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Radio-Craft

Special RADIO VOCATION Number

November

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HUGO GERNSBACK Editor

Aviation Radio

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See Page 274

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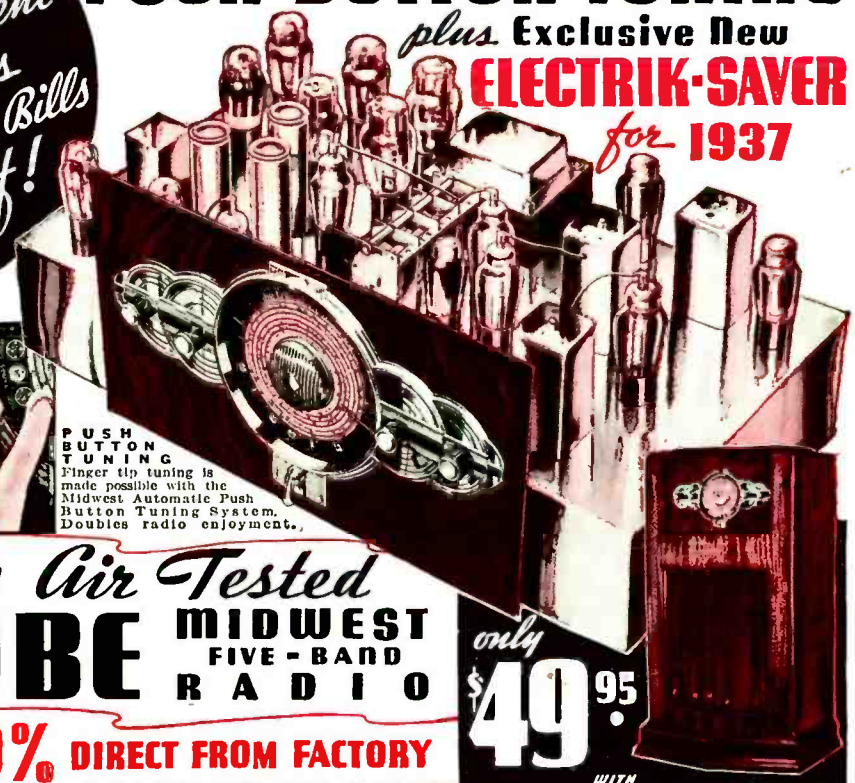

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CONTENTS - NOV., 1936, ISSUE

Volume VIII Number 5

SPECIAL EXPERIMENTERS' NUMBER

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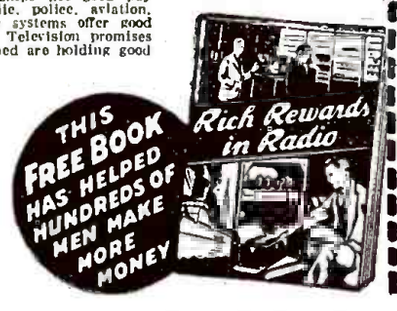

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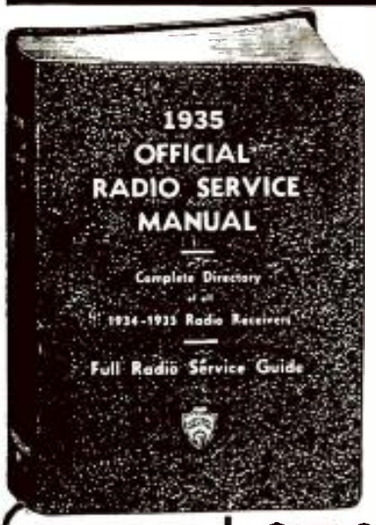

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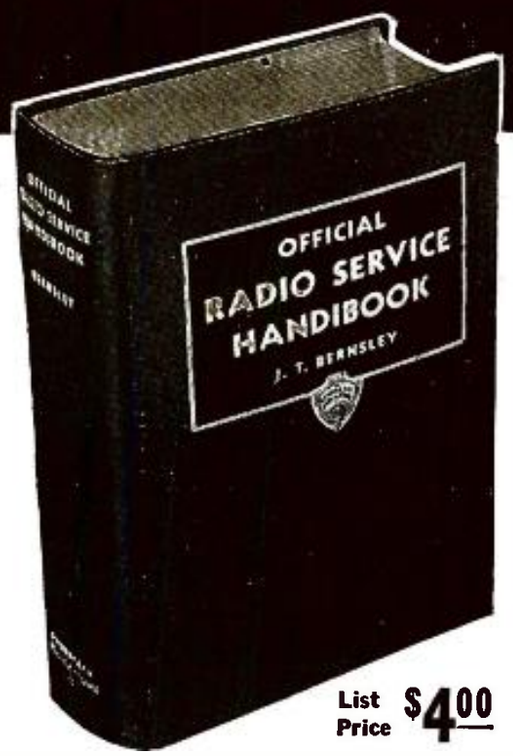

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Editorial Offices: 99 Hudson St., New York, N. Y. HUGO GERNSBACK, Editor Vol. VIII, No. 5, Nov. 1936

"I WANT A RADIO JOB!"

A Young Man Takes Stock of Himself

An Editorial by HUGO GERNSBACK

MANY young men fail in securing positions these days mainly due to their own shortcomings. The following imaginary stock-taking by one of them is a composite of ideas gathered in interviewing applicants and from letters received during the past few months by the editor.

THERE must be something radically wrong with me! Here I have been trying to secure a position in my favorite line of endeavor—Radio, but so far I have drawn nothing but blanks. Wherever I go, it is always the same old story: "Nothing just now. We'll take your name in case we should have an opening." That is as far as I ever seem to get.

I have gone to employment agencies, telling them I wish to be located in radio. I have gone to broadcast studios, radio factories and radio laboratories, vacuum-tube manufacturers, and to radio publishers, and left no stone unturned, but the answer always was uniformly the same: "No opening."

Yet I *know* there are jobs to be had. Dick Smith, one of my former pals, didn't seem to have much trouble to get located in a small laboratory of a local radio set manufacturer. John Dale, another one of the old gang, got a marvelous job in the transmitter room of a local broadcast station. And, as I look back upon it now, it did not seem to take them very long to get the jobs either. Evidently the fault lies with me . . . . not the radio industry.

Perhaps, when I come to think of it, I don't know just what sort of a radio job I'm looking for. Of course, I know that the radio industry is pretty big, and that there are literally thousands of branches, but my main trouble seems to be that I can't make up my mind just *where* I fit. I know I have a pretty good education, and I know radio from the ground up, having started at it when I was seven years old. I know radio circuits backwards and forwards. I read all the radio magazines in sight, yet for the life of me, I can't see into what branch of radio I would fit best. I have a pretty good book library which contains the best radio volumes but evidently that does not seem to be sufficient.

And then the employers are always asking what actual radio experience I have had. Never having been employed, I naturally haven't got any. Perhaps that is what is holding me back. The superintendent of a radio plant suggested that I take a job without pay for a few weeks, just to get the experience. That is not such a bad idea and I may take his advice.

Another one handed me a questionnaire, and, as I now remember, I flunked in four points: (1) mathematics; (2) a purely electrical problem that had nothing to do with radio; (3) a question on physics, also unrelated to radio; (4) no previous radio experience.

Perhaps I should have taken a radio resident- or mail-order-school course, which probably would have saved me three of the four points where I couldn't make the grade. Perhaps my knowledge wasn't broad enough, and perhaps employers want a little more besides just radio knowledge.

What else can be wrong with me? I know I'm a poor salesman when it comes to putting over my own virtues. Evidently that doesn't pay these days—perhaps I shouldn't be so timid and mouselike. I naturally am an introvert, and that type of person always seems to set their worst foot forward. I must make up my mind at the very next interview to talk right out and not let the fellow behind the desk fall asleep. It seems to be no use these days to hide one's own light.

What about my personal appearance? Yes, I admit that perhaps Dick Smith was a better dresser and was more careful in his appearance than I am. That is also true of John Dale. So, if I spruce up a bit maybe Mr. Employer will take more kindly to me.

There seem to be other things wrong with me too. I am reminded of this because only last week when I answered an advertisement for a Radio Salesman, the fellow with the eyeglasses behind the desk seemed to get the impression that I was "not the type." Just what he meant by that, I didn't have the nerve to ask, but evidently my timid bearing and my scared face wasn't the type he wanted. But perhaps I can overcome these handicaps with a little practice.

And while my knowledge in radio is pretty broad, I must confess that it is not 100 per cent; or anywhere near a high mark, when it comes to any specialized subject. Perhaps the world requires specialists, so what I am going to do right now is to sit down and make up a list of twenty-five different radio subjects and check off the ones in which I am most interested. Next, I am going to learn all I possibly can on those few subjects, and then I am going to hike right over to the nearest employer in that branch and get a job, by hook or by crook, even if I have to work for nothing for a month in order to gain that important experience! And perhaps, if Mr. Employer sees how earnest I am about getting into his place, maybe he wouldn't want me to work for nothing, and with a bit of perseverance I'll land the job anyway. That is my resolution and I'm going to stick to it.

THE RADIO MONTH

POCKET 2-WAY POLICE RADIO

THE police force of Brighton, England has been experimenting with pocket radio for some time, having equipped its patrolmen with pocket receivers, some 2 years ago.

Last month, however, they tried out a 2-way system using pocket *transceivers* operating on ultra-high frequencies, so that the "bobbies" could talk back.

According to reports, this new system proved entirely successful, with a few minor exceptions. It is expected to speed up police work tremendously, by maintaining perfect contact between headquarters and the men on beat.

Inquiries in New York revealed that the metropolitan police have been experimenting with pocket- and belt-radio equipment for some time but found the battery expense too great for general use—they are watching development carefully, though.

DUN AND BRADSTREET'S REPORT

THE report of Dun and Bradstreet covering the first 6 months of 1936 which was published last month, revealed several conditions which are exceedingly optimistic.

During this period, *radio sets were turned out at a faster rate than during any other period in the history of the radio business!* Console models of the better quality comprised the bulk of the output as interest in midgets and cheaper consoles waned. The production of auto radio sets for the 6 months equalled the entire output in 1935.

Factories have been running 4 to 6 weeks behind their shipping dates!

Above, the appearance of the French International Exposition—featuring radio. Left, wife of the police chief of Brighton (Eng.) talking over the pocket radio system.

RADIO IN PARIS EXPOSITION

THE importance of radio in business, industry and everyday life has been demonstrated in numerous ways during the past few years. Recent scientific expositions have particularly stressed this fact—as many of the displays were either concerned with radio or electronic subjects, or the displays themselves operated by electronic means.

Last month, in announcing completion of plans to hold a huge International Exposition in Paris, the importance of radio was again demonstrated as the Exposition will not only be well represented throughout with radio and electronic items, including the featured "Radio-Palace," but the entire Exposition is built around the Eiffel Tower which has been associated recently with television experimentation (having a high-frequency television transmitter installed at its base with the antenna supported on the tower).

RADIO'S MAGIC WORD—MEDICO

ONE day last month, the telephone in the Marine Hospital in New York brought the following message from the S.S. West Caddoa, far at sea:—"Third mate dangerously ill—symptoms nervous shock, heart trouble, seems excitable and faint. Advise means of stimulating heart."

Five minutes later, telephone, telegraph and radio facilities were used to relay instructions from the hospital staff.

This humane service was given as a result of the receipt of the call MEDICO at the Radiomarine Corp. station at Chatham, Mass. The call MEDICO, which is given preference over all other messages except SOS, was inaugurated 15 years ago by the Seaman's Church Institute. Several hundred such "free" calls are handled yearly by the government doctors.

HARBOR RADIO TELEPHONE SERVICE

TWO different systems of harbor radio telephone communication were announced last month. By means of these installations it is possible to talk to the crews of tow boats and other harbor craft at any time either day or night:—thus facilitating boat dispatching.

The first system was announced by Western Electric Co. They have set up a 400-watt, 2,198 kc. transmitter at St. George, Staten Island, N. Y., and several 2,590-kc. receivers at different locations in the vicinity of New York harbor, for 2-way telephony.

This system operates in conjunction with the exchanges of the New York Telephone Co. so that any telephone can be used to call the ships, by simply giving the correct number to the toll operator. By means of selective signalling (similar to the dial telephone) a regular telephone bell on the ship rings when a call is made for that particular ship. A button on the telephone handset puts the boat transmitter on the air when talking from ship to shore. (The tug captains have 3rd-class radio telephone licenses, which do *not* require knowledge of the telegraphic codes.)

A charge of $3.00 for a 3-minute conversation is made. Installation on the boats costs the owners about $1,250. Larger 50-watt transmitters are also obtainable. At present, only one channel is available for this service.

The second system was announced by Radiomarine Corp. of America (RCA). This is, so far, a 1-way system, from Radiomarine experimental station W2XBG on 17.1 megacycles, to the receivers on the tow boats. Instructions can thus be made, changed or cancelled from the dispatchers to the boats.

The harbor radio-phone equipment on a tow boat.

IN REVIEW

Radio is now such a vast and diversified art it becomes necessary to make a general survey of important monthly developments. RADIO-CRAFT analyzes these developments and presents a review of those items which interest all.

RADIO—DROUGHT INSTIGATOR?

LAST month, in an issue of *Liberty* magazine, Bernarr Macfadden, publisher of that magazine, wrote an editorial in which he purported to show that radio is the arch villain responsible for all the recent "freak storms, drought, floods and cold winters" (also without doubt, grandmother's lumbago).

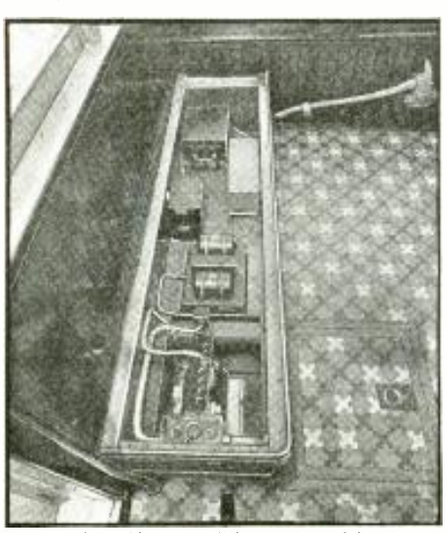
It is astounding that a person supposedly so well versed in scientific facts should entertain so childish an idea. Apparently Mr. Macfadden is unaware of the extensive and authoritative investigations which have been made by Government bureaus, which clearly establish the causes of drought and flood conditions. Also, we wonder if Mr. Macfadden blames radio for the extraordinary floods and droughts mentioned in the Bible? Or, in more recent times, the floods of the Hoang-Ho River in China in 1887, or at Johnstown, Pa., in 1889; both of which occurred before "radio"?

It is surprising to what lengths some people will go to prove that a little knowledge is a dangerous thing!

"TONE" BROADCAST FOR MUSICIANS

AT the request of a number of musical organizations, the U. S. Bureau of Standards, last month, sent out a test radio broadcast of the musician's standard "A" tone of 440 cycles per second, day and night for a test period of 2 weeks. This was intended for musical instrument manufacturers, piano tuners and others.

The transmission of this *standard* "A" will be continued if sufficient interest is shown.



The complete ship transmitting and receiving installation on the tug "Lancaster" of the P.R.R.

Above, radio equipment of the Navy department working in conjunction with the warships Oklahoma and Quincy in rescue work. Right, Jean Parker with the sound reflector.

RADIO IN THE SPANISH REVOLT

ONCE again, last month, radio communication was given a test of its mettle in the rescue of stranded American citizens in war-torn Spain.

An outstanding example of the effectiveness of this communicating medium occurred in connection with Ambassador Claude G. Bowers. For several days after the uprising in Madrid, no word was heard from the Ambassador and it was feared that he might have come to harm. Finally, he spoke directly with the Assistant Secretary of State in Washington, via radio telephone. The State Department announcement following this conversation stated: "The Ambassador explained that he was unable to cross the (French) border to submit telegraphic reports as all traffic, even in diplomatic cars was closed, and that he was depending entirely on radio."

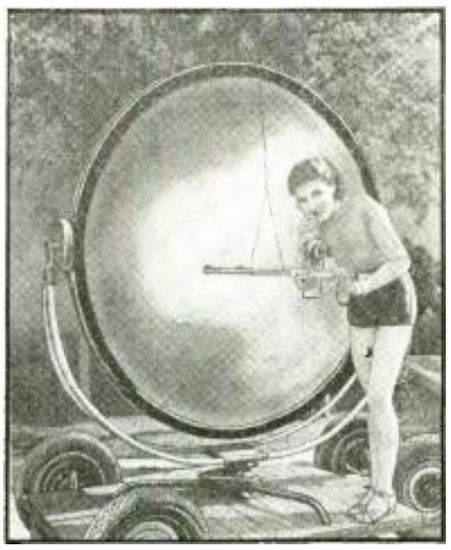
Radio was also employed by the Spanish insurgents in urgent requests from Melilla (the Spanish Moroccan rebel base) for the immediate delivery of anti-cholera serum and hydrophobia serum from Seville by plane.

WARNER BROS. RETURNS TO ASCAP

LAST month marked the termination of 6 hectic months of operating independent of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Music Publishers for Warner Brothers' music publishing subsidiaries.

The agreement between the two dissenting factions brought back on the air many favorite musical selections which have been missed from broadcast programs. It also automatically withdrew over 200 infringement suits started by Warner Brothers against broadcasters.

