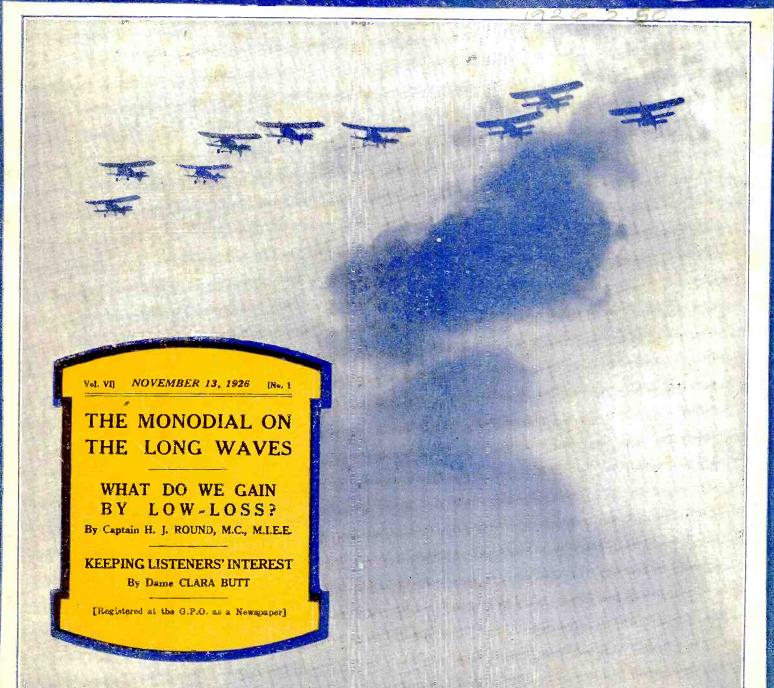
INCORPORATING
WIRELESS WEEKLY





## Two interesting receivers published in Issue Now on Sale

THE "DRAWING ROOM FIVE." The set described by John Underdown has been designed with the object of giving good all-round results. It will give excellent reproduction from the local station and very good loud-speaker signals on many British and Continental stations. As will be seen from the accompanying illustration, the L.F. Coupling is by the resistance-capacity method. A volume control is provided which enables very loud signals to be adjusted to the strength required.

A "PUSH-PULL THREE." This receiver, incorporating the push-pull method of amplification, has been specially designed for those home constructors who, possessing a number of general purpose valves, desire to obtain power valve results without purchasing special L.F. Power Valves. Mr. Stanley G. Rattee is the author.



This Magazine published The Elstree Six"

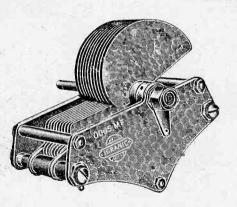


GRANIC GANG CONDEN-SERS successfully solve the problem of single knob control.

Small compensating condensers connected in parallel with the main condensers enable each section to be exactly equalised without the necessity of altering the relative settings of the main condensers.

The Igranic method is simple and practical and preserves the accurate square law tuning of the condensers as a whole.

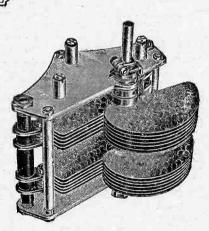
Twin Gang Pattern....£2 10 0 Triple Gang Pattern .. £3 15 0



#### Low Loss Square Law VARIABLE CONDENSERS

GRANIC VARIABLE CONDENSERS have earned the reputation of being the "choice of experts — and amateurs." Accurate square law tuning, extremely low losses, negligible minimum capacity, smooth ball-bearing movement. Ask your dealer to show you one so that you may see the beautiful workmanship.

Single Pattern.	.00015 m	ıfd.	 17/-
0.1	.0003		
,	.0005	,,	 21/6
	OOT		25/-



#### Low Loss Dual VARIABLE CONDENSER

GRANIC DUAL VARIABLE CONDENSERS are similar in design to the single pattern. The whole construction is particularly rigid, so that there is no risk of the plates getting out of alignment or of the accuracy of tuning being affected.

> .0003 mfd. (Dual) 22/6 27/-.0005 ,,

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## IGRANIC ELECTRIC CO LTD

149 Queen Victoria St., London. Works: Bedford.

Always use the Igranic Indigraph Knob and Dial. Gives smooth slow motion control entirely free from backlash. Price 7/6

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Ten Reasons why you'll prefer S.T.'s

Because they are designed and made by John Scott-Taggart, the best known authority on the valve in this country.

(2) Because they have been designed on the only rational basis, namely, that of dynamic characteristic curves, which represent working conditions with an impedance in the anode circuit.

(3)-Because the performance of a valve (as distinguished from its life) is disclosed entirely by its characteristic curves, and S.T.'s are widely publishing theirs because of their obvious superiority over ordinary valves. It's their curves that count.

(4)-Because S.T.'s are built, like the Pyramids, to last. The torodium filament takes, in practically all types, only 0.1 amp., and gives a copious emission at so low a temperature that no glow can be seen.

(5)—Because the special alloy of which the filament is made is not brittle, but even after long use remains as flexible and strong as a steel

(6)-Because the long life and maintained performance is also obtained by the use of the Barguet process, which produces in the bulb the highest vacuum which science has yet achieved.

(7)—Because you save money in upkeep, as the life of the valve is very long and the filament current is exceptionally small. You have only to charge your small accumulator once or twice a year and this also saves you a lot of trouble.

(8)-Because S.T.'s are not critical to work. Many valves are very critical on filament voltage, but S.T.'s do not need rheostats or even resistors, although both can be used.

(9)—Because the designer has used every invention (under patent licence) which has advanced the valve and has used the best features of existing valves to obtain the ideal. Every valve is non-microphonic and exceptionally strongly made, though built with the accuracy of a chronometer.

(10)—Because the valve you are going to buy has a test certificate (see illustration) on its carton, personally initialled by John Scott-Taggart with his own pen to state that he is thoroughly satisfied with that particular valve, which has been rigidly tested electrically and on actual signals under his direct supervision.

ONE TO-DAY!

A'A'A'A'A'A'A'A'A'A'A'A'A'A'

Send for details. If you cannot buy your valve at one of your local dealers, write to us:

Head Office: S.T. Limited, 2 Melbourne Place, London, W.C.2. Works: London, W.1.

TYPES and PRICES

2 Volt.

H.F. S.T.21 14/-

L.F. 0.1 amp. 14/=

Power S.T.23 18/6

4 Volt.

H.F. 61 S.T.41 14/-Power S.T.42 18/6

Super Power S.T.43 0'25 amp. 22/6

6 Volt.

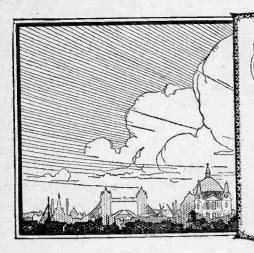
H.F. S.T.61 18/6

Power S.T.62 18/6

Super Power S.T.63 0'25 amp. 22/6







#### WIRELESS WEEKLY

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All communications concerning contribu-tions should be addressed to the Editor and must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope if the return of MSS, is desired.

Nothing contained herein is to be regarded as encouragement or permission to infringe any patent rights.



#### AND **NEWS** THIS WEEK'S NOTES

#### Manchester's Escape

2 ZY had quite a narrow escape on October 20. A fire broke out in the offices of an electric lamp firm, just beneath the offices of First National Pictures, Ltd., in Orme Building (also the home of 2ZY). Luckily, it was discovered in good time by a fifteen-year-old office boy, otherwise Man-chester listeners might have had to listen to Daventry for some time to

Snobbish!

AKE your set more select " is the select" is the headline of a "Wireless Corner" of one of the provincial papers. How

#### Worse Offenders Still

MUCH as some people grumble at the number of talks from 2LO and, in fact, all the B.B.C. stations, I am beginning to think that we are not so badly off as we might be. Personally, my almost infallible method of picking out German stations is to tune in those which have interminable talks going on! The German announcers must have very well-developed tonsils!

#### No Wavelength Tests

UNDERSTAND that it has now been decided not to hold a general test of the new wavelengths, when they are brought into use. The relay stations have already carried out several tests, and the B.B.C. state that no trouble is expected in this

A "Crackling" Tip

S EVERAL of my acquaintances have
mentioned to me at mentioned to me at one time or another that, with the modern valves

which show little sign of glow, they have experienced peculiar cracklings which have been put to the credit of the high-tension battery and subse-

quently found to be coming from the low-tension accumulator. In the days of bright-emitters, of course, it was generally sufficient to watch the valve filament and see whether any fluctuation took place, but now it is a good plan to keep a filament voltmeter connected across the filament legs of, say,

According to reports, the opening day of the new "Beam" service between Bodmin and Canada was marred by an interruption of service, due, it was stated, to "fading." Our picture shows the apparatus which produces an audible note for checking up the constancy of the transmission.

the detector valve. Any "jumps" in the voltage, due to bad connections on the accumulator, are then easily spotted.

#### Old Wives' Tales

THERE are still some who believe that wireless has some sort of effect upon their gardens. Giant marrows, shrivelled-up beans, dis-

coloured pansies, elongated cater-pillars, attenuated worms are all connected in some mysterious way with the aerial belonging to "the chap next door." We are living in a world of wonders, but I am afraid a good many of them are imaginary!

#### Mars

ONCE more the experts have failed to produce any convincing signals from the Red Planet. Their

efforts have, however, produced many interesting phenomena. I was particu-larly pleased to note that while a certain gentleman was listening for Mars on 30,000 metres, "the G.P.O. station at Rugby, using a wavelength of 18,740 metres, cut in and drowned the signals "!

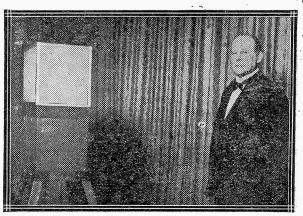
#### Mass Singing

November 20 the B.B.C. will probably have to deal with a greater volume of sound than it has ever done before. The date is the occasion of the concert to inaugurate the Community Singing Movement, which will be held at the Albert Hall. The broadcast will take place from 9 till 9.30 p.m. and 10.15 to 10.30 p.m. Listeners will also hear the Royal Albert Hall Orchestra and items by Mr. John

Goss and Mr. Norman Allin.

#### A Record

S HORT-WAVE communication has been responsible for the putting up of a remarkable record for "ship-to-shore" telegraphy. The steamship Jervis Eay recently established contact with Sydney from a point off Portugal, (Continued on next page.)



The Editor of "Punch," Sir Owen Seaman, recently gave a broadcast talk from 2LO. Sir Owen is here seen before the microphone at the London station.

over 10,000 miles distant. This is the first time that a ship on this side of Colombo has connected up with Sydney. Using the same power on the usual 600-metre wave, it would have been considered quite creditable to communicate over a distance of about 600 miles!

#### The New Wavemeter

WEEK or so ago I was shown the new standard wavemeter to be used at 2LO. The wavemeter itself is rigidly made and beautifully finished, and so constructed as to be capable of measuring 2LO's correct wave and the wave of either of 2LO's neighbours -Breslau and Graz. Each European station will have a similar wavemeter adjusted to its own wavelength. Further details of the wavemeter will be found elsewhere in this issue.

Radio Week

AM asked by the Hon.
Secretary of the Maidstone and District Radio Society to announce that the Maidstone Radio Week, held under the auspices of the Society, will be held from November 16 to 20 inclusive. The fourth annual Wireless Exhibition is to be held during the week, in the Concert

Hall, Corn Exchange, Maidstone. An open competition is also being held. Roll up, Maidstonians, in your thousands!

#### New Dutch Station

THE Dutch Government Telegraph and Telephone authorities are contemplating the erection of a new station to be placed at the disposal of business firms who wish to make announcements at a moderate "adver-tising rate." From tests that have tising rate." From tests that have already been carried out it appears that with 3 kw. in the aerial a station at Scheveningen Haven can make itself heard all over Holland. The wavelength used will probably be 1,950 metres.

## THIS WEEK'S NOTES AND NEWS

💻 1118 OT GEREITE GER

Continued INTERNATIONAL DE LA CONTRACTOR DE LA CON

#### On Armistice Day

ON Armistice Day special programmes are being broadcast from the Canadian National Railways' fine chain of "CNR" stations, on a wavelength of 434.5 metres. On the following day CNRA will broadcast a special

broadcast a special Armistice Day service from the Central United Church, Moncton.

#### Hands Off!

S IR ARTHUR STANLEY and Professor Low have addressed a letter to Members of Parliament pointing out that the £900,000 accution is interested in broadcasting, and has made several substantial grants towards the purchase of apparatus.

#### Atmospherics and the Beam

REMARKED a few weeks ago that no trouble had been experienced by the "Beam" stations on account of atmospherics. Shortly after reports appeared stating that communication had been held up by static disturbances, and, needless to say, I was gently but firmly corrected by some of my readers. I have emerged triumphant, however, since the official report states distinctly that the cause of the delay was not atmospherics but fading.

At about the same time as the above occurrence a severe electric storm

played havoc with the Transatlantic cables, and very fine displays of the Aurora were seen in America and Scotland.

#### The Birthday Week

WE have some excellent programmes to look forward to during the B.B.C.'s birthday week, mostly of a light nature. The informal "rags" usually forming a feature of the birthday celebrations, providing they are not overdone, are really excellent fun, and always remind me of "P.P.'s" sole efforts from Writtle-now more than four years ago. This feature will, needless to say, be made the most of this year, since it is the last birthday that the B.B.C. will hold.

Welsh Dissatisfaction WALES is again complaining that it is sadly neglected in radio matters, not only in the

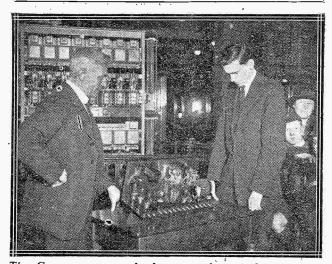
matters of language and music, but also as far as the stations themselves are concerned. Cardiff and Swansea are, after all, in the extreme south of Wales, which is a very mountainous country.

#### Do You Agree?

THE following words of wisdom dropped from the lips of Mr. Edison last month: "There isn't 10 per cent. of the interest in radio that there was last year. It's a highly complicated machine in the hands of people who know nothing about it. No dealers have made any money out of it."

CALL-SIGN.

#### AT THE SCIENCE MUSEUM



The Government standard seven-valve wireless receiver which is now on view at the South Kensington Science Museum. On certain days of the week this receiver can be heard by visitors to the Exhibition.

mulated by the G.P.O. from licences should not be claimed by the Treasury when the B.B.C. is "handed over," as it is needed for the advance of wireless throughout the Empire.

#### In Czecho-Ślovakia

RADIO seems to be in a very flourishing state in the majority of countries which possess a broadcasting service. In Czecho-Slovakia, for instance, a 700 per cent increase in the number of listeners is reported since the beginning of this year. Several training schools in that country have installed stations, the use of which is shared by other establishments. The Ministry of Educa-

## MINIWIRE" SUPERHETERODYNE By Stanley G. Rattee, MIR.E.

Here is a really simple, easy-to-build, easy-to-work "super" using only six valves, which gives very good results on a frame aerial



ANY people who are anxious to build for themselves a multivalve receiver which will within a reasonable distance of a local station permit

them to receive other British or foreign stations will find a ready solution in the superheterodyne. In my own case, though a straight multi-valve set can be made sufficiently selective to cut out the local station for the reception of Bournemouth, local conditions are such that the set will not receive Manchester, though there is no interference when the set is adjusted to that

The reason for this pecuretributed to the close proximity of the Crystal Palace, for not only is Manchester inaudible, but

station's wavelength.

similarly Aberdeen, Glasgow and Newcastle are affected. The aerial used in these circumstances is somewhere about a quarter of a mile from the North Tower of the Crystal Palace, so

placed that the Tower lies between it and the stations given above.

#### "Superhet" Advantages

For the reasons given a superheterodyne receiver was tried about a year ago-more out of curiosity to see

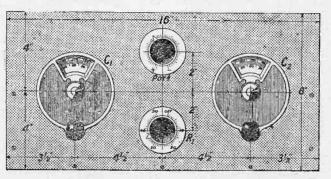


Fig. 1.—...
"Miniwire," 1.-Note the simple panel arrangement of the all dimensions for which can be transferred from this drawing to your panel.

whether it would receive what the other set could not than anything else -and though the set used was not the one shortly to be described, it is interesting to note that all the

main B.B.C. stations could be received in daylight, as against only a few with a straight set. In both cases five valves were used, the straight set being made up of two neutralised H.F. stages, de-tector, and two note magnifiers, while the superheterodyne was the "Tropa-dyne" arrangement without any low - frequency amplification.

