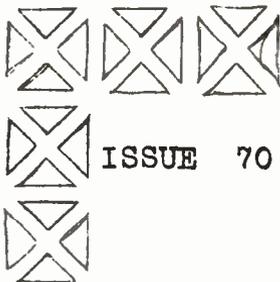


**JOURNAL OF THE
Q R P
RESEARCH SOCIETY**

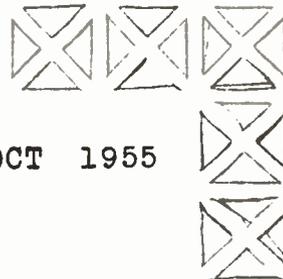
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ISSUE 70

Q R P



OCT 1955

JOURNAL OF THE Q R P SOCIETY

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THE ONLY SOCIETY IN THE WORLD CATERING EXCLUSIVELY
FOR THE LOW POWER AMATEUR RADIO ENTHUSIAST.

x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x SOCIETY NEWS & ACTIVITY x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x

KEITH RANGER (Cambridge) has had a most chaotic September having been pushed around Jordan and Iraq and finally demobilised and returned to England "to get on with it". He will be QRT for the rest of this year but promises to have a real go at the C - Z Panel next year. (Change of address noted, Keith, but do remind me again about the July-Sept address)

"TICH" MIDDLEWOOD (Roundhay, Leeds) has been decorating the shack so that things have been at a standstill lately but are now back to normal with a converted deaf-aid as the latest development. So far it is operative on broadcast bands only. (Tich, if you are interested in 2 metres why not write to Ted Stonestreet and tell him so; he'd be delighted to have another recruit to the VHF Group even if you haven't heard a sig on the band yet).

J. BERNARD FOSTER, G3IIT (Cambridge) has taken my little "homily" of last month to heart and promises to "cook up" something for the mag. FB OM, what about a description of your favourite Two Metre rig? Or a short essay on why you think Two is more interesting than Top Band? But in the meantime, as I said to "Tich", do drop a line to Ted Stonestreet

JOE STEPHENSON (Shipkey, Yorks) also comments on my remarks of last month saying, in effect, that you don't really get much out of any thing unless you put something into it. He quotes the case of a work-mate of his during the war who chalked on his machine during a very tricky and difficult job the letters "IADOM". Those letters stood for "It all depends on ME" and Joe feels that the success of this (or any other) Society is deeply linked with the sincere belief of every member that it all depends on them. Incidentally, Joe does practice what he preaches for he is not only a regular monthly correspondent to HQ but he also writes regularly to other members of the Society and exchanges personal views and developments with them. Like your Hon-Sec Joe has made a number of very good friends through the medium of the QRP Society. Will you all remember Joe's motto -- I A D O M !

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GEORGE STOKES (Ruislip) pleads the case of the QRP SWL on Two with some feeling. "The ham with a one, two or three valve Rx on 2 metres works at a terrible disadvantage" he says. "He is at the mercy of Condx and as to whether he is in the 'line of shoot', especially if the Tx has a narrow angle beam. For example, using Capt Cusdin's set, '2AHP '2AIW and '5KW come in here as FB sigs, completely cutting out the quench and leaving a silent background; but the moment they swing their beams onto the transmitting stn I have 'had it.' and they fade to unreadable sigs. The ideal is, of course, a convertor into a communications Rx, which probably means ten or twelve valves and is anything but QRP. So don't be too hard on us poor struggling one-lungers, hi!" The Society Council had this in mind, George, when they doubled the recognised power allocation for members on VHF. The rules read: Above 30 Mc/s (thus including the 145Mc/s and 70 cms bands) maximum power shall be 10 watts for transmission and 3 watts total HT for reception. (Junior Ops say very many thanks for enclosure in your last letter, George!)