The exact terms under which Warner Brothers returned were not disclosed.



NOVELTY IN "MOVIE" RECORDING

A NEW device for improving the pick-up of sound from a distance in motion picture recording was perfected last month, to facilitate a difficult job of recording.

The device consists of a parabolic reflector with the microphone fastened at the focal point of the parabola. The sounds within the focus of the reflector are then concentrated at the mike, thus increasing the sound tremendously.

Radio-Craft readers will remember that a similar sort of device was described several years ago, for picking up and recording bird calls!

NEWS BRIEFS FROM HERE AND THERE

DURING the past month a number of news items have appeared which are of interest to radio men.

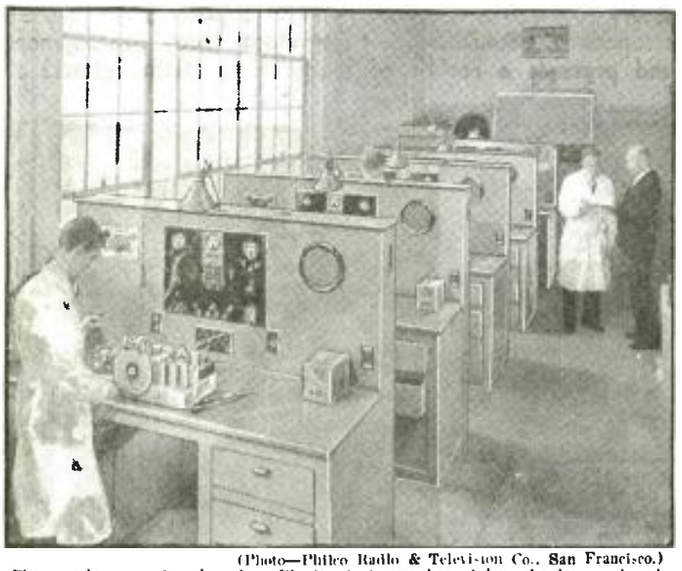
The Coast Guard tried out a new P.A. system light enough to be installed on a plane, yet powerful enough to shout hurricane warnings over a radius of 1 mile!

Purdue University and National Television Corp. placed the Federal Communications Commission in an embarrassing position by contesting the F.C.C. order to move all television experiments out of the medium frequencies—both outfits claimed to have been sending satisfactory television images on these frequencies for some time. Witnesses for Purdue warned the F.C.C. that they "dare not become a body for suppression and repression."

In a shake-up of the Bureau of Air Commerce, foretold in these columns a

(Continued on page 295)

LOOKING AHEAD IN



(Photo—Philco Radio & Television Co., San Francisco.)
The modern service bench, with its test speaker, tube checker and set analyzer, is a model of efficiency. Above are shown 5 of them in a factory.

When Anning S. Prall, Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, called to order the open forum on radio activities that unloosed the tongues of radio's foremost practitioners, one of the most important events in the history of radio was chronicled. As a direct result of the information made available at this conference, many new radio services of importance to every person in the radio business will soon be accorded by FCC the life-giving ichor of frequency assignments and other engineering grants so essential to their very existence and growth.

R. D. WASHBURNE PART I

WORLD RADIO problems and plans affecting the "radio listening population" of more than *225,000,000, were searchingly analyzed, and either discarded or put on the table for further consideration (at the preliminary International Radio Conference at Bucharest in May, 1937, and the general Telecommunications Convention at Cairo in February, 1938), when more than 90 outstanding personalities, in the technical and business aspects of radio, this summer gave expert testimony before the Federal Communications Commission concerning the activities of over 70 of the foremost national and international organizations in the broadcasting, communications, and scientific radio fields.

The roundtable conference dealt mainly with new developments in connection with the frequencies made available in the range of 10 to 60,000 kc. (30,000 to 5 meters, respectively), in accordance with Article 7 incorporated in the General Radio Regulations adopted at the International Telecommunications Convention held at Madrid in 1932 (which superseded the Washington Convention in 1927).

* * *

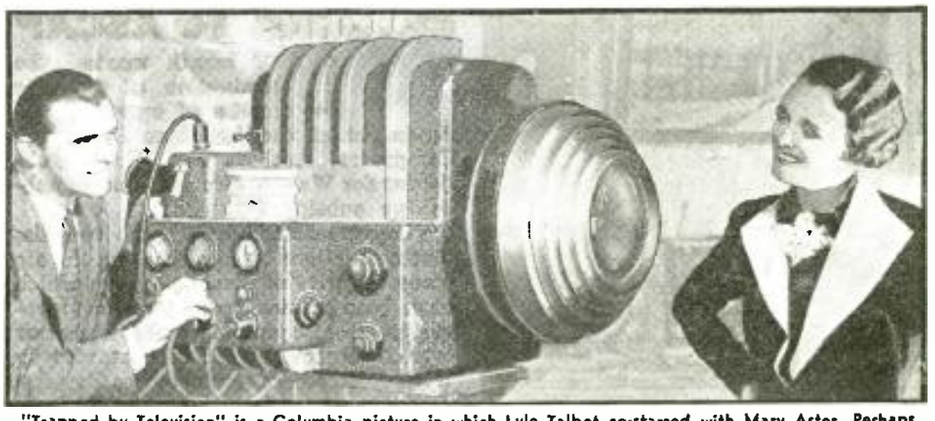
Uncle Sam's $1,000,000 spending spree on Army air stations, planned for 1937 under the watchful eye of the U. S. Signal Corps, will benefit the commercial airway systems, too. The program includes (1) setting up simultaneous radio beacons and weather broadcasting systems (OK'd by the Bureau of Air Commerce) at 18 fields; (2) installation of traffic control transmitters at 20 of the busiest Army airports; and, (3) replacement with high-frequency equipment, of existing low-frequency radio equipment at each of the Army's 31 fields. The ½-million dollars worth of equipment the plan requires will make work for hundreds of radio men.

* * *

Before we take up specific instances of these new developments in the radio field, let us learn the background of legislation that limits and controls radio activities.

All general phases of operation in the broadcast band of 550 to 1,600 kc. will be open for informal discussion at hearings before the Broadcast Division of the FCC beginning October 5th. Broadcasters have been looking forward to this step, ever since President Roosevelt, last June, signed the Wheeler Bill repealing the quota system or Davis Equalization Amendment in 1928, to the Communications Act adopted in 1927 at the International Radiotelegraph Convention at Washington.

The newly-formed FCC, in 1927 found itself so hampered by lack of funds, despite the use of part of the finances of the Radio Division of the Department of Commerce, that a chaotic condition was rapidly developing as broadcast stations in the larger cities strove to acquire the most desirable radio facilities. To aid the Federal Communications Commission in its work, Congress in the Fall of 1928 passed the Davis Amendment; as a yardstick, the Amendment adopted certain quota figures which allocated a value to stations of certain classes and power. It gave to each of 5 zones, 8 high-powered, cleared channel assignments; and to each of these zones, its share of regional and local stations, in accordance with the population. However, this arrangement resulted in overquota—States with a large area and sparse population were lacking in radio service. By reverting to the original Radio Act of 1927, through repeal by Congress last June of the 1928 Amendment, the zoning system was legally abandoned; it now remains only to carry out the provisions of the original Act, and it is for this purpose, in part, that an informal hearing beginning Oct. 5th, to which all broadcast interests have been invited, has been called by the Broadcast Division. Such changes as are brought about as a result of this hearing proba-



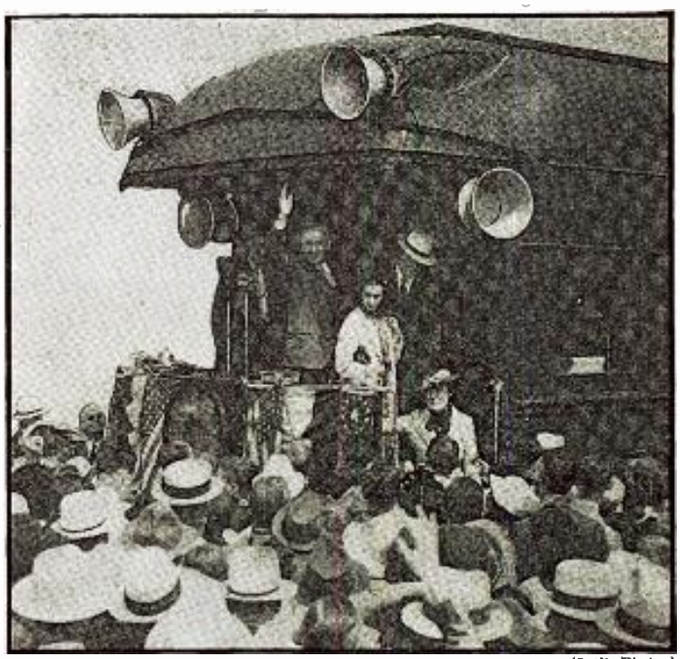
"Trapped by Television" is a Columbia picture in which Lyle Talbot co-starred with Mary Astor. Perhaps this television camera of the "future" is now out of date, in some television lab!

*(Figure, per International Broadcasting Office, Berne, Switzerland.)

THE RADIO FIELD

Objectives of the FCC Open Forum

1. To determine the present and future needs of the various classes of service for frequencies above 30,000 kc. (10 meters, approx.), with a view toward ultimately allocating such frequencies to services;
2. To secure for the public and the Commission a deeper insight into the conflicting problems which confront the industry and the regulatory body in the application of the new frequencies to the service of the public;
3. To guide experimentation along more definite lines as may be justified from the evidence presented at the hearing;
4. To review present frequency allocations to services in the radio spectrum below 30,000 kc., and;
5. To assist the government in its preparation for the International Telecommunications Conference at Cairo in 1938.



(Int'l. Photos)

Governor Landon rates P.A. an essential presidential campaign tool.

bly will occur gradually, so as not to disturb too greatly the existing economic set-up—that is, the design and construction of broadcast transmitting and receiving equipment.

By this diplomatic "squeeze play," as a result of the "speak now or forever after hold your peace" tenor of the forum, many laboratory developments of vital interest to the man who is looking into the possibilities of radio as a vocation were forced into the open.

* * *

Super-power station applications now number 6 that want to join the ranks of WLW, Cincinnati, with 500,000 watts antenna power. These "follow the leader" stations are: WJZ, New York; KNX, Los Angeles; WHAS, Louisville; WGN, Chicago; WHO, Des Moines; and, WJR, Detroit. If the FCC grants permission, this fall, for construction and operation of these "jumbo" stations, the service areas of the respective stations will be vastly improved. In simple terms, it means that the radio installation and repair business in these regions will be sufficient to put hundreds of small radio companies on Easy Street!

* * *

So much for the prologue. Let us now raise the stage curtain.

COMING EVENTS CAST THEIR SHADOWS

Said Commander T.A.M. Craven, Chief Engineer of FCC, "Radio is not only at the cross-roads in its comparatively brief development in the past 20 years, but it appears to be at the threshold of creating a new and important branch of the radio industry," as well.

The radio highway in the ether is badly congested from 10 to 20,000 kc. and rapidly becoming so between 20,000 and 30,000 kc. (about 10 meters). New services, such as *facsimile* (the electrical transmission and reproduction of fixed images) and *television* (the electrical transmission and reproduction of transient visual images), are voicing demands for both point-to-point and broadcast operation. Aviation is requiring more frequencies to afford better navigation in the air, and hence greater safety of life in the aeronautical industry.

Demands are increasing for marine and overseas public radio telephone service circuits.

The status of the frequency spectrum is about as follows: 10 kc. to 100 megacycles, useful; 100 to 200 mcs., still in the laboratory, but showing signs of having valuable application; 200 to 500 mcs., shows probabilities of future practical application; and, 500 to 10,000 mcs., highly problematical in its applicability. The vacuum tube today is useful up to about 100 mcs., but problems in the use of this device at the higher frequencies are being overcome very rapidly, and it seems logical to assume that we will have the vacuum tube with us, in some form or other, as an integral part of equipment operating at frequencies far beyond any we use today.

Although man-made interference (such as created by diathermy apparatus, X-ray machines, automobile ignition systems, and other industrial electrical apparatus) is an important obstacle to many services, it is probable that cooperation between all industry, engineers, scientists, and the government, will result in operation of most services that will be satisfactory to the general public. It is probable, though, that many radio men will secure good berths as "interference specialists" in all the large cities.

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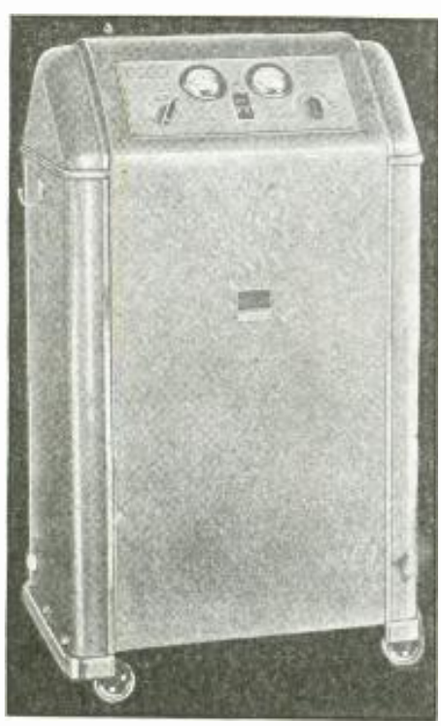


The interference tendency of certain diathermy equipment must be condoned on humanitarian grounds, but these units are rapidly being improved. Note the recent newspaper "ad." (Photo—Westinghouse)

RADIO AND PUBLIC ADDRESS AT THE BERLIN OLYMPICS

ARRANGEMENTS for bringing to 225,000,000 worldwide radio listeners the "play by play" story of the events in the XI Olympiad held this year at Berlin, Germany, broke all records in their scope and extent

As indicated by the background theme of this photo layout, and the photos themselves, provisions for public address, ultra-short wave point-to-point radio communication, short- and long-wave broadcasting, and television were extensive. Broadcasting facilities also included spot transmissions over more than 35 broadcasting channels; and de-

(Continued on page 300)

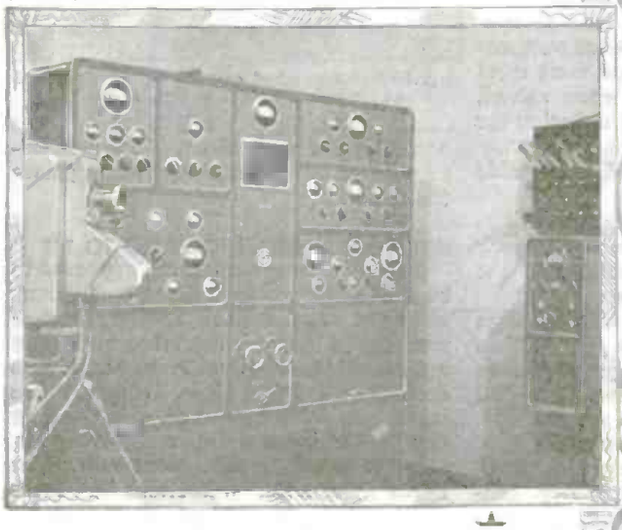
RADIO PICTORIAL

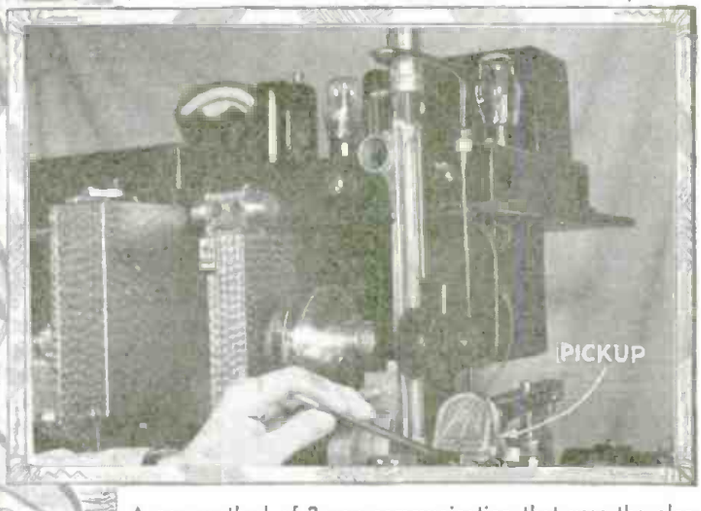
Radio at Texas Exposition; Electronic piston-pin test; Russian television; Carrier telephone.

The P.A. system at the Texas Centennial Exposition was divided into 6 parts or loops, so that individual parts of the Exposition could be provided with different sound effects as desired. Sound emanated from special pylons which projected the sound in 4 directions, each tower covering a particular area of the grounds. The system cost over $100,000!

Radio and Public Address worked together in aiding the effectiveness of the Texas Centennial Exposition at Dallas. The P.A. system consisted of 26 wide-range sound units combined with a large number of "singing towers" containing high- and low-frequency speakers. The studio (above) was also used for radio broadcasts.

Electronics has found useful application in automatically inspecting piston pins in the Ford Motor Co. plant. The piston pin enters the inspecting machine and is rotated under a phono. pickup, so that variations in surface finish throw a relay. Hardness is indicated by a rebounding hammer which intercepts the light to a PE. cell if hardness is correct.