Further experiment along these lines showed that before all the main B.B.C. stations could be received on a straight set in the circumstances mentioned six valves were needed, three of them being high-frequency amplifiers.

The thought of building a superheterodyne receiver perhaps conjures up in the minds of many home constructors pictures of complicated wir-

ing schemes with possible disappointment following upon several evenings' work with

the soldering iron.

To some extent the building of a receiver of the superheterodyne type calls for a certain amount of ability, and in the case of many already published designs the wiring diagram is somewhat awesome, but, notwithstanding these facts, the superheterodyne receiver is not by any means as difficult to build as the average man persuades himself into believing.

#### Simple to Wire

In the case of the "Miniwire" the

#### STATIONS RECEIVED

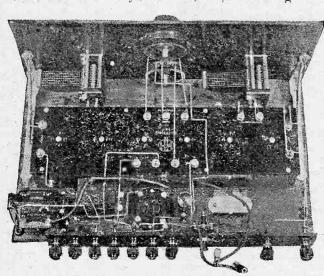
The following list of stations will serve to give some idea of the capabilities of the set, and though numerous others have been heard their origin at the time of writing is somewhat obscure. The stations given were not only identified by the items in their programmes, but confirmation was obtained by actually receiving the announcers' remarks.

The locality where the reception was made was in the Crystal Palace district, S.E. London, and those stations marked with an asterisk were received on the loud-speaker at adequate strength.

Breslau Bournemouth\* Frankfurt-am-Main\* Leipzig\* Radio-Barcelona\* San Sebastian\* Cadiz\* Birmingham\* Aberdeen (daylight)

Glasgow Radio-Milan\* Oslo\* Newcastle\* Hamburg\* Stuttgart Manchester Radio-Toulouse\* Radio~Belgique\*

work involved is little more than that called for in the construction of, say, (Continued on next page.)



As its name suggests, the great feature of this receiver is the absence of complicated wiring.

## The "Miniwire" Superheterodyne

- Continued

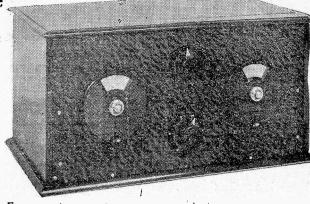
a three-valve receiver, the reason being that the majority of the instrument is already assembled in the form of a unit which may be purchased complete. The various components, such as tuning condensers, potentiometer, and filament resistance, are connected to this unit by means of the terminals provided, while the valves are mounted in holders situated on an ebonite panel forming a lid or covering for the unit itself.

Normally the unit provides for five valves, but in order that a loud-speaker may be used with satisfactory results an extra valve has been added in the form of a transformer-coupled low-frequency amplifier.

#### Lay-out

The panel of the receiver carries two variable condensers, a potentiometer and a filament rheostat; the "on-off" allterminals and

fitted to a terminal strip situated at the back of the baseboard. The unit, the low-frequency transformer, the extra valve holder, a fixed re-sistor and clips for the grid battery are fitted to the baseboard in the conventional manner, and the whole arranged to can type of cabinet.



slide into an Ameri- For a receiver employing six valves, the "Miniwire" is remarkably compact.

#### The Circuit

From the circuit diagram which accompanies this article it will be seen that the "Tropadyne" arrangement is employed, which, as has already been pointed out to readers of this journal, utilises a combined oscillator and detector valve, thus economising in the total number of valves used.

Since the majority of the circuit is already wired in the unit, the circuit diagram calls for no special discussion, but is given merely from the point of interest to the more advanced reader. The note-magnifier which has been added is, it will be seen, of quite conventional design, and is accommodated with a separate high-tension terminal for applying voltages higher than that used for the rest of the circuit, to the anode of this last valve.

The two variable condensers, each of .0005 capacity, form the tuning controls, while the potentiometer serves

#### WIRING INSTRUCTIONS

Join loop terminals of set to loop terminals of supersonic unit and thence to moving and fixed plates of Cl.

Join "Autodyne Condenser" terminals of supersonic unit to moving and fixed plates

Note places of Cl.

Join 'Autodyne Condenser'' terminals of sumersonic unit to moving and fixed plates of C2.

Join potentiometer — terminal of unit to one side of potentiometer + terminal of unit to other side of potentiometer + terminal of unit to other side of potentiometer.

Join centre potentiometer terminal of unit to slider of potentiometer.

Join phones + terminal of unit to "H.T. +" terminal of transformer T9, T10.

Join phones - terminal of unit to "plate" of T9, T10.

Join "grid "of T9, T10 to G of V6.

Join "grid blas" of T9, T10 to G.B.—wander plug (flex lead).

Join A of V6 to left-hand L.S. terminal.

Join L.S. + terminal to H.T. + 2 and thence to one side of C4.

Join H.T. — of set to remaining sides of C3 and C4, and thence to H.T. — of set to nee side of R2 and thence to one side of R1.

Join C4. To of set to nee side of R2 and thence to one side of R1.

Join ther side of R2 to F— of V6.

Join other side of R1 to L.T. — of unit.

Join L.T. + of set to one side of switch S.

Join other side of S to F + of V6 and to L.T. + of unit. L.T. + of unit.

as a stabilising device after, the filament resistance has been satisfactorily adjusted.

#### Materials

As to components required for building a set to these specifications, these are given in a special manner for quick and easy reference. With regard to the superheterodyne unit, there is, of course, so far as the present set is concerned, no choice but to use the make given, but so far as the

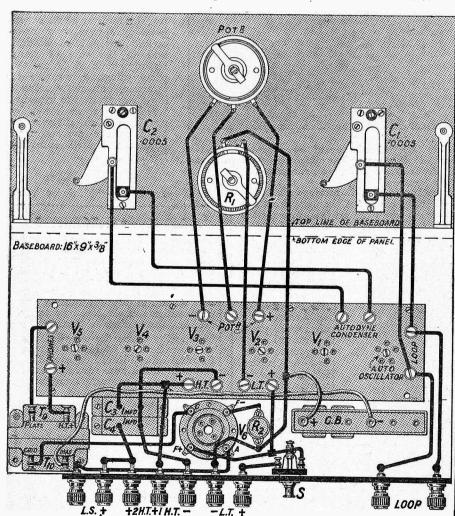
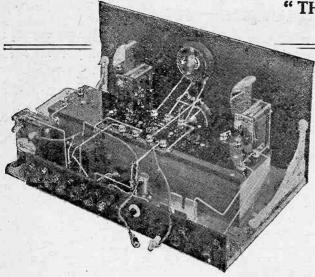


Fig. 2.—The switch marked "S" is brought into use when it is desired to light the filaments.

#### "THE SIX-VALVE SET WITH ONE-VALVE WIRING"



The two plugs seen below the switch on the terminal strip make connection to a grid-bias battery.

remaining components are concerned, it may be understood that other suitable makes will be found among the many listed in the advertisement

> "Trolite" panel, 16 in. by 8 in. by 1 in. (F. A. Hughes & Co., Ltd.) Panel brackets. (Burne-Jones & Co.,

> Ltd.) Cabinet and baseboard 9 in. deep. Camco.")

> Potentiometer. (Ericsson Telephones, Ltd.)

> Filament rheostat. (Ericsson Telephones, Ltd.)
> Two .0005 S. L. F. Condensers. (Beard

& Fitch, Ltd.)

approaching Success host of though a " chirps " may be picked up.

er point should be Another which borne in mind is that the filament rheostat should be sufficiently robust and of such a value as to give satisfactory control of the first five valves. This value will, of course, be dependent upon the type of valves it is intended to use, and care therefore exercised must be buying when this component in order

to avoid trouble at some subsequent period.

board by means of the brackets, and before proceeding further, secure the two small flat brackets to the sides of the superheterodyne unit.

Before screwing this latter to the baseboard make the necessary connections with the two condensers on the panel, the unit being in position but by virtue of its not being secured to the baseboard allowing the connections

to be more easily made.

Next screw the unit to the baseboard and connect in circuit, that is, to the appropriate terminals on the unit, the filament rheostat and the potentiometer. Piace the L.F. transformer, the valve holder, fixed resistor base, and battery clips in position, making sure that sufficient clearance is allowed for the valve and grid battery when these are inserted in the respective positions.

Before screwing these components securely, prepare the terminal strip and, with the terminals mounted, place it in position so as to ascertain

#### WHAT YOU WILL NEED

Two vernier dials. (The Formo Co.) Superheterodyne unit, with plug-in Autodyne coil unit. (L. McMichael, Lt.). L. F. Transformer, Type A.F.4. (Ferranti, Ltd.)

Fixed resistor and base. (Burndept Wireless, Ltd.)

On-off switch. (A. F. Bulgin & Co.) Two 1 mfd. Mansbridge condensers. (T.C.C.) Grid battery clip. (A. F. Bulgin & Co.)

Valve-holder. (Garnett, Whiteley & Co., Ltd.)

Two Wander plugs.

Short length rubber covered flexible wire.

"Glazite" connecting wire.

Nine terminals marked as per wiring diagram. (Belling & Lee, Ltd.)
Ebonite strip, 14 in. by 2 in. by ½ in. (Burne-Jones & Co., Ltd.) Two small flat right-angle brackets.

IMFD. IMFL ₩R₄ 皇C.B LOOP .0005 **₹ P**OTENT®

Fig. 3.—For the L.F. amplifying valve a fixed resistor (R2) is used to limit the filament current. The remaining valve filaments are controlled by a variable resistance seen at R1.

pages. In any case, it is recommended that slow-motion dials be used, otherwise it will be found an extremely difficult business to operate the receiver with anything

#### Constructional Work

After the panel has been prepared in accordance with the details given in the drawing of the panel layout, this should be secured to the base-

whether or not sufficient room has been allowed for accommodating the stems of the terminals, whereupon all the components, including the terminal strip, may be permanently fixed.

### The "Miniwire" Superheterodyne—continued

#### Wiring

The wiring of the receiver will not be found any more complicated than that of an average small receiving set, further, as many of the connections are screwed under terminals, those readers who fight shy of soldering will

feel particularly favoured.
Where possible, the general directions for wiring should be followed, as, though the connections are clearly given in the wiring diagram, and shown, the constructor is warned against accepting his own interpretation of the arrangement immediately the set is finished, for a single mistake

at a point may quite conceivably mean the burning out of all the valves.

Discretion is the better part of valour in these matters, and before connecting any batteries the whole of the wiring should be checked against the diagram. Following upon this, connect the accumu la tor across the appropriate terminals, place the switch in the off position, turn the filament rheostat to zero and insert the valves. switching  $\mathbf{O}$ n on, the valve situated upon the baseboard should light while the remaining five should show no light until the filament rheo-

stat is turned, whereupon all five will light up together.

A Safety Test

· The negative lead of the H.T. battery can now be connected, and using, say, 3 volts of the H.T. battery, touch the first H.T. + of the instrument, noting whether or not the valves show any tendency to brighten up, and if nothing untoward happens it may be assumed that so far the circuit is correctly wired. Still using, say, 3 volts H.T., touch the H.T.+2 terminal, making the same observation as before, when if all appears to be correct, connect, say, 60 volts across H.T. – and H.T. +1 and a voltage suitable to the valve chosen for the last stage to H.T. + 2, not forgetting to use suitable grid bias also.

If this last valve is of the power type, then 120 volts will prove a suitable value, while the grid bias voltage may be taken as being somewhere between 6 and 12 volts, according to the make of valve chosen.

#### Operating

So far as operating the receiver is concerned, this will be dealt with at some length in next week's issue, but in order that readers may in the meantime learn the preliminary handling of the set the following points should adjusted to a point just short of oscillation.

#### Searching

For the reception of signals first adjust the potentiometer so that the intermediate stages just oscillate, whereupon turn the Autodyne condenser (right-hand side of panel) either one way or the other until a powerful "chirp" is heard. Assuming that no chirp is heard throughout the operation, move the condenser on the left of the panel slightly and try again, whereupon sooner or later a chirp will be heard.

Slowly settle down on this chirp

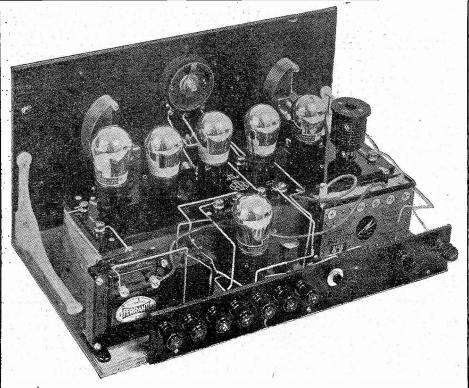
bу adjusting both the Auto-dyne and frame aerial conden-ser together until the signals, though distorted, are at their loudest, when a slight adjustment of the potentio-meter in order to stop oscillation will render the the signals clear of distortion.

Further adjustments should now be made to both condensers until the best results are obtained, both with regard to volume . a n d clearness, not forgetting alter the angle of the frame aerial for pos-sible betterment.

If any diffi-culty is experienced in finding stations in

this way a rough and ready method may be adopted by first searching on the Autodyne condenser and then adjusting the aerial condenser, keeping the intermediate stages well below self-oscillation the whole time by adjusting the potentiometer to a safe value. The receiver in this way loses much of its sensitiveness, though the method has much to commend it until the operator is proficient in making his adjustments quickly.

Those readers who have never handled a superheterodyne before should bear in mind that signals from a given station can be generally heard at two readings of the Autodyne condenser dial.



The finished six-value receiver with coils and values in position. Note that room is left on the baseboard for the grid-bias battery.

be observed. First connect the frame

aerial and loud-speaker (or 'phones)

across the appropriate terminals,

assuming that the batteries are

already connected, insert the Auto-

dyne unit in its five-socket position on

the main unit, turn the potentiometer to a mid-scale reading, and light the

By turning the potentiometer either one way or the other a certain point

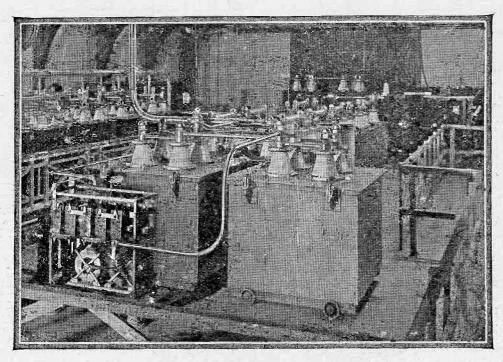
will be reached where a distinct rushing sound is heard. This condition denotes that the intermediate fre-

quency system is oscillating, a condi-

tion which is controlled by the poten-

tiometer adjustments; for normal

reception the potentiometer should be



## Specify Dubilier!

Sixteen years ago we commenced manufacturing wireless condensers.

In those days, electrical condensers certainly existed but they were totally unsuitable for wireless purposes. Accordingly we made a minute study of the subject and, as a result of careful observations over long pe iods, we were enabled to design condensers in which hyst resis losses, insulation leakage and numerous other factors opposed to condenser efficiency were either reduced to the minimum or eliminated completely. The small, he metically sealed groups of mica and metal plates which form the essential units of the familiar 600 Type condensers are the direct outcome of these observations.

They represent the very high standard of electrical efficiency to which modern science has brought the condenser, and it is interesting to note that the e identical unts grouped in their tens of thousands, make up the Condenser Banks of the world's principal wireless stations.

In the Condenser equipment of the Go ernment Rad.o Stat on at Rugby, of which we show a view above, there are in each of the large "tanks" over half a million of such mica and metal plates grouped into hundreds of condenser units.

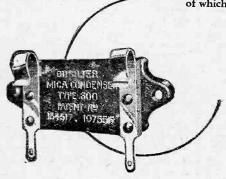
Each of the many millions of plates was individually selected and tested before being collected into groups, and each group was again subjected to frequent and stringent tests during the successive

stages of assembly.

This ritual of tests, tests, and more tests is observed in the case of every single product bearing the Dubilier name. Our long experience has taught us that if we are to make condensers which will be satisfactory in service whether they are designed for High Power Stations or for Bro dcast Receivers, we must take precautions to eliminate every possible cause of failure. As Condenser Specialits we know these precautions to be not only desirable but essential.

Governments and Manufacturers of Broadcast Receivers all over the world, agreeing with us in this matter, specify Dubilier.

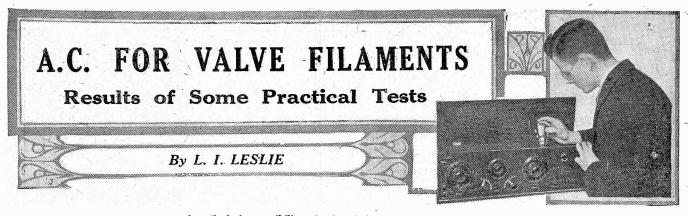
Are there Dubilier Condensers in your set?