ALLAN WILLIAMS (Chelmsford) has settled into his new QTH despite initial difficulties with the antenna. The first one was a hasty job composed of a mixture of most of the standard gauges between 20 and 36 swg and the weight of 120 ft proved too much for the soldered joints after 37½ hours. However a visit to the local junkery has now provided the necessary for a businesslike 160 metre quarter-wave job and the first ever GM has come in as a FB signal. (Good luck, Allan!)

BOB HAWKSLEY, G3GBP (London, NW 6) notifies his resignation due to his present state of complete inactivity. He has even surrendered his call sign until such time as he can make some use of it. He does say, however, that it is not the last we shall hear of him. Let us hope this may be so for Bob is one of those personal friends whom we have made through the Society.

SAM HALL, G2AOL (Otford, Kent) puts the difficulties of QRP operation in another light. He has been discussing the point with G3JKO and they have come to the conclusion that QRP demands much more time, effort, skill and patience than QRO and frequently more expense since

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often one tends to miniaturise QRP gear, thus needing special components. 'AOL and 'JKO conclude that "for the Ham with limited time and a yen to talk to his fellow addicts then QRO every time with a commercial rig if he can afford it". Luckily 'AOL does NOT practice what he preaches and he took his QRP on holiday when he operated portable from Glamorgan and Pembroke. Unfortunately the gear was not 100% satisfactory.

"MONTY" BANKS, GC2CNC (Jersey) came up on 21 Mc/s during early in October and worked a string of Ws on the first evening. He says he is "gunning" for Bud WØPRM! The new antennae are 21 and 14 Mc/s dipoles (300 ohms), a 3-element beam (indoors) on 28 Mc/s and a long wire (260 odd feet) for general usage -- only the 21 Mc/s dipole is airborne at present. Monty will be coming up on Top Band with his TTX during the autumn, so "roll up the SWLs"! Monty mentions that L.Clinch, President of North Kent R.S. payed a visit to the QAU Club of Jersey recently.

GUY MOSER, G3HMR (Windermere) has finished his transmitter but is running it on 80 only, CW, at present with an input of 4 watts. So far, however, he has not had time to get the official antenna up. As soon as all is in order he promises to let us know and hopes that a few Society members will arrange skeds with him.

VINCE WILLMOT, G3ICR (Dagenham) is QRT at the moment owing to a "newly acquired XYL". We are sure that this state of things will not last long, however, as Mrs Vince is the sister of G3JDI, so radio is in the family blood. An OC51 TTX is ready to go on 160, and plans are in hand for a /P rig for use in the caravan at Mill Beach, Essex, with tentative ideas on the use of a kite-born antenna. (Have a hopeful idea we shall be hearing more of 'ICR and Mrs Vince -- what about an article on the XYL's point of view on radio, Mrs V?)

JOHN HAGUE, G3JIJ (Rochdale) reports an all-time low ebb in activity owing to one of those spells when everything goes wrong with the rig and nothing that he does seems to be right. He thought that he had the "gremlins" ironed out until he got a T6 report when using 2 watts

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on Top Band, John is severely hindered by antenna difficulties being able to get only 60' with a neighbours TV antenna six feet below it, a fact which has curtailed his freedom of the air a great deal! Shortly after this note is published he will be in the Isle of Man on National Training and will have his QRP Tx/Rx with him (Mind you visit Norman Bason -- 24 Stanley Rd., Peel -- I'll guarantee you'll enjoy the visit)

BILL IBALL (Wigan, Lancs) has started three nights a week at "school" -- one on Basic Radio and two on code (aiming at 20 wpm) -- under the tutorship of G2HFC of Wigan. The communications Rx (commercial job) which we mentioned some time ago had given him considerable trouble, will be back from "the tailors" shortly, but meantime his QRP job continues to earn its keep. Among the interesting calls heard lately have been the Dutch Emergency Net (Top Band) on July 6th-7th, PA0PN, PA3RVD, PA3LR and PA1BRD having come in very well. (The prefix for Greenland is OK, Bill, but as it was a USA stn it might have still been a W or a K. The WN series prefixes are USA "novice" stations).

