hum, quite often noticed, may be caused by one or more defective tubes. In fact, one defective tube is likely to cause a lot of trouble, and a set owner should keep on hand at least one new and tested tube of each of the kinds used in the set. Then he will always have a dependable tube that he can substitute for each of the others, in turn, and prove instantly by this comparison which one, if any, of the tubes has gone bad.

Another cause of hum may be a de-fective rectifier tube or unit. Where a separate B eliminator is used, hum is often caused by locating this accessory too close to the set. In many cases where hum is due to a poorly filtered eliminator, the addition of extra filter conden-sers externally will greatly improve matters

Having electric lamps and wiring too close to the set sometimes causes hum, as would a defective dynamic speaker, which is usually remedied by adding an A filter condenser to the field coil of the speaker.

If the aerial is too large, stations will conflict with each other. Make the aerial as short as will provide you with satis-factory volume from the stations you ordinarily wish to receive. Where the

volume is too great, tone quality will not be good. Another remedy for this is to use a series condenser between the aerial post and the aerial.

Where you live within a couple of miles of a powerful broadcasting station you will have considerable difficulty in listening to other stations. A wave trap will be needed in such cases. Often the broadcasting company recommends these devices, especially within a limited area of the transmitter, so that such listeners may enjoy better radio reception. The improved band pass filter type of wave trap, with two tuned circuits, is especially effective.

Noise is perhaps the most common problem with any radio receiving outfit. If your set is noisy, disconnect the aerial. If the noise stops, you've proved that the source of the noise is outside. If the noise continues, it's in your set or speaker, as a rule.

A common form of noise is a scraping and rasping sound. This is sometimes due to a defective grid leak, which is easily replaced. The volume control de-vice is a very frequent source of noise, because of worn and defective contacts. The noise, in such cases, is always noted when you adjust the volume knob, or even press on it. The remedy here is a new volume control device, easily in-stalled.

Bad contacts are generally noise-causers. Tubes may make poor contact in the sockets, as evidenced by noise when they are moved.

Where the noise is evidently from an outside source, first examine the antenna. Loose joints in the aerial or ground, a bad contact on the water pipe, aerial wire swinging against any object whatever, even other wires touching each other near your aerial, may cause noise. A quite common experience in radio homes is scraping and rattling sounds caused by the BX cable used in the house wiring, touching at various places. The BX cables may cross one another, espe-cially in the cellar, and the touching of the metal casings causes a radio noise, though of course not causing any diffi-culty as to the electric wiring itself. Such culty as to the electric wiring itself. Such noises are generally loudest when some-one walks across the floor. Noises due to electrical machinery, elec-

tric contacts, etc, present a problem. Household devices that cause noise, such as refrigerators, oil burners, vibrators, heating pads, fan motors, etc., may be provided with special filters that will effectively stop such interference. No one should give up on the radio noise prob-lem and imagine that nothing can be done.

Insensitivity is generally controlled in the manufacture of the set, although the user can influence the sensitivity by his choice of tubes for the radio frequency and detector positions. Good tubes have great importance in amplifying the weak radio impulse to a point of understand-ability. The aerial exerts a considerable effect, too. Make it as high as you can— not too long, however—and keep it well away from other objects like building areas a well trees signs wiring and roofs or walls, trees, signs, wiring and the like. Greater volume will reward such changes.

A power tube that is in good condition, a loudspeaker in good condition, and B voltage of the correct values will help you get better tonal qualities.

### RADIO WORLD'S APRIL SPECIAL

and will be dated April 11, 1931. (Out next week). It is planned to publish the May

and will be dated April 11, 1931. (Out next week). It is planned to publish the May Special during the first week in the month, and to date it May 2. Thus RADIO WORLD will afford an opportunity to advertisers who use only monthly magazines to be represented in the RADIO WORLD SPECIAL with the added advantage of a twelve-time rate. Those desiring to take advantage of the regular fifty-two time discount of 20% can do so by running a one-inch rate holder for the other weeks of the month.

Our regular rate card in force—and we believe these rates are the lowest in this field. RADIO WORLD at \$150.00 a page and \$5.00 an inch is a wonderful buy. RADIO WORLD, 145 West 45th St., New York City.



April 4, 1931

### Tickled With His MB-29

HE effectiveness of RADIO WORLD Г advertisements has a range without limits, and unaffected by static. In De-cember over the signature of my assistant we ran an ad relative to the sale of my MB29 tuner. Letters came from the North, South, West, and East, and they are still coming. We decided not to sell the tuner, however.

In checking up the tuner, and after making several changes, the peak effi-ciency was so much increased that the functioning is about all a man would wish in a tuner. Some of the changes made in tuner were: the 60 ohm resistor across the heater filament was replaced by one of 20 ohms, the choke in screen grid cir-cuit was increased to three chokes, the two added ones being bypassed by two .01 mfds., and instead of using a common biasing resistor of 100 ohms, individual ones of 300 ohms, each bypassed by 1 mfd. were used. Now I get KFI at 8.45 p. m.

#### Easy to Install

The installation of the bypasses is easy, but mounting of the 1 mfds. will require a little study. I finally solved the problem of location by drilling the chassis and strapping the extra 1 mfds. on top of the three condenser housings braded to chas-The other change made was in the ode circuit of detector. The auxilsis. cathode circuit of detector. The auxil-iary resistor was removed, using straight power detection. The powers say that the resistor should be 20,000 ohms. J. E. Anderson rightly said that there cannot be any orthodox rule laid down in this respect. I found best results with a resistor of less ohmage.

If this tuner develops a hum when used with the Velvetone, spot the electrolytic condenser in the amplifier.

### Fine Sports

I might say that I have found the Na-tional group a bunch of fine sports. Dana Bacon of the engineering department is most co-operative in regards to any troubles that may develop with their line of sponsored goods.

I have noted with interest your features of short-wave adapters and converters. The article by Mr. Bacon in December 13th issue was most constructive to the experimenter. I have been successful in short-wave work, and for several years been able to reach stations across the big pond. But I use a full set.