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In our last issue Mr. Reyner described the possibility of using A.C. mains for filament lighting, and below our contributor describes the results of some actual practical tests at Elstree,



indicated by Reyner in his article last week's Wireless, tests have been carried out at the Elstree laboratories with the object

of finding out the effects produced when using A.C. for valve filaments. It was shown in the previous article that it was necessary to connect the earth return of the grid circuit to the

centre of the secondary of the input transformer, or to the centre point of a potentiometer connected across the filament of the valve in use. By employing this method a large part of the hum caused by the alternating current can be eliminated.

#### Another Difficulty

In actual practice, however, there is a further difficulty to be overcome; this is due to the fact that the ment is alternating, so that the heating effect is continually varying.

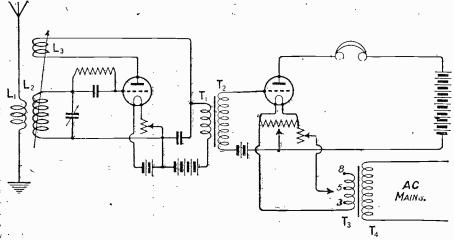
It is well known that two currents, opposite in direction, but of the same magnitude, will each cause the same heating effects in a conductor. With an alternating supply the current changes its direction continuously, starting at a positive value and falling to zero before it becomes negative: this will occur, perhaps, 100 times a second. Although the heating effect on the filament depends on an average value of the current, it is evident that the variations will be perceptible, if the filament is very sensitive to any change of current.

#### The Only Remedy

The eye cannot detect fluctuations

in the light produced by an electric lamp working off alternating current: but the ear is much more sensitive in this respect. If the temperature of the valve filament changes with each current fluctuation, the emission will vary, and a hum will be produced in the 'phones connected in the anode eircuit of the valve. Therefore the only method of getting over this difficulty is to design a filament which is very insensitive to sudden changes of

power applied to it is to remain constant, the shorter it is the thicker it can be made, and the more desirable it will be for working off alternating Finally the co-efficient of current. heat conductivity of the filament should be as low in value as possible, so that it will not tend to take in or give up its heat too readily. points to the use of a low-temperature filament, such as is used in modern dull-emitters.



through the file step-down transformer having a ratio of 30 to 1 for the tests described this week.

current; or, in other words, will always remain at a constant temperature.

The question naturally arises as to what properties such a filament should possess. Length, thickness and co-efficient of heat conductivity must all play an important part in the design. Now, a thin wire will lose its heat much quicker than a thick one; therefore our filament must be thicker than is normally the case. In order to obtain the required emission from a thick filament, a larger current will be necessary, although the voltage may be cut down by a corresponding amount.

It is also evident that, if the emission from the filament and the

#### Summarised Requirements

Making a summary of these points, we should expect to get the best results with a filament which is short and thick. This would require a large current at a small voltage. When working off A.C., however, we are mostly concerned with the wattage consumed; therefore we need not worry about the magnitude of the reduired current provided the voltage is correspond-ingly reduced.

#### **Practical Tests**

In order to find out if these reasonings were approximately correct, tests were carried out on a large selection of dull-emitter valves. The circuit used is shown in Fig. 1. The leads from the A.C. mains were taken to the primary of a step down transformer, having a turn ratio of 30 to 1. 240 volts were put on the primary, and by means of a tapping from the secondary winding voltages of 8, 5 or 3 could be obtained as desired.

The hum is principally noticeable on L.F. stages, and the actual tests were made on a single-valve amplifier. It was found that grid bias had a noticeable effect on the amount of

## A.C. FOR VALVE FILAMENTS

(Continued from previous page)

hum present, and this was adjusted to the correct operating point for each test. In order to ensure this the amplifier in question was coupled to a simple valve detector, and all the tests were made whilst signals from 2LO were actually being received.

In some cases, using short, heavycurrent filaments, the hum was sufficiently reduced to permit the reception of distant stations; but, in any case, the signals from the local station enabled the grid bias to be adjusted to the correct operating point so that no distortion was present.

#### **Excessive Grid Bias**

This precaution proved necessary, because in many instances the hum could be cut down considerably by increasing the grid bias, but in such cases it was found that distortion was being introduced indicating that the grid bias was excessive. The presence of the signals thus acted as a check and ensured the validity of the observations.

In view of the influence of grid bias, it was decided not to run the detector valve off A.C., as if this were done there would be too many variable factors contributing to the final result. Accordingly the detector valve was provided with an accumulator and a separate H.T. battery to confine the observations to the L.F. valve entirely.

#### Change-over Arrangements

In order to facilitate the comparison in the hum obtained with various valves, a second valve holder was connected in parallel to the one in use, and by means of a single-pole double-throw knife switch, one valve could be switched on and the other off in a single movement of the switch. It was found necessary to connect the potentiometer across the valve legs (not across the secondary terminals of the transformer), so that its centre point should not be disturbed by alterations of the filament resistance.

A selection of 2-volt valves was first

A selection of 2-volt valves was first tested; the results obtained were fully in accordance with the theory put forward in this article, the quietest valves being those which took the greatest current. The Marconi Osram D.E.R., which takes a current of 0.35 amps. at 2 volts, gave very little hum, and when listening to the local station, tuned in at moderate strength, it was easy to forget that there was any hum present. The Mullard double green ring, taking 0.3 amps., and the Ediswan A.R.D.E., taking 0.25 amps., were also fairly silent in operation, but the Cossor Point One and the Mullard P.M.1,

taking 0.1 amp., gave a noticeably louder hum.

#### Four-Volt Valves

Some 4-volt valves were then tested. As one would expect, the type of valve, taking 0.06 amps, was in general the noisiest, and those taking 0.12 amps, were quieter. A Mullard D.F.A.0 taking 0.35 amps, at 4 volts was then tested and proved to give the loudest hum of any 4-volt valve. Considering its high current consumption, this might appear at first to be in direct contradiction to our theory, but it will be noticed that the filament of this valve is of the loop variety, and therefore about twice the length of those previously tested.

#### Tests on Six-Volt Valves

A selection of 6-volt valves were then tried. Most of them, such as the Marconi D.E.5 and D.E. 5B. and the B.T.H B4 and B7, had long filaments, and all gave a very loud hum. The amount of current taken by these 6-volt valves did not appear to affect the hum produced to any noticeable extent, the length of the filament appearing to over-rule the current factor in this case.

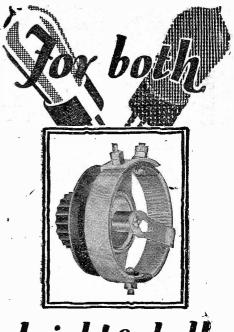
The results quoted are a few selected out of a large number of tests or as indicating the general tendency observed in the experiments. It will be clear that they bear out the theory put forward at the beginning of the article to a large extent, and they serve to emphasise the relative importance of the several factors.

#### Importance of Length

Thus the most important factor of all seems to be that of filament length. The 6-volt valves tried, all of which had long filaments, were uniformly unsuitable, and a wide difference in filament current, ranging from 100 milliamperes to .25 amperes, produced no appreciable alteration in the hum. The first essential, therefore, appears to be a short filament.

Here, in order to obtain the necessary emission, a heavy current is required, but this, fortunately, is also the requirement for silent working, the hum becoming appreciably less as the current is increased. In fact, some of the 2-volt valves tried were almost silent in operation. This again bears out the theory.

Two-volt valves are at present limited by the attempt to keep the current within reasonable limits. As has been stated, this objection does not hold in A.C. working, and possibly it is in this direction that future developments may occur.



## bright & dull emitter valves

There are two windings on this one Rheostat—one of a resistance of 6 ohms and a combination of this on to a 30 ohm strip winding. This has been specially made to meet the demand for a thoroughly reliable Rheostat covering needs of both bright and dull emitter valves. The resistance wire is wound on hard fibre strip under great tension and is immune from damage. The popular one-hole fixing method is provided and the terminals are conveniently placed. Contact arm has a smooth, silky action. All metal parts nickel-plated. Complete with ebonite combined knob and dial.



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## KEEPING LISTENERS' INTEREST

WHY GREAT ARTISTS CANNOT BROADCAST

ByDAME CLARA BUTT



ROM the point of view of broadcaster and listener alike, wireless has entered a new era. No longer is it a scientific novelty with which to while

away an hour. Probably the vast majority of people in this country have handled wireless sets, and, except for a comparatively small number of enthusiastic experimenters, it no longer holds the same attraction from a mechanical point of view. Even the keenest distant station seeker likes to listen to a good programme from his local station occasionally.

From the listener's point of view

broadcasting is beginning to be looked upon primarily as a means of enter-tainment, and the B.B.C., as the entertainers, will have to see that they keep the interest of their vast audience. Novelties will sooner or later cease to amuse and entertainment equal in quality to that of the theatres and concert halls will have to be pro-

#### The Broadcaster's Viewpoint

The point of view of the broadcaster, too, is changing. Broadcasting was at first treated as a form of privilege, and many famous people were willing to accept it as such. But now that the novelty of singing or play-

ing before a vast unseen audience has worn off, they are no longer willing to broadcast for nothing.

I am not complaining of the present wireless programmes. In their way they are excellent, but I think that, unless concerts by the best artists are given at least once a week, there will shortly be a decrease in the number of licence holders. Music lovers were content to listen to a second-rate violinist or singer when the sound was brought to them by the mysterious ether, but

the ether is no longer mysterious, and they are taking broadcasting for granted. Unless it can give them entertainment ment at least as good as that of the concert halls they will not rencw their



artist, is of special interest.

#### What We Want

Most B.B.C. artists are good, but few have won their spurs on the concert platform, or become internation-

ally famous. Six nights out of seven they provide excellent music, but on the seventh night a large section of listeners will want serious music by a famous musician. They will want the music of someone with a magnetic personality—a Kreisler or a Caruso.

At the moment very few of the world's great instrumentalists or singers will broadcast. It is not that they are not willing, or even anxious, to broadcast, but simply that they cannot afford to do so. Some artists, it is true, still look unfavourably on broadcasting, because they think that it is imperfect. Perhaps they have been unfortunate enough to hear a distorting loud-speaker making music into cacophony. I know that there are distorting receivers—but so are there distorting gramophones, and no artist refuses to make records. Perfect wireless reproduction is not only possible, but the general rule. No musical person would listen to a bad loud-speaker, and I am sure that artists need not fear that faulty apparatus will injure their reputations if they broadcast.

#### **Broadcasting Beneficial**

Unlike other types of broadcaster, the musician does not have his material spoilt when it is distributed to several million people at once. I can sympathise with the comedian who complains that, once he has used a joke on the wireless, it be-comes a chestnut. But music im-proves on a second or third hearing, and I am sure that a great artist, with a magnetic personality, will draw people who have heard him to see him.

The difficulty is, I am aware, almost entirely a question of money. Famous artists cannot afford to broadcast at the fees paid by the B.B.C., and the B.B.C. cannot afford to pay adequate fees, because their income is limited. The matter lies in other hands than those responsible for

arranging the programmes, but it is only right that attention should be called to

it, and that the money paid by licence holders should be used entirely in providing entertainment for

(Continued on page 14.)

#### money? earns your spends it? Whochooses your parts for you?

No set published by any periodical could use only one make of parts or could use the same make of transformer, for instance—it would not be fair to advertisers if they did not all have a share in this kind of mention. BUT YOU ARE FREE TO CHOOSE YOUR/OWN PARTS.

Your transformer, for instance. Never again pay a high price for your transformer no matter what may be specified—the new LISSEN has revolutionised all previous ideas of transformer price and performance.

So good is it, that all our own high priced models, which have been on the market and largely sold for several years past, have been unhesitatingly withdrawn in favour of this new LISSEN.

The fine tone and great power of this new LISSEN Transformer have been proved by the trade—they are largely using it for their own built-up sets.

It Fully Amplifies Every Note-Every Harmonic-Every Overtone. Choose the New LISSEN. First for its Performance. Secondly for its Price. ACTUALLY TEST IT FOR 7 DAYS—IF NOT SATISFIED THEN TAKE IT BACK TO YOUR DEALERS OR SEND IT BACK TO US.

Our new direct to dealer policy of distribution (which cuts out all wholesale profits), aided by our huge production programme and the special plant installed to turn it out have enabled us to sell this new LISSEN Transformer at an unheard-of low price.



It will suit every circuit and every valve you will want to use.

USE LISSEN FIXED CONDEN-SERS, TOO, Mica and Mansbridge Type

#### LISSEN Mica Type CONDENSERS

Small energy-conserving condensers—note the new case which enables the condenser to be used upright or flat. At present the new case is available only in the most used capacities, but will quickly become a LISSEN standard.



.0001 to .001 1/- each (much reduced). .002 to .006 1/6 each (much reduced).

Accurate to 5 per cent.—they never leak—they never vary.

#### ADD 10% MORE LIFE TO YOUR H.T. BATTERY

merely by using a LISSEN 2 mfd. or I mfd. (Mansbridge type) condenser across your H.T. battery. It cuts out all the noise from your H.T. battery when the battery is old, and keeps the energy flow steady and quiet in the meantime. One LISSEN condenser will outlast many batteries, and the lengthened life you get out of your battery will pay for the cost of the LISSEN condenser over and over again, Your dealer will tell you how you can easily connect the condenser when buying it. Use either 2 mfd. or 1 mfd. capacity—the larger condenser is more effective.

#### LISSEN (Mansbridge Type)

	COND	LND!	LK	
2 mfd. 1 mfd.	**	1	···	4/8 3/10
Other capacities	made a	re:		
.01			•••	2/4
.025	•••	***	•••	2/4
.05		•-	-	2/4
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1 0	• • •	0+0	• •	2/10
2.0	5	• •	8-9	4/8

Instead of a tincase, the LISSEN CONDENSER, unlike all other condensers of the Mansbridge type, has a specially moulded case which in itself is a SOLID INSULATOR. That is why it is impossible for the LISSEN Condenser to short circuit on to its case, an important protection for you when you are using the condensers in any circuit which is connected straight on to the electric light mains.

any circuit which is connected straight on to the electric light mains. And due to our new direct-to-dealer policy of distribution THESE LISSEN CONDENSERS COST YOU NO MORE THAN THE ORDINARY KIND,

#### LISSEN FIXED GRID LEAKS

A case of these was left on our factory roof during the summer of 1925, soaked in rain, baked by sun and the resistance value of these leaks never altered.

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Improve every circuit by using LISSEN parts wherever you can—save money too—for now you get keen prices as well as fine quality.

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Managing Director: T. N. Cole.

Many are using LISSEN Transformers in "N" Circuits.

### Keeping Listeners' Interest—continued from page 12

Because their income is fixed, regardless of the number of licence holders over about 1,000,000, the B.B.C. do not, perhaps, take the same trouble to keep alive the interest of listeners as they would if they received the whole of the licence fees. Concerts are one of the surest ways of

keeping the interest of listeners. If a great artist can pack the Albert Hall to overflowing, surely, when he broadcasts, thous and s of listeners will renew their licences simply to hear him

#### What Must Come

Sooner or later the B.B.C. will, I think, have to make contracts with big artists, guaranteeing them a reasonable sum for a certain number of concerts, to be given over a period of, say, two or three years. Sir Harry Lauder and Chaliapine both received large fees for their broadcasts, I believe, but these are but two instances in the course of four or five years!

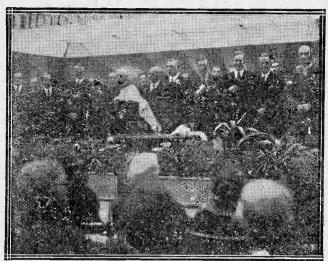
The broadcasting authorities will have to spend more money when this change takes place. This may mean raising the licence fee (although I think more careful collection of the ordinary fee would meet the case). A pound licence fee would. I know, raise a storm of protest, but, after all, it is not a great sum to pay for the privilege of listening to first-class entertainment every night of the year.

#### A Difference

It is sometimes suggested that great artists will no longer be needed on the wireless, because broadcasting will, like the cinema, create its own stars. While it is true

that film producers soon gave up looking for talent on the stage, and started training their own stars, I do not think that the same development will take place on the wireless. The arts of the stage and screen are very different, but those of the platform and studio are not dissimilar. A girl with a voice which would not make her world-famous on

the concert platform is hardly likely to become a star because she has learnt the art of broadcasting. On the other hand, I think that the established artist is likely to succeed in the studio, for she has developed personality, and can express it in her voice. I think, also, that listeners will



Top.—Sir William Noble, fourth from left in front row, declaring open the Third Manchester Wireless Exhibition, which was held in the City Exhibition Hall at Deansgate. Capt. P.P. Eckersley, Chief Engineer of the B.B.C., is fourth from the right in the front row. Our picture below shows one of the exhibits—a demonstration showing how wireless is used by an army in the field.



want to hear and see those who broadcast.