FRANK STRINGER (Acton, W3) mentions a very interesting looking QRP Tx published in the current QRV using a 1S4 valve. (We will try & purloin a copy and obtain the necessary permission to give you the gen on this one, CMs). Frank also sends along an excellent photo for the HQ picture gallery. Incidentally the gallery is growing in fine style and I am considering ways and means of publishing the results as a sort of composite group of QRP members.

PETER WILKES (Bourne, Lincs) is enthusiastic over a letter he has had from Joe Stephenson giving him the gen on a QRP sp-net, but before he begins work on this he intends to construct a 1-V-1 with a view to climbing next year's C-Z Panel. He has recently achieved a O-V-O (1T4) which is behaving well. Peter says that the most enjoyable thing about the holiday was coming back to find "QRP" waiting on the mat -- well, we feel that is, perhaps, a bit exaggerated but thanks all the same, Peter, it is nice to know that we are appreciated; and keep up the enthusiasm, OM, you're doing a real job there!

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BRUCE BRIDGER, W0SAK (New Bloomfield, Missouri) seems to be in the lucky position of having a radio enthusiastic family. Bruce himself is 16 (or is it 17, Bruce?) and his father is a keen SWL (mostly on the BC side) but is not as yet QRP since he uses an 11-tube NCL73, but Bruce is still hoping to convert him (and then get the NCL73 to himself we suspect). Bruce says that his "little brother is also a ham, W0ZOI, but does very little hamming" (Thanks for the sub, Bruce, and it would be interesting to have that "schematic" even if the kinks are not ironed out so that we could compare ideas and methods used in W and G. And what about compiling an English-American radio dictionary? For example, you call it a SCHEMATIC -- we would say a THEORETICAL, hi!)

HERMANN EDELMANN, DJ1VS (Nurnberg, Germany) is disappointed that, despite being on every day on 80 or 40, he has still not made contact with a QRP member. He says that QRP working is very infrequent in his district, but he still hopes to meet some friends with the same interest. His own rig is an ECO-FD-FD-PA (input 6 watts) and a O-V-1. The antenna is a 20 metre dipole. Hermann, who is a dental surgeon, is very interested in the Huntsman O-V-2, details of which have been sent to him from HQ.

NORMAN BASON (Peel, I.O.M.) really started something last month. In co with Ted Stonestreet he thought up the idea of a travelling folder to go the rounds of the C-Z Panel contestants gathering a letter from each as it progressed. The first "round" has now been completed & extremely interesting reading it has proved. We cannot help thinking that the idea might well be adopted by other "sections" wherein the interest lies in one specific direction. Norman's last letter to us was written on Oct 6th when a raging hurricane was howling over the island. We sincerely hope that he came through it all right! He has modified his O-V-1 (described last month) for audio transformer coupling which has given a considerable improvement in gain -- he says that it works well on all bands from Top to Ten. Very bad luck indeed that Norman's PAREC entry got spread on the floor at the last moment and is now U/S.

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ALLAN HERRIDGE, G3IDG (Balham, SW 12) has found 10 metres very interesting during the early weeks of this month. He says it has certainly woken up with a bang! On Sat 8th at 1250 GMT he worked HZ1HZ in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, using 9.2 watts to his indoor dipole (Did you realize that HZ1HZ, Ahmed Zaiden, was once a member of this Society, Allan? He joined us at the RSGB Exhibition of 1950 but did not renew his membership after that year). During the eight days, 2nd to 9th Oct, Allan has heard CE, CX EA8, HZ, LU, OQ5, PY, TA, VP3, VQ4, W, ZC4, ZD3, ZD4, ZE, ZS, 4S7 and 4X4 (all Dx), also CT1, CT2, G, I1, LZ, UB5, UJ8, YO and ZB1 (non-Dx) -- 27 countries -- on Ten. For the benefit of overseas members interested in Ten Allan uses 28040, 28056 and 23125 Kc/s CW. His rig is a 6AG7/QV04-7 (CO/PA) at 10 watts nominal into one of two dipoles in the loft. Rx is an HRO. Operating times are before 1400 GMT Saturdays and Sundays

"DECK" GARFADD (Ipswich) has not been quite so active of late as house painting and the garden have claimed a lot of his time. He has also built a small greenhouse in which he grows cacti. But the dark evenings are waking up the radio bug again and we shall expect to hear more of "Deck".