The adapters will cause a great deal of interest, and at less money. I have found out that the whole family as a rule is not interested in the thrill band. They want interested in the thrill band. to listen to the regular broadcasts.

DR. A. S. HUNTER, Box 311, Durham, N. C.

### \* \* \*

### Good Results from Converter

BUILT one of your 4 tube converters and that on the afternoon of March 17th from 2 to 4 p. m. I listened to G5SW, Chelmsford, England. Good speaker volume The items were a short play; an Irish monologue, a quartette singing Irish songs; and announcing programs for March 18th from Brooklands to be broadcast from London and Manchester; and an hour of dance music from the Winter Garden signed off with the chimes of Big Ben 12 p. m. (4 p. m. here).

H. CROWTHER, 1889 Stride Ave. New Westminster, B. C., Canada.

## HALF OF WORLD SETS IN USE IN **UNITED STATES**

### Washington.

There are about 30,000,000 receiving sets in the world. The United States has about half of them.

There are 1,255 broadcasting stations in the world. The United States has about half of them.

There are about 2,028,000,000 persons in the world. The United States has 122,000,-000 of them.

So the United States population is about 10 per cent. of the world's population, but the set and station "population" here is about 50 per cent. of the world's.

These comparisons are drawn from a report by Lawrence D. Batson, radio specialist of the Department of Commerce.

### 605 Licensed Stations Here

Statistics compiled by Mr. Batson show Statistics compiled by Mr. Batson show that there were approximately 650 licensed broadcasting stations outside the United States. Records of the Federal Radio Com-mission show 605 licensed stations in the United States, with several other stations under construction.

'The position of the United States in station strength is much more effectively presented when population figures are consider-ed," declared Mr. Batson. "This country, with a population of but 122,000,000, has

with a population of but 122,000,000, has nearly as many stations as the rest of the world, with a population of 1,906,000,000. Within the United States it is estimated there are some 15,000,000 receiving sets, with other nations together probably having about the same number." Mr. Batson pointed out that only a year

ago records showed that the United States accommodated more stations than were in operation in all other nations. The tendency, he declared, has been toward reducing the number of American stations to alleviate congestion in the broadcast band and eliminate interference to reception. Other nations, which have only begun to appreciate the advantages of broadcasting, now are installing more and more stations.

### 380,000,000 Sets for Coverage

"To make radio programs available to every human being on earth," said Mr. Bat-son, "more than 380,000,000 receiving sets would be necessary. There are now, roughly, 30,000,000 sets in use, based on best availa-ble information. This estimate is made on the assumption that there are five listeners to each set. Thus, about 150,000,000 people are now equipped with radio receiving facilities.

Along with the world-wide activity in broadcasting, Mr. Batson asserted reports to the Department show a "definite trend" toward the use of high power as the most effective means of reaching the remote lis-tener. In tropical countries, he said, where static is at its worst, strong signals are necessary.

He pointed out that several of the large American broadcasting stations transmit simultaneously on short-wave their regular evening programs for reception in tropical areas. These short-wave programs are re-ceived in widely separated areas of the world.

Reports from Germany, England, and Russia, particularly, disclose that more super powered stations, ranging up to as high as 500,000 watts, are being installed, he said. In other European countries, central high-powered transmitters are being installed either to replace or supplement existing stations

## Capital District Leads in Sets

### Washington

With an average of more than one radio receiving set to two families, the District of Columbia has a greater "radio population" than any other portion of the country for which statistics have been compiled, the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, states.

Results of the preliminary count, the Bureau states, show that 53.9 per cent of the total number of families have sets. The

number of families reporting sets was 67,880. Similar figures for seven States have been compiled so far by the Bureau. When the analysis is completed, the total "radio popu-lation" of the country as of April 1, 1930, will be available with an exception of will be available, with an approximation of the number of radio listeners.

## STATIONS STICK WELL TO WAVE

#### Washington.

Broadcasting stations are improving Broadcasting stations are improving in their efforts to keep within the broad-casting bands allotted to them by the Federal Radio Commission, according to W. D. Terrell, Director of the Commerce Department's Radio Division. He com-mented on the increase in January, 1931, our December 1030 in the number of over December, 1930, in the number of stations which have deviated less than 100 cycles from the allotted mark. The Radio Commission ruling permits devia-

Radio Commission ruling permits devia-tion up to 500 cycles. The Division, during January, measured at different localities throughout the country the frequencies of 365 United States broadcasting stations. The fre-quencies of these stations were measured for an aggregate of 7,934 times. The measurements were taken at various times during day and night and it was ascertained that 54 stations at no time deviated 100 cycles or over and 104 deviated less than 200 cycles. The devia-tion of 207 stations therefore exceeded

tion of 207 stations therefore exceeded 200 cycles.

In comparison with the measurements made during December, the figures for January show a decided improvement. During December 10½ per cent of the stations measured deviated less than 100 stations measured deviated less than 100 cycles, whereas in January 15 per cent deviated under this mark. Those deviat-ing under 200 cycles in December amounted to  $19\frac{1}{2}$  per cent, against  $28\frac{1}{2}$  per cent during January. The per-centage of those deviating over 200 cycles for December was 70 per cent, while Jan-uary showed a decrease to  $56\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

### Each of 800 Rooms Is Wired for Radio

Radio engineers who installed the radio equipment in Cincinnati's new hotel, the Netherland Plaza, introduced innovations. Netherland Plaza, introduced innovations. By the equipment in the hotel guests have the choice of four programs from noon to 12 p. m. in any and all of the 800 rooms. The master receiving set in the radio control room in the pent house may be used at will for broadcasting as well as receiving. The loudspeaker is built into the wall in each quest room and in the ceiling

in each guest room, and in the ceiling in the private dining rooms and various public rooms. There is a dial and volume control in each room.