Personal Experiences

This article sounds very commercial, but I hope I have not conveyed the idea that I am interested in broadcasting simply from a financial point of view. On the rare occasions I have appeared before the microphone I have enjoyed myself, and never suffered from "stage fright." Probably

it is easier for a singer than for a lecturer or comedian to visualise a vast enseen audience. The knowledge that there were millions listening always urged me to give my best.

In addition, I find a certain senti-

In addition, I find a certain sentimental enjoyment in broadcasting. It may be true, as Ruskin said, that, if

anyone really wants anything, they will find the
money to buy it, but I do
not doubt that there are
many people who never go
to big concerts because
they cannot afford to do so.
It made me very happy to
think that there were,
perhaps, thousands of
these people listening-in.

#### Broadcasting and its Opportunities

Often, when I am on tour, a note is slipped into my hand as I go on to the platform. It tells a tale of suffering or bereavement, and begs me to sing "Abide with Me" or "The Lost Chord," Of course, I comply if it is possible, and it makes me very happy to think that my art can help. Broadcasting enables me to reach men and women such as the writers of these notes, and possibly make their troubles easier to bear.

I like singing into a microphone because it is able to "take" my big voice. When I have made gramophone records I have had to stand a long way from the recording apparatus to ensure pure reproduction. But wireless reproduces the "bigness" of my voice without difficulty.

#### National Possibilities

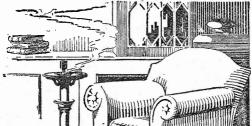
Lastly, I am interested in broadcasting because of the wonderful opportunity it is offering to music lovers. It is often said that the English are unmusical, but I think that Englishmen would be as musical as the French, the

be as musical as the French, the Germans, or the Italians if they were given the opportunity. Men and women on the Continent are musical because they can hear first-class music for next to nothing

for next to nothing.

In England we have no state-aided music, but broadcasting, if it provides first-class concerts, will go a long way to making the Englishman interested in good music.





In these columns Lord Russell expresses each week his own personal views on matters of interest to "Wireless" readers.

#### Hów Many Valves?

It is not much more than a year ago that I ventured to commit myself to the view that three valves would probably be the normal limit for receivers. On three valves with the 'phones any station could be audibly' picked up with proper tuning; a detector followed by two L.F. amplifiers would give all the loud-speaking required from a local station or Daventry. The use of more valves involved impossible demands for both L.T. and H.T. current. How shortsighted I was in my prophecy! super-heterodyne came in with its six valves and manufacturers rose to the occasion and produced valves to meet the demand. The dull emitter, which had been an expensive toy, became an article of commerce, not cheap it is true, except in comparison with valve prices of two years ago, but soon earning its keep in accumulator saving.

I am at present running a set with five valves, which together take .6 ampere at 2 volts, as against .7 for each bright emitter at 6 volts. Put into watts it means 1.2 against 21. Moreover, the general public's demand now is for loud-speaking; so, usurping the privileges of Delphi, I now interpret my prophecy to mean that no one in future will use less than five valves.

#### Some Curious Views

I have been reading an article lately from a quite competent hand, containing one or two statements which are to say the least open to challenge. For example, it is stated that 12 milliamperes are necessary for ample volume in a loud-speaker. I have a five-valve set which works two loudspeakers quite satisfactorily with 3½ milliamperes. Crystals are brushed aside as being impossible in sets for the general public. Considering the

vast number of crystal users who have patiently learnt to fiddle with a cat's whisker, and the large number of stable crystal detectors on the market, which will stay put, I do not see why my old friend the crystal should be considered such a hopeless proposition. As a matter of fact, there are two or three reflexing circuits in the air at the present time using crystals which give quite remarkable results.

#### Some Construction Points

Amateurs who construct their sets at home will do well to remember that tags are tinned commercially by an acid process which is apt to leave a film of oxide on the tin. This has to be scraped off with a knife or the tag re-tinned if an easy joint is to be made. It is wise to do this in advance rather than to wait until one is about to solder in an inaccessible position.

I have for a long time been in doubt about the best size of wire to use. There was a time when square 16 was the rage, and I still have a preference for that size, but round. I am not at all sure, however, that for a multivalve set on broadcast wavelengths 18 is not quite as good. The use of these modern coil bases and screens make easy leads difficult to find, and 18 Glazite is often the best solution. It would be interesting to have authoritative and quantitative comparisons from Elstree on the point.

## SIEMENS

## "FLUID" LECLANCHE CELLS

for H.T. purposes

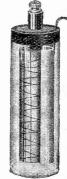


A novel Feature

The new form of excitant which we supply with these cells renders them as clean and convenient to use as the so-called "dry" cell. "Creeping" of the salts is entirely eliminated and NOISELESS RECEPTION ENSURED.



It is more economical to purchase the larger size, having regard to the ratio of output in comparison with the price.



H.T. 3 Size.

Size No.	Nominal E,W.F.	Dimensions overall approximate	Maximum Economical Discharge Rate	Weight without electrolyte approximate	Ratio of output.	Price per cell complete.	
	Volts.	Inches.	Milli-Amps,	ozs.		s. d.	
H.T.1	1.22	$1\frac{1}{4}$ dia $\times$ $3\frac{1}{4}$ high	5	3	1	1 0	
H.T.2	1.22	I¼ ,, × 5 ,,	10	4	2	1 3 .	
H.T.3	1.55	$1\frac{1}{2}$ ,, $\times$ 5\frac{1}{2} ,,	20	6	5	1 6	

Complete batteries in wood boxes can be supplied for 50 volts (36 cells); 60 volts (44 cells); and 100 volts (72 cells).

Our new catalogue, No. 650, of "Siemens" Radio Batteries contains a large amount of useful information on the CARE, MAINTENANCE and SELECTION of batteries for all radio purposes. It also shows how to obtain the most efficient service at the lowest operating cost. A copy will be sent post free on request.

SIEMENS BROTHERS & CO., LTD., WOOLWICH, LONDON, S.E.18





T has always been the fashion to say "High - frequency amplification on the long waves is easy enough; it is the shorter waves that

are so difficult." In the case of the Monodial the reverse has been the case. Little difficulty of any serious nature was found in getting the set to function satisfactorily on the shorter waves, and such troubles as there were did not include parasitic escillations or appointfullable.

oscillations, or uncontrollable oscillation of any kind.

#### A Difficulty

When I first started on the long-wave experiments, however, I found myself up against a serious difficulty. The set went into violent oscillation, which nothing apparently would stop. It was soon found that the trouble did not actually lie in the high-frequency circuit—the trouble was only affecting the detector. On examination, indeed, this almost appeared to be oscillating at several different frequencies.

The detector circuit will be seen in Fig. 2 in the October 30th issue of Wireless, in which the constructional details regarding the Monodial were given. As will be noticed, the detector grid circuit consists of an inductance which is tuned by a variable condenser. One side of this circuit is connected to the grid of the valve, while the other goes to the anode through a small variable condenser which is used for reaction. A high-frequency choke is connected in the plate circuit of the detector so as to enable capacity reaction control of

this description to be used, while the L.T. return goes to a point at the centre of the inductance.

#### The Reason

It will readily be seen that if it should chance that the choke in the plate circuit were self tuned to the same frequency as that of each half of the coil, each it turn tuned by its self-capacity, the circuit would go into self-oscillation, which nothing would stop—and it does! This is what occurred with several chokes that were

tried, and those with a very small selfcapacity were specially found to have this effect owing to the low wavelength to which they are naturally tuned on account of this point.

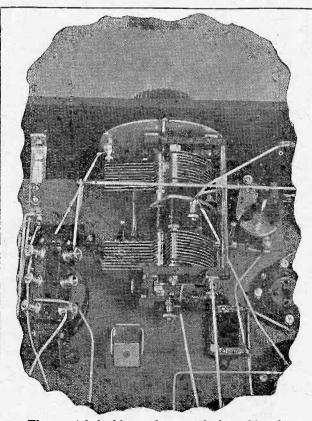
When at last reaction was induced to behave normally it was found to be extremely fierce, and the expedient of shifting the filament tap further away from the grid end of the inductance had to be resorted to, and although this was a cure for fierce reaction, it might then occur that the choke which was suitable on account of its not giving rise to parasitics with

giving rise to parasities with a centre tap would do so with the tapping point shifted flown to inductance. A spot had therefore to be chosen which would enable stability to be obtained with the largest number of high-frequency chokes, so that the circuit should not become critical as regards this component.

#### Windings

Other points that required investigation were chiefly as regarded the primaries of the two H.F. transformers used, one for the aerial coupling, and one for the intervalve H.F. coupling. The correct proportions of the windings had to be determined, the number of turns and the degree of coupling with the secondary, while, if possible, it was intended that both these inductances should be made the same, so that both coils would be interchangeable.

It was also necessary that the primary winding be connected the right way round, otherwise the receiver would not neutralise correctly, and though the H.F. valve in the Monodial was found to be almost stable on the long waves without being neu-



The special double condenser, which enables the receiver to be controlled by one knob.

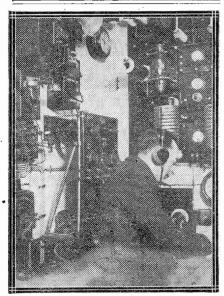
#### THE MONODIAL ON LONG WAVES

(Continued)

tralised, yet it was necessary to bear in mind that with different valves and under different circumstances this would quite probably not always be the case.

#### Results

Once an indication had been obtained as to the direction in which the solution of the various problems lay, progress was rapidly made, and I soon had the pleasure of listening to a special concert which was being broadcasted from Daventry, unmarred by any form of oscillation from within the set itself. On turning the tuning control and advancing the reaction slightly



The wireless cabin of the "Jervis the chief wireless officer of which vessel is reported to have been in daily communication with Sydney throughout the whole voyage from Australia to Plymouth.

Radio-Paris was received at medium strength in the loud-speaker.

In view of the fact that a short sercened aerial almost in the heart of town was being used I considered the signal strength to be well up to normal, and, indeed, highly satisfactory for a one-knob control set.

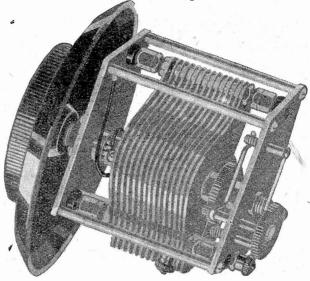
The next station to be picked up in the loud-speaker was Hilversum, who came in at decidedly better strength than did Radio-Paris, while one or two other transmissions round the 1,400-metre mark were heard.

Next week, for the benefit of those who may wish to make their own coils, I will give full details as to the long-wave inductances, together with one or two operating notes specially applicable to long-wave work on the Monodial, and a full test report, since the above results are intended only as C. P. A. a general guide.

## NOW A Brandes CONDENSER

#### STRAIGHT LINE FREQUENCY SLOW MOTION LOW LOSS.

It will be obvious from the table given below of new B.B.C. wave-lengths, that a condenser in which the dial reading varies directly as the frequency will give a more uniform separation of stations than one in which the dial reading varies directly as the wave-length. This is particularly apparent in the lower wave-lengths. Brandes Straight Line Frequency Slow Mótion Low Loss Condenser has been specially designed to provide a Straight Line Frequency tuning characteristic and to bring in the B.B.C. Stations well spaced out over the major portion of the dial, whilst, at the same time maintaining the compact form which is so very essential in a back - of - panel instrument.



The following table shows the new wave-lengths of the B.B.C. stations with their

onding frequen	icies :—			
Call Sign.	Station.	_	Wavelength.	Frequen <b>c</b> y
2 BD 5 IT	Aberdeen	} .	491.8 metres.	610 kc
5 SC	Birmingham Glasgow	J	405.4 ,,	740 .,
2 ZY	Manchester		384.6 ,,	780
2 LO	London		361.4 ,, 353 ,,	830 ., 850 .,
5 WA 2 BE	Cardiff Belfast		326.1 ,,	920 ;;
5 NO	Newcastle		312.5, ,,	960 ,,
6 BM	Bournemouth Leeds		306.1 ,, 297	980 ,, 1,010 ,,
2 LS	Bradford		294.1 ;;	1,020 ,,
Other Relays	,		288.5 ,,	1,040 ,,

With this condenser a positive movement for approximate setting is obtained by turning the 4 in. diameter dial which is provided with finger grips for this purpose. critical setting is obtained by turning the  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in. knob which actuates the slow motion mechanism. Low dielectric losses and the complete absence of backlash are ensured.

PRICE: ·0005 ... 18/6; ·0003 ... 18/-

(From any good dealer.)

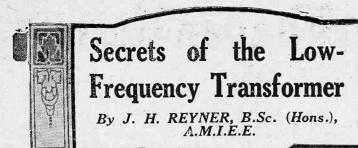
#### Numerous Advantages:

- A handsome 4 in. dial engraved with clearly marked divisions and provided with finger grip for the approximate setting of the condenser.
- 2. The large knurled knob 2½ in. diameter operates the patent vernier mechanism for fine or critical
- A minimum quantity of highest quality ebonite ensures low dielectric losses.
- ensures for detection closes.

  4. The single hole fixing bush has a knurled face to ensure a firm grip on the panel.

  Ball bearings fitting into cone-shaped races prevent shake and backlash.
- A pigtail flexible connection ensures perfect contact between the frame and the moving vane system.
- 7. Brass vanes and spacing collars chemically cleaned ensure perfect contact.
- 8. Conical bearings at base prevent shake and back-
- The Slow Motion is transmitted to the moving vanes through a carefully designed friction clutch by means of a train of wheels having a finely knurled surface which ensures a very smooth reduction movement without jump or slip.
- 10. Specially designed spring bearings keep the train wheels in intimate contact and by exerting a
  - of wheels in intimate contact and by exerting a gentle pressure on all the moving parts entirely eliminate backlash. This còndenser will provide a Straight-Line-Frequency tuning characteristic with the stations within the B.B.C. frequency range well spaced over the dial. The shape of the moving vane is designed to provide a small compact condenser having a straight-line-frequency tuning characteristic without taking up a large back-of-pahel space. Most other S.L.F. Condensers have a long, narrow vane with a very wide swing, taking up a lot of valuable space at the back of the panel.

BRANDES, Ltd., 296, Regent St., W.1. Works: Slough, Bucks.



Many people are apt to regard the low-frequency transformer as "a box with four terminals" without paying any attention to its functions and position in circuit. In this special article Mr. Reyner gives some interesting details about this highly-specialised instrument which you should not miss.



HE modern low-frequency transformer is a highly-specialised instrument. The accumulated results of years of research applied to the problem by some of the best brains in this

country have made possible the production of instruments which achieve a high standard of efficiency. It is, indeed, a field of research in which this country is unquestionably the leader, and the methods adopted by British engineers are studied and often copied all over the world.

#### The Differences

The average reader must at times wonder what difference there can be between various makes of instruments.

The purpose of the low-frequency transformer is to receive the energy from one valve and to pass it on to the succeeding valve, so that it shall

be increased in volume, if possible, but at any rate an accurate copy of the signals originally supplied on the input side.

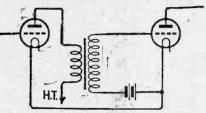
Rival manufacturers claim for their own particular articles various peculiar attributes which assist one or other, or, if possible, both of these two functions. The most important is unquestionably that of faithful reproduction, and the amplification obtained over the whole stage, although of importance, is usually relegated to a second place in the design.

#### Strength and Quality

Now there is no doubt that there is a difference between various makes of transformers. Some instruments give markedly better results than others. Two instru-ments may give an equal emplification, but one may give more natural reproduc-

tion than the other. Alternatively, we may have two instruments between which there is little to choose as far as purity is concerned,

d yet one of which will give quite definite and appreciably and greater signal strength than the other. It is proposed in this series of articles to discuss in simple terms the multitude of factors which affect the design



transformer circuit in its simplest form.

of a low-frequency intervalve transformer.