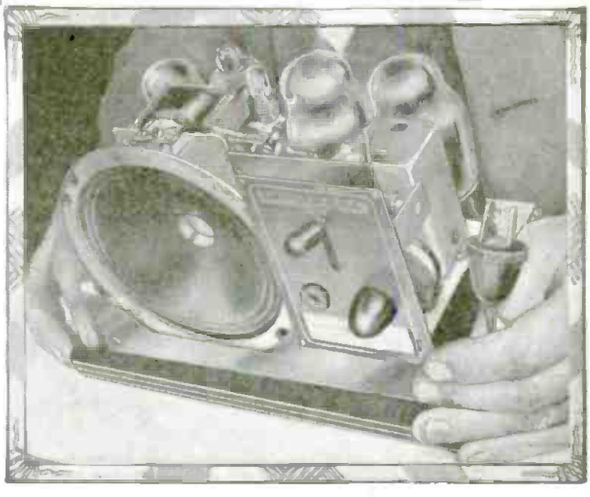




The first public cathode-ray television demonstrations of the Soviet Government were announced last month, with the introduction of a television transmitter utilizing a ray tube similar in some respects to the Zworykin Iconoscope. The system sends views of 70,000 picture elements. (Sovfoto)

A new method of 2-way communication that uses the electric-light wires has just been placed on the market. By means of these units, 2 persons can walk into any building and by merely plugging into any 2 outlets, hold a 2-way conversation. Carrier wavelength is far above broadcast band. (Halbran Photo)

The novel communication device, shown at left and right, consists of a 4-tube unit with an electrodynamic speaker which acts as both microphone and reproducer. When used as the transmitter, a carrier is sent over the line, modulated by the dynamic "mike." As the receiver it acts just like a radio receiver. (It is claimed that it will not radiate.)



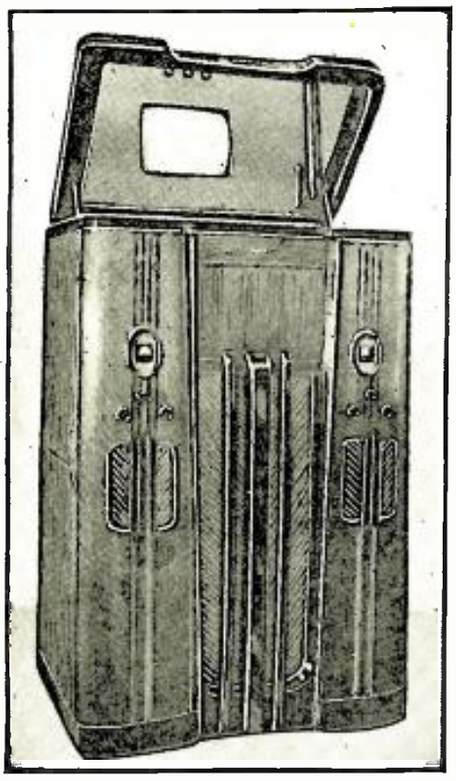


Fig. A. The appearance of the receiver console. The images are seen in a mirror in the lid. Note the comparatively few controls for sound and images.

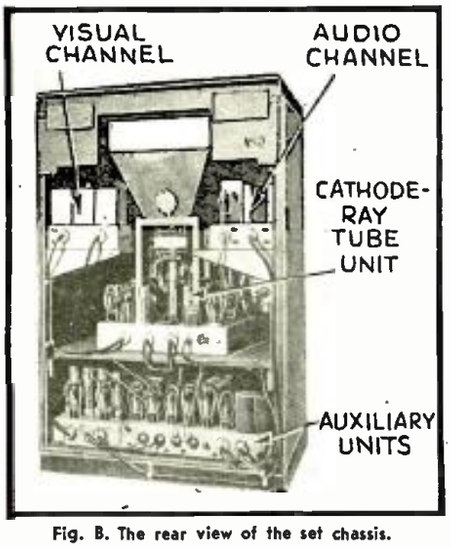


Fig. B. The rear view of the set chassis.

THE NEW PHILCO SYSTEM OF TELEVISION

The first detailed published description — exclusive to RADIO-CRAFT—of the new Philco system of television.

A. F. MURRAY

UNKNOWN to most of the television world Philco has been carrying on experimental television work for over 8 years! Rather than make premature announcements it had been deemed better to wait until an appropriate development stage was reached before describing the activities in this new branch of radio communication.

To secure a picture was not such a great task, it was the removal of all of the small but nevertheless conspicuous defects that was the real job. The engineering staff being familiar with the difficulties existing in the leading systems at that time, concentrated on these very problems, the nuts that were most difficult to crack. These, when solved, permitted the laying of a foundation for a television system which gives truly high-definition pictures of acceptable quality.

Hand-in-hand with the television circuit advances progressed research work in the vacuum tube laboratory on the special tubes used in the system.

Picture quality equal to that of home movies was, and still is, the goal. Such a requirement forced our engineers to be careful of small defects, distortions and the like, whether due to the camera tube, the picture tube or the system. This led to larger, brighter cathode-ray tubes, and camera tubes of improved sensitivity and detail. Cathode-ray projection tubes were built to explore the paths leading to larger pictures. One conclusion drawn from these experiments was the desirability of using more than 240 lines.

Fig. E. An unretouched copy of the views received on the receiver shown in Figs. A and B.

NUMBER OF LINES INCREASED TO 345

The next progressive step appeared to be a 345-line picture. Some technicians reasoned that a good 240-line system would give better pictorial results than a fair 345-line system. However, it was decided to try 345 lines. In due course amplifiers were improved, special tubes designed to meet the new requirements, and new scanning equipment built. Once again defects and distortions had to be eliminated one by one.

Again a satisfactory image was ob-

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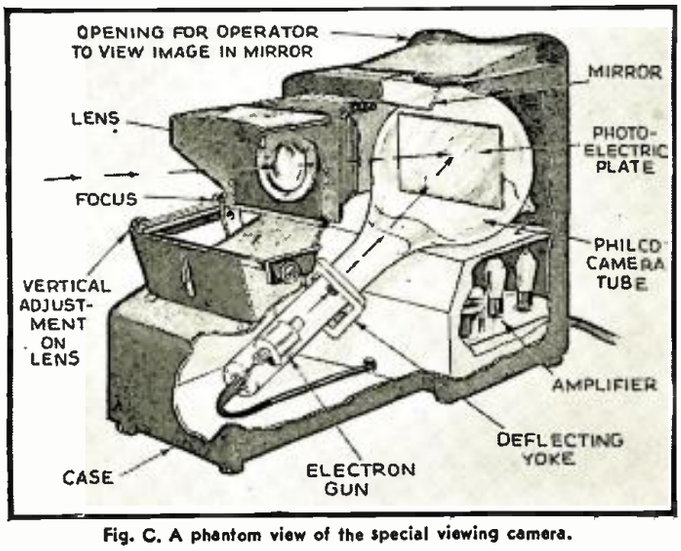


Fig. C. A phantom view of the special viewing camera.

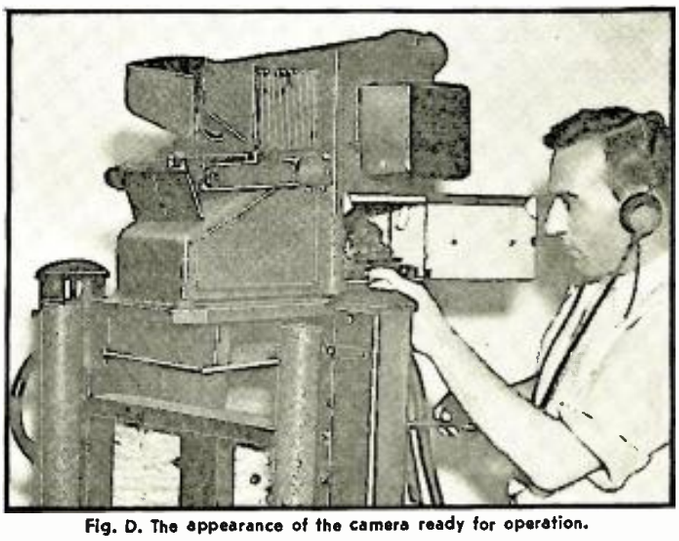


Fig. D. The appearance of the camera ready for operation.

NEWEST TUBES FOR THE RADIO INDUSTRY

The octal-base tubes are gradually encompassing the entire tube field, replacing existing types and supplying similar characteristics.

J. H. GREEN

OCTAL-BASE tubes took long strides, last month, in replacing existing types, even invading the heretofore untouched group of 2-V. battery tubes. Table I is a compilation of the comparative numbers of the new tubes, having octal bases, with the previously-available types having the same characteristics. In some of these cases, the previous tubes are glass types and in others they are metal tubes.

The 25-V. series of tubes is particularly well represented this month, as exemplified below:

25B5—Dynamic-Coupled Dual-Triode. This tube is equivalent in characteristics to the well-known 6B5, with the exception of the filament which is designed to operate at 25 V. Because of its filament, the tube is expected to replace the type 43 tube in many A.C.-D.C. sets, supplying triode class A output in place of the pentode output with its relatively high harmonic content.

It is interesting to note that the new tube, requiring no external bias, takes advantage of the full 110 V. of the "B" supply in A.C.-D.C. sets, thus supplying a maximum output of 2 W. with 9 per cent harmonic content, compared with only 0.9-W. from the 43 in a similar circuit.

25B5 Characteristics

Heater Voltage	Coated uni-potential cathode 25 A.C. or D.C.		
Current	0.3 A.		
Class A Amplifier			
Output Plate (P^2)	110	180 max.	V.
Input Plate (P^1)	110	100+	V.
Control-Grid	0	0	V.
Plate Current (P^2)	45	46	ma.
Plate Current (P^1)	7	5.8	ma.
Amplification Factor	25	35	
Plate Resistance	11,400	15,200	ohms
Mutual Conductance	2,200	2,300	mmhos
Load Resistance	2,000	4,000	ohms
Power Output	2.0	3.8	W.
Harmonic Distortion	9	9	per cent
Signal Volts For Rated Power	21	21	r.m.s.

25N6 — Dynamic - Coupled Dual-Triode. This tube has the same characteristics as the 25B5 described above, the only difference being in the use of an *octal* base on this tube. The 25N6 tube can be used as a replacement for the 25A6, by simply shorting the cathode bias resistor in sets designed for the latter tube.

The manufacturer, Triad Mfg. Co., recommends that for best results, a diode-type detector be used before the 25B5 and 25N6. In experimental work, it was found that the 6Q7 supplied the optimum characteristics for use with these tubes.

25B6G—Pentode Power Amplifier. This tube, also, is an improvement over the type 43. It is a *glass* tube, with octal base. It is a power pentode, known as the "uni-potential cathode" type, according to the manufacturer, Raytheon Production Corp. The output power of 1.75 W. is materially higher than the 0.9-W. supplied by the 43 with 95 V. applied to the plate and screen-grid, and a control-grid bias of –15 V., the plate current is 45 ma. and the screen-grid current is 4 ma. At maximum signal voltage the screen-grid current rises to 12 ma.

25B6G Characteristics

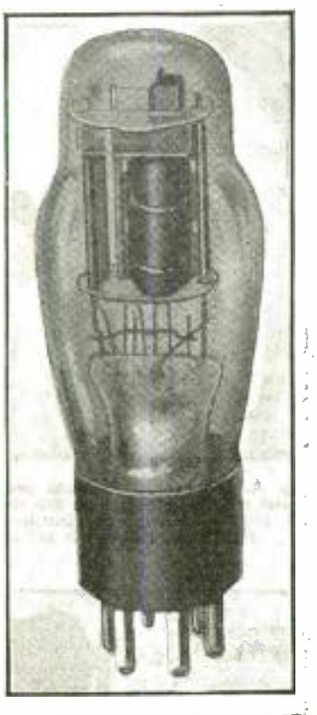
Voltage	25.0	V.
Current	0.3-	A.
Class A Amplifier		
Plate Voltage	95	V.
No. 2 Grid (screen-grid) Voltage	95	V.
No. 1 Grid (control-grid) Voltage	—15	V.
Plate Current	45	ma.
Screen-grid Current*	4	ma.
Screen-grid Current**	12	ma.
Plate Resistance (subject to considerable variation)		
Load Resistance	2,000	ohms
Mutual Conductance	4,000	mmhos
Power Output (10 per cent distortion)	1.75	W.

*No signal
**Maximum signal

Added to these interesting new 25 V. tubes which are especially adaptable to A.C.-D.C. sets, are several new 6 V. tubes of the glass and metal types.

6J5G General Purpose Amplifier. This is a new glass tube having an octal

(Continued on page 297)



The 25B5 tube except for its filament is the equivalent of the well known 6B5 direct-coupled triode output tube, which supplies the power sensitivity of a pentode without the harmonic content of the latter. The 25-V. filament makes the 25B5 a replacement for the 43 tube.

TABLE I

OCTAL-BASE GLASS TUBES AND EQUIVALENTS

Octal Glass Type	Equivalent Metal or Glass Type
1C7G	1C6
1D5G	1A4
1D7G	1A6
1E5G	1B4
1E7G	1F4
1F5G	1F4
1F7G	1F6
1H4G	30
1H6G	1B5 or 25S
1J6G	19 (exc'pt fil. curr. 240 ma.)
5V4G	5Z4
5X4G	5Z3
5Y3G	5Y3
5Y4G	80
5Z4MG	5Z4
6A8G	6A7
6B4G	6A3
6B6	6Q7
6C5G	6C5
6F5G	6F5
6F6G	42 or 6F6
6H6G	6H6
6J7G	77 or 6J7
6K6G	41 or 6F6
6K7G	78 or 6K7
6L6G	6L6
6L7G	6L7
6N6G	6B5 or 6N6
6N7G	6A6 or 6N7
6P7G	6F7 or 6P7
6Q7G	6B6 or 6Q7
6R7G	85 or 6R7
6X5G	84 or 6X5
6Z4G	84 or 6X5
25A6G	43 or 25A6
25Z6G	25Z5 or 25Z6

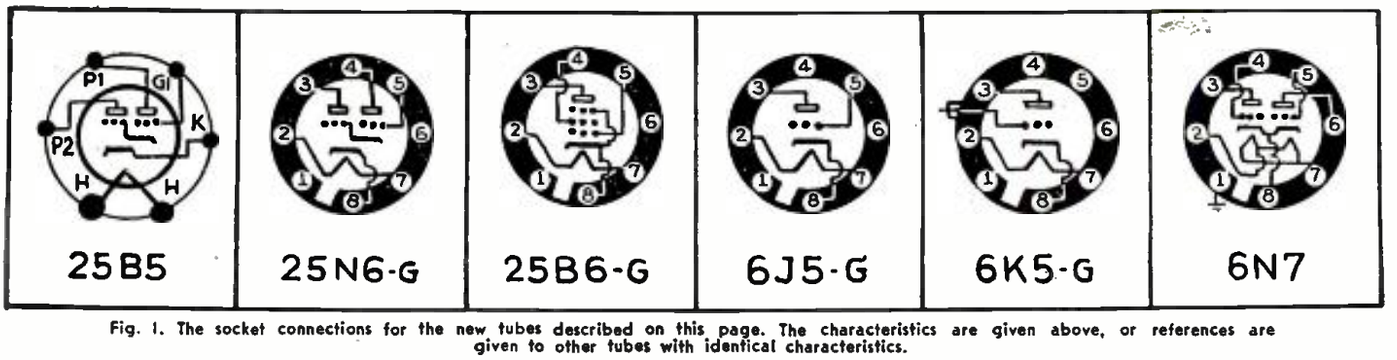


Fig. 1. The socket connections for the new tubes described on this page. The characteristics are given above, or references are given to other tubes with identical characteristics.

STREAMLINED MIKE IS ALSO A LOUDSPEAKER!

Essentially, this unit is a reversible loudspeaker that may be used as a microphone. It has been demonstrated to RADIO-CRAFT that the output of this unit as a mike is sufficient to operate a second one as a loudspeaker!

ANDREW HALBRAN

Fig. A. The neat appearance presented by the bullet mike is evident from this view. Because of the high efficiency, and directional characteristics "close talking" is not necessary.

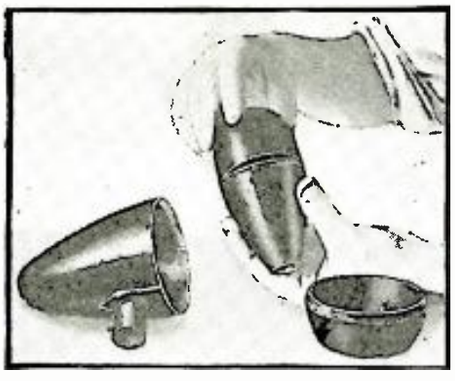


Fig. B. The bakelite construction used for the outer shell and deflector housing can be seen here. The "motor" unit is in the inner case.

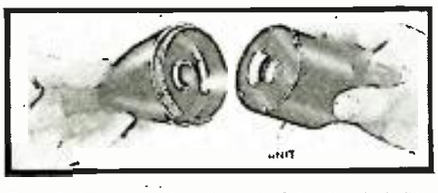


Fig. C. The actual unit nests into the bakelite case as shown above. The conical diaphragm of the mike can be seen in the right-hand part of the instrument.

HERE IS a magnetodynamic microphone so sensitive it rivals and bids fair to exceed the sensitivity of a carbon microphone!—and yet requires no current supply to operate it! (See Fig. A.); furthermore, it may be made to function as a "transducer" (that is, both as *trans*mitter or microphone, and as a repro*ducer* or loudspeaker); see Fig. E!