Washington

Home television receivers, new types of radio tubes designed to afford increased fidelity of reproduction, and the Robinson "Stenode Radiostat" which, it is claimed, eliminates interchannel interference, prob-ably will be displayed at the radio trade show, at Chicago in June, Federal Radio Commissioner Harold A. Lafount stated on the basis of reports from the industry. Despite the experimental restriction on television broadcasting, Mr. Lafount said

several of the manufacturers are concentrating on the development of a moderately-priced television receiver. Development in the visual art is making rapid strides, the Commissioner declared, and it is predicted by some engaged in the experimental work that television will be practical within a vear.

### Pentode Coming Forward

The pentode, a five-element tube which has been the subject of much discussion in the industry, may be displayed by cer-tain manufacturers at the show, Mr. Lafount asserted. In the past two years, he said, claims have been made that this tube has been perfected, but it has never been generally introduced in this country. Less tubes per set, with vastly improved quality, are recited as the advantages of the pentode.

More and more superheterodyne receivers are being manufactured, Mr. Lafount de-clared. He emphasized, however, that the tuned radio frequency type of receiver has by no means been abandoned, and that pro-duction for 1931-32 models, is going forward in both lines.

Reports from the industry are to the effect that one or two manufacturers may introduce sets equipped with the "Stenode Radiostat," invented by Dr. James Robinson, British scientist.

With this device it is claimed that exist-ing broadcast channels can be increased threefold at this time, without interference, and that ultimately all channels can be in-creased a hundred-fold. With the stenode, according to its sponsors, a band only 100 cycles wide is needed for broadcasting, whereas the band now used is 10,000 cycles wide (10 kilocycles), Mr. Lafount said.

### Most Engineers Doubt Stenode

Stenode receiving sets, he said, even with-out realignment of broadcasting station as-signments, would permit "sharp tuning" and eliminate interchannel interference, if they measure up to the claims of their sponsors. Engineering opinion is divided, he said, and there is a tendency on the part of most American engineers to discount the theory of the inventor.

As to television, the Commissioner declared that difficulties have been encountered in the manufacture of receivers because there is no standard process of television trans-mission. Consequently a particular type of receiver is adapted only for the reception of visual transmissions from a particular type of station. In other words, he explained, a television receiver of today, would not be capable of receiving programs of all of the experimental television stations on the air.

Regarding superheterodyne sets, Mr. La-fount, says "The United States Daily," al-luded to a statement by Kenneth B. Warner, secretary of the American Radio Relay League, the organization of radio amateurs, warning against indiscriminate buying of such types, and calling attention to the trouble that may result from the purchase of a poorly designed superheterodyne.

## **VISION FAR OFF**, ANDREA FEELS

"Intense public curiosity about televis-ion has led to premature hope of its ar-rival in a practical, commercial form," said Frank Andrea, president of the Fada Radio Company, Long Island City, N. Y. "Radio owners or prospective owners

"Radio owners or prospective owners are particularly susceptible to rumors about the arrival of television," continued Mr. Andrea, "for they are led to believe that television will be a part of the new radio sets. The best technical opinion is quite the contrary, of course—that when and if television does arrive it will of necessity operate in the short-wave specnecessity operate in the short-wave spec-trum and require separate receiving ap-paratus. In other words, the sound and sight spectrums will be separate and dis-tinct with different receiving apparatus required for each. "Translated into common sense this simply means that no one should hesitate to purchase a good radio set now or delay

simply means that no one should hesitate to purchase a good radio set now or delay the enjoyment of a fine radio in the vain hope of getting a set next year with television too in the same box. "While experimental television is already the hobby of a few amateurs who are not critical of results obtained, this is not to be compared with tele-vision that would be acceptable to the mass of radio owners as entertainment. As soon as radio surpassed the phono-As soon as radio surpassed the phono-graph in fidelity of reproduction, it achieved enormous popularity, but the public has learned to demand high quality in visual reproduction because of the motion picture and will not be satisfied with crude or inferior reproduction."

## **DX** Reception Fine—in Alaska

Washington.

Alaska is a real paradise for radio fans, according to a report recently received at the National Park Service from Harry J. Lick, Superintendent of Mount Mc-Kinley National Park, in that far north territory. Mr. Lick reports to the Department of

the Interior ideal radio reception at park headquarters, situated at an altitude of approximately 3,000 feet. Each day after darkness sets in, it is possible to get sta-tions from all parts of the United States, and Honolulu and Japan are picked up quite frequently. Broadcasts from all these stations are reported as very clear these stations are reported as very clear and distinct.

## Studio Personalities

### Amos In a Real Court

Freeman F. Gosden, the Amos of Amos 'n' Andy, got a real thrill out of a crime suspect "showup" one morning when he

suspect "showup" one morning when he visited the Chicago police headquarters. During the questioning of an assorted line of suspects a colored fellow was sig-naled out by Chief of Detectives John Norton, who asked his name. "Amos," replied the suspect. "Occupation?" continued the detective. "Ah'm in business with a fellow named Andy," he rejoined. "What are you here for?" "Ah stole a fellow's girl," confessed the chap.

the chap. None was more astonished than Gosden. However the "show" proved to be a put-up job on the comedian.

### All Amos 'n' Andy

One of the invited men in radio in the eyes of many people is Bill Hay, an-nouncer for Amos 'n' Andy. Fans often say they envy Hay because he knows what's going to happen, but Hay doesn't know any more about it than does the radio audience. Each evening just before going on the air, Amos 'n' Andy hand him the synopsis of the previous day's episode, which he reads—but he never sees the manuscript for the program being broadcast.