It is hoped that this will prove of service not only in appreciating the

Fig. 1.-A typical low-frequency

STATIC CURVE DYNAMIC

Fig. 2 (a).—This curve is suitable for a grid voltage swing (which reaches a maximum of three volts in either direction.

connection between high-quality construction and satisfactory results, but arising out of the discussion of the subject, in indicating possible methods

which improvements may effected with existing patterns of transformer which may perhaps have been purchased at a time when the science was not so fully understood as it is to-day. Moreover, as will be seen later, naturalness of reproduction depends to no small extent on the personal factor, and an instrument can often be altered to suit different

#### **Fundamentals**

Let us consider a low-frequency transformer circuit in its simplest form. In Fig. 1 we have a valve, the anode circuit of which carries the primary of a low-frequency transformer. One end of the secondary winding of this transformer is connected to the grid of the succeeding valve, and the other end to the filament through appropriate grid-bias, in order that the second valve may operate on a suitable part of its characteristic. This latter point is one of considerable importance, and must be

assumed to be fulfilled throughout the whole of the discussion which is to follow.

The modern valve, designed for low-frequency work, is so arranged that when it is operating with a suitable transformer in its anode circuit, the variation of current produced in the anode circuit follows faithfully the variation of voltage applied to the grid circuit. In order that this may be the case two effects are necessary. In the first case the grid must never be allowed to become positive, for if this is done grid current will flow, and this immediately absorbs energy from the grid circuit and produces distortion. The second point is that the characteristic must be such as to permit a sufficient grid

swing.
As the grid voltage is increased so the anode current increases and vice versa. We therefore have a limiting grid The maximum positive grid is that which, in associa-

with the grid bias provided, (Continued on page 20.) tion

swing.

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are the accepted made-in-England highgrade radio panels with a beautiful surface, making the set de luxe. EBONART
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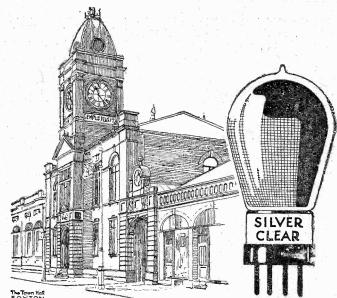
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"At a recent test of various comment."

"Please furnish me with a catalogue.

"Yours sincarely."

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Louden Valves are made by British labour in a British factory with British capital and can be depended upon for the finest volume, range and silver clearness. They can only be offered at such low prices because of our well-known policy of selling direct to the public and cutting out the middleman's profit. The list below gives prices and full particulars. Order your Louden Valves from us by post.

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BLLY DIRECT AND SAVE MONEY

## Secrets of the Low-Frequency Transformer—con. from page 18

makes the grid just positive, while the maximum in the opposite direction is that which takes the value down to the lower bend in its curve. If the available voltage range in between these two extremes is less than the signal applied, then we shall get distortion. This point will be clear from the diagram shown in Fig. 2a.

#### Dynamic Curves

The actual operating or "dynamic" characteristic of a valve depends on the value of the impedance in the anode circuit. For each particular value of grid bias it is possible there-fore to draw a dynamic characteristic. Let us assume that we have a voltage swing which reaches a maximum of three volts in either direction. In Fig. 2 (a) we have a characteristic which is ample to handle such a grid swing. In Fig. 2 (b), however, we have a case where the valve is not adequate for the purpose. We must utilise at least 3 volts grid bias in order to avoid running into grid current, and if we do so we find that we cannot obtain a swing of 3 volts in the opposite direction before the

current drops to zero.

This point has been discussed in a fair amount of detail because it is one of paramount importance in the discussion of low-frequency amplifier design. With modern valves it is quite possible to handle a very large volume without running into grid current or "blasting," and we may, therefore, consider the valve as being a faithful reproducing device, the sole purpose of which is to produce an amplification of the signals.

#### What We Need

Our problem, therefore, is how to make the fullest possible use of this amplification which is provided by the

practically entirely on this desirable

Now the difficulties to be encountered are enormous. The more the problem is examined the more impossible does its achievement appear to be. It has already been mentioned that the characteristics of the valve

with which the transformer is associated depend upon the impedance in the anode circuit, and this has a defi-nite effect upon the operation of whole arrangement in that the amplification over the whole stage is dependent upon the impedance of the transformer primary.

> Variation of Impedance

Now the impedance of the primary winding of a transformer is not a constant property.
It depends not only upon the resistance of the winding, but also upon the induc-

tance. This latter property is a measure of the magnetic field produced by the winding, and it is indeed by virtue of this magnetic field that the energy is transferred to the secondary circuit. Unfortunately the effect produced in the anode circuit by the inductance of the transformer is dependent upon the frequency of the current flowing through it.

We are accustomed to speak of choke

an iron core, which tends to oppose the passage of varying currents, although it will have little effect on a direct current. Such choke coils are utilised, for instance, in smoothing out the ripple produced when the electric light mains are used for high-tension supply.

They obtain their effect from the

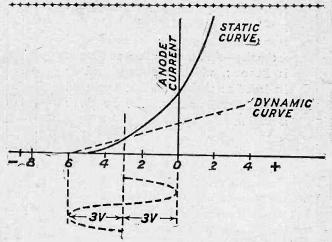


Fig. 2 (b).-At least three volts grid-bias is required in this example to avoid running into grid current, and if this is done, it is not possible to obtain a swing of three volts without distortion.

fact that they oppose any such change in the current, although they do not interfere with any steady flow of current through them. Without going into mathematics in the problem, it will be appreciated that the more rapid the change in current, the greater the choking effect. In other words, the greater the frequency, the more efficient does the choke become, always provided that other effects such as self-capacity do not come into play.

#### Effect of Frequency

The primary winding of the transformer, therefore, acts as a choke coil in this manner, and its choking effect or impedance varies as the frequency. For very low frequencies its impedance is quite small, while for higher frequencies of the order of 3,000 or 4,000 its impedance rises to a very high value. Since the amplification of the previous valve depends upon the impedance in the anode circuit it will be clear that the overall amplification, therefore, will vary rapidly with the frequency, which is the exact opposite of the conditions of affairs required.

#### The Remedy

To mitigate this disadvantage, therefore, it is necessary to design the transformer so that the primary winding has a high inductance. When the impedance of the anode circuit is about three times that of the valve (Continued on page 33.)

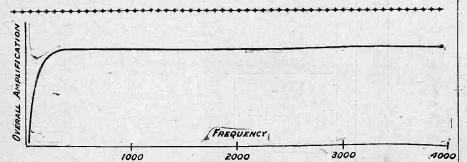
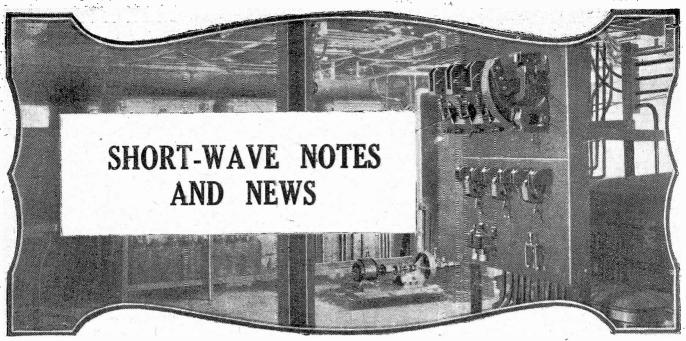


Fig. 3.-When a certain critical point is reached the curve of an L.F. transformer flattens out, and the amplification is practically uniform over the remaining range.

valve without introducing distortion into the circuit, and in order to achieve this result our intervalve coupling should be of such a nature that its response is the same at all frequencies. The research work of the transformer designer is concentrated

coils both in low-frequency and high-frequency circuits, and it should be remembered that the function of such coils is to prevent the passage of varying currents through them. A low-frequency choke is a coil having a large number of turns, often provided with





BROUGHOUT week last all the "G" stations be to heard were working between midnight and 6 a.m. with very

fine D.C. notes and rather weaker, but steadier, signals than usual. The explanation of this phenomenon was fairly simple-the T. and R. Section's Low-Power Tests were in progress. Members could be heard repeating fiveletter code words and calling stations at distances that instantly branded them as confirmed optimists. Needless to say, much very fine work was, done, and a notable feature of the tests was the way in which those who

had good aerials scored over the others. A really good aerial makes much more difference to low-power work than it does to communications carried out with 500 The watts at each end. maximum pówer used in these tests was, of course, 5 watts. One well - known transmitter told the writer that his favourite song was "All Through the Night"!

#### WIZ

WIZ has actually been heard in communication with other stations, instead of calling the eternal ABC. When the writer heard him the was working GLKY, the s.s. "Carinthia," and saying, in the usual "ham" manner, "Sri, gess n do.m."! Obviously an American amateur transmitter had got hold of the key. WIZ, by the way, continues to be a model of steadiness and

purity of note. Most of German commercial stations the also

however, the less said the better. At least two of them sound as if they are working on Ford coils, and a third is a passable imitation of an atmospheric.

#### 2XAF

WGY'S transmission under the call

#### SEND ALL YOUR QRA QUERIES TO US!

sign of 2XAF, on 32.79 metres, is becoming stronger almost nightly.
More than one reader has been moved to write and comment on the obvious



An unusual type of aerial (known as the "Beverage") which is used by B.B.C. engineers at Keston for receiving Hilversum and other long-wave stations, consists of two wires nine feet high and six hundred yards long.

veracity of those who affirm that they received him at loud-speaker strength leave very little to be desired on two valves, when they had pre-in this way. Of our own stations, viously been inclined to doubt it. At nearly so much excitement.

least one person has received this transmission on a crystal and one or two note-magnifiers during the summer, so that it should be quite easy to repeat the feat now.

#### Plug-in Coils

The use of standard plug-in coils for short-wave work appears to be on the increase, chiefly on account of the convenience of using one set for all wavelengths. The writer tested out one of these "universal" receivers against a special short-wave receiver a short time ago, and as regards signal-strength there was nothing to choose between them. As far as

selectivity went, however, the short-wave set possibly gained a few points. There was certainly very little in it; not enough to justify the use of two separate sets in place of

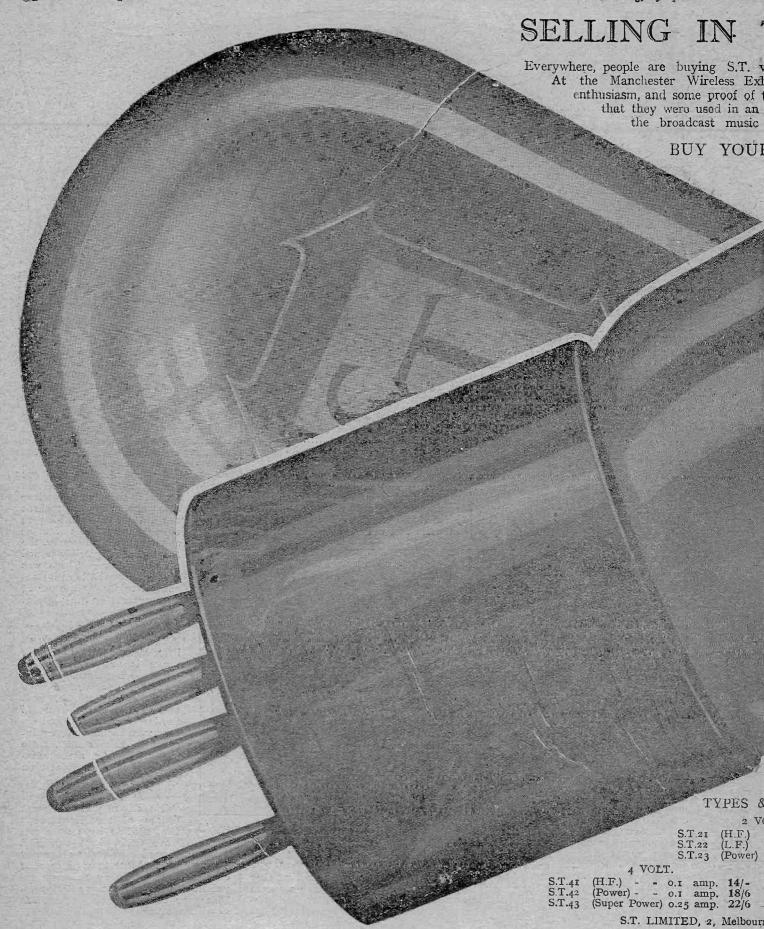
#### Short-wave Broadcasting

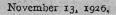
The possibility of a British broadcasting station on short waves is not so remote, as might be imagined. Such a station would serve the Dominions extremely well, and at the same time would not interfere to any great extent with the amazeur enthusiasts in this country, since the "kilocycle accommodation " is so much greater on these waves.

#### **Expeditions Wanted**

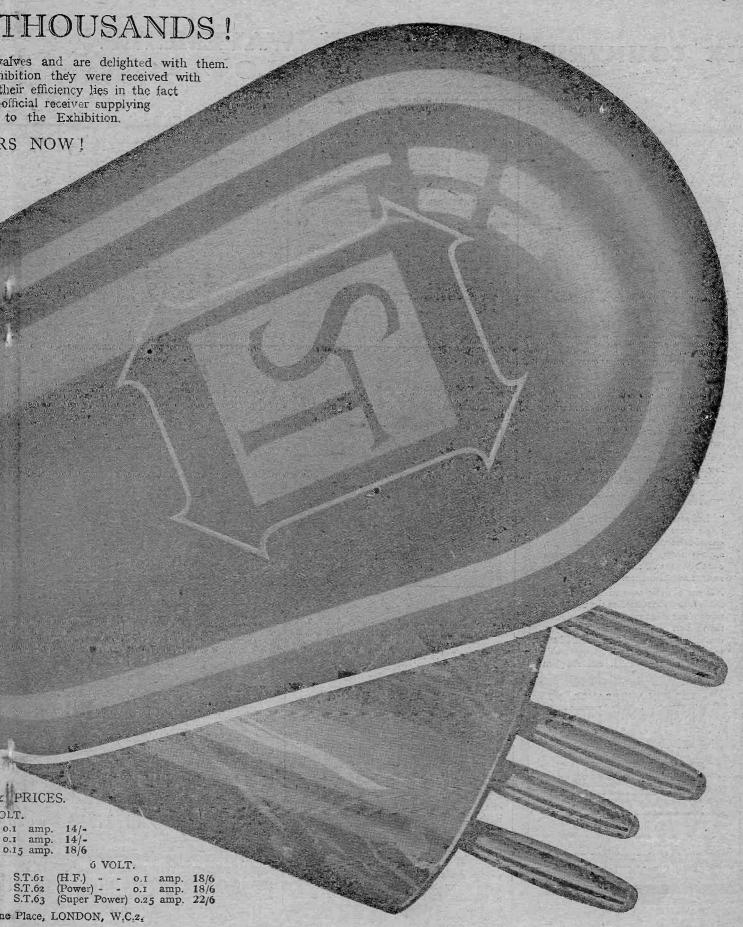
There is at present a great dearth of the Expeditions that used to liven up shortwave work. Last winter it seemed that every other day, an amateur in some country

effected contact with an unknown expedition with a strange call-sign.
This year there does not seem to be



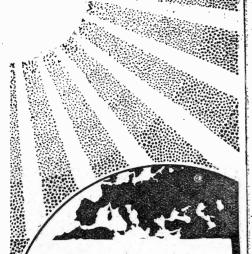


WIRELESS. 23



### SIX COUNTRIES

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#### IN DAYLIGHT

## We have received the following testimonial:—

"I do not know-whether you know that this particular valve is the finest in the world for use in a reflex set, it easily gives double the volume of any other I have ever used.

This is due of course to the remarkably low impedance, which is the lowest I think of any valve made."

#### -AND ON ONE VALVE

"I had some wonderful results on a new single valve reflex unit yesterday, using one of these valves, tuning in, in daylight, stations from six different European countries, as well as a number of British stations and 22 amateur transmitters.

It is one of those cases where one would not believe unless heard, as the use of this valve in any reflex set will at once double the volume. I may add that I am just over three miles from 2 Z.Y. and I have to detune to bring the volume reasonable on a large Brown H.Q. and Amplion Radiolux Speakers."

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## THE NEW WAVEMETER AT 2LO

**■**វាការសាលក្នុងស្នាំស្នាស់ស្នាស់ស្នាស់ស្នាស់ស្នាស់ស្នាស់ស្នាស់ស្នាស់ស្នាស់ស្នាស់ស្នាស់ស្នាស់ស្នាស់ស្នាស់ស្នាស់ស

HE first of the wavemeters for use in connection with the Geneva wavelength plan was exhibited and explained recently by Capt. Eckersley, the Chief Engineer of the B.B.C., to a gathering of Press representatives at Savoy Hill.

Capt. Eckersley, in explaining the wavemeter, said that, contrary to many reports, it was not of the crystal-controlled variety, but simply consisted of the usual inductance shunted by a capacity with the necessary indicating devices.

#### Small Ranges

The wave-, or perhaps it would be more correct to say frequency-meters.



In order to ensure that the various instruments shall not differ, all are being calibrated at one central point.