The "secret" in this amazing new development in public-address equipment is a twofold one: (1) a diminutive high-coersive magnet is used; and, (2) a tiny exponential trumpet effect is secured in the molded bakelite housing; see the cross-section illustration, Fig. D. Let us refer to the detailed illustrations of this new microphone, to find out more about it.

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ANY RADIO PUBLICATION

MECHANICAL DESCRIPTION

Referring to Fig. B, we see 2 bullet- or egg-shaped housings that nest one in the other; within the inner housing is contained the "motor" or microphone unit—one-half the inner housing is the actual dynamic unit, as shown in Fig. C. Note the extreme compactness of this dynamic microphone unit. The exact relations of all the components of this microphone are clearly shown in Fig. D. Here we see that the path of the sound waves, which enter the large opening at one end of the outer housing, is along an outer chamber that gradually decreases in dimensions; at the end of this chamber the sound waves are deflected into a tapered, tubular chamber that runs through the center of a second bakelite molding to which the dynamic unit is threaded — the exact conformation of these tapered chambers is extremely important in securing the fidelity and exceptional sensitivity that characterize this new microphone. The sound waves then impinge on the small, specially-constructed conical diaphragm to the apex of which is fastened the voice coil. (To facilitate the assembly of this unit resilient buttons are provided as supports at one end of the unit; at the opposite end resilient stirrups are used.) This internal design of the microphone causes the voice frequency to travel over an area that is approximately twice the length of the housing, before it reaches the diaphragm of the dynamic unit. A small magnet of iron-alloy supplies a very intense magnetic field, that is cut by the moving voice coil.

(Continued on page 313)

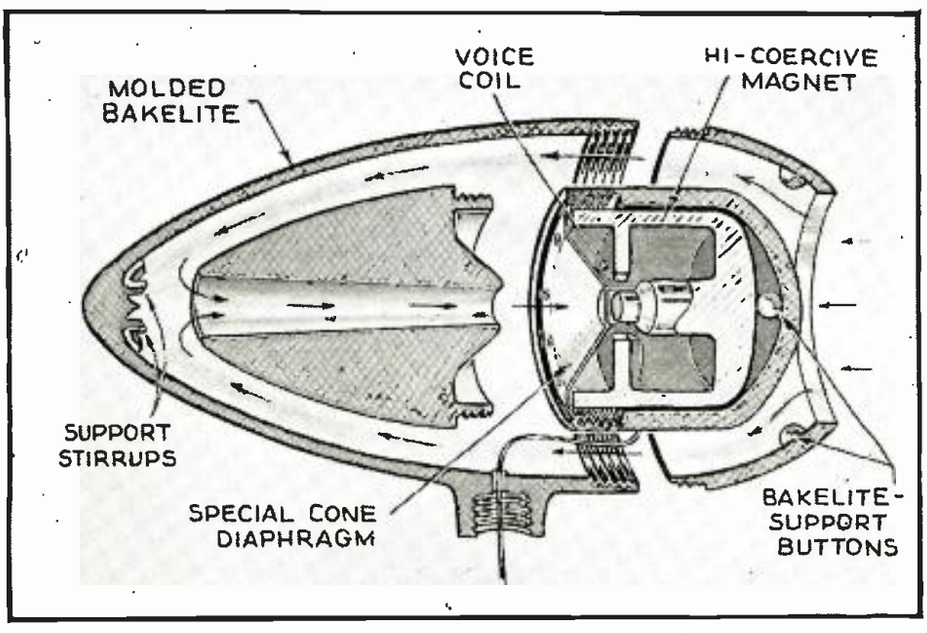


Fig. D. The parts and their method of assembly can be seen in this phantom view.

Fig. E. The high efficiency can be demonstrated by using 2 units as shown above.

RADIO-CRAFT receives hundreds of magazines from all parts of the world. Since the cost of subscribing to each of these would be prohibitive for most radio men, we have arranged with technical translators to prepare reviews for our readers.

INTERNATIONAL RADIO REVIEW

A FRENCH "BUTTON-TUNED" RECEIVER

IN THE latest issue of *L'Onde Electrique* (Paris) a group of new French radio sets was briefly described. One of these sets, shown in Fig. A., is unique in that it is tuned to any one of 20 stations by the simple expedient of pushing a button on the control panel! The set is equipped with *automatic frequency control*, similar to the American sets using automatic tuning (see the October 1936 issue of *Radio-Craft*).

No information was given as to how the buttons accomplish the rough adjustment in tuning in a station, but it is likely that a series of levers is used to turn the tuning condenser to the approximate point, the close tuning being done by the automatic frequency control. The magazine *L'Onde Electrique* expressed some doubt as to the practicability of "button tuned" sets in general.

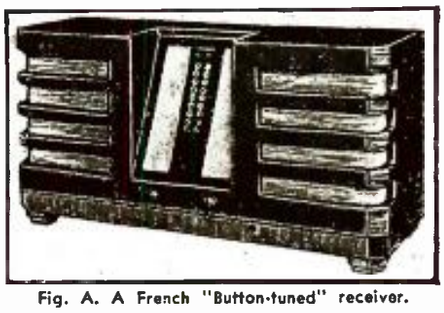


Fig. A. A French "Button-tuned" receiver.

A SELECTIVE CRYSTAL SET

THE MAGAZINE *Radio Tecnica* (Buenos Aires) recently ran an article which should interest radio experimenters and beginners. It contained the description of a really selective crystal set. The set was designed according to data discovered in connection with the development of tuners, and in fact uses a band tuner similar to those employed in some of the most modern tube receivers.

The circuit of this set is shown in Fig. 1. It will be noted that 2 coils and condensers are used, the coils being separated as far as possible and placed at right-angles to keep the coupling at a minimum. The coils are then coupled together by a small variable condenser which controls the selectivity of the set. A 2-gang condenser simplifies the tuning of the set—which has only 1 tuning control.

The coils are wound on cardboard tubes 2 ins. in dia. and 3 ins. long. Each coil is wound with 75 turns of No. 28 enamel-covered wire, and a tap is made at the 20th turn (55 turns from the ends of the coils which are connected to the ground binding post).

The values of other parts and the positions of the parts are shown in the diagram, and follow standard practice.

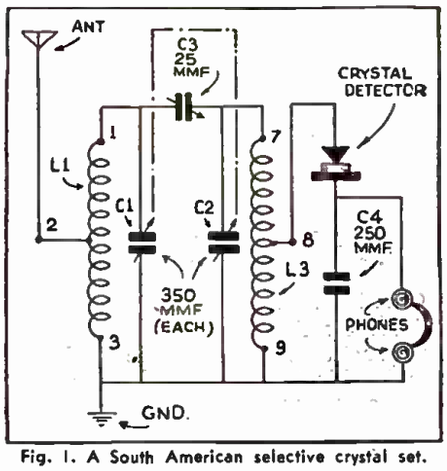


Fig. 1. A South American selective crystal set.

ENGLISH ACORN TUBES

A NEW midget tube similar to the "acorn" types made in the U. S. has just been perfected in England, according to a patent review in the latest issue of *Wireless World* (London).

As shown in Fig. 2, this new tube, however, is assembled without the usual "press" for sealing the leads, as connections are brought through widely-separated wires distributed around the outside of the glass shell. The elements are compressed into the smallest possible space by the use of a series of nesting rings on which the elements are mounted. Thus, the grids are flat screens mounted on insulated rings, while the cathode is a flat cup with a spiral wire filament in the bottom. By this method of nesting, the elements can be placed very close together, insuring efficient operation without the long, parallel leads which prevent ultra-high frequency operation in ordinary tubes.

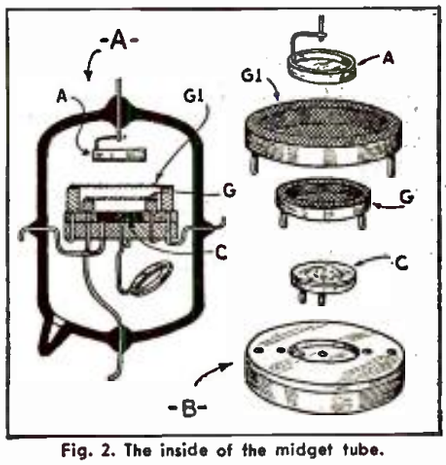


Fig. 2. The inside of the midget tube.

AN ELECTRONOMETER TUBE

ACCORDING to a report in *L'Industrie Francaise Radio-Electrique* (Paris) recently, a new French tube has just been placed on the market for the measurement of minute currents.

This tube is used with a sensitive galvanometer in a circuit somewhat similar to the V.-T. voltmeters which have become so useful in high-frequency work. With one tube, a sensitivity of about 10^{-14} A. is possible, while with an amplifier following the electronometer tube, a sensitivity of 10^{-17} can be achieved.

This remarkable sensitivity to minute currents is made possible by reducing

(Continued on page 296)

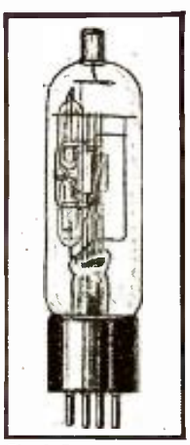


Fig. B. Electronometer

The electronometer, it will be remembered (from the physics class in school) is ordinarily a device consisting of a small folded piece of gold-leaf (gold foil) suspended in a glass jar with a contact on top, and is used for indicating the presence of tiny electric currents or charges. Since the power consumption is extremely small, the device can be used to detect the presence of small electrostatic charges, etc. This new tube is more sensitive than the gold-leaf type.

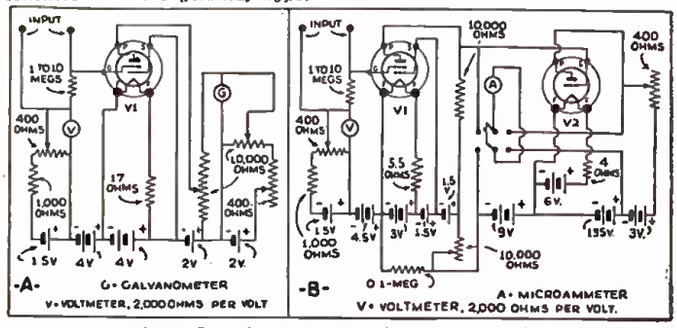


Fig. 3. Two circuits for the electronometer tube.

Fig. C. The appearance of the portable set.

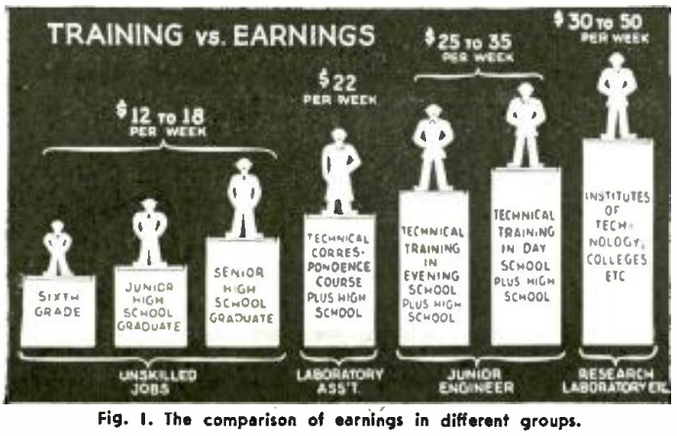


Fig. 1. The comparison of earnings in different groups.

A KEY TO RADIO AS A VOCATION

Have you considered your future in radio? What chance have you to succeed—what method of procedure will yield the best results? The answers are given below.

W. E. SCHRAGE

ATTRACTED to some extent by the glamorous fame of the few big money makers in the broadcasting field, thousands of young people concentrate their hopes and thoughts upon the radio industry as the future realm of their vocational careers. A number of them dream of jobs as announcers or as artists in front of a nation-wide audience. However, it is not this group in which we are interested. Instead, our concern is with those who concentrate their thoughts upon the design or construction of transmitters and receivers, or upon research in one of the nation's leading laboratories—it is these whom we should like to guide through the labyrinth of the professional market, today.

A CHANCE FOR AMATEURS

An interesting feature about the American radio industry is the fact that a considerable number of the most successful men in this industry are former amateurs, and it seems that a consideration of radio as the future career for a radio amateur is not a bad idea, because it gives him a chance to utilize valuable experience acquired from his hobby.

It is certainly more sensible than to start a vocational trip in "terra incognita," *i.e.*, to go into an industry where lack of fundamental knowledge of this industry makes it necessary to begin at the first step in the long stairway of experience collecting.

But this is not the only reason why a radio career seems to be a desirable one for the young radio amateur seeking a way to make good. The Grecian philosopher Plutarch said, some 2,000 years ago: "A man's felicity consists not in the outward and visible favors and blessings of fortune, but in the inward and unseen perfections and riches of the mind."

This statement, full of wisdom and knowledge of human nature, still hits the mark after all this time, However, and this is of great importance in today's world of dollars and cents—the radio industry is not only the realm for a young man who seeks "beauty of soul" but it provides at least as many chances as any other industry for the "right" man to make good.

But: "Who is the right man?" Not the one who likes to play around a little bit with radio, because all his friends do the same, but the one with inborn technical abilities, reenforced by proper training. Playboys, who go about the matter of radio somewhat similar to the housewife who lets the family starve if either the cookbook or the can opener gets lost, have little chance to make money, because creation and not reconstruction is the key to success.

This leads us to a discussion of the "nervus rerum," to the never expiring question of money. *How much money* can a young man with ability and deeper interest make in the radio field if he chooses it as his vocation? This question must be answered by means of another question: "What kind of training does this young man in question have?"

The importance of proper training for a successful career in radio's realm is shown quite impressively by Fig. 1. We see at the left side an unskilled laborer who "graduated" from the sixth grade of elementary school, and who would be better *out* of the radio industry since a person of his class has but little chance without additional training. He may eventually get a $12- or $14-a-week job on a factory assembly line, but he would do much better by going into the shipping department of the company, or somewhere else where unskilled labor is much better paid, than in the price-slashing atmosphere of the radio industry.

This does not mean that even such a "graduate" can't become the executive of a large business. It is, of course, quite difficult, but the history of American industry contains inspiring examples of hundreds of insufficiently educated men who did very well. It was, though, and still is, an infinitely torturous task to succeed in this way, and the few examples of brilliant careers are by far overbalanced by the hundreds, and even thousands who did not reach their aim. The history of our industry, however, seldom tells about *their* wasted struggles and starvation.

Successful careers of graduates of the 6th grade elementary school, on the other hand, are even possible today. Remember, too, that there is always plenty of room at the top for men with real ability. No one is born too late:

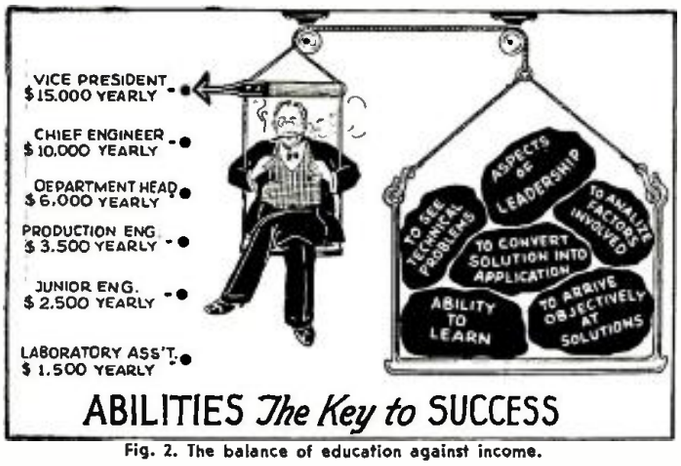


Fig. 2. The balance of education against income.

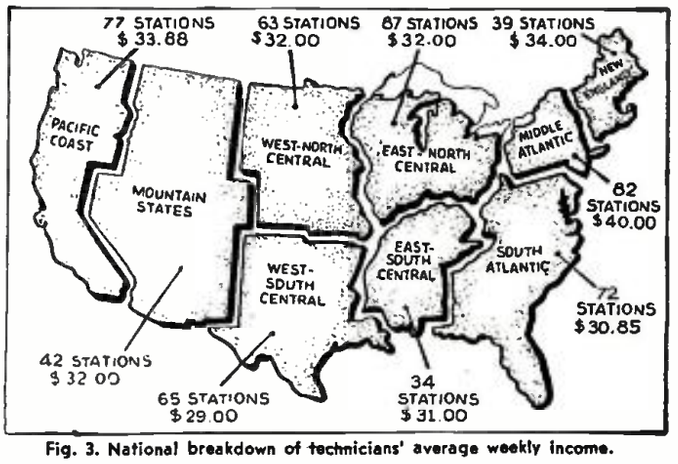


Fig. 3. National breakdown of technicians' average weekly income.

who is to go to fill the big jobs in the big companies when the big men who are filling them now are out of the picture?

But the chances are very poor for the man who trembles each time he is confronted with an application blank because he must bare the fact that he has but a limited school training.

I must also disappoint even those who graduated from *junior high school*, and in fact a great many who are graduated from *senior high school*, because they are also classified under "unskilled labor" when they must admit to being without additional training. There are, at present, thousands of high-school graduates who work on the assembly lines of American radio factories, and make not more than $18 weekly, which is, according to the statistics of the Radio Manufacturers Association, the *average income* of workers of this industry!