Correll and Gosden always write every word of their episodes. No one but them selves ever has been heard in their broadcasts. \* \* \*

### Host Is Timekeeper to Guests

The constant necessity of keeping his watch before him, even at meals, recently caused a bit of embarrassment and much merriment at the home of Alois Havrilla, The Havrillas had guests for announcer. dinner. As they entered the dining room the announcer, by force of habit, took his watch from his pocket and placed it by his plate. \* \* \*

### Stebbens Hears Again

It had been thirty years since George Stebbens had been able to hear any of the many popular hymns he has composed until one morning recently, when he was a studio visitor during the Morning De-votions program conducted daily over a National Broadcasting Company network. As the guest of Arthur Billings Hunt, conductor of the presentations, the octo-genarian was given a seat in the control booth. With his ear close to the loudspeaker, Stebbens could hear distinctly the strains of his own music, and a bright smile lighted up his face. Hunt, during

the course of the program, came into the booth to see how his guest was faring, but the composer waved him away. The elderly hymn writer did not want his host to interrupt his complete enjoyment of the songs.

Among the numerous hymns Stebbens has written are: "On a Green Hill Far Away," "Face to Face" and "An Evening Prayer."

#### \* \* \*

### Composes, Babe In Arms

Composes, Babe In Arms Madame Lolita Cabrera Gainsborg, pianist, whose programs are broadcast over networks, composed her well-known "Lullaby" for the right hand only, with her youngest child in her arms. "Tommy," says Madame Gainsborg, "cried a great deal when he was a baby. I had to hold him much of the time, and it was practically impossible for me to play."

play."

One day while sitting at the piano with the baby, she had the inspiration for a lullaby for the right hand alone. On a recent radio program she played the num-ber. Letters were received from all parts of the country saying that it was one of the most exquisite selections heard over the radio. \* \* \*

### Signs Dual Personalities

Phillips Lord, interpreter of Seth Parker, recently visited a Buffalo hotel. He put two signatures in the hotel guest book: Phillips H. Lord, New York City, and Seth Parker, Jonesport, Me.

### Writer May Be in Earnest

Raymond Knight, who plays Ambrose J. Weems in the Cuckoo program, be-lieves he is being kidded by the writer of the following letter:

Prefessor Ambrose J. Weems.

Dear sir (?) Enclosed find five (5) cents in stamps for which please send me your autographed photograph sworn to before a notary public.

Enclosed in the letter were found two 2-cent stamps intact and one 2-cent stamp cut in half. \* \* \*

### \$10,000 Fiddle a Makeshift

Lou Raderman, violinist, often heard during National Broadcasting Company programs, strolled into the studio recently with a \$10,000 Guarnerius violin tucked under his arm. Raderman's \$25,000 Stradivarius violin was being repaired by a violin trouble-shooter who loaned Raderman the \$10,000 fiddle.

## FREE AID TO A NEW JOB!

SITUATIONS WANTED AND HELP WANTED ADVERTISEMENTS WITHOUT COST!

Address: Industrial Dept., RADIO WORLD, 145 W. 45th St., N. Y. C.

### SITUATIONS WANTED

YOUNG MAN, 21 YEARS OF 'AGE, desires posi-tion in experimental laboratory, factory or in the broadcasting field, with chance of becoming Radio Operator, commercial class. Over 5 years' expe-rience in radio work, graduate of Carnegie Insti-tute of Technology, Pittsburgh. Will work any-where in U. S. Start at reasonable salary. Robert Warren Myers, 1911 Carson St., S.S., Pittsburgh, Pa.

YOUNG MAN SINGLE, age 28, free to go any-where. Two years technical college. Associated with radio since 1921. Short wave and television experience. References and additional information gladly furnished. Jack Fink, 1200-4 Ave. S.E., Cedar Rapids, Ia.

WANTED-Connection with Radio, Radio Tube, Electrical or Sound Equipment manufacturer. Electrically inclined. 5 years' experience servicing Radios. Al references. With chance for advance-ment. Address E. C. H., P. O. Box 823, Free-hold, N. J.

RESEARCH OR LABORATORY POSITION WANTED by 1929 graduate, BS in EE. Thesis, Vacuum Tubes, used as basis of college lab. masual. Formerly, head instructor in Radio School. Engineer in tube plant, experimental department. Hold radio operator's license, broadcast class. Experienced on motion picture sound apparatus. All references of highest order. Age 25. W. A. Woehr, Geneseo, III.

TWENTY-TWO YEARS OLD, graduate of one of country's largest technical radio schools, two years' actual experience in handling receiving and transmitting equipment; also a wireless operator. Have excellet business references. W. H. Carter, Radiotrician, Martin, Tenn.

RADIO SERVICE MAN, AGE 25, with several years experience, and complete modern equipment, would like position as helper to install or service sound motion picture equipment, and public ad-dress systems. Have had some experience in this line. Willing to go anywhere. R. M. Turner, P. O. Box 144, Okmulgee, Okla.

### Hammarlund's New Intermediate Condensers



Intermediate tuning condensers, in both dual and single style, for superheterodyne and other similar circuits, are now being manufactured by The Hammarlund Manu-facturing Company, 424 West 33rd Street, New York City. These condensers, which are made specially for manufacturers' use, in the single style are known as the "ICS," and in the dual style as the "ICD" type type.

The duals are made in two sizes, 115/16" for a shield 2" in diameter, and 23%" for a larger size shield. The single condenser base is 15/16" by 134". They are made in capacity ranges of 10 to 70 mmf.; 70 to 140 mmf., and 140 to 220 mmf.

To afford absolute stability, specially conditioned Isolantite bases are used. This material is treated immediately after withmaterial is treated immediately after with-drawal from the kilns, making it impos-sible to absorb any moisture. Each base is individually tested for volume resis-tance and only those showing infinity re-sistance are acceptable. The mica dielec-tric films are of the best quality obtain-able. About four out of every five are rejected in the rigid inspection required in the selection of films of the necessary quality. quality.

The temper of the phosphor bronze flexible plate is controlled by sclerescope to insure uniformity of minimum, maxi-

mum and rate capacity increase. The adjusting screws are not the usual rolled thread machine screws. Instead, they have cut threads and a tapered self-aligning head. There are, therefore, no "thin at the top" threads to "give" under tension or wibration and unset the appa tension or vibration and upset the capacity adjustment. Two eyelets prevent shift and perman-

ently fix the position of the brass plate.