////////////////////////////////////
It is with deepest regret that we have to record the death last month of ROY MILLARD after a few weeks illness. He was an active member of the Society for over two years -- keen on all aspects of Ham Radio and always willing to help any newcomer. Even during his final illness he retained his interest so much that he insisted on being propped up in bed to listen to SW. We shall feel his loss intensely and extend our most sincere sympathies to his family.

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KALEVEJD CUP CONTEST:-- Don't forget the dates -- Midnight, Sat, Nov 5th to midnight, Sat Nov 12th. Rules on page 10, August issue.

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STRAIGHT FROM THE STATES ::::::::::::::: REPORTED BY BUD RUGEL, WØPRM

Conditions are definitely on the up-swing as the Dx contacts of members will bear out. W9UKG using a 2E26 to a 20 metre beam worked HA7OL,KA300,OX3AY,TF6WAK,VP2VB/P,VQ4RF and YO3GY. W2CUQ/P with 4.9 watts input on 40 CW had QSOs with many Europeans including KH6AYG, IT1TAI,VP5BM and ZP6BR. Lloyd, WØQGI now has 122 countries worked and 110 confirmed. New ones on 20 include VS6CO,VS1GX,ZB1GBF,KJ6FAB,IT1TKI VK9AU,VK9RM,VK9OQ,VR3A,KC6CG,PX1EX,KW6BB,JKØAG,CP3CA,UAØKKB. Lloyd must be complimented on his outstanding operating ability using a 2E26 final. WØPRM has been sticking to 15 metres working KL7TI,ZE3JO,PJ2AV and Gs 3HDQ,5UA,5FN,6OS,3FPI on CW. Phone contacts on 15 metres include F9NL,F8CH,DL1IB,I1WN,GM3DHD,G3EMY,ZD4BR,OQ5GT,W6DOW/MM in the Pacific. In the opinion of this reporter 15 metres, during peak periods, is a better band for Dx than 20 and 10 combined! During a 30 minute session on Sept 27th, ZD4BR,ZS9F,ZD1SW,VQ5FS,VQ4EU,VQ4RF,FF8AK,FB8BP,ZE3JJ,KT1WX,OE5JK,ZB1AJ were all heard on phone and all R5! September issue of SWM has a nice photo of Allan G3IDG. Frank WLWY dropped down to 3½ watts input and was still readable at ZL2AFZ. HV1VD reported running 3 watts from Vatican City. VR6AC uses 25 watts on 10/20 using 12v battery and windcharger. DM2ACB runs 20 watts on 3.7 and 7 Mc/s phone. So for you fellows interested in Dx work and have sufficient space why not put up a good 15 metre antenna. You will be well rewarded with your efforts
So, till next month, 73 and good luck -- Bud, WØPRM.
(Tnx to CQ & QST for some of above items.)

THE MONTH ON TOP BAND ::::::::::::::: REPORTED BY BOB IBALL

Looking through my log book I note that Aug 22nd was a good night on 160, the phone sigs being outstanding. Stations like G2SU (R456), G3QG (R558), GM3OM (R559), G2FMN (R559), G2SC (R458) being my best. On

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the CW side I noted a new one for mw -- GM3JJN (469 at 2238 GMT). The 23rd was another good night, the best between 2150 and 2220 GMT being GI3JEX (589), GW3KQCQ (589), GM3AUD (589), GM8SQ (459), GM3OM (4.9.) & G2SC (5.8.). Wed 24th wasn't so good as there was an increase in noise level and QRN, also a drop in general QRK. The 25th improved but noise level/QRN was still high. The 28th was good and periodical listening between 1010 and 1410 GMT brought G3JEL, G3JXF/M (near Staveley, Derbyshire), G3BK/M (Hunstanton), G3KJW/P (349 -- couldn't copy QTH), G2ART/P. At 1955 GMT G3JKA/P was 349 when near Dorking and G3JWQ/M was 3.6. at 1957 when at Ripley.