HOW TO ENLARGE A $18-PER-WEEK INCOME

Now let's take the case of a nice fellow who has not had the opportunity to attend the evening course of an accredited technical school. What is he going to do? There are many correspondence schools, and in addition there are many excellent public libraries all over the country. If he learns enough about radio technique by this method of vocational education eventually he may become a laboratory assistant, a job which is not only better paid, but one which also opens for him the road to the top, since if he has the chance to work in such a place, he may have an opportunity to show his real qualities and abilities. However it takes a man with a good brain and great ambition to succeed in this way.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION MAKES THE ROAD SMOOTH

A more promising method in building the road to a successful career is by attending the evening or daytime courses in a technical school, or study courses of technical correspondence schools of good reputation (such as Coyne Electrical School, National Radio Institute, R. C. A. Institutes, Inc. and Sprayberry Academy of Radio.—*Editor*). Such a training entitles the man to a job as junior engineer which means about $25 per week—and even more in a relatively short time, if the man in question has special qualities.

Of course, graduates from reputed schools of technology, as for example: M.I.T., etc., have the best chances. However, an education of this kind means quite a financial investment. In some, it involves a study consisting of 8 years in elementary school, 4 years in high school, and an additional 4 years in a college or an institute of technology. (As stated, in more detail, in the November, 1935, issue of RADIO-CRAFT.—*Editor.)* To just what extent this investment may be advisable in each specific case is difficult to decide, since a great many of the leading men in the American radio industry obtained their positions without such "intensive" training.

On the other hand, about 80 per cent of the rank and file of the great staff of the Bell Telephone Laboratories are graduates from universities, institutes of technology or similar institutions.

ABILITIES DETERMINE SUCCESS

Getting down to brass tacks, the success of men with or without academic training depends on other facts than just scholarly wisdom. *It depends on faculties which no one can learn, but which are inborn*, as for example the ability "to see problems"—that is, "to analyze the factors involved," "to arrive objectively and without prejudice at solutions"; and, last but not least—"to convert their ideas into designs of practical value" (see Fig. 2).

In addition to these abilities and qualities these men must have "aspects of leadership," and this is the kind of men the American industry is looking for. But as Mr. Samuel S. Board, the placement specialist states in a pamphlet, published by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers: "The demand for such men is greater than the supply"! And Mr. Board, an authority in this field, knows what he is talking about.

WOMEN IN THE RADIO INDUSTRY

Another point of interest in a discussion of chances for a career in the radio industry are the vocational opportunities for *women* in this professional line. One would think that

(Continued on page 298)

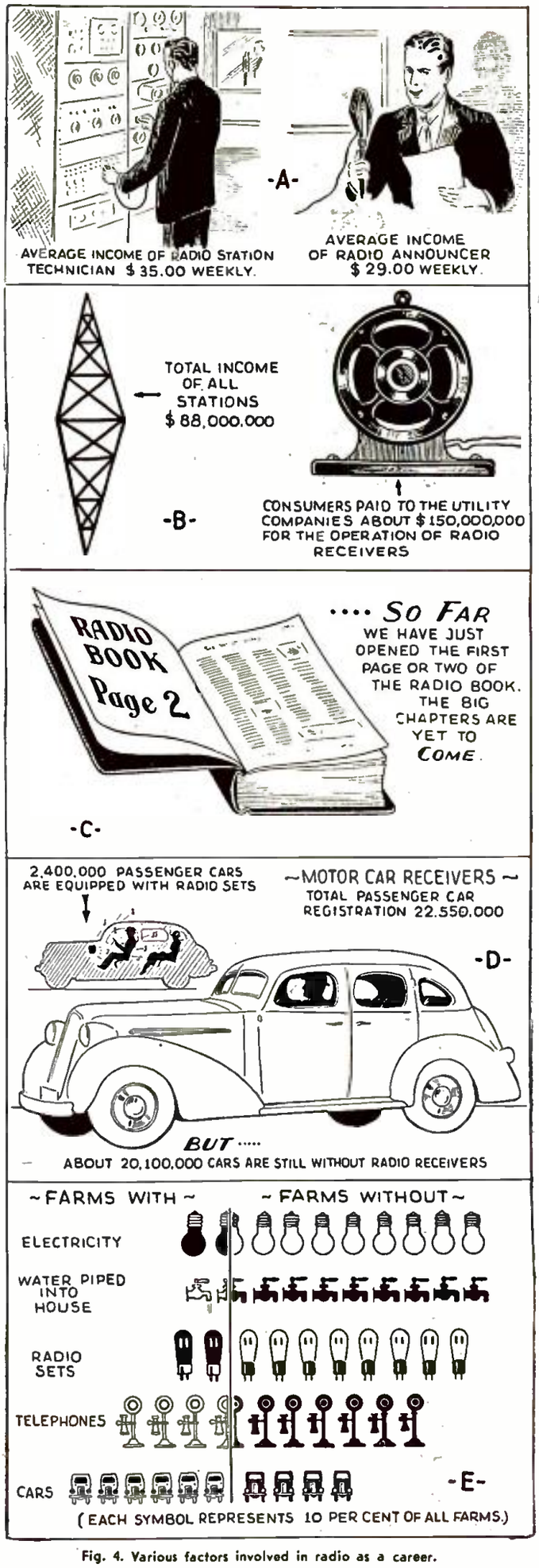
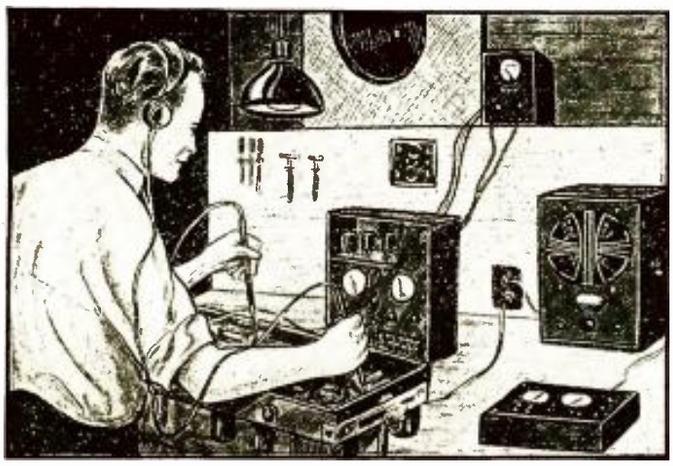


Fig. 4. Various factors involved in radio as a career.



USING HEADPHONES IN SERVICE WORK

The author proposes several effective ways to isolate trouble with "headphone" testers.

PAUL A. BOTTORFF

AN ORDINARY radio headset possesses certain characteristics not frequently thought of. For example, the better grades have an absolute sensitivity of about 1/10-microampere, or better; consequently, even the trifling voltages induced on an antenna system alone, when rectified (as with a crystal detector) are capable of creating an audible signal. Thus a high degree of sensitivity compared to the cost is available. The following examples of the use of this simple piece of equipment are merely typical cases and are not all of the applications which might present themselves to the Service Man.

Use as an A.C. galvanometer or "null indicator." For many years bridges built to measure capacity, inductance, or resistance in alternating circuits have depended upon headsets as detectors of the balance point. Such bridges for use by Service Men (for the measurement of *capacity*, in particular) are now available at reasonable cost.

Condenser leakage tests. Probably the simplest and most straightforward method of isolating a poor condenser is to put a charge on it with a battery (a single cell will do), then discharging this voltage through a phone. By an aural comparison of the volume of sound produced in the receivers after a period of time has elapsed since the charging, a general idea as to whether the insulation of the particular condenser has been punctured can be gained.

Testing continuity. By connecting a battery in series with the phones, and by means of test probes touched to the circuit in question in various places, the technician may immediately determine whether or not the circuit is open. This method of checking wiring of electrical equipment of all types is widely used in manufacturing plants.

Lining-up multi-stage sets. A number of the well-known manufacturers use the "headphone" system in aligning certain of the less "critical" sets and circuits. The process is to impress an A.F. modulated R.F. signal to the input terminals; by listening in headphones connected through a condenser (of perhaps 0.01-mf. capacity) to the output, it is possible to determine whether a particular adjustment makes the signal more or less audible.

Locating hum. To determine the source of hum in a set is sometimes baffling, but in general, it is either induced or is conducted into a circuit. If conducted, the probable source

(Continued on page 304)

OFFICIAL RADIO SERVICE MEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

MEMBERS' FORUM

A department devoted to members and those interested in the Official Radio Service Men's Association. For mutual benefit, contribute *your* kinks, gossip and notes of interest to Service Men, or others interested in servicing.

A MEMBER'S CONVENIENT TEST BENCH

RADIO-CRAFT, ORSMA *Dept.:*

As an ORSMA member (16,552) I believe the picture, Fig. A., of my service bench would be of interest to other members. In building it I wanted everything in 1 panel. As you will notice, at the top of the panel, the neon tube is recessed behind a glass window in a black box permitting me to see it without turning out the lights. Many other kinks are employed, and the panel affords facilities for all voltage and current tests, tube, resistance, and condenser tests, and standard resistances, and condensers are available by means of pin-jacks.

HARRY A. NORMAN,
Baltimore, Md.

"BRIEFCASE PORTABLE" (A CORRECTION)— TREASURE LOCATOR DATA

RADIO-CRAFT, ORSMA *Dept.:*

When I started building the "Talking Briefcase" receiver described in your September issue, I found an error in the diagram on page 137.

A connection is shown linking the lower ends of the 2 coils comprising the Ant. coupling transformer. This link would short out the 0.05-mf. bypass condenser, and also ground the 3 V. tap of the "C" battery through the 0.25-meg. decoupling resistor. No doubt most readers have noticed this error, but a correction notice might save some novice a lot of trouble. (The symptoms are reduced sensitivity. and circuit oscillation.) Reference to Fig. 1 will show which lead to remove.

Mr. Pugh's letter on page 163 under Readers' Dept. of same issue brings to my mind my experience with the "Treasure" Finder described in the August, 1934, issue of *Radio-Craft*. I rewired 1 of these machines after the constructors were unable to get satisfactory results. The following hints will insure proper performance. Mount the sockets in the receiver so that all the filament wiring is on one side and all the grid and plate wiring on the other with just enough space left between the sockets to mount the coupling condensers. Keep all the grid and plate leads short in the R.F. section. Be sure to mount the A.F. transformers and R.F. chokes under the tube shelf, using duolateral chokes, as shown in the illustrations. In the oscillator section, use a 30-mhy. duolateral choke mounted as close as possible to the plate terminal. The lower values of gridleak result in better tone.

It is really surprising how sensitive these machines can be when properly assembled and adjusted. The one I worked over would respond to a tin can several feet below ground!

I greatly enjoy *Radio-Craft* and believe it to be the best Service Man's magazine on the market.

E. H. DISNEY,
Lowry City, Mo.

(Continued on page 306)

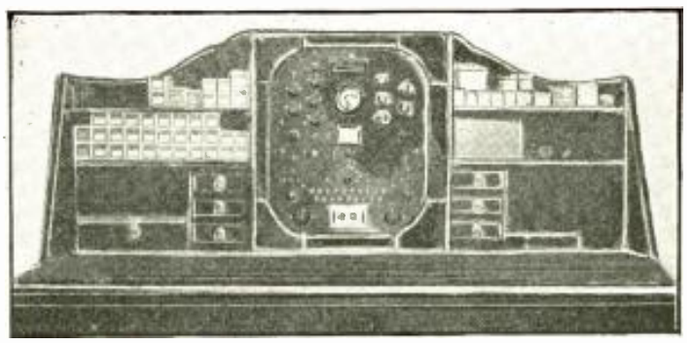


Fig. A. Well-designed and completely-equipped service bench of Mr. Norman.

ANALYSES of RADIO RECEIVER SYMPTOMS
OPERATING NOTES

Philco Models 19 and 89. The chassis that is common to these sets reached the shop with the complaint that it was weak, insensitive, and there was no short-wave reception.

All tubes and voltages checked properly. By placing the antenna lead on the cap of V, reception was much improved. As may be seen in Fig. 1, the primary of the antenna coil is shunted with a 10,000-ohm resistor. The antenna lead was opened at X, and a continuity test showed that the primary coil was open. Replacing this coil restored the receiver to perfect condition.

E. H. Moss

Bosch 10, Twin-Speaker Model. One of these models came in with a very loud hum. Filter condenser C23 (Fig. 2A) was found open and replaced. The hum decreased materially but still seemed to be abnormal, especially with the tone control on the bass side. I was then informed by the owner that it had always performed that way. (The tone control had to be at the high level in order to listen comfortably to the set.)

Checking the circuit carefully I found the filtering system and the cable from the 2 speakers connected as in Fig. 2A. Compare this with Fig. 2B which is the correct diagram for this set. A little study will show that the filtering of Fig. 1A is very inefficient as compared with Fig. 2B. Changing 3 of the speaker leads to correspond with Fig. 2B entirely eliminated the hum. (Peculiarly enough, this set was originally wired that way, as proven by the lengths of the speaker leads!)

Crosley Fiver, 148, 167. The dual filter condenser of 6 mf., 300 V. and 8 mf., 25 V. in these sets will invariably open, short or develop a leak between sections.

When open, there will be uncontrollable oscillation; when shorted, a "dead" recciver; and when leaking, will result in distortion and low volume. For a permanent repair use a dual unit rated at 400 V. and 25 V., or higher if possible. (After all, there is only so much space.)

Crosley 173. Weak reception with all tube voltages OK can no doubt be traced to an open field coil (Jensen K3). The speaker field current is supplied independently by the 25Z5 rectifier.

Check the 8-mf., 25-V. electrolytic condenser connected from the first A.F. (type 78) suppressor-grid to tuning condenser frame. This will sometimes short, with a resulting slight decrease in volume.

Echophone S4. Very low volume accompanied by distortion, or no reception at all. Check the 1-meg. resistor (R2, Fig. 3) on the panel at rear and underneath the chassis. This resistor is in the 24A detector screen-grid lead and fails frequently. Replace with a 2- or 3-W.

Also check R6 and R8 (Fig. 3) for variations in value.

Fada KA. An annoying and persistent hum in these models, when all other remedies fail, may be cured by connecting a 1- or 2-mf. paper condenser from cathode of the 27 detector-amplifier tube to chassis.

Gubransen 13. No screen-grid voltage on the R.F. and I.F. tubes in this set is due to the failure of the screen-grid bypass condenser, a 0.3-mf. unit rated at 200 V. (C9, Fig. 4). This condenser is in a container with several other bypass units and has 2 (brown) leads from the ungrounded side. One lead goes to the R.F. screen-grid and the other to the I.F. screen-grid. When replacing this condenser, therefore, clip both brown leads from the condenser can and connect the 2 screen-grids together. A 0.25-mf. condenser rated at 400 V. will be entirely satisfactory to connect from screen-grid to ground.

Resistors R3 and R5 should be checked when condenser trouble of this nature has occurred as they may vary greatly from the values shown. (Even the volume control was burned out, on one receiver.)

Majestic 460 Chassis. Set Models 67, 68, 69, 196, 461, 463, 666, 776 & 886. Receiver "dead," with no voltage on the G-2A7-S modulator plate, indicates an open primary in the 1st I.F. transformer. Similarly, no voltage on the G-58-S (I.F. stage) plate shows an open primary in the 2nd I.F. transformer. (In the last 6 of these receivers repaired, I have had to replace 2 1st I.F. transformers and 4 2nd I.F. transformers.)

No screen-grid voltage on the R.F., osc.-mod., and I.F. stages is due to an open section of the Candohm voltage divider. This is the end section farthest from ground and should be 10,000 ohms.

High voltage throughout set is caused by an open in the next section measuring 9,000 ohms.

No voltage at all will usually prove to be a shorted 16-mf. electrolytic condenser (on top of chassis).

Philco 18. Intermittent reception. Faulty 0.05-mf. bypass condenser connected from antenna coil secondary to ground.

Philco 96. Several of these models have come to my attention with a whistle on every station and the report that several other Service Men had worked on them without success. Neither did I find anything wrong with the receivers in question but a good ground installation effectually silenced the whistles in each and every case.

One receiver in particular had been using a 5 ft. pipe driven in the ground, with a window lead to the set of not over 6 ft. in all from the pipe to radio set. This set (circuit) oscillated from one end of the dial to the other. A new ground clamp, window strip and new connections made not the slightest difference. A 55-foot wire to the nearest cold water pipe did the trick.

RCA Victor R-28-P or G.E. K-50-P. Intermittent reception in this set is quite often due to a defective condenser in the oscillator tuning circuit (C8, Fig. 5). This must be replaced with the exact size of 720-mmf.

The dual 4-4 mf. electrolyic condenser mounted under the chassis will often open or short. At the first sign of trouble replace both units as it will only be a short time until the other section goes.

RCA Radiola 82 or G.E. H-31. Intermittent reception for about the first 20 minutes of operation has been found in several of these receivers to be caused by a faulty condenser in the oscillator tuning system. (C2, Fig. 6) Moving this condenser slightly with a bakelite or rubber probing rod while the set is in operation will usually produce the cutting off. Do not replace with anything but the exact size, 745 mmf., and then readjust the low-frequency compensator, C1.