With instruments such as these, which can be used for checking stations on neighbouring wavelengths, any complaints can be referred to the International Broadcast Bureau at Geneva and the matter set right.

The success of this scheme depends entirely upon the spirit of co-ordination and goodwill of all stations in Europe.

It is expected that the changes will take place during this month, and according to information just received, the 14th is the day chosen.



Representatives of the Press inspecting the new wave meter, which has just arrived for use at the London station. Captain Eckersley, Chief Engineer of the B.B.C., is fourth from the left.

are each designed for use in conjunction with one station only, and the range covered is 20 k.c. Thus London's new wavemeter, the central reading of which is 361.4 metres or 830,000 cycles, can record any deviation up to 840,000 or down to 820,000 cycles.

Each station will have its own wavemeter permanently secured near the transmitter, explained Capt. Eckersley, and in addition to the checking of their own position stations will be able to check the wave of the station on either side.

#### The Indicators

The actual measurements are carried out by means of a small flash-lamp bulb, or, where a greater degree of accuracy is desired, by a device known as a "thermo-couple" which acts upon a galvanometer. The setting on the wavemeter at which the lamp glows corresponds to the frequency at which the station is transmitting, thus it is a simple matter to keep to a fixed wavelength.

#### **NEWS IN ADVERTISEMENTS**

Messrs. County Electrical and Wircless Stores, Ltd., are aunouncing the complete kit of components for the Monodial Receiver.

Readers are invited to apply to Dept. W.5, Messrs. Hart Accumulator Co., Ltd., for the full details of the series of H.T. and L.T. Butteries produced by this company.

The full range of their products is being advertised by Messrs. Neutron, Ltd.

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OUR valves may be of the right impedance, your condensers low in loss, your plate voltage right, but if you have a poor transformer you must have distortion, poor volume, and worse reproduction.

Put an Ericsson Tested Transformer on your baseboard and the difference will astonish you. Distortion disappears, volume swells and clarity and purity takes the place of discordant muffling and harshness.

Ericsson Tested Transformers are designed along careful tone value lines and are guaranteed distortion free. Replace your present Transformers with Ericsson Tested you'll transform your set.

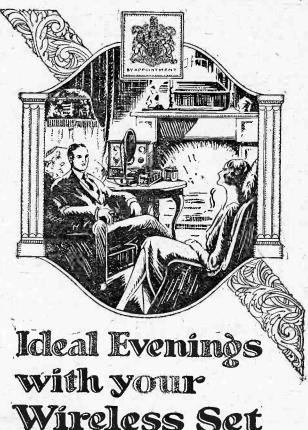
Two ratios, one price. 1:2, 1:4

17/6

On Sale at all good dealers. Write to-day for full particulars.

ERICSSON TELEPHONES LTD., 67/73, Kingsway, London, W.C.2.

TESTED TRANSFORMERS



FOR real wireless enjoyment—purity of reproduction, freedom from distortion and ample volume of tone are, of course, essential.

Use "HART" BATTERIES with your set for both Low and High Tension supply and "wireless" will reveal new charms to you; their steady voltage, low resistance and exceptional reserve of power ensuring reception at its best.

Discard your dry batteries to-day and substitute the "HART" "RAY" type of High Tension Accumulator (20 volts 14/8, 30 volts 22/-, 60 volts 44/-). The marked improvement in reception will certainly surprise you.

## HART

THE BATTERY OF QUALITY

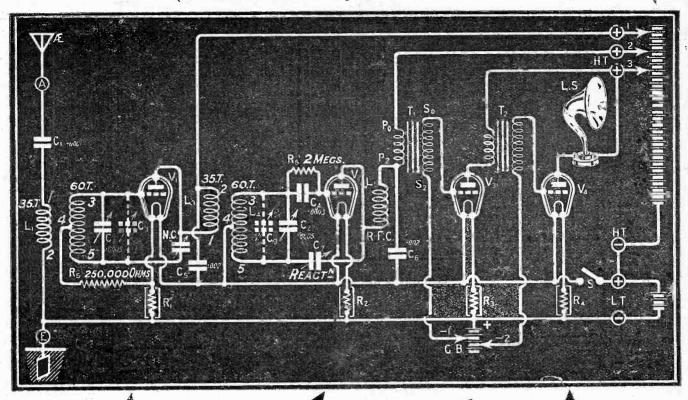
There are models of "HART" Batteries for all Low and High Tension Circuits. Write to Dept. "W.5" to-day for illustrated lists and full particulars.

HART ACCUMULATOR CO., LTD., STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15

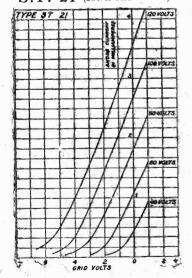


## S.T. VALVES GET 51 STATIONS ON THE MONODIAL

(See Wireless, October 30th and November 6th)



S.T. 21 (1st & 2nd valves)



S.T. 21

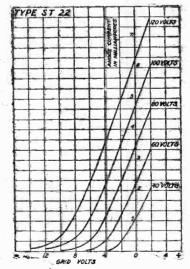
H.F.

Filament 1.8 volts.
,, o.1 amp.
Anode 40-120 volts.
Impedance 26,000 oluns.
Amplification 16.

An excellent valve for H.F. amplification and resistance capacity coupling. It is also to be recommended as a detector valve.

Price 14/-

S.T. 22 (3rd valve)



S.T. 22

L.F.

Filament 1.8 volts.

o.1 amp.

Anode 40-120 volts.

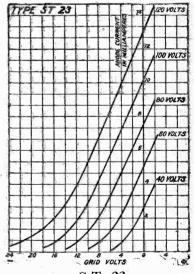
Impedance 16,000 ohms.

Amplification 10.

This valve is for the first stage of a low frequency amplifier and will give undistorted reproduction. It may also be used for H.F. amplification, especially in neutrodyne circuits, and for detection.

Price 14/-

S.T. 23 (last valve)



S.T. 23 POWER

Filament 1.8 volts.

Filament 1.8 volls.

" o.15 amp.

Anode 80–120 volts.

Impedance 6,000 ohms.

Amplification 6.

A magnificent 2 volt power valve giving superb reproduction when used as the last valve of a set when a loudspeaker is employed. Note its low impedance and the high amplification factor for such a valve.

Price 18/6

Advt. of S. T. Ltd., 2, Melbourne Place, W.C.2.

## Inventions and Developments



PATENT which is of interest principally on account of the possi-bilities which it suggests is that taken out by the Societé d'Etudes pour Liais-sons, Telephoniques et Telegraphiques

(251,588). It relates to the suppression of certain frequencies or bands of frequencies in a valve amplifier.

#### Feed-back Effects

It is well known that the inherent capacity between the anode and grid of a valve produces a feed-back of energy, which may be either positive or negative in character, either producing a tendency to oscillate, or else introducing extra damping into the circuit. In the normal form of amplifier the reaction is positive, and steps have to be taken to check the ten-

dency t o oscillation bу some 'suitable means.

#### Phase Relations

The question of the sign of the regeneration (i.e., whether the feed - back is positive negative), depends on the phase $\alpha f$ the currents in the The various cuits. currents flowing from anode to grid

of the valve itself, through the interrelectrode capacity; need not pulsate in unison with those in the tuned circuits of the receiver. They may quite conceivably be out of step, or out of

phase, as it is called.

For example, we can have two men walking side by side, and both taking equal steps at the same rate, but they can, nevertheless, be out of step. Similarly, we can have currents in different circuits of a valve amplifier out of phase with each other.

If the feed-back current is in phase with the current in the grid circuits, then positive reaction is obtained. If the feed-back is directly opposite in phase we obtain a damping effect. In between the two extremes we have a neutral position, at which no effect is produced.

#### The Essential Feature

In the invention in question an additional circuit is connected between the anode and grid, in parallel with the internal capacity. By a suitable

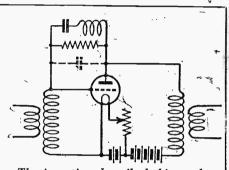
choice of this "network" it is possible to control the phase of the feedback current so that the reaction effect is either positive, negative, or zero.

With a simple circuit this control is dependent on the frequency. It is possible to arrange for a heavy damping effect to come into play at a certain point so that an almost complete. suppression of a given frequency is obtained.

#### **Possibilities**

By the employment of more complex networks, however, similar to band filters, it would be possible to arrange for a circuit to remain stable over the whole working range. It is even conceivable that by some such method a correction could be introduced to allow for the increasing liveliness of the average receiver towards the bottom of the scale.

An aspect of the question which is probably worth investigating the application to low-frequency work, where the suppression of cer- ${f ain}$ frequencies may be desirable. Possibly also the suppression of certain bands of frequency might assist in the reduction of the effect produced by atmospheric disturb-



The invention described this week concerns the use of a special "network" connected between grid and anode for the purpose of producing controllable negative or positive feed-back effects.

#### LATE NEWS

The new B.B.C. wavelengths will come into operation, we are informed, on November 14 and are as follows:-

Aberdeen and Birmingham, 491.8 metres.

Glasgow, 405.4 metres. Belfast, 326.1 metres. London, 361.4 metres. Newcastle, 312.5 metres. Manchester, 384.6 metres. Bournemouth, 306.1 metres. Cardiff, 353 metres. Leeds, 297 metres. Bradford, 294.1 metres. Other relays, 288.5 metres.

Listeners are asked not to send in criticisms until the scheme has been in operation for a fortnight or more.

-are made of nickel silver springs, with pure silver contact, and Bakelite insulation throughout. Tags are tinned and spread fan-wise for easy Tags are soldering.

JACK No. 1 JACK No. 2 Single Circuit (open) JACK No. 3 JACK No. 4 Double 1/9

JACK No. 5

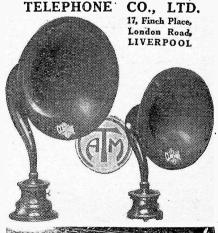
TELEPHONE PLUG,: 1/6

#### CLARITONE LOUD SPEAKERS

Senior Model, 2,000 chms, W.266, \$25 0 0 Junior Model, 2,000 chms, W.266 \$2 15 0 W.267. 120 chms, W.268 \$2 15 0

CLARITONE HEADPHONES W.216 ... 20/-

ASHLEY WIRELESS





## Something new and good component design

The latest LOTUS triumph is a Combination Grid Leak and Valve Holder which eliminates unnecessary wiring and soldering and makes for economy in cost and space.

Guaranteed efficient in construction and design.

#### From all Radio Dealers

Combination	Grid	Leak and	Term	inal V	alve
Holder		• •			3/9
Terminal Va	ilve H	older			2/6
Valve Holde	r with	iout Term	inals		2/3
A11	Anti-I	Microphon	іс Тур	pe.	

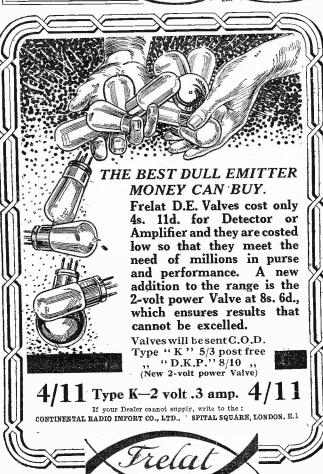
## 

GRID LEAK BUOYANCY VALVE HOLDER Anti-Microphonic

Garnett, Whiteley & Co., Ltd. Lotus Works, Broadgreen Road, Liverpool.









AM afraid I am a little late," said the General cheerily as he ran into the wireless club the other night. "The fact is I was half

fact is I was half the afternoon trying to find why my new set would not work, and I only discovered ten minutes ago that I had forgotten to switch on. Well, as everybody seems to be here let us open the meeting without further delay." We all moved to the table to take our seats. The General sank into his chair with a sigh and a loud pop, only to leap immediately ceiling-wards, the sigh turning into a queer gurgling noise which was apparently an expression of mingled pain and despair. "Encore, encore!" I cried, banging the table like anything. "There is nobody like our chairman for brightening up dull meetings. Encore! Bravo!! Bis!!!"

#### Misunderstood

The General flung me one soul-searing glance and proceeded to turn the fragments of a defunet valve out of his coat-tail pocket into the wastepaper basket. Meantime Poddleby, who is always minding somebody else's business, asked me in a nasty, sneering kind of way to be good enough to behave myself. "Oh, shut up!" I said, "I thought that the General was doing a little comic turn and naturally I applauded." "Your manners," remarked Snaggsby, butting in as usual,



". . . Only to leap immediately ceiling-wards . . ."

"are simply beyond words." "Then why use words about them," I inquired sweetly. "Because..." Snaggsby began. "Of all the ...!" shouted Poddleby. They got no further, for if there is one thing I cannot stand it is a display of ill-breeding of this kind. Poddleby was on my right, Snaggsby on my left. Rising suddenly from my chair I seized each

of them by the scruff of his neck and banged their faces together.

#### The Fat in the Fire

"Order!" called the General, looking round from the wastepaper basket.
"Order! Order!" shouted Admiral Whiskerton Cuttle, digging his elbow

A disorderly meeting of the Little Puddleton Wireless Club, followed by a very practical lecture.

hard into Poddleby's ribs. "Behave, behave," chirped Bumpleby-Brown, applying his elbow to Snaggsby. Some people seem to have no control of them-Poddleby simply flew at Ad-Whiskerton Cuttle, whilst Snaggsby turned round and delivered an exceedingly neat left hook on Bumpleby-Brown's third waistcoast waistcoast button. As Poddleby took the Admiral by surprise he thrust him rather hard against Gubbsworthy, nearly knocking him off his chair. Gubbsworthy naturally retaliated, but in turning round to do so he trod on Dippleswade's toe. In endeavouring to move his feet to a safe place Dippleswade kicked the Editor of the Gazette hard upon the shins, which caused him to start so violently that he upset an inkpot over Breadsnapp's waistcoast,

#### Hostilities Spread

Leaping to his feet Breadsnapp sent a shower of ink all over Professor Goop, who, in a flash, removed one of his elastic-sided boots and smote him with it shrewdly over the head. Unfortunately, the boot slipped from the Professor's grasp, cannoned off Breadsnapp's head and made a bee-line for Winklesworth's left eye. By this time the train of oscillations had travelled right round the table, for Winklesworth, always a bad shot with a boot, missed the Professor clean, but caught Bumpleby-Brown squarely on the brisket. Seldom have I witnessed such a disgraceful scene. As the only two noncombatants, the General and I endeavoured to restore order, but the battle raged for a considerable time, lasting, in fact, until everyone was too exhausted to continue.

#### A Point of Order

"And now," I said, when at last they had desisted from their efforts of annihilating one another, "and now that this exhibition of brotherly love is con-

cluded perhaps we can get on with the meeting." The General, first feeling carefully in his other coat-tail pocket, again took the chair, and at last we got down to real business. What would happen to the club if I were not there to keep them in order I shuddered to think. "I would like . . ." said the chairman. "I rise to a point of order," said Professor Goop. "Has anybody seen my boot?" The boot was at this moment brought in by young Edward Bugsnip, who had found it in the High Street, whither it had travelled through one of the windows which was not open at the time. The Professor put it absentminedly into his pocket, and the General continued. "I would like," quoth he, "to say that it is high time that the club had an increase in its membership. There are, I know, quite a number of Little Puddletonians who are not members, though they possess wireless sets. An intensive campaign is indicated. Has any member any suggestions to offer?"

#### A Brain-wave

When one or two of the others had given vent to their usual tosh I rose to my feet, but was immediately forced to sit down again by my neighbours, both of whom had some stupid remarks to get off their chests. At the conclusion of these I rose once more, and this time I was not interrupted. "It seems to me," I said, "that what we must do is to get some eminent man down to give a lecture; that we must

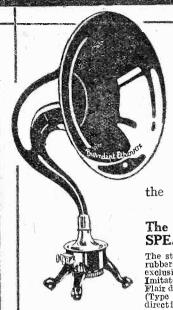


dows which was not open . . . ."

thoroughly advertise his coming, and that we must invite every Little Puddletonian to attend whether he is a member or not. They will come in their thousands. They will be thrilled. They will enroll as one man. I will stand at the door and collect their subscriptions as they go out." Though my suggestion was accepted with

(Continued on page 31.)





Head Office and Fuctory: BLACKHEATH, LONDON, S.E.3. Telephone: Lee Green 2100. 'Grams: Burnacoil, Phone, London.

## The Public and the Trade alike acclaim "The ETHOVOX" LOUD - SPEAKERS

They say the results are simply amazing and that our claims have been too modest. They write us to this effect. Have you heard broadcast via "Ethovox." It has to be heard to be believed.

Ask your local dealer.

The "ETHOVOX" LOUD-SPEAKER with Metal Horn.