### New Corporations

Traul Radio Co.—Atty. S. I. Shapiro, 51 Chambers St., New York, N. Y. Premier Radio Corp.—Atty. C. Planick, 19 Cedar St., New York, N. Y. West Radio Co.—G. J. Cohen, 258 Broadway, Brooklyn, N. Y. Radio Spot Time, radio broadcasting—Attys. Rosenberg, Goldberg & Colin, 165 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

### **50-Cycle** Limitation Proposed by Board

### Washington.

Reduction in the permissible frequency deviation of broadcasting stations from the present limit of 500 cycles to 50 cycles, as a means of reducing interference, is proposed by the Federal Radio Commission.

Before acting on the proposal, the Commission designated an informal hearing for April 20th to obtain information asto whether existing regulation should

asto whether existing regulation should be repealed. The Commission also announced that oral arguments in the high-power case, requested by a number of the parties to the controversy for the maximum power of 50,000 watts, would be heard on April 14th before the Commission. Argument will be heard by zones.

### Literature Wanted

Readers desiring radio literature from manufacturers and jobbers concerning stand-ard parts and accessories, new products and new circuits, should send a request for pub-lication of their name and address. Send request to Literature Editor, RADIO WORLD, 145 West 45th Street, New York, N. Y.

Henry H. Esterly, Sally Ann Furnace, Pa. Jos. P. Hiatt, Kadio, 1315 North "A" Street, Richmond, Ind. Frank Novak, 2401 S. Troy St., Chicago, Ill. Albert Minder, Box 134, Pawnee, Ill. Reed Barton, 1718 Ridge Ave., Coraopolis, Pa. Maurice Cantin, 516 Gordon Ave., Verdun, P. Q., Canada. Geo. W. Lowry, New & Used Radios & Re-pairs, 1863 Harrison Ave., Butte, Mont. Fred Kellerman, 204 Grove St., Brooklyn, N. Y. Henry C. Cassidy, Wakefield, N. Y. Kenneth M. Rouse, 325 University Ave., N. E., Minneapolis, Minn. John F. Stroben, Exeter, Calif. R. D. McDonald, P. O. Box 442, Trail, B. C., Canada.

Canada. S. N. Olson, 1326 W. 102nd St., Cleveland, Ohio.

hio. A. S. Adler, 334 Cherry St., W. Homestead, Pa. William Dennison, 250 Aberdeen Ave., Wayne,

Pa. Hayes Electric Works, 6 E. Cucharras, Denver,

Hayes Electric Works, c.2. Colo. Hayward MacDonald, 202 Caledonia Mines, Glace Bay, N. S., Canada. Geo. H. Dannettel, 4501 Park Heights Ave., Baltimore, Md. H. C. Shaw, 630 Douglas Ave., Portsmouth, Va. Don La Fleur, 46 Williams St., Northampton, Mass.

Ass. Charles Cord, 33 College St., Danville, Ill. N. J. Young. 619 Cedar St., Allentown, Pa. W. H. Melaney, 5357 Broad St., Pittsburgh, Pa. Louis A. Storm, 3200 Linwood Blvd., Kansas W. H. M. Storm, 3200 Linwood City, Mo. Jolley's Radio Shop, R. B. Jolley, Prop., Box 323, Valdosta, Ga. D. W. Mooney, 2572-14 West, Seattle, Wash. F. W. Fox, 1332 Burrard St., Vancouver, B. C., Consida

F. W. Fox, 1332 Burlatu St., Fandard, C. Canada. Frank H. Watson, Coffee, Trinity Co., Calif. H. M. Goodrich, Graduate Radiotrician, Box 1301, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. L. A. Bisbing, 723 North St., E. Mauch Chunk,

Pa. Arthur E. Lowe, 814 Hereward Road, Victoria West, Victoria, B. C., Canada. Elmer L. Warner, Export, R. No. 2, Pa. E. Allocok, 609-9th St., Lyndhurst, N. J. P. B. Kchoe, Kehoe Electrical Co., 818 W. 2nd St., Fort Myers, Fla. Irving Cohen, 2746 W. 5th St., Brooklyn, N. Y. J. M. Zalkind, P. O. Box 615, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Okla.
Reed Barton, 1718 Ridge Ave., Coraopolis, Pa. Roy S. Lamson, Wadena, Minn.
A. L. Rohl, 4640 North Colfax Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.
Frs. Coupal, Brebeuf, Co. Terrebonne, P. Q.,

Canada.

Canada. James Burdett, 527 Hood St., Waco, Tex. Wm. H. Bockman, 1586 O'Farrell St., San Francisco, Calif. Andrew Gilmore, 38711/2 Lankershim Blvd., North Hollywood, Calif. Robert P. Millan, 2615 Clifton Ave., St. Louis,

Robert P. Millan, 2015 Childri Arce, Mo. David Dodson, Eldorado, Pa. Israel Horowitz, 555 Dahill Road, Brooklyn, N. Y. Sr. Luis del Pozo, Necochea 1396, San Fer-nando, Argentina. Utah Counts, Cleveland, Va. H. E. Dansereau, 5153 Music St., New Orleans, La.

La. J. Thos. Pitts, 2124 Kenmore Ave., Charlotte, N. C.

N. C. Wm. H. Kurtz, Newside, Pa. Everett Sound Machine Works, 2802 Norton, Everett, Wash. H. Caldwell, 920-58th St., Brooklyn, N. Y. C. F. Dunmore, Route 17A, No. Postal Annex, Boston, Mass. Dr. C. W. Smith, 509 Sayings & Trust Bldg., Butler, Pa. K. C. Stewart, 401 E. Goodwin Ave., Victoria, Tex.

Tex. N. J. Voorhees, 58 High Ave., Terryville, Conn. C. E. Darrow, 4228 Westminster Pl., St. Louis,

Mo. Jas. B. Hager, 215 Ind. Ave., Wichita Falls,

Jas. D. Flager, A. Vardun St., Plainfield, N. J. A. Van Derbeek, 3 Verdun St., Plainfield, N. J. E. R. Renfro, Box 43, Farmersville, Tex. Albert E. Savoy, First Nat'l. Bank Bldg., Cin-cinnati, Ohio.