In my September logs I see that PAØVG broke the ice at 1758 GMT on the 5th with a 449 sig. G3KWH/A was 45/09 at 1803 GMT and his input was 4 watts to what I believe was a 70 ft antenna (this on the 9th). Sept 11th produced G3BK/M 5.6 at 1030 GMT when near March, Cambs. G2FT/M was 567 at 1515 GMT near Mablethorp, and at 1523 GMT G3HRP/M was 5.9. operating from Scunthorpe while G5AU/M operating 4 miles from Warrington was 578 at 1602 GMT, and G3GBQ/P was R2S5 at 1611 GMT at Cannock Chase.

Nothing of interest was noted until Sept 18th when Top Band was crowded with /M and /P stations in connection with RAEN. I did try to mark each RAEN station in my log but couldn't keep my notes in order. However -- G3ELZ/P (Normandy, Lincs), G2FT/P (Burrell, Lincs), G3JWQ/M (Ridding, Derbys.), G3AWM/M (--, Lincs), G8GI/M (Lincoln), G3JFS/A (Watton, Norfolk), G5PP/P (4m east of Peterborough), G3HRP/M (on a hill east of Scunthorpe), G3JXF/P (Saltley, nr Mablethorp), and my special, G2ABR/P (2.4 at 1501 GMT when 4m from Hull with an input of .5 watt). He was answered by the "parent" station, G3HOY also of Hull.

G3BK confirmed my reports on his /M sigs from Norfolk and Cambs, endorsing cards for each county, and PAØBRD confirmed my reports on his 160 sigs too. I wrote to Cliff Leal ('3ISX) for gen on the NKRS contest and received a very nice letter with full details from him. So far I've heard 3JBK, 3KCN, and 3KHR.

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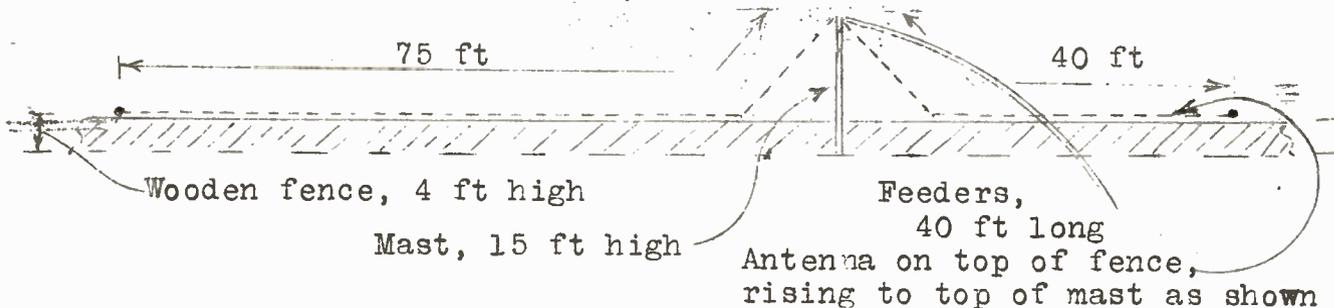
V. H. F. GROUP NEWS :::::::::::::::::::: REPORTED BY TED STONESTREET

(ED:-- Despite the screams that several of our members want more VHF news in the mag there is only one member who does anything about it, and he has been reporting to Ted Stonestreet regularly every month since the Group was started. Can we run a Group for two members? The suggestion last month that we should close it down will certainly be carried out at the end of the year (despite George Stokes' request for patience!) if things do not alter.)