The standard full-size "Ethovox," with rubber-covered feet. Finished in Burndept exclusive dust-proof rich mahogany colour. Imitated but unequalled. Height 26 ins. Flair diam. 15 ins. No. 963 "Ethovox" (Type 750), with Metal Horn; for use direct in the plate circuit.

Price \$4:10:0

The "ETHOVOX" LOUD-SPEAKER with Mahogany Horn

Similar to above, but the flair is of dark coloured polished mahogany and constructed by a special process which gives it great strength and is particularly neat in appearance. No vibration is possible. No. 966 "Ethovox" (Type 750), with Mahogany Horn; for use \$25.5.0

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National Wireless Week—Nov. 7-13. "Let your friends listen."

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15, DEDFORD ST. STRAND, W.C.2.
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The Verni-Nob does all the work of a Vernier attachment or Vernier dial and increases the

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or Vernier dial and increases the selectivity of your set.

Positive drive—No back-lash, to to I reduction with 3" dial.

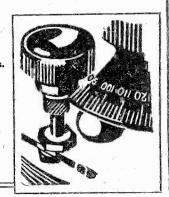
16 to 1 reduction with 4" dial. Over 8,000 were sold during the Wireless Exhibition at Olympia!

From all dealers. By post  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Fitted in a few moments.

M·A·P Company

246, Great Lister Street, BIRMINGHAM



## REDUCED PRICES

## Inductance Coils

Coil No.	25	35	40	50	60	75	100	150   200	250   300
Old Price	4/6	4/6	4/6	5/-	5/6	5/6	6/9	7/6   8/6	9 -  10 -
NEW PRICE	4/-	4/-	4/-	4/6	4/9	4/9	5/9	6/3   6/9	7/-   7/6

NCREASED DEMAND and new methods of production have made it possible to lower the cost of manufacturing LEWCOS Coils. We have decided to give the public the benefit of this saving immediately.

All enquiries for LEWCOS Radio Products should be made to your local dealer. Descriptive leaflet gladly sent on request to:

The

LONDON ELECTRIC WIRE COMPANY & SMITHS, LTD. Playhouse Yard, Golden Lane, London, E.C.1

## Jottings by the Way-continued from page 29

acclamation, it was for some reason decided that the collection of subscriptions should be entrusted to someone with more time on his hands.

#### Without a Doubt

The question now arose as to which eminent man should be invited to Little Puddleton. On this point I explained to the assembly there could be no manner of doubt. Positively the only man was Professor S. O.

High, the eminent expert in every subject under the sun. Professor High's name is practically a household word. If a walrus arrives in the Thames, Professor High is promptly interviewed by representatives of the entire popular Press, to whom he demonstrates his idea for harpooning walruses from aeroplanes. If somebody invents a new wireless circuit, Professor High is again interviewed and explains exactly why his own is so very much better.

It was Professor High who invented, as I announced exclusively some time ago, a self-rocking cradle with three speeds forward and reverse and a silencer; Professor High has recently described in several acres of print how he makes his alarm clock remove the bedclothes at the right moment by operating a relay, whilst another relay sees to the provision of his early morning tea; it was Professor High who solved the problem of squeaking boots by producing his soleless footwear, and is it not Professor High who keeps on assuring us that wireless is still in its infancy? Need I say more?

#### The Subject

My suggestion was agreed to with acclamation, Poddleby being instructed to write forthwith a letter of invitation to Professor High. The Professor accepted by return of post, stating that he would be happy to lecture upon either Paraphlogistic Submodula-tion, in Brachycymatic Oscillators or the Ideal Diet for D.X. Enthusiasts. We chose the former sub-

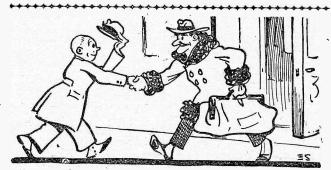
ject. Nobody had the slightest idea what it meant, so we all looked wise and pretended that it was just the point upon which we had been desiring information for years.

I was fearfully enthusiastic about it, for I suffer at times tortures from day-time and early evening insomnia, and I felt that I should be able to make up for at least a couple of hours of lost sleep. It was arranged that the lecture should take place upon the following Saturday, and since I was

the most presentable of the club's members, being the only one, with the exception of the General, who had escaped unwounded from the scandalous mélée which took place at the meeting at which the suggestion was first made, I was deputed to go to the station to meet the Professor as the club's representative.

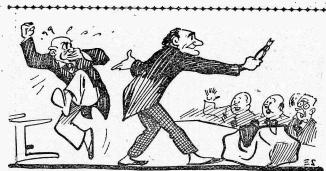
#### The Arrival

On the great evening I was conveyed



Good evening, Professor . . . "

in state to the station in the Gazette's Lizzie, driven by the subeditor - compositor - reporter-office-boychauffeur. As the train came to a standstill a tall figure clad in a fur coat and carrying a gigantic bag stepped from a carriage. "Good-evening, Professor," I said, advancing and holding out my hand. "I have been deputed by the club to welcome kind, I am sure," answered the Pro-fessor, "but I was 'ardly expectin'
..." "Not a word, not a word, I
beg you," cried I, "you must rest



"... The General was stamping round the platform ...

your voice, so that you may be in your very best form." As we were a little late, I ran him along the platform and through the doors into the Lizzie, which, after a succession of back-fires, rattled off to the clubhouse. The meeting was packed to the doors; in fact, I had quite a business to force a way for the Professor to the platform. When I had introduced him to the General, the chairman said that the proceedings might as well start at

once. Rising to his feet, he remarked that he would not keep the audience from the feast in store for them by making a speech, and sat down, bowing to the Professor.

#### The Demonstration

"Friends," said the Professor, beaming on his audience, "I scarcely hexpected to 'ave such a welcome as this on the hoccasion of my first visit to Little Puddleton. (Loud and pro-

longed applause.) Bein' a man of few words, I would like to give you a himmediate demonstration. Will any gentleman kindly step up on to the platform? Or perhaps the chairman 'ere will kindly hoblige." Here he stooped down, opened his bag, and took something from it. Moving over to the swilling Coronal he the smiling General, he pressed his head backwards and opened his mouth. His right hand moved so quickly that no eye could follow it.

Next instant the General

was stamping round the platform screaming and holding his hand to his face whilst the Professor was displaying to the enraptured audience a gigantic tooth gripped in a pair of forceps. "Instantaneous and completely painless," he bawled.
"You 'ave now seen what Professor Bungo can do for any man, woman or child in this 'ere audience as is sufferin' from a haching tooth." At this moment a telegraph boy elbowed his way through the throng and handed an orange-coloured envelope to Poddleby. Glancing over his shoulder, I read:-

"Very much regret laid up by sudden attack of influenza.—High."

It struck ine suddenly that I had forgetten to lock the pantry window in my house. I think I can claim on that evening to have broken all records for the distance between the clubhouse and my own. Several people seemed to be inquiring for me, but I could see no point in remaining. After all, I had done my job by meeting the Professor, and the meeting itself was no affair of mine.

WIRELESS WAYFARER.

#### $\Box$ A Correction

We are asked by Messrs. S.T. Valves, Ltd., to draw our readers' attention to the fact that a printer's error occurred in their advertisement on page 439. The figures "0.2 to 0.35 amp." should read "0.2 to 0.25 amp."



## You will— when you buy NEUTRON PRODUCTS

NEUTRON PRODUCTS are constructed with but one purpose in mind—to give to the user really dependable and lasting service.

NEUTRON VALVES will make a decided improvement in your reception—they are built to give greater volume realistic reproduction of voice and music and to ELIMINATE VIBRATION AND OTHER CONDITIONS THAT IMPAIR RECEPTION. They are positively Non-MICROPHONIC.

Knowing how much vibration impairs the tone quality of reception, enthusiasts everywhere are equipping their sets with Neutron valves. Fit Neutron valves to your set and note the surprising softness and fullness of tone of reception that follows the elimination of vibration.

RED SPOT.

H.F. and Detector.
4 volt .06 amps.
2 volt 0.2 amps.

IS GREEN SPOT.

**→** 4 voli

4 volt .06 amps. 2 volt 0.2 amps.

NEUTRON PERMANENT DETECTORS
Each Detector is tested on actad Broadcast 130 miles from 5XX
DE LUXE 5/6; CRYSTASTAT 4/6; PANTECTOR 3/6

NEUTRON H.T. Battery Full 60 volt

10s. 6d.

NEUTRON 4.5 volt Battery Suitable for H.T.

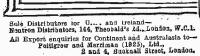
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Advt. of Neutron, Ltd., London.

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The powers of this wonderful crystal are known the world over—no better crystal is or has been made. Of all Radio dealers. Complete with catswhisker. Price

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you can enjoy your Wireless this winter without the discomfort of carrying heavy accumulators to be charged?

If you use Dull Emitter Valves we can show you how to charge and recharge the

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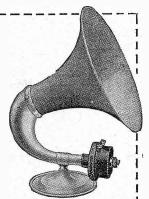
The cost—quite moderate The current—quite steady

ASK YOUR DEALER for particulars of this comfort service, or write for a copy of our Valve Guide and Service Chart to Dept. C,

#### **Darimont Electric Batteries Ltd.**

ABBEY ROAD, PARK ROYAL, LONDON, N.W.10
Telephone: Wembley 2807.

### The "BULLPHONE" Nightingale



CLEAR TONE GREAT VOLUME

Specification.

Height 21 ins. Bell Mouth 14 ins. Nickel Arm and Stand. Black crystal bell head, as photo. Also de luxe model, mahogany finish bell; same size, 65° cash or 10° deposit. List free.

Will not overload from 2 to 10 valves

ACCLAIMED THE WONDER SPEAKER OF THE WORLD

The pure rich tone of the Bullphone is true to its name — the "Nightingale."

deposit and 12 monthly payments of 5/- or 60/- cash.

Individually tested and guaranteed to be superior to any other Loud Speaker, regardless of price, for finish, purity and strength of tone and value. Cash Price 60/-, post free United Kingdom.

Apply through your local dealer or send direct to us. Deposit returned if not highly satisfactory.

W. BULLEN

(Dept. W3.)

#### SECRETS OF THE LOW-FREQUENCY TRANSFORMER

(Continued from page 20)

itself, the amplification obtained from the valve is very nearly equal to that expected from the voltage amplification factor as determined by the charactoristics. Any further increase in the impedance beyond this value therefore does not produce any appreciable increase in the amplification obtained over the whole stage.

The obvious method of combating the difficulty which has just been stated, therefore, is to arrange the inductance of the transformer so that its impedance is two or three times that of the valve at a very low frequency, This means that the amplification over the whole stage above this point should remain practically constant, although below his critical frequency it will fall away somewhat rapidly.

#### Modern Practice

Now with a good modern transformer it is possible to arrange that this critical frequency is reached somewhere in the neighbourhood of 200 cycles per second. Since the upper limit of the frequency which has to be handled in the transmission of ordinary speech or music is in the neighbourhood of 4,000 to 6,000, this would appear to be a low frequency. On the other hand, one has only to remember that middle C on the piano corresponds to a frequency of only 256 vibrations per second to realise that the whole of the bass tones in music fall below 200 cycles per second, and that even with the arrangement thus described we amplify these tones to a less extent than the rest of the music. While this will not produce any distortion as such, it will result in a loss of naturalness, and the transformer designer is continually endeavouring to reduce the critical frequency as far as is consistent with the other problems in design.

#### Apparent Simplicity

Now on this simple theory the problem does not appear to be very complicated. We make the impedance of the transformer large compared with that of the valve in use. The effect of this is that for all frequencies below a certain critical point the amplification obtained rises more or less progressively with the frequency. As the critical point is approached, however, the curve flattens out, and beyond this the amplification is practically uniform

over the whole range as in Fig. 3.
Unfortunately, however, there are all sorts of other effects which occur, most of the evils being due to the two causes, one the presence of the second-ary winding, and the other the magnetic leakage which takes place between the primary and secondary winding. These points will be discussed in the next article of the series.

## High Recommendation by "Popular Wireless."



Entirely of British Origin and Workmanship.

#### Editor writes in issue of June 12th, 1926:-

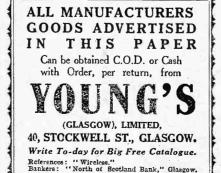
A MATEURS who are fortunate enough to own motor-cars need not worry about accumulator charging during the summer. current can be tapped off from the dashboard to supply portable sets, while, if a "Tungstone" accumulator is used, a cell or two can be removed for running a "household" receiver when the car is in the garage. Better still, extra cells can be purchased and interchanged with those on the "auto." During summer months the car accumulator is not called upon to do much work, so the foregoing is an economical proposition. The "Tungstone" is eminently suitable for the purpose, as its cells can be detached with the greatest of ease. As a matter of fact, the plates themselves can be removed from an individual cell in a few minutes. And this is but one of the many unique features of the Tungstone Accumulator. Its design throughout, from the construction and composition of its plates to its patent "Vislok" terminal locknuts, is a triumph of thoughtful attention to both details as well as essentials.

We have had a 6-volt "Tungstone" in use on a car for a period of about six-months, and six months, moreover, of mainly hard winter work. The self-starter must have been used thousands of times, frequently on very cold mornings, and on one occasion the car was driven a distance of over 100 yards on the starter motor. Additionally, the accumulator has been used for wireless work as well, and yet, when recently we examined its plates, no signs of deterioration were in evidence. Our previous accumulator accumulated a deposit of "mud" half an inch in thickness after a similar period of not quite such hard usage, but the "Tungstone" did not need washing out. It is still in commission, and no doubt will remain at work for many years.

We have not sufficient space at our disposal to describe these products in the detail they deserve.

TUNGSTONE High Tension 60 Volt Battery 3 a.h. is sold in the United Kingdom on monthly payments over extended period. Apply for particulars. Further interesting information on points of this advertisement are to be found on pages 58, 59, and 67 to 73 of the Illustrated Booklet "Photography tells the Story" which will be sent free on application to the— T.A.55

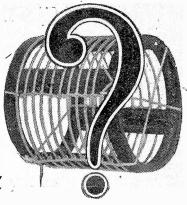
TUNGSTONE ACCUMULATOR CO., LTD., St. Bride's House. Salishury Square, Fleet Street, London E.C.4,





# What do we gain by Low-Loss







HE real difficulty to the a mateur is not whether low loss is an advantage, but to know when he has got low-loss apparatus.

Let us take a low-loss coil, one of about 200 microhenries is a very normal size. Now, the average old-fashioned coils of this size, wound of solid wire in one layer were of about 12 ohms resistance at 400 metres, and when they were wound in layers this resistance was considerably higher. A more modern coil, wound of stranded wire carefully spaced, can be obtained of 4 ohms resistance—a gain

Inter-action Requirements

of three to one.

Modern receivers, however, usually demand arrangements to prevent induction between the different coils of the receiver, and these arrangements have a habit of increasing this resistance considerably. For instance, an astatic coil system will be at least 6 ohms against the 4 ohms of the normal coil unless more space is

allowable. And shielding will add a perfectly indefinite number of ohms, which can only be found by accurate measurement.

#### Not Proportional

If these added ohms were proportional to the original ohms then the advantage would still be to the low-loss coil, but unfortunately they are only added. Thus a 4-ohm coil becomes, say, an 8-ohm coil when wound astatically and shielded, and an ordinary coil goes from 12 to 16 ohms, so that the gain of 3/1 becomes only 2/1.

Measurements of resistance are very difficult to do exactly, so that most experimenters will have to resort to trial to find the best arrangements. A few rules can be given which will help to maintain low-loss values in coils

#### Suggested Details

First of all, single-layer cylindrical coils of two to three inches diameter, with preferably a slight spacing beA stimulating article which should be read by everyone who takes an interest in modern tendencies in the design of radio circuits.

tween the turns, are as good as any, and if a wire such as enamelled 36/44's is used, with great care taken to connect every strand, no purchasable coil will be better.

Dry cardboard, I think, is as good as any material for winding coils on, but I always prefer to leave my coils

A B C

Fig. 1.—Three of the methods of arranging coils to reduce their external fields discussed by the author.

dry, because, unless tests are made of resistance afterwards, the influence of the varnish may be bad; and, of course, there is no simple indication of this.

Coils can be wound a tatically in several ways, examples being given in A. B and C in Fig. 1. A has, I think, some advantage in that by making the two halves of the coil movable relatively to one another a small variometer action is possible, enabling circuits to be matched on their condensers.

#### Shielding

Shielding is the latest fad, but a very useful one, and one very interesting point is to be noted here. An astatic coil having already a small magnetic external field, will induce smaller currents in the shielding case, so that the losses in the shielding will be less with the astatic coils than with ordinary coils. A series of tests indicate that the total losses on shielded astatic coils are less than in shielded non-astatic coils.