Silver Marshall J. No plate voltage on the R.F., mod., 1st I.F. and 2nd I.F., would seem to be a shorted 4-mf. electrolytic condenser connected from this plate supply to ground. Before removing this unit however, make a thorough check on the 1 mf. section of a triple metal-cased bypass block mounted near the I.F. sockets. This condenser, rated at only 300 V. usually is the offender.

Also check the 10,000-ohm, 3-W. carbon resistor connected between the plate supply and the screen-grids of the above stages. This will sometimes measure only 5,000 ohms.

Stewart Warner 102-A. When this model plays OK for 5 or 10 minutes, then gradually becomes choked and muffled with a corresponding reduction in volume it is usually evidence that the 47 amplifier circuit is going into oscillation. (This may be checked by watching the plate current, which will rise to almost double the normal reading.) To cure permanently, insert a 1-W. resistor of 7,000 or 8,000 ohms in series with the screen-grid lead; and if the 47 tube is the least bit weak, replace it.

A mechanical hum in one of these

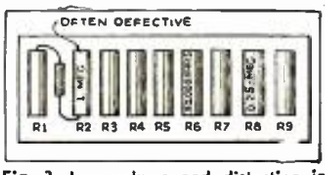


Fig. 3. Low volume and distortion in an Echophone Model S-4.

receivers was located after considerable trouble in the filter choke. The laminations are simply held together by a "shaped" cover, which should fit very tight. Squeezing the outer cover with a large pair of pliers will effect a cure.

The power transformer will hum badly at times and tightening the bolts does not seem to help much. If this trouble is encountered the bolts should be loosened or removed and the edges of the transformer core painted with heavy lacquer. Allow the lacquer to dry for a few minutes and then turn the bolts up as tightly as possible. Do not turn receiver on until the lacquer is absolutely dry.

Westinghouse WR-15 or RCA Victor R-11. Motorboating between stations only. Clean all tuning condenser rotor contacts and solder ground wire to each. Put in pigtail connection if possible.

Miscellaneous Notes. 1. Tunable Hum. In nearly all cases where one or more type 47 tubes are used in an amplifier, a loud hum on strong signals—especially with the tone control on the bass side—is due to insufficient filtering of the 47 screen-grid voltage supply.

2. Noisy Audio Transformers. To

(Continued on page 311)

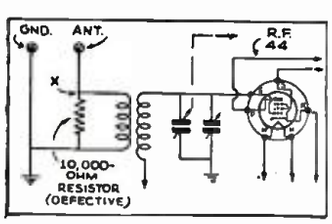


Fig. 1. Restoring sensitivity to a weak Philco Model 19 or 89.

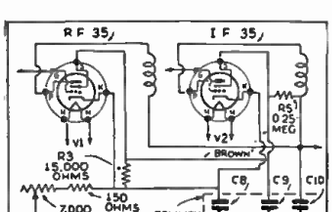


Fig. 4. Gulbransen 13 trouble.

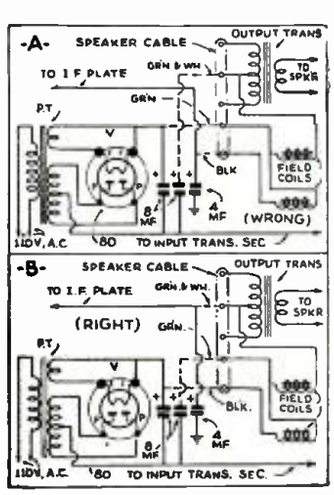


Fig. 2. Hum in Bosch model 10.

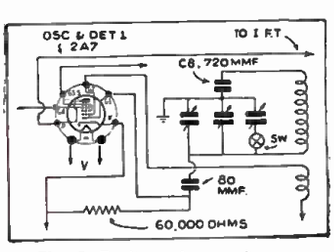


Fig. 5. Faulty series condenser.

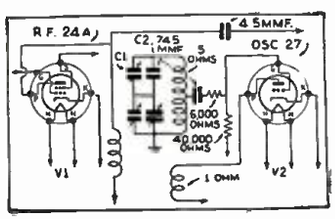


Fig. 6, Another faulty series unit.

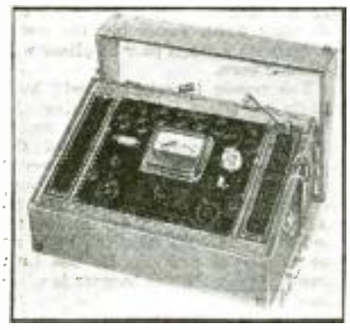
THE LATEST RADIO EQUIPMENT

This set's novel appearance is achieved by using a "rear" speaker. (1179)

NOVEL RECEIVER DESIGN (1179)

(RCA Mfg. Co., Inc.)

THE SPEAKER outlet of this receiver is at the rear, as illustrated by the mirror. The circuit used is a 5-tube superheterodyne, covering a range of 540 to 6,500 kc. in 2 bands. The output is 0.9-W. The airplane dial has a 6-to-1 ratio with a band indicator. An antenna wavetrap and iron-core I.F. transformers are used. The cabinet is of novel design and is highly finished.

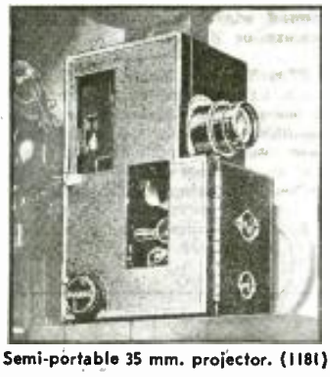


This new power output tube tester uses operating voltages. (1180)

POWER OUTPUT TUBE TESTER (1180)

(Triplett Electrical Inst. Co.)

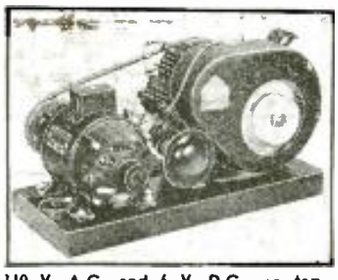
THE EQUIVALENT of 9 separate units is contained in 1 case in this instrument. Tubes are tested by working them under approximately the conditions which they meet in the receiver. Any type metal or glass tube may be completely tested for worth and shorts. The apparatus also contains provision for testing all types of condensers, and may be used as a D.C. milliammeter, an A.C. or D.C. voltmeter, ohmmeter, or decibel meter.



Semi-portable 35 mm. projector. (1181)

SEMI-PORTABLE 35-MM. PROJECTOR (1181)

THE SAME quality of picture and sound as available in the largest theatres may now be had for school auditoriums, churches, etc. All the refinements to be had on the largest machines are offered in this equipment. Both variable-area and variable-density sound film may be used. Although the projector was designed for arc lamp projection, any Mazda-type lamp may also be used. Standard exciter lamps and photo-cells are employed.



110 V. A.C. and 6 V. D.C., on tap. (1182)

GAS-ELECTRIC PLANT (1182)

A FULL-size A.C. power plant of 300-W. output at 110 V. is now available at a very low price. It will operate any 110-V., 60-cycle A.C. equipment, including radio sets. In addition, there is a 7½-V. direct-current winding which may be used to charge 6-V. storage batteries or to run any 6-V. appliance using less than 50 W. A switch cuts out this winding when not in use.

2-WAY 10-METER POLICE RADIO STATION (1183)

DESIGNED for the smaller communities which wish to install 2-way police car communication, this crystal-controlled outfit operates directly from the 110 V. A.C. lines. The receiver is of the superheterodyne type. Operation is on the band between 30 and 42 mc., and the quality of transmission is very good. The carrier power of the transmitter is 5 W. The receiver also uses crystal control for maximum stability.

COMBINATION TESTER (1184)

(Readrite Meter Works)

A DIRECT-reading signal generator and a multimeter are combined in this new "Ranger-Examiner" instrument. Both A.C. and D.C. volts may be measured from 0 to 1,000 V. in 5 ranges, and D.C. values from 0 to 250 ma. in 4 ranges. Ohms up to 0.25-meg. may be measured with provision for connection of external batteries for higher ranges. A reverse-scale low range of 0 to 300 ohms is also provided. The oscillator covers from 100 to 18,000 kc. in 5 ranges, and has individually-calibrated coils with built-in trimmers.

TRIPLE-SEALED CONDENSERS (1185)

(Tobe Deutschmann Corp.)

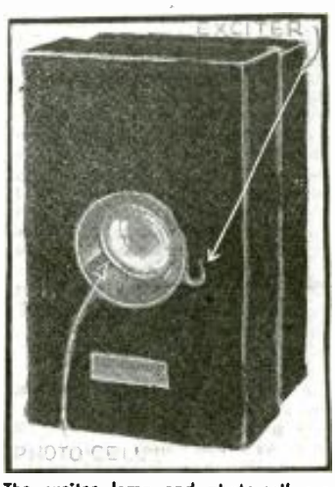
PRIMARILY designed for use in damp and humid climates, these condensers are triple protected. The condenser unit itself is first hermetically sealed, then placed in a tube and resealed. An outer tube is then slipped over and another seal given. All standard sizes are available.

UNIVERSAL TEST SPEAKER (1186)

ELECTRICAL characteristics of 95 per cent of all speakers used in home or car receivers may be perfectly duplicated by this unit. The replacement field coil consists of a high-inductance choke with 9 resistance values from 300 to 10,000 ohms, and taps at 300 and 2,500 ohms. The universal output transformer matches the speaker to any single, parallel, push-pull, class A, AB, or B output stage. Since the speaker is of the permanent-magnet dynamic type, it may be used to replace the original of any battery receiver. A socket is provided to enable the Service Man to quickly connect the speaker to sets which have plug-in speakers. The case is of steel finished in brown, with the escutcheons etched on aluminum.

COMBINED PHOTO-CELL & EXCITER UNIT (1187)

A COMPLETE photo-cell circuit is contained in the case illustrated. The cover is fitted with a lens which focuses light on any remote mirror, and from thence to the cell within, for operation of a sensitive relay. The unit shown will operate its relay with an illumination of 1.5 foot-candles. It will operate about 10 to 15 times per second. The relay will carry 2 A. at 115 V. A.C.



The exciter lamp and photo-cell are combined in this unit. (1187)

"CAMPAIGN"-TYPE MOBILE SOUND SYSTEM (1188)

(Allied Radio Corp.)

HIGH POWER of 20 W. and high efficiency are assured with this outfit. The amplifier with its dynamotor, and all mixing and other controls are contained in a steel case, which also carries the built-in phonograph. The double-button carbon microphone has 12 ft. of cord, while the two 12-in. speakers each have 10 ft. of cord and polarized plugs. The amplifier circuit contains 3 stages.

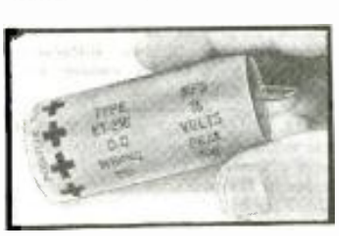
ALNICO-MAGNET VELOCITY MICROPHONE (1189)

(Supreme Sound Labs.)

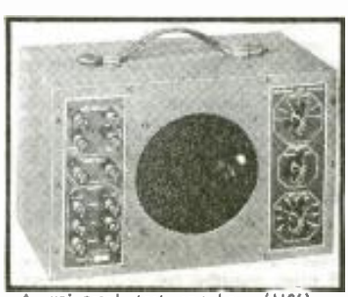
ALNICO magnets and a new magnetic circuit are incorporated in this unit. The dural ribbon is suspended in a shock-proof frame, and this combined with the shock-proof mounting of the entire microphone allows it to be moved without damage or noise. The transformer is shielded in such a way that hum is eliminated. It is impervious to moisture, in fact it may even be used in the rain without injury!

A 10-meter 2-way police set. (1183)

This combination tester is one of the first in a new series. (1184)

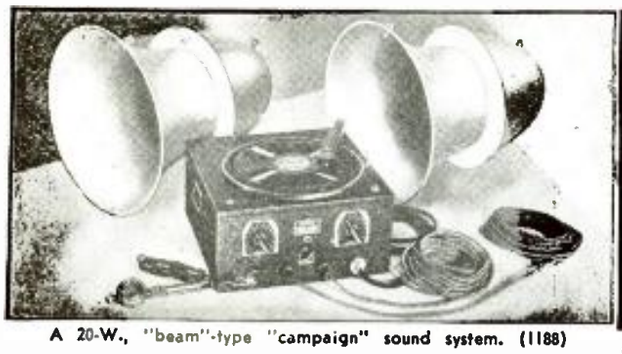


Condensers in all standard capacities. A "triple-sealing" process protects this newest condenser sufficiently for use in humid climates. (1185)

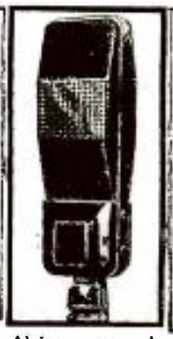


A universal test speaker. (1186)

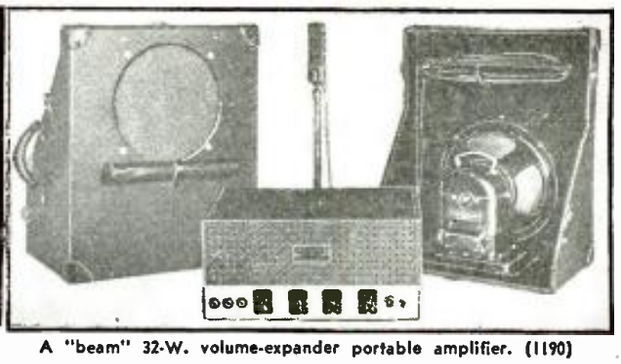
Name and address of any manufacturer will be sent on receipt of a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Kindly give (number) in above description of device.



A 20-W., "beam"-type "campaign" sound system. (1188)



Alnico - magnet velocity microphone. (1189)



A "beam" 32-W. volume-expander portable amplifier. (1190)

BEAM POWER PORTABLE AMPLIFIER HAS VOLUME EXPANDER (1190)

(Amplifier Co. of America)

THE 32-W. output of this amplifier contains less than 2 per cent harmonics. The gain of 133 db. is sufficient to enable use of any type of microphone, as well as any type of phono. pickup. The circuit uses 10 tubes and features such advanced developments as compensated volume controls, automatic audio volume control, volume expansion, and high- and low-frequency tone controls. The field current for the two 12-in. speakers is supplied by the amplifier chassis. The entire system is housed in a case 21 x 19 x 12 ins. deep. The output of the system is sufficient to adequately cover 20,000 sq. ft. outdoors, or 18,000 people indoors.

NEW DYNAMIC SPEAKER (1191)

ALL UNITS of this new series are designed around a new and novel voice-coil support. This permits free longitudinal movement of the cone yet enables accurate centering of the voice coil so that a much narrower air gap may be used. The field coils may be changed or replaced without disturbing the pole-piece clearance.

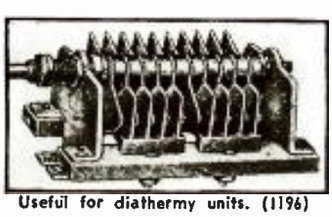
A COMBINED MIXER AND PREAMPLIFIER (1192)

OBSOLETE power amplifiers designed for a single channel and carbon mikes may be brought up to date by use of this equipment. It makes possible the mixing of any 2 inputs, whether they are high gain or not. The single-ended amplifier gain on mike jacks is 65 db. and that on the phono. jack is 30 db. The self-contained power supply is exceptionally well filtered and shielded so that the output is humless. Output impedances are 200 and 500 ohms, while input is designed for high-impedance equipment.

COMPACT AIR-DIELECTRIC TRIMMERS (1193)

(Meissner Mfg. Co.)

TWO TYPES of the new air-dielectric trimmers are shown in contrast with an ordinary attachment plug, to show the size. The small size ("B"—1 to 12 mmf.) is intended for R.F. trimming work, while the large unit ("A"—50 to 100 mmf.) is used in I.F. transformers.



Useful for diathermy units. (1196)

Adjustment is made by means of the screw on the end. Ten turns of the screw are required for the full capacity change, and the variation is substantially linear. The movable electrode acts as a piston, sliding in and out of the fixed electrode and thus varying capacity.

20W. SOUND TRUCK AMPLIFIER (1194)

(Radolek Co.)

OPERATION of this amplifier is possible from either 6 V. D.C. or 115 V. A.C. The 6 tubes, used in a 4-stage circuit, provide a gain of 115 db. The frequency curve is said to be flat from 40 to 9,000 cycles within 1 db. All accessories are connected by means of plugs. Input circuits are provided for either crystal or double-button carbon microphone, and radio or phono., with mixing controls for fading either. The controls may be operated remotely from the steering column, if so desired.

A 12-TUBE 7 TO 2,100 METER RECEIVER (1195)

TWELVE tubes are used in this modern receiver which covers a range of from 7 to 2,100 meters, in 5 bands. The beam power output tubes provide an output of 20 W. of very high quality. All parts are impregnated for use in any climate, and air trimmers are used. Besides the 2-speed tuning dial there are tone control, compensated volume control, sensitivity control, variable selectivity, and a cathode-ray indicator to aid tuning. The chassis is used in all types of cabinets, and with speakers from 8 ins. to 15 ins. in dia.

HIGH-FREQUENCY CONDENSER (1196)

DESIGNED to offer the highest possible efficiency in high-frequency work, this new unit is especially adaptable to ultra-short wave transmitting, and to therapy work, at frequencies of the order of 30 megacycles and upward. The condenser shown has a maximum capacity of 28 mmf. per section and a 4,000-V. peak flash-over rating. Isolantite insulation is used and the plates are buffed and polished.