Only one report has arrived this month, from our old regular, George Stokes. He is still sticking to the band and we owe him a big cheer for his continued support. I don't think I dare visit his QTH again as he is after my blood following the rumour last month that the Group might be closed down. He is running 4 VHF rigs now -- a O-V-0 using an EC52, a O-V-0 using an 1148E or CV6, the "Cusdin Special", and a O-V-1 using a CV6 and an L63 -- and they are all working and bringing in results. The antenna is a 3 element rotary.

AN ANTENNA PROBLEM x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x- POSED BY BILL IBALL

Bill Iball has rigged up a temporary antenna on the ground plane principle and finds it really fb on 14, 21 and 7 Mc/s, but nothing "extra" on 3.5 Mc/s and Top Band. It is laid out thus:--



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.....: THE C - Z CONTEST :.....

The Partridge Cup (presented to the Society by G3CED) is awarded each year to the member submitting the highest annual score of countries and zones heard on five bands with receivers of not more than 1½ watts HT consumption. A country or zone heard on more than one band may count once only in the total. The cup is at present held by P.Huntsman.

	Mc/s: --	<u>3.5</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>Countries</u>	<u>Zones</u>	<u>Total</u>
Norman Bason - - - - -	15	40	142	38	5	147	36	183	
Ted Stonestreet - - - - -	19	34	116	-	-	129	31	160	
D.G.Gordon - - - - -	12	9	97	31	2	119	28	147	
E.W.Gardiner - - - - -	12	9	95	29	2	115	28	143	
Keith Ranger - - - - -	-	59	99	-	-	106	28	134	
Joe Stephenson - - - - -	17	2	96	23	-	99	27	126	
Mack McIntosh - - - - -	20	27	72	-	-	72	26	98	
Peter Huntsman - - - - -	-	-	36	-	-	36	17	53	

As I have said many times before, it is one of the most encouraging features of this Society to receive the regular entries for this contest. The contest first appeared in our issue of April 1950 (One entrant F.A.Herridge of Balham). In Oct 1950 those taking part were Bert Glass, Bob Brooker, D.Gordon, P.Huntsman, Peter Short, F.Herridge, Mike Wassell, Bob Murray, H.G.Wells, A.Looney, David White & Ian Glen (four of whom are still with us -- F.Herridge is, of course, none other than our hard working Press Officer, Allan, G3IDG!). It is of interest to compare the leading scores for the months of October in previous years with the current scores in the panel above. It will be noticed that the 21 Mc/s band was not included until 1953, and the astonishing score for 1951, with 169 Countries on 14 Mc/s and 91 on 28 Mc/s is worthy of comment. There is no doubt that the "ups and downs" of this contest bear a

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L O O K I N G F O R W A R D

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This issue brings us into our EIGHTH YEAR of publication -- over 1,000 pages have passed through this typewriter and more than 3,000 copies of the mag have been posted from HQ. We have become firmly established despite the fact that our present membership is smaller than it was at one time when we had just over 200 current subscriptions on the books (over 350 enthusiasts have at one time or another been members of the Society).

So much for the past. What of the immediate future?

In next months issue we shall have the results of PAREC. Several interesting constructional articles are in view and a new series of PERSONAL PORTRAITS will, we hope, bring your fellow members more closely into your own "shack". Early in the future we shall produce a current list of members with addresses and, where possible, their main forms of activity. PLEASE DO LET US HAVE ALL RELEVANT INFORMATION FOR THIS. OMs. We would like to know frequencies normally used, times of working, and any other details of use for inclusion in this list.

The most important alteration in future issues, however, will be a new layout. All constructional and reference or technical articles will appear on separate foolscap sheets, not included as part and parcel of the mag although despatched each month with the mag. The reason for this is our desire for each member to be able to build up complete and individual handbook on QRP Technique -- an idea which we feel is long overdue. Spares of these sheets will be retained at HQ for the benefit of new members who may require special information, and it is hoped, from time to time, to produce reprints of the more outstanding articles which have appeared in the mag previously as additional items for the handbook. These reprints will, of course have to be charged for and will only be sent out on request. Where "Handbook Sheets" are issued the mag itself will be reduced to 12 pages per month.