John B. Daniels, 68 Richdale Ave., Cambridge,

Mass. Forest W. Horton, U. S. Engr. Dept., aboard Col. A. M. Miller, Pier No. 18, Galveston, Texas. Alger Johnson, 2807 Bay Avenue, Hoquiam, Wash.

### **Readrite** Announces New Set Analyzer



A new set analyzer, which meets the re-quirements of the average service man, has just been placed on the market by the Read-rite Meter Works, Bluffton, Ohio. The model 700 Readrite Set Analyzer is an extremely compact device. The outside dimensions of the carrying case are only 1034in. by 734 in. by 334 in. The analyzer contains a DC voltmeter, an AC voltmeter and a milliammeter. The DC voltmeter has three ranges: 0 to 60, 0 to 300 and 0 to 600 volts. Normally, the instrument is connected on the 300 volt range. By pressing a push-button, it can be changed to the 60 volt range, or by flipping a toggle switch, it can be transferred to the 600 volt range.

be transferred to the 600 volt range. The AC voltmeter has three ranges of 0 to 10 volt, 0 to 140 volts and 0 to 700 volts. The normal operating range is 0 to 140 volts. A push-button switch is provided for the 10 volt range. The 700 volt range, for exter-nal measurements, is obtained through a con-veniently market jack. The milliammeter has two ranges, one for a 20 mil reading and the other for 100 mils. Either range may be obtained as desired, depending upon the position of a double-throw toggle switch. The new Readrite Set Analyzer is

position of a double-throw toggle switch. The new Readrite Set Analyzer is equipped with a six-position bi-polar selector switch, by means of which readings may be obtained of C volts, C volts reversed, K volts, K volts reversed, plate voltage, and screen grid control voltage. A 4½ volt battery is supplied with the analyzer for providing C bias, for grid tests, continuity tests, etc. tests, etc.

tests, etc. There are two sockets on the panel of the analyzer, one for four-prong tubes and the other for five-prong tubes. There are two grid test buttons. One of these is for screen grid tubes and one for other types of tubes. Pin jacks are available for the individual use of all meters, externally, in every range. There is a screen grid jack and there are two other pin jacks for connecting the ex-ternal  $4\frac{1}{2}$  volt battery. The No. 600 contains the same equip.

The No. 600 contains the same equip-ment as No. 700. The carrying case is larger with leatherette covering and equipped with lock. Room is provided for carrying tubes, tools and supplies. The test equip-ment and apped is in a supplies. the top, toos and samples. The travelet equip-ment and panel is in a removable tray in the top of the case. The tray equipment may be used separately as a complete test panel for shop purposes. Size  $14\frac{1}{2}x7x7\frac{1}{2}$ .

### NEW SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

NEW SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Already a noted musical center, Roch-ester, N. Y., has added another symphony orchestra to its roster of musical groups. Samuel Sherman A. Clute organized the new group especially for broadcasting. The Rochester Concert Orchestra makes its bow, under the direction of Clute, in a special Good Friday program, over an NBC-WJZ network from Rochester, Fri-day, April 3, at 5:15 P. M., Eastern Standard Time.

### RADIO WORLD'S MONTHLY SPECIAL

The publishers of RADIO WORLD, believing that the time is ripe for such a move, this conclusion resulting from a careful survey of the radio publishing field, have decided to issue each month a special magazine edition. It will not be an addi-tional or separate issue, but will be published as a unit of RADIO WORLD'S regular series of fifty-two issues a year.

The first in this monthly series will be





GUARANTY RADIO GOODS CO.

143 West 45th St., New York, N. Y.

## **Save Money on Tubes!**

### Get a Guarantee Just the Same!

Q UALITY tubes at enormously reduced prices enable you to save money and obtain full satisfaction. Any tube will be replaced on request within thirty days of its sale!

These tubes are made by a manufacturer of national reputation and are not "distress merchandise." No tube is shipped until it is carefully checked on a Readrite No. 9 Radio Test Kit.

Type	List Price	Your Cost	Type	List Price	Yowr Cost	Type	List Price	Your Cost	
□ 201A □ 226 □ 199-UX □ 199-UV □ 120	\$1.25 1.75 2.50 2.75 3.00	49c 49c 59c 59c 59c	□ WD-12 □ 171A □ 171AC □ 112A □ 227	\$3.00 2.25 2.25 2.25 2.20	59c 59c 59c 59c 59c	245 280 224 222 221 281	\$2,00 1,90 3,30 4,50 7,25	59c 59c 50c 95c 95c	

□ 250. List \$11.00. your cost. \$5c.

[Remit with order for tubes and we pay postage]

### DIRECT RADIO CO.

143 West 45th St., New York, N. Y.

DOUBLE RANGE POTENTIOMETER; made by Centralab, designed for volume control. 10,000 and 20,000 ohms. Price, \$1.05. Guaranty Radio Goods Co., 143 W. 45th St., New York.

"RADIO TROUBLE SHOOTING," E. R. Haan. 328 pages, 300 illustrations, \$3. Guaranty Radio Goods Co., 143 W. 45th St., New York.



## Quick Action Classified Ads Radio World's Speedy Medium for Enterprise and Sales 7 cents a word—\$1.00 minimum—Cash with Order

TRANSFORMERS-700 V. C. T. secondary; 2-2.5 V.; 1-5 V. windings \$6.00. Special made. Radio Power, 1028 Forest Road, Schenectady, N. Y.

FILAMENT TRANSFORMERS, 1½, 2½, 5, 7½ volt, center tapped. State voltage wanted. \$1.15 each. V. C. Cook, 3406 Frederick, Detroit, Mich.

ATWATER-KENT HORN UNIT, \$1.95 postpaid. For use in home or portable, 109-inch tipped cord; 1½ lbs. weight; size 3-inch height; 1-inch diam-eter. Guaranty Radio Goods Co., 143 West 45th St., N. Y. C.