PORTABLE "DEMONSTRATOR" ANTENNA (1197)

(Philco Radio & Television Corp.)

SERVICE MEN who find it difficult to demonstrate new receivers in locations where the erection of a temporary antenna offers considerable difficulties, such as in large apartment houses, will welcome this easily and quickly-erected collapsible antenna. It can be put up in a minute or so and is said to give fine results on any band. It folds up into a compact weatherproof case.

DE LUXE PROJECTOR (1198)

RELIABILITY of performance is stressed in this apparatus. It features such refinements as a Geneva movement for shifting film, and a double exciter socket so designed that if a bulb burns out during a show, a simple shift of the bracket immediately brings the extra bulb into place and in focus. The whole design is so engineered that delays in performance will be held to an absolute minimum, just as they are in professional theatre work.

ANALYZER PANEL (1199)

(Radio City Products Co.)

WHEN used with a suitable multi-meter, this analyzer unit provides the user with a comprehensive free point, free reference system trouble finder. Metering at all socket terminals is provided, for current, voltage, resistance and capacity measurements. Tubes may be tested from the receiver chassis. Standard RMA numbering is used throughout, and future developments are provided for, since a spare wire is furnished in the cable, together with a spare terminal on the panel. The depth of 1⅝ ins. allows the unit to be mounted in the cover of many meter cases.

6,000-V. "DYKANOL" CONDENSER (1200)

(Cornell-Dubilier Corp.)

A SPECIAL dielectric called Dykanol "A", which remains stable under all temperature conditions, is used in this condenser. The units are made in all standard capacities and ranges up to 6,000 V. They are amazingly compact, the 1 mf. size being only 2¼ins. high. These units are ideal for transmitters and the higher power P.A. apparatus.

PORTABLE SPEECH AMPLIFIER (1201)

A 4-POSITION mike mixer and a 3-stage A.F. amplifier is included in this unit. It is designed to meet the needs of remote pick-up work of all types, and as such is housed in a case fitted with handles and removable cover. All necessary equipment is included, among which is a volume indicator, mike current meter, provision to read current of each mike button separately, constant-impedance T-type faders, etc.

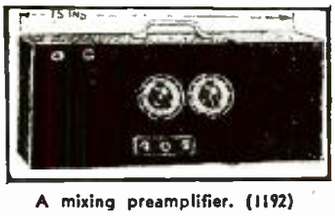
CABLE-TYPE TRANSFORMER (1202)

(Amperite Corp.)

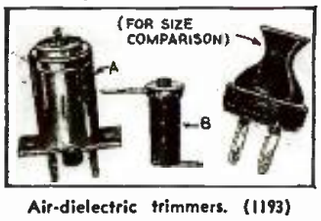
LOW-IMPEDANCE microphones may be worked into high-impedance amplifiers by the use of this compact transformer. The cable of the low-impedance microphone may

(Continued on page 307)

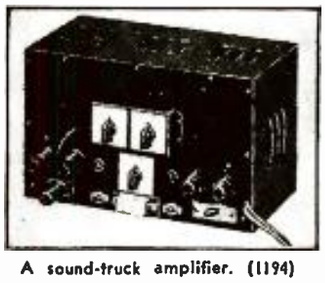
Interchangeable-field speaker. (1191)



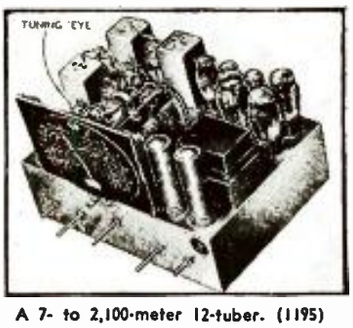
A mixing preamplifier. (1192)



Air-dielectric trimmers. (1193)



A sound-truck amplifier. (1194)



A 7- to 2,100-meter 12-tuber. (1195)

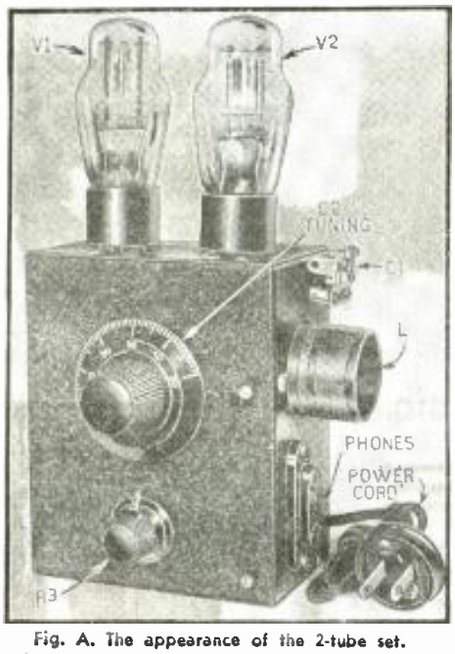


Fig. A. The appearance of the 2-tube set.

BUILD THIS BEGINNER'S 2-TUBE A.C.-D.C. RECEIVER

This easily-built little set is an "all-wave" job—range, 10 to 550 meters. Try your hand at building it!

GUY STOKELY

THIS SIMPLE, inexpensive and highly efficient all-wave receiver has been designed to meet the needs of the radio experimenter of rather limited means. The design of the unit is such as to use only those parts which are essential to proper operation. No frills or fancy gadgets are used as they would only increase the cost, while contributing but little to the performance. The entire receiver may be made for a cost of approximately $3. Constructed so as to occupy a minimum of space this model measures only 4 x 5 x 2¼ ins. and has a total weight of only 4 lbs. Its low cost and small dimensions make it an ideal set for the fan who wishes a small portable receiver to carry around on various outings and trips.

No batteries whatever are required, operation being entirely from the 105 to 130 V. A.C. or D.C. house current. By using the highly-efficient plug-in type coils this receiver can readily cover the entire wavelength range of from 10 to 600 meters. In this range is included a host of amateur code and voice transmitting stations, foreign and domestic short-wave broadcast stations, aeroplane and ship transmissions, police calls and regular broadcast band programs. Operated in an intelligent manner, even the inexperienced radio beginner should be able to pick up many of these stations with good volume. The author has had no difficulty in picking up numerous European and other foreign stations with excellent volume and regularity in New York City.

Examination of the circuit diagram reveals the use of two types 37 or 76

(Continued on page 305)

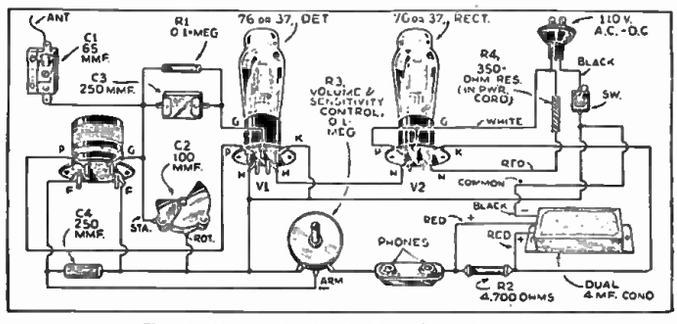


Fig. 1. Picture circuit of this easily-made set.

Fig. A. The set ready for operation.

AN EASILY-BUILT 4-TUBE PORTABLE SET

Portable sets are finding many applications, not only in the summer for vacation time, but through the entire year.

GUSTAVE L. KLEIN

THE DESIRABLE attributes of a portable receiver are (1) light weight, (2) compact size, (3) economy of operation and construction, and lastly, (4) enjoyable volume and sensitivity without the use of excessive antenna lengths.

Previous portables have ranged from bulky wood cases with built-in loops, to cigar box models with earphones—and all with contradictory features. The sensitive superhetrodyne delivered good signal strength but the multitude of tubes required large and heavy supplies of batteries; while the low-powered sets were lacking in "wallop." Only the recent introduction of the new low-drain 2 V. multi-purpose tubes and a line of midget portable batteries with comparatively long life make it possible now to fill a long felt need. The set shown here is the answer to this need as it comprises everything desirable in a portable set.

The circuit is of conventional superhetrodyne design, and incorporates 2 iron-core I.F. transformers and high-gain litz-wound tuning coils; very necessary features which provide accurate, sharp tuning and minimize the necessary antenna length. The entire set measures 14 x 10 x 5½ ins. high. The battery compartment contains 3 portable 45-V. midget "B" blocks; 1 3-V. midget "A"; and 2 7½-V. midget "C"

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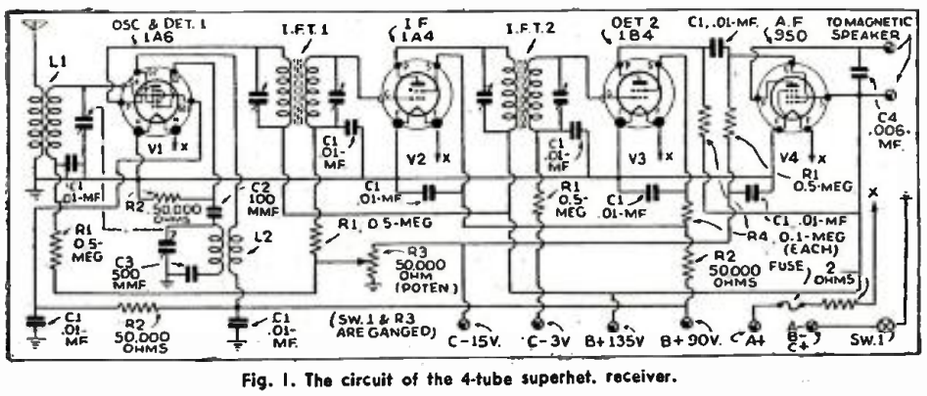


Fig. 1. The circuit of the 4-tube superhet. receiver.

MAKING A Q-TEST ADAPTER

Part II includes the constructional details for the Q Adapter—Part III will contain the calibration and operation of the instrument.

C. W. PALMER PART II

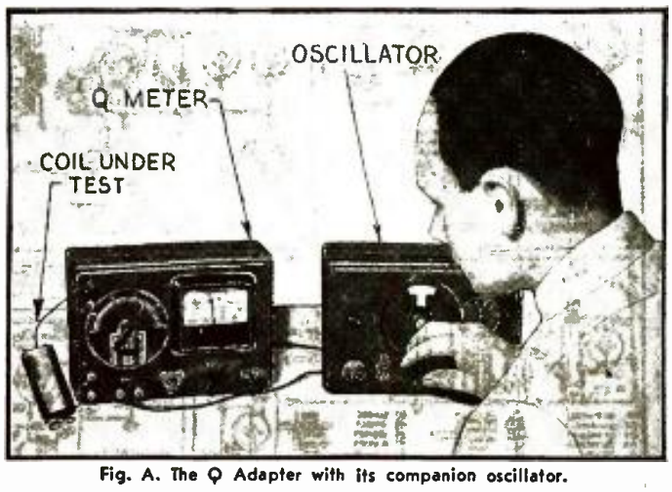


Fig. A. The Q Adapter with its companion oscillator.

LAST MONTH, in Part I, we discussed the need for a means of measuring Q in the experimenter's and Service Man's shop. In Part I, also, we explained briefly just what Q represents and explained the fundamental circuit of the Q tester. In order to prevent disappointment, let us repeat that it is necessary to have an oscillator which will supply an *unmodulated signal* at the frequency at which the Q of a coil, condenser, tuned circuit, resistor, etc., is to be operated, in order to use the Q Adapter.

It will be remembered that the fundamental principle of this new Service Man's tool, the Q Adapter, is based on the ratio of the voltage measured across a standard condenser to that measured across the same condenser in series with the impedance to be tested, the entire network being resonated to the desired frequency. These two voltages are measured by a vacuum-tube voltmeter, since this device is substantially free from frequency characteristics and will operate at very high frequencies.

Therefore, it is necessary that we have a dependable V.-T. voltmeter as the basis for our Q Adapter. In designing this voltmeter, a type 954 "acorn" tube was chosen, because of its very low input capacity which maintains a high impedance for the measuring circuit, even at extremely high frequencies.

In order to operate this V.-T. voltmeter from the A.C. power line and to eliminate the necessity for batteries, a rather special power unit was designed. As shown in Fig. 1, this consists of a 6X5 rectifier directly connected to the line, and a filament transformer supplying the heater power for the 6X5 and the 954. The filament transformer is used to insure constant filament voltage, so that the calibration of the voltmeter will be dependable, and to further insure this, a line voltage control tube is used. This is supplemented with a load resistor across the filament winding of the transformer which tends to stabilize the slight variations in load encountered when the tube filaments are used alone. (Unless the specified type of resistor is used the unit may not continue to carry the load for very long.)

A 3-way switch: (1) permits the voltmeter to be connected across the oscillator input, for adjusting the oscillator voltage to the correct point; (2) connects the V.-T. voltmeter to the circuit under test (for Q measurements); and, (3) connects the V.-T. voltmeter to external circuits for voltage measurement of high- and low-frequency alternating currents and direct current.

The condenser chosen for this Q tester is actually a finely-constructed transmitting unit using isolantite insulation, and a greater spacing between plates than is employed in the usual receiving type. The capacity range of the condenser is from 20 to 500 mmf.; and the capacity curve so closely follows a straight line increment of capacity that an even spacing of dial numbers can be used with negligible error in calibration. However, the constructor may wish to follow the writer's procedure and make on Bristol board an ink drawing of the dial (and while you're at it, drawings of the 2 switch-escutcheons), from which drawing any photostat house will be able to make a "negative photostat." ** (See

(Continued on page 318)

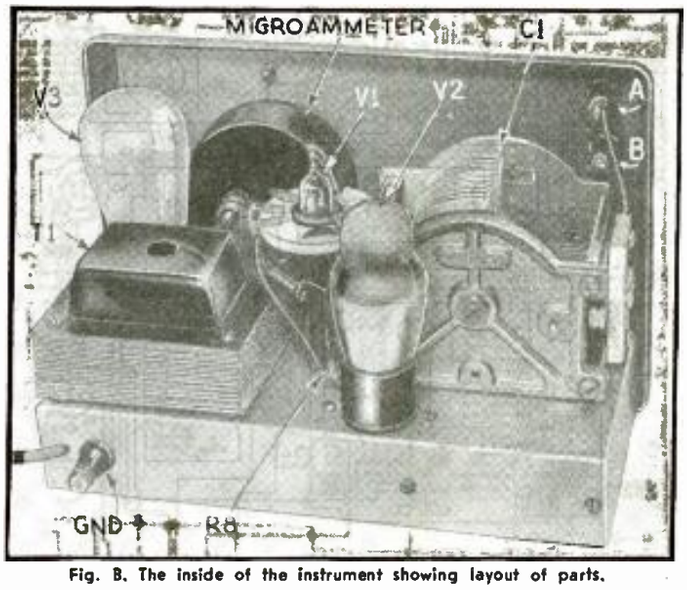


Fig. B. The inside of the instrument showing layout of parts.

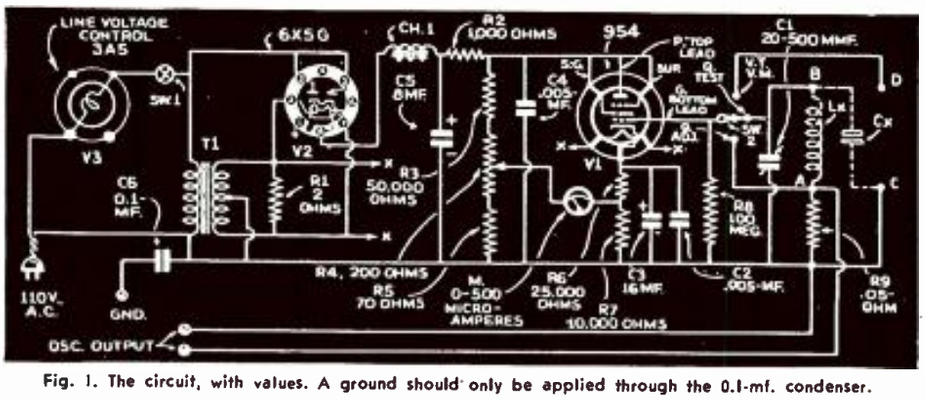


Fig. 1. The circuit, with values. A ground should only be applied through the 0.1-mf. condenser.

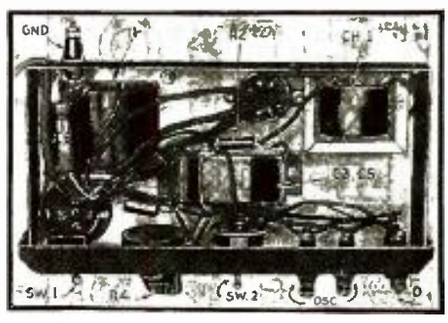


Fig. C. The under-chassis view of the instrument. Note that a common ground connection is made to the chassis, all ground leads being brought to this point.

