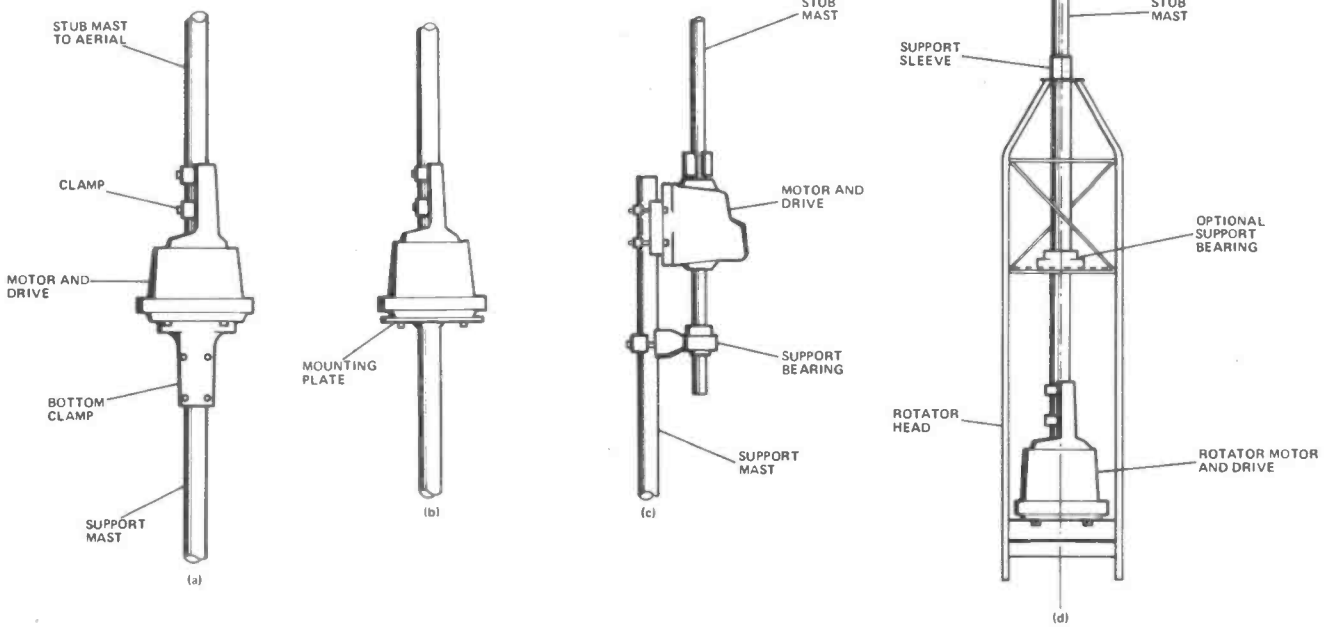

Fig. 4.

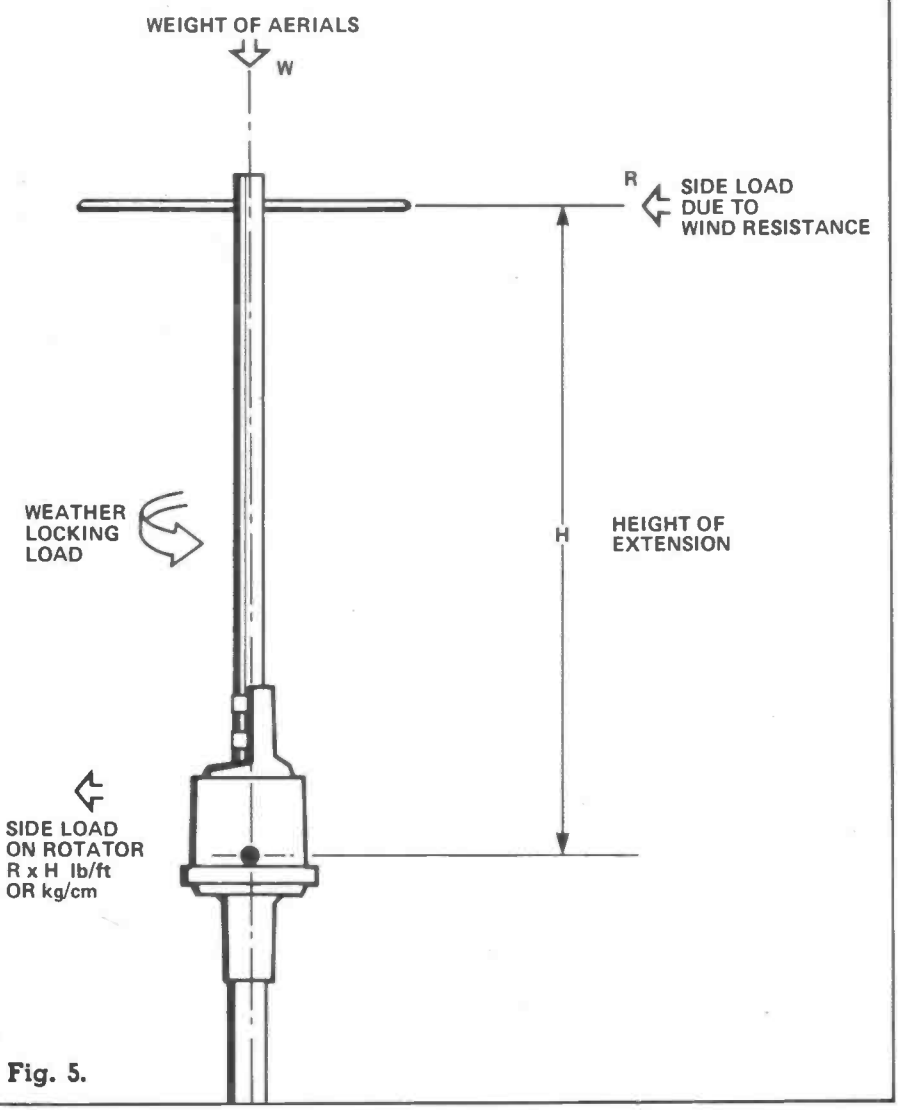

Fig. 5.

The installation of a rotator is a relatively simple job and the manufacturers instructions should be followed. Where coax cables are concerned, leave enough slack to allow for 360° of rotation, without the cable being stretched. Most rotators have a stop of some kind which prevents them from doing more than one revolution. Generally, the stub mast above the rotator should be of a lesser diameter than the support mast to which the rotator is clamped. Avoid using steel tube above the rotator as this adds unnecessary loads on the rotator, especially when the mast or tower is being cranked up from the horizontal.

Before clamping the stub mast onto the rotator, align the aerial with the heading indicated by the position of the rotator. This should be done with a compass but remember that magnetic North is not the same as true North. Any ordinance survey map should give you the correct magnetic variation. Although in practice it is simpler to align the aerial from magnetic North and make any allowance required when selecting the required heading.

A rotator that is *NOT* overloaded and regularly serviced should have years of trouble free service.

Next month: selecting the most suitable type of tower.