SHORT WAVE STATIONS BY FREQUENCIES with schedule of hours on the air given for the five time zones. This valuable information ap-peared in Radio World dated March 28, 1931; mailed on receipt of 15c in stamps or coin. Or send your subscription starting with this issue. Radio World, 145 W. 45th St., N. Y. City.

"A B C OF TELEVISION" by Yates-A compre-hensive book on the subject that is attracting attention of radioists and scientists all over the world, \$3.00, postpaid. Radio World, 145 West 45th St., N. Y. City.

"FORD MODEL 'A' CAR." Its Construction, Operation and Repair. By Victor W. Pagé, M.E. 545 Pages, 251 Specially Made Engravings. \$2 postpaid. Radio World, 145 W. 45th St., N. Y. City.

A-B-C- POWER PACKS 110 volt, 60 cycle, for sets using  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  and 5 volt tubes or for elec-trifying battery sets. Packs are well made, filtered with Potter Condensers and are remarkably free from hum. Complete with 280 tube, \$6.25. Cash Radio, 1013 N. McDonel St., Lima, Ohio.

FILAMENT TRANSFORMER FOR SERIES OPERATION, new Radio World circuits, \$2.50. Apfelbaum, 2711 Girard Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.

NEW PHILCO 96, 1931, A.C. 9 Tubes, Highboy. Cost \$189.00. Sell \$85.00. E. A. Fountain, 436 E. 138th Street, Apt. 5L, New York.

BARGAINS in first-class, highest grade mer-chandise. Phono-link pick-up with vol. control and adapter, \$3.32; four-gang .00035 mfd. with trimmers built in, \$1.95; .00025 mfd. Dubilier grid condenser with clips, 18c. P. Cohen, Room 1214, at 143 West 45th Street, N. Y. City.

"HANDBOOK OF REFRIGERATING ENGI-NEERING, by Woolrich.—Of great use to every-body dealing in refrigerators. \$4. Book Dept., Radio World, 145 W. 45th St., N. Y. City.

SOUND PICTURES TROUBLE SHOOTER'S MANUAL, by Cameron and Rider, an authority on this new science and art. Price \$7.50. Book Dept., Radio World, 145 W. 45th St., N. Y. City.

"MATHEMATICS OF RADIO"—A great help to everybody interested in radio. \$2 postpaid. Radio World, 145 W. 45th St., N. Y. City.

BALKITE A-5 RECEIVER, eight-tube, three stages of Neutrodyne RF and two stages audio with push-pull output. Good distance-getter and very sensitive. Has post for external B voltage for short-wave converters. Brand new in factory case. Berkey-Gay walnut table model cabinet. Price \$35 (less tubes). Direct Radio Co., 143 West 45th St., New York.

MAJESTIC, RADIOLA, etc. Drum Dial Cable by foot or mile. Service men's test prods, 50c, 75c, \$1.00. Blan, the Radio Man. Inc., 89 Cortlandt St., New York.

"A DISCUSSION OF RADIO TUBES FOR THE LAYMAN," a copyrighted article by L. G. Mason will help you sell radio tubes in competition with mail order and chain store houses. \$1.00 per hundred, \$7.50 per thousand. Mason-Radio, 6212 Florida Ave., Tampa, Florida.

MILLION PARTS. Replacements for Freshman, Earl, etc. Radio hardware, small and big stuff. Price list just out for out-of-town experimenters, repair men. Experimenters Radio Shops, 129 West St., N. Y. C.

SHORT-WAVE NUMBERS OF RADIO WORLD. Copies of Radio World from Nov. 8, 1930 to Jan. 3, 1931, covering the various short-wave angles, sent on receipt of \$1.00. Radio World, 145 W. 45th St., N. Y. City.

RADIO WORLD AND RADIO NEWS. Both for one year, \$7.00. Radio World, 145 W. 45th St., N. Y. Citz

#### www.americanradiohistory.com

Three Supertone non-inductive fixed condensers of 0.1 mid each, (250 v.) in steel case, provided with a 6/32 mounting screw. built in. The black lead is commos to the three condens-ers, the three red leads are the other ides of the respective capacities. Size, 11%" square by %" wide. Order Cat. SUP-31, list price, \$1.00; net price, \$7e.





THE new 2-volt tubes are the 230 general purpose tube, the 231 power tube and the 233 screen grid tube. They are principally for battery operation. Due to low current drain they are a boon to all who use battery-operated receivers. The Ber-tron 2-volt tubes are subject to a money-back guarantee as stated below, and are priced at only \$1.00 each.

priced at only \$1.00 each. The 230 and 232 draw .06 ampore filament correct each (60 millismperes), and each requires about 65 ohms to drop a 6-volt source to 1 volts for filament, or 15 ohms to drop a 3-volt source to 2 volts. The character-istics follows:

230 General Purpose Tube Filament voltage .... 2 velta Plate current (amplifier)

Amplifier bias ..... 41/2 volta Detector bias .....9 volts Amplification constant.. 8.8

231 Power Tube Output resistance 12,500 ohms

	232 3	UKEEN	GRID	IORE	
Filament	volta	ge	<b>.</b>	<b>. <mark></mark> <mark></mark></b>	2 volts
Filament	curre	nt			ampere
Plate vol	tage .			1	35 volts
Plate cur	rent (	(amplifier)		1.5 milli	amperes
Screen v	oltage				45 volts
Amplifier	bias				3 volts
Detector	bias				6 volta
Amplificat	tion e	onstant .			440
Plate res	istance		*******	800.0	00 ohms

### 231 POWER TUBE

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### Money - Back Guarantee on **All Rextron Tubes**

All Recentron lubes The economic depression and resultant pre-manufacturers have resulted in the dumping on the market of the origination of the second second merchandise operators "as le" at few cent apieces the origination of the second second second to not bear the name of the real manufacturers. Mercon tubes are made by Rexton. Retron tubes are made by Rexton. Retron tubes are made by Rexton. Mercon tubes are made by Rexton. Retron tubes are enouraging but not conclusions on tubes are old on a 10-DAY MONEY-BACK UMARNEE. Use them ten days. If not fully secunded to conc. Retron tube is packed in an especially rugged and made as present damage in transit. Not you - run the damage is.