#### Advantageous in Multi-Valve Sets

When every care is taken, I think we can assume that shielded astatic low-loss windings are at least as good as old-fashioned coils without the astatic and shielding arrangements, and in many cases can be taken as twice as good, so that from the point of view of multi-valve receivers we have gained considerably.

#### On Long Waves

So far I have only spoken about coils of, say, 200 microhenries inductances, but low-loss windings made of

stranded wire well spaced, particularly if in layers, are a great gain on the longer waves, the sizes I am referring to chiefly being from 1,500—5,000 and it is microhenries, quite possible now to make windings for these longer waves, which give too fine a tuning for good quality telephony, even without reaction being applied. applied. same astatic and shielding ideas, of course, apply on these wave-lengths

#### On Short Waves

On the shorter wave-lengths under 150 metres it is doubtful whether anything will beat coils of solid wire wound rather openly. In this article I will not discuss further the short waves, because measurement of values is rather too difficult altogether for anywhere but a laboratory, and the building of receivers where low-loss matters has not progressed very far.

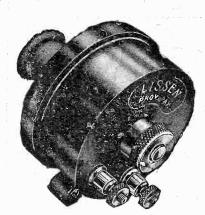
Low-loss condensers are now very common; in fact, one might say that practically all but the very cheap variety have very little loss.

#### Where Do We Gain?

In the normal broadcasting band from 250-600 metres a low-loss coil in the aerial circuit will possibly give a gain of 15 per cent. with an average aerial, and with a very good aerial 30 per cent. by itself a gain hardly worth having, the reason being that the aerial resistance is already so high

(Continued on page 43.)

# Have you a gramophone?



The LISSENOLA can be fitted to it in a second. Never again will you use telephones after hearing what can be done with the LISSENOLA Loud Speaking Unit and a horn made by yourself quickly and easily from materials purchasable anywhere for a few pence, or by fitting the LISSENOLA to your gramophone.

The LISSENOLA Loud Speaking Unit is the essential electro-magnetic sound reproducing mechanism of a loud speaker, concentrated in the most effective manner yet achieved, and produced by large production methods at A RECORD IN LOW PRICE. You cannot make it dither or resonate—it will carry high voltages without any sign of over-loading—it is not to be confused with any imitations which lack its splendid

magnets, its non-resonant case, its fine tone qualities and tremendous power.

You add your own built horn to the LISSENOLA and you have a big, full-powered, senior-model loud speaker equal to the most expensive you can buy. With each LISSENOLA you are given full size diagrams and clear instructions showing you how to make a big horn. In addition you can also buy the LISSENOLA Reed which adapts the LISSENOLA to take any cone or other diaphragm working on the reed principle. You have in the LISSENOLA therefore the means of trying every known alternative of sound reproduction, an advantage which no other loud speaker gives you.

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Your dealer will demonstrate, but, better than all, take a LISSENOLA home—put it on your set—put it on your friend's set—try it with the horn of an expensive loud speaker fitted to it—then if you are not satisfied take it back to your dealer's or send it back to us.

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Made Golden-Toned for your Enjoyment

13/6



Full directions and full-sized patterns for making this horn are given with every 'LISSENOLA'



A cone diaphragm loud speaker can easily be constructed. The illustration shows one method of mounting.



The 'LISS-ENOLA' instantly converts any gramophone into a loud speaker.



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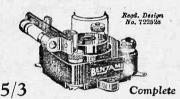
> Managing Director: Thomas N. COLE.



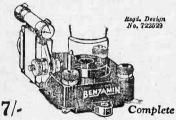
# Saving Space

Two New ideas for saving back pane, space—simplifying wiring and mounting, and doing away with all the troubles arising through faulty connections and spacing.

Remember, also, that the BENJAMIN Anti-Microphonic Valve Holder is not only infinitely superior to all its imitators in design and finish, but in actual performance too.



VALVE HOLDER & GRID-LEAK A Dubilier Dume obm 2 meg. Grid-Leak is fixed on to a rigid insulating bar by means of nickel-plated copper clips.



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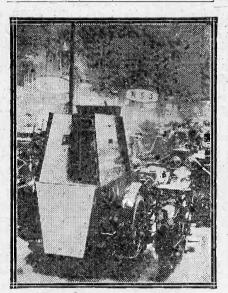
THE BENJAMIN ELECTRIC LIMITED Tottenham, London, N.17.

# THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY

#### COMPONENTS WE HAVE TRIED

#### A.C. Rectifier

WE have received from Messrs. Gent & Co. one of their Tangent A.C. rectifiers for H.T. supply. The unit is enclosed in an enamelled metal case. The lid, which is also of metal, company to the lid, which is also of metal, company to the lid, which is also of metal, company to the lid, which is also of metal, company to the lid, which is also of metal, company to the lid. pletely screens the apparatus contained inside. The leads to and from the unit are brought out through insulated bushes. When the lid is opened the operating panel is exposed to view. Upon this panel is mounted a valve holder and an ebonite insulating strip carrying three terminals, and a knob for controlling one of the H.T. voltages.

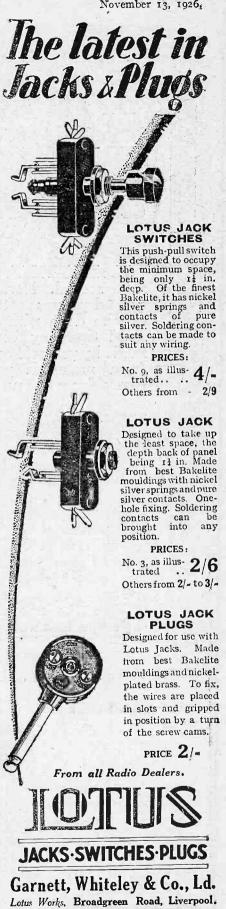


novelty at the German Automobile Exhibition, a motor-cycle and "side-car" which consists of a complete wireless receiving and transmitting station.

The unit submitted is intended for use with a four-valve receiver, and it was tested upon a combination of two H.F., one rectifier, and one note magnifier. When in use the rectifier was found to be extremely efficient, and no hum could be noticed on the loud-speaker when it was tuned to its most sensitive condition, and even when telephones were used, only a very slight trace of hum was audible. It was found, however, necessary to use the correct grid-bias on the note magnifier valve to obtain the best results.

As previously mentioned, one of the H.T. voltages may be varied, this being done by rotating a small knob inside the cabinet. The three terminals are connected to the receiving set in the usual manner, no further apparatus being necessary. The only criticism we have to make is that the smoothing condensers are of the usual 300-volt type, which hardly gives an adequate factor of safety if the unit is to be used on 240-volt mains.

(Continued on page 41.)





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BOWYER-LOWE are amongst the first manufacturers of Wireless Components. Since the days when wireless and its possibilities were but vaguely realised, Bowyer-Lowe have experimented unceasingly, and the components bearing the Bowyer-Lowe nameplate are backed by unlimited knowledge and research.

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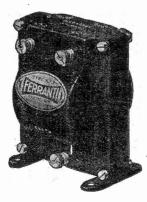
# **TRANSFORMERS**

ARE SUITABLE FOR ALL L.F. :: STAGES ::

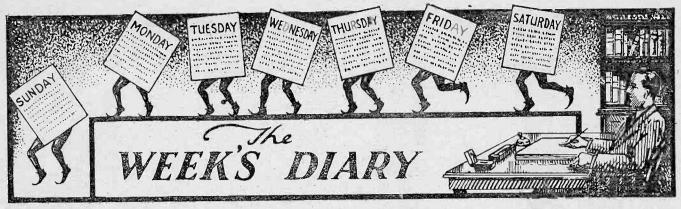
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The best transformer at the price.

FERRANTI LTD., HOLLINWOOD, LANCASHIRE.







THIS is National Wireless Week. Its slogan is, "Let Your Friends Listen." Perhaps I may be accused of quoting the obvious, but I am doing it for this reason: If you have a set that will not work a loud-speaker without occasioning insulting remarks from your friends, or which is at all prone to burst into oscillation, or to break down, for Heaven's sake don't let your friends listen! The object of the week's activities is to increase the numbers of regular listeners, not to repel those who are just on the point of enlisting.

If the week's possibilities are properly exploited it will do a vast amount of good to the progress of wireless in this country. If they are abused they will certainly be

harmful.

A CONTEMPORARY
hints that the sole result of all the recent agitation about listening for signals from Mars is that one worthy gentleman is 4s. 6d. out of pocket. That, perhaps, is the only good that has been done on this earth. But think of the way in which the Martians themselves have been entertained. They have by now a much truer knowledge of the "Earthians" than they ever had before!

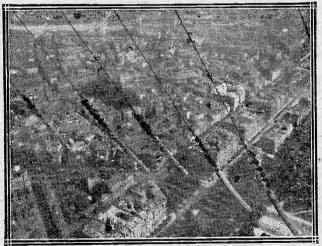
A PPARENTLY not everyone wishes the £900,000
accumulated by the G.P.O.
from licences to be devoted to
the improvement of the broadcast programmes. One gentleman in Manchester suggests that it would be much
better employed by improving the
postal service!

THE number of prospective performers rejected by the B.B.C. after auditions have been granted is growing so large that in future it will be necessary to produce specially good recommendations before an audition will be granted. At the Newcastle station, for example, 700 successful artists have been secured as a result of 3,000 auditions.

IT is extremely likely now that the new wavelengths for European stations will come into force in the middle of November. The first of the new wavemeters having been delivered safely at 2LO, it really seems that the powers that be intend to "get a move on." Personally, I anticipate very little trouble when the new scheme commences. It seems to me to have been so well worked out that there can be hardly any hitches. Time will prove.

Goldschmidt at Sololo, is now working quite regularly with Belgium, and has maintained perfectly reliable communication for more than a month. The inception of this station was due to the fine performance put up by amateurs at both ends, and when the cable broke down valuable service was rendered by them. Thus there are now two regular links between Belgium and the Congo.

# NOT FROM A 'PLANE



This rather unusual view from the air was taken from the famous Eiffel Tower in Paris. The insulators, 132 in number, are those supporting the top end of the aerial from which transmissions are well received in this country.

THE programme of the Fourth National Concert at the Albert Hall on November 25 strikes me as being even nearer the ideal for such an occasion. Sir Edward Elgar is to conduct the entire concert, which consists of his own compositions. "Call Sign" recently predicted that we might possibly hear an all-British programme from 2LO, and his dream has apparently come true. In addition to this, we are to hear Albert Sammons.

THE private station in the Belgian Congo, operated by Mr. Robert

THE B.B.C. are "going through the mill" generally at the present time on the count of underpaying their artists. Several hitherto well-known performers have made known their intention of refusing to broadcast again, and Mr. C. B. Cochran has now accused the B.B.C. of "buying an artist like a pound of tea." I shall be extremely interested to see their 1927 method of dealing with these little problems.

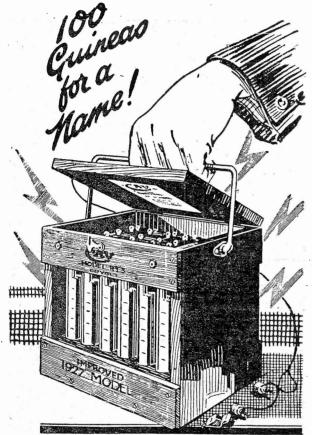
THERE seem to be several supporters of the idea that the new State B.B.C, is too old. One correspondent says that in his opinion retirement from such a board as this should be compulsory at 50. There are many who agree with him, but I am afraid they are mostly the young ones! Those who are over 50 might very well consider that as a minimum age!

IT struck me as rather significant that, on November 2, when the all-Italian Chamber concert was broadcast from 5XX and the provincial stations, there was no transmission from the Rome station. Probably this was nothing more than a coincidence, but at first it might appear that the Italians were rather anxious to see what we were doing to their music!

NEXT WEEK.
A SET FOR KDKA.



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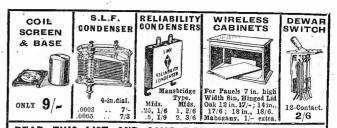


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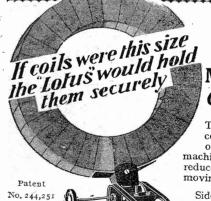
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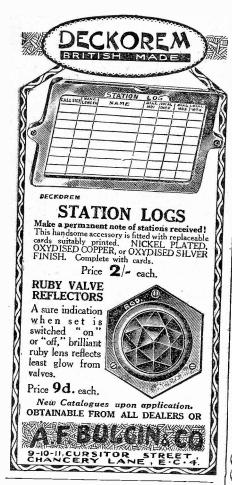
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#### COMPONENTS WE HAVE TRIED

(Continued from page 36)

This unit is extremely simple to work, and we can recommend it to our readers for use with receivers not employing more than four valves.

### "O.C." Transformer

WE have received from Messrs. Peto-Scott & Co., Ltd., an improved type of high-frequency transformer, suitable for use with the standard six-pin base. It may be used either in the standard screened coils, or on a six-pin base without the screens.

On actual test we certainly found that the circuit remained stable over a wide band of the neutralising condenser, and that certain circuits which could not be stabilised at all under normal circumstances were quite under control when this new type of transformer was utilised. When tested on the "Solodyne" and the "Mewflex" receivers the stabilising was found to be considerably simplified, and the overall amplification was somewhat increased. was somewhat increased.

The tuning properties of the circuits remain unimpaired, and the coils are interchangeable with the normal types of H.F. transformer.

We can recommend this interesting unit to our readers.

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DEAR SIRS,

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In September, 1925, I purchased 4 of your 4780 dry batteries, totalling, of course, 240 volts. These were obtained because in my present location I have absolutely no other method of obtaining High Tension for my low-power transmitter. I have kept a watchful eye on them and was quite prepared to have another set to buy after about say six months, but I have been amazed at their remarkable life, which so far is 12 months. Each battery still reads about 55 to 56 volts.

They have survived two serious shorts, which would have ruined any ordinary battery; and still continue to give service. My DX may be of interest as, obviously, the h.t. supply plays a big part in results. I have been in two-way communication with Finland, France, Belgium, Holland, Italy, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Ireland, and Brazil, with an input of 2 (two) Watts, except for Brazil, when I added some more batteries and used 4.8 watts (four point eight). I have also been heard in New York when using 312 watts, and my telephony signals get out reliably to about 300 miles.

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# LOW-LOSS? (Continued from page 34)

WHAT DO WE GAIN BY

that 'a little more makes very little difference.

On the longer waves a low-loss coil in conjunction with an aerial kept very well away from trees and buildings all along its length will sometimes give a gain of 3 or 4 to 11. On short waves I doubt if there is any marked difference between any ordinary sized coils that can be wound.

#### A Really Low-Loss Circuit

By the way, almost the best lowloss circuit I know of is a frame aerial wound of solid wire, each turn spaced from the next one and the framework kept to a minimum. On the Daventry wavelength I find such a frame often requires the insertion of a resistance in series to maintain good quality.

## In Intervalve Circuits

Intervalve circuits are the places where "low losses" will tell if they are used correctly. A coil of half the loss of another one can give double the magnification if the valves are altered to suit, or 1.4 times the magnification if the transformer ratio is altered, and if we have several such circuits in cascade the total gain can be made large.

#### Another Aspect

All the time I have, of course, only considered the resistance as controlling the signal. This is the "in tune" position, but away from this position the reactance takes charge, and as that remains uearly the same, we can say our tuning is improved because we obtain a greater ratio of "in tune" to "out of tune" signals.

# Sometimes Not Desirable

There are one or two cases where low-loss is a disadvantage, chiefly in H.F. cascade amplification... crudely constructed receivers insufficiently shielded and balanced the tendency to oscillate is greater with such coils, and may be uncontrollable. Then if care is not taken to obtain the right ratio of transformation the tuning curve of each circuit may be too low, with the result of far too sharp a resonance curve, and muffled signals unless mistuning is applied. This muffling is particularly easy to produce on Daventry's wavelength.

# **LET US KNOW YOUR RESULTS**

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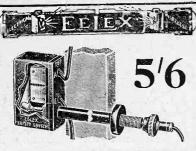
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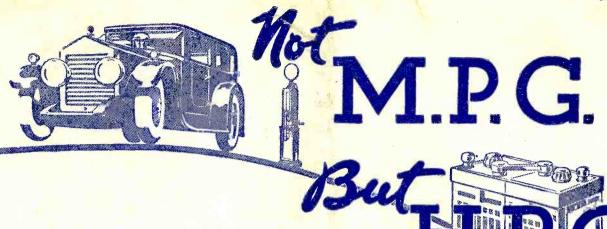
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