### List of Tubes and Prices

230 231 232 222 171 (for AC) 112A 112 (for AC) 201 A	\$1.00 1.00 2.10 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00	224         \$1.00           227         1.00           245         1.00           210         2.95           250         2.95           226         1.00           280         1.00           281         2.95
240 UX-199 UV-199 120 200A WD-12	1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00	SPECIAL TUBES Telion, neon gas tube. for television \$3.85 Photo-electric cell, 2- inch cell height \$4.50

### **RELIABLE RADIO CO.** 143 West 45th Street, New York, N. Y. Enclosed please find \$..... for which ship at once, on 10-day money-back guar-antee, the following tubes: 240 226 UX-199 222 120 210 WD-12 250 200A 281 224 Tellon 224 Tellon 224 Tellon 224 Tellon 230 231 232 171A 171 112A 112 201A 230 231 232 171A 171 112A if C.O.D is desired □ Please put a cross in square at left. Name Address

### RADIO WORLD



T HESE shielded coils are especially suitable for screen grid circuits, but are adaptable also to other circuits.

screen grid circuits, but are adaptable also to other circuits. They consist of a secondary wound on a  $1\frac{4}{3}$ " diameter backelite tubing, a layer of moleture-proof insulating fab-ric, and primary wound over the secondary. The bakelite tubing is firmly embedded in a veneered base, to which an aluminum plate is attached at bottom, punctured to aluminum shield. The shield size is  $211/16^{\prime\prime}$   $x 3\frac{3}{4}$ ". The mounting method keeps the walls of the shield cul-distant from the coll. The outleads are: shieldd wire lead to plate, red lead to B plus, dark blue lead to grid and yellow to ground. When the coll is used as antonna coupler a fixed condenser, or 0.0025mfd should be in eries with the astril. The concections yould be; shielded wire to fixed condenser, red and yel-low both to ground and dark blue to grid. The coils are packed in mathed sets of four. Thus they are of pre-cision type, necessary for fully effectiveness from gang tuning.

The primaries are of high impedance and the coupling to the secondary is very tight. These features are destrable for high gain in multi-stage screen grid circuits. How-ever, for circuits using other tubes, the primary turns may be easily reduced by the user to 10 turns, by cutting the primary wire near where it enters the insulating cloth, and unwinding all but 10 turns, cutting and then soldering the two wires together.

For .0005 mfd. tuning order Cat. 40-70......@ \$1.50 Matched set of four for .0005 mfd. Cat. 40-70MF \$5.00 For .00035 mfd. tuning order Cat. 40-80.....@ \$1.50 Matched set of four for .00035 mfd. Cat. 40-80MF \$5.00

### DYNAMIC TUNER ASSEMBLY, \$1.25



DYNAMIC TUNER ASSEMBLY, \$1.25 TUNING condenser with mounted on an aluminum base that has socket built in. The condenser shaft goes in a dial (not furnished). The tuned circuit includes a fixed and a movable winding (rotor coil) in astries. The moving coil is used tuning dia's are made to read alike, or gang tuning is made practical. No equalizing condensers needed. De not couple the adjoining shafts. To antenna eircuit input to any tube fitting four-prong tix socket, or for interstage coupling for 226, 201A, 199, 240 or 230, but NOT interstage for 232 or 222, order cat. BT-L-DC Tor antenna circuit, as BF input to any five-prong tube, order cat. BT-L-AC

### DYNAMIC RF COIL, 75c

THE dynamic coil for either .0005 mfd or .00035 mid. tuning. The same coil serves either capacity, as the series rotor may be set in position to increase or reduce the total secondary inductance. For antenna coil, all circuits, and interstage coupling for all tubes ercept screene grid, order cat. BT-3A...@ 75s For interstage coupling from plate circuit of sorcen grid tube order cat. BT-3B .....@ 75s

### DIAMOND PAIR COILS, \$1.20



The Diamond of the Air is The Diamond of the Air is a popular circuit using an an-tenna coll and a three-circuit tuner. For this circuit the consists of two, wound on 3" diameters, except for rotor on .0005 or .00035 mfd tuning. Tickler coll has single hole Por 0005 mfd the Data

### **OTHER COILS**

SCREEN GRID COIL CO.

143 WEST 45TH STREET NEW YORK, N. Y.



**'BINDER' TO HOLD 52** 



## Your Choice of NINE Meters!

To do your radio work properly you need me-ters. Here is your opportunity to get them at no extra cost. See the list of nine meters below. Heretoiore we have offered the choice of any one of these meters free with an 8-weeks subscription for RADIO WORLD, at \$1, the regular price for such subscription. Now we extend this offer. For the first time you are permitted to obtain any one or more or all of these meters free, by sending in \$1 for 8-weeks' subscription, entitling you to one meter; \$2 for 16 weeks, entitling you to two meters; \$2 for 26 weeks, \$6 for 52 weeks, entitling you to six meters. Return coupon with remittance, and check off desired meters in squares below.

RADIO WORLD, 145 West 45th Street, New York, N. Y. (Just East of Broadway)

I am a subscriber. Extend my subscription. (Check off if true.)

- 1		0-6 Voltmater D.C.	
		0 50 Matter to 0	,
		U-3U VOITMETER D.C. No 225	1
- 1		C. Valt Change Trades D.O.	
		No. 23	2
		0-10 Ampares D.C.	,
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		U-bit Mifliamneres D.C.	
		NO. 35	۶.
		V-IUU MIIItamperes D.C. No. 200	6
	-	NO. 390	ι.
		0-300 MILLAMPERES D.C. No 200	۰.
		0-400 Milliom Bonos D 0	,

NAME	
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RADIO WORLD

April 4, 1931

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