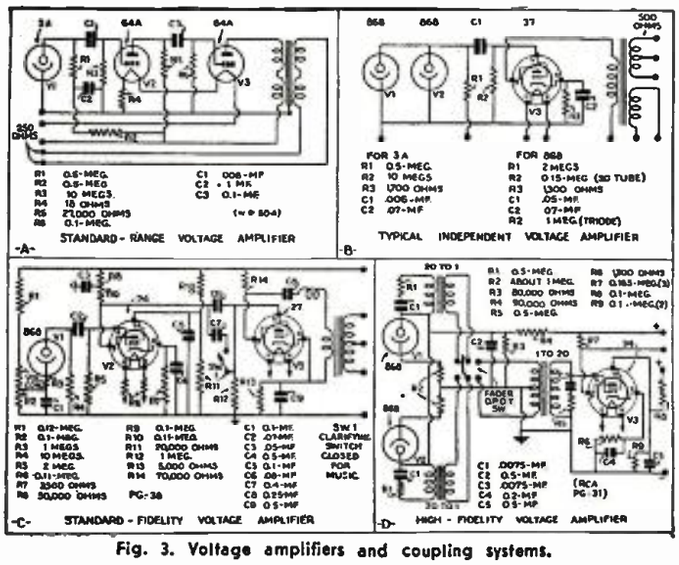


Fig. 3. Voltage amplifiers and coupling systems.

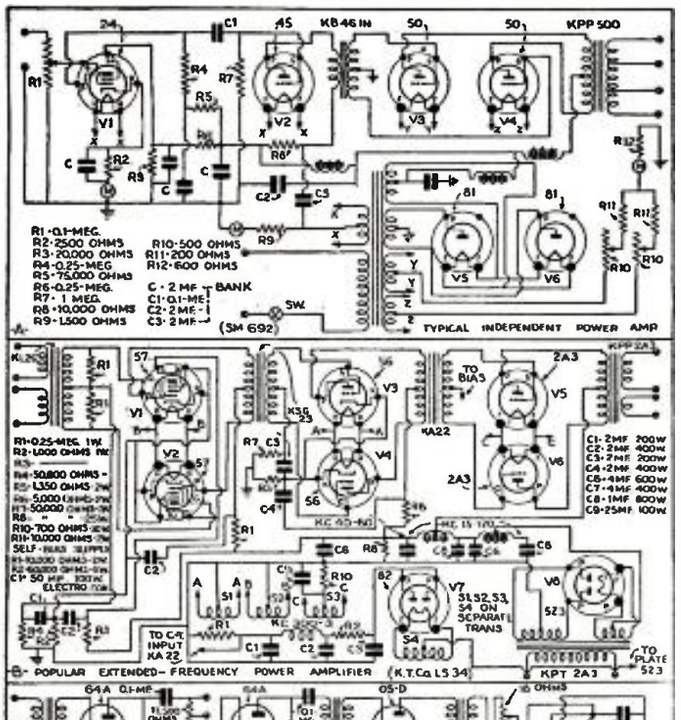


Fig. 4. Several types of power amplifiers.

HOW TO IMPROVE "TALKIES" FIDELITY

Part I appeared in Sept., 1936, RADIO-CRAFT. Part II covers amplifiers and acoustics. This is an article for the practical man.

LAWRENCE L. JOHNSON PART II

THE VOLTAGE AMPLIFIER builds up the minute variations of the photoelectric cell until sufficient energy is obtained to drive or "excite" the power amplifier. It contains from 1 to 5 stages of vacuum-tube amplification. Modern developments have leaned toward the use of tubes having higher amplification factor (gain is computed from this); the use of tubes having indirectly-heated cathodes; the use of screen-grid tubes for voltage amplifiers is becoming popular; the use of parallel plate feed, because D.C. in transformers causes saturation of core materials and this, in turn, results in wave form distortion; and, finally, careful filtering of all PE. cell circuits, plate circuits, grid circuits, and filament circuits. Improvements in photoelectric cells have also aided this line of development.

TYPES OF AMPLIFIERS

Figure 3A is a type of amplifier widely used by system A —one being mounted on each projector. Notice the resistance-capacity filter in the PE. cell anode lead; that the filaments are wired in series with dropping or limiting resistor R4. A rheostat is used in the other filament leg to control the volume of each projector in order to match them.

In Fig. 3B we find the hookup used, in one form or another, by practically all of the independent manufacturers. This will be the type that the radio service engineer will encounter most often. The tube or tubes will most likely be 4-prong, direct-heater triodes. Remove these and use indirect heater tubes having higher amplification factors or, if you prefer, and feel capable, use a screen-grid tube. Values are given for 3A-type cell and RCA 868 cell (using screen-grid or triode). We urge at this point the inclusion of "varitone"-control (described in a past issue of *Radio-Craft*) and a separate 500-ohm input for microphone or phonograph service to be incorporated in the voltage amplifier output transformer. The *varitone* is connected across the output-tube plate winding.

Figure 3C is an interesting application of parallel feed, used in order to separate the speech and power circuits. Close inspection shows that it is thoroughly conventional and not as complicated as it appears. It is well filtered with resistance-capacity filter units.

Figure 3D is a *parallel feed*, transformer-coupled circuit used by system B in their high-fidelity installations. Resistor R2 is a complicated resistance-capacity network, "lumped" for convenience. Much of the circuit, from the first tube on, is like diagram 3C. Elimination of parallel feed simplifies this coupling immensely; the PE. cell connects in series with a 90-V. supply and the primary winding of the PE. cell transformer. The secondary may have an impedance of 500 ohms; or it may be a grid winding, if the distance to the voltage amplifier is short. This is, by far, the easiest method of changing over the PE. cell coupling to extended frequency, and is recommended.

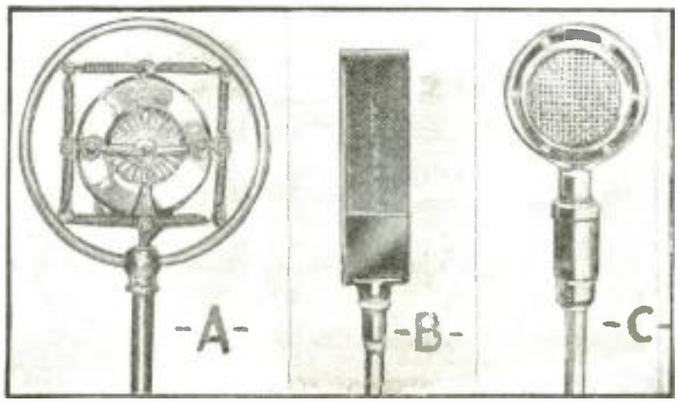
At this point, you are asked to look at Fig. 2, (in part I, September 1936 *Radio-Craft)* which is a wide-range voltage amplifier. Note that while the first tube might be parallel plate feed, it is also a type of impedance coupling used to prevent the increased output from the new type 3A PE. cell from overloading V2. Attention is called to the grid filter at

(Continued on page 312)

PROS AND CONS OF MICROPHONE TYPES

A terse comparison of the five types of microphones which are commonly used for P.A., broadcasting and other types of communication.

JOHN ERWOOD



Three popular mike types—A, carbon type; B, Velocity or ribbon type; C, Dual-diaphragm crystal type.

THE RAPID advances in sound equipment have brought out the development of 5 distinct types of microphones.

Carbon Microphone. The carbon microphone consists of a stretched diaphragm across the center of which rests a loosely-packed pile of carbon granules in a carbon cup. Sound pressure waves, on striking the diaphragm, cause a lateral movement with a consequent increase or decrease of pressure upon the carbon granules. An electric current is maintained through these granules and the effect of changing pressure of the granules is to vary the resistance of the element. This causes a fluctuating current across 2 terminals mounted on either side of the carbon pack.

Advantages: It is low in cost, has a relatively high output and is of low-impedance type.

Limitations: It is limited in frequency response, its noise level is intrinsically high and increases with use, and the unit requires an exciting current for operation.

Velocity or Ribbon Type Microphone. This microphone does not require a diaphragm. It has a loosely-suspended ribbon maintained in an intense magnetic field. Sound-pressure waves hit against the ribbon, causing it to move. The ribbon cuts the field of the magnet, producing varying potentials across the extreme terminals of the ribbon.

Advantages: It has a highly-directional pick-up range which is advantageous for indoor work. Its noise level is at a minimum. Its frequency response is excellent and is largely controlled by the design of its coupling transformer.

Limitations: This type of microphone is not a good device for close talking, giving "bassy" reproduction and is not particularly adapted to out-of-door work because of the delicately-suspended ribbon.

Crystal Microphone. There are fundamentally 2 different types of crystal microphones. One, a diaphragm type, which employs a sound cell with a diaphragm attached to some point on the cell. In the diaphragm type of crystal microphone, sound waves strike the diaphragm and vibrate the sound cell. The sound cell is so constructed that feeble currents are generated in proportion to both the amplitude and frequency of the sounds which strike it. This feeble electric current is then sent to the amplifier.

In the sound-cell type of crystal microphone, no diaphragm

(Continued on page 305)

THE BEGINNER IN PUBLIC ADDRESS

A treatise on feedback—that bug-a-boo of all P.A. workers, with some advice on speaker placement.

E. L. MELTON

NOT every P.A. beginner recognizes certain fundamental conditions when setting up a simple P.A. System. The following discussion of these fundamentals will serve greatly to smooth the path of the man who is making Public Address his vocation.

"Feedback." This term is commonly applied to those "howls," "squeals" and "whistles" that emanate from the loudspeakers when the "gain control" is advanced too far. It is caused by the speakers creating sound waves that extend as far as the microphone with sufficient intensity to actuate it and again become amplified and passed on to the speakers and thus continuing until the gain control is reduced. The frequency of this disturbance is usually of the same order as the resonant frequency of the microphone or speaker, or it may be a frequency at which the amplifier is most efficient. The most simple means of preventing it is to isolate the microphone from the speakers but since this procedure is impractical in many installations we must consider other effective means.

"Close-Talking" Microphones. Microphones of the "close-talking" type are usually quite effective in reducing feedback. In most cases, however, they consist of a standard microphone in which the sensitivity has been reduced to such an extent that they will respond only to the stronger sound waves. This reduced sensitivity limits their use to "voice" reproduction since it is necessary that the sound input be at very close range. such as talking or singing directly into the microphone. This also necessitates additional amplification for a given output.

Tone Controls. Since feedback usually occurs at a relative high frequency, a tone control that attenuates the higher frequencies is often beneficial in reducing it. Proper adjustment of such a control often permits greater output from speakers before feedback occurs.


When Dr. Francis E. Townsend addressed the Cleveland national convention of Townsend Clubs, recently, he utilized 3 microphones to feed the P.A. system—a "bullet" (condenser mike and preamplifier), a "dynamic," and last but not least a "cue ball" crystal type.

SOUND DISTRIBUTION

For best results proper sound distribution and good quality of reproduction are of major importance in any installation. Good equipment, having power ratings well above those actually required for the job, is very essential. The use of overloaded or inferior equipment usually results in a system whose reproduction is unpleasant to the ear and actually worse than none at all.

Sound Distribution by "Force." This

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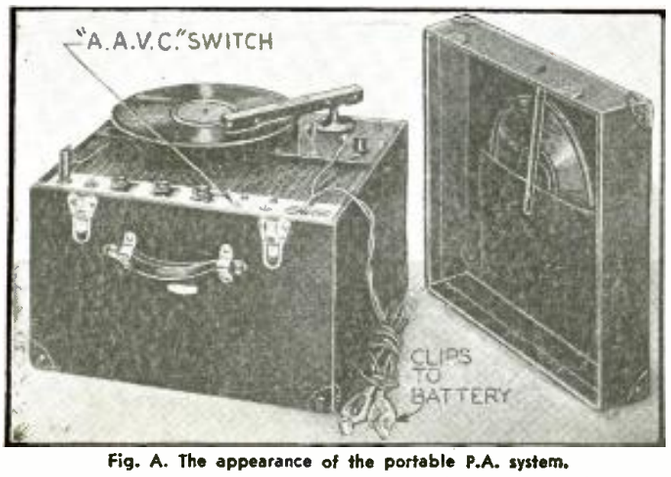

Fig. A. The appearance of the portable P.A. system.

INTRODUCING A NEW-TYPE "AUDIO" A.V.C. BEAM AMPLIFIER

Applying automatic volume control to the P.A. amplifier to improve speech characteristics.

A. C. SHANEY

IT SEEMS that the approach to electrical perfection as reflected in the high-quality amplifier of today has served to bring more definitely into focus the fact that an amplifier is more than just a series of electrical circuits and mechanical components.

Many desirable features which can now be found in modern P. A. amplifiers are not as yet listed in typical amplifier catalogs or tables of specifications, nor are they looked-for in the usual P.A. demonstration.

Strangely enough, P.A. technicians have not become aware of the fact that a P.A. installation does not become a complete and useful electro-mechanism until an orator starts talking into the microphone and an audience hears and understands the orator. The input of an amplifier does not begin *at the microphone*, any more than does the output end, with the loudspeakers—bones, muscles, nerves, habits, instincts and human temperaments of the orators, and of the audience must all be taken into account by the true engineer and designer of P.A. equipment.

The human element that should go into the design of P.A.

(Continued on page 308)

HOW "AUDIO" A.V.C. OPERATES

Heretofore, proper P.A. operation has necessitated an expert technician's unremitting vigilance to manipulate the audio "manual" volume control, in order to compensate for the performer's movements near the "mike," changes in voice loudness, etc. The new "audio" automatic volume control or "A.A.V.C." system here described does it instantaneously, automatically!

A COMPLETE OCILLOSCOPE "SERVICER"

A 1-unit oscilloscope, with sawtooth, sweep and fixed-frequency oscillators; frequency modulator; and, vertical and horizontal amplifiers. The circuit is given.

D. E. JOHNSON

IT HAS been the practice up to now to supply oscilloscopes for service and analysis work without the frequency modulator (wobbler) or oscillator, so essential to visual alignment and receiver analyses.

The instrument shown in Fig. A. contains all the usual elements of an oscilloscope, such as synchronizing, intensity, focus, and spot centering controls as well as a vertical amplifier, horizontal amplifier, and variable timing axis or sawtooth oscillator. In addition it contains a fixed frequency 1,000 kc. R.F. oscillator, a motor-driven condenser frequency-modulator, a fixed timing axis or sawtooth generator synchronized with the frequency modulator, and a jack for connecting the frequency modulator to an external R.F. oscillator.

Thus, it contains in one metal cabinet all the equipment required to service receivers. It may be used for all kinds of test work such as audio amplifier testing, waveform study, transmitter adjustment, vacuum tube characteristic tracing and many other applications.

The vertical and horizontal amplifiers have a frequency range of 15 to 100,000 cycles. Switches are provided to turn off the amplifiers independently of each other, and for connecting the input directly to the deflecting plates.

The variable timing axis oscillator operates over a frequency range of 15 to 15,000 cycles, in 8 ranges. It uses a type 885 thyratron tube and a series of condensers and resistors for changing the frequency range.

The frequency modulator or wobbler consists of a motor-driven condenser which is used to modulate the 1,000-kc. fixed-frequency oscillator at 15 kc. each side of the carrier frequency. Two condenser capacities are available for the modulator, so that a choice of two band widths is available. The 1,000-kc. oscillator can be beat against an external variable-frequency oscillator for producing frequency-modulated signals for I.F. amplifier and R.F. amplifier alignment. It may be also used to produce audio wobbling by correct use of an external oscillator, for A.F. amplifier adjustment.

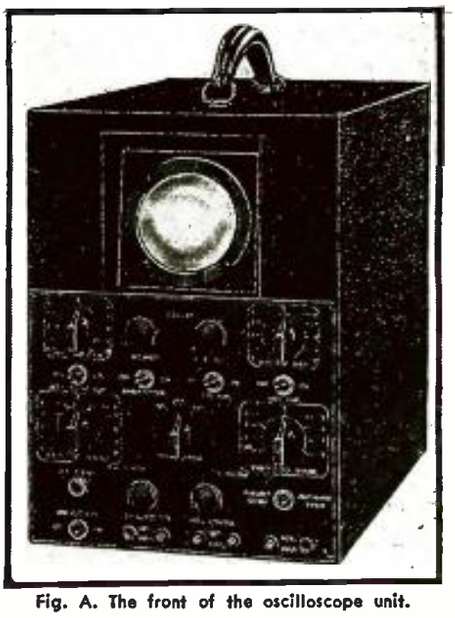

Fig. A. The front of the oscilloscope unit.

The fixed timing-axis oscillator in the unit consists of a condenser charging circuit and a shorting commutator which works on the same motor shaft as the frequency modulator, thus keeping the output curve of a receiver on the fluorescent screen regardless of line voltage changes or changes in the speed of the wobbler motor.

(Continued on page 308)

HOW TO MAKE A DIRECT-IMPEDANCE BASS BOOSTER

The construction of an add-on booster for increasing fidelity of sets is detailed here.

L. MITCHELL BARCUS

PART II

HAVING discussed the fundamental reasons for the low-note booster in last month's issue of *Radio-Craft*, we are now ready to undertake a description of the instrument itself.

An inspection of the schematic diagram, Fig. 2, discloses a 2-stage amplifier, resistance-capacity coupled, with a 6J7 and a 6F6 for maximum gain. The current supply is furnished by a typical power circuit utilizing a 5Z4. Every effort has been made to keep the unit as simple as possible, yet every source of possible extraneous noise has been checked.

Inasmuch as the unit is operating at a high level, care must be taken to eliminate any incidental rumblings which might detract from the pleasure to be had from it. For this reason, such details as shielding the input grid leads and filtering the current supplies to obviate any possible feedback or motorboating were found to be advisable. In addition, the unit is then mounted in a black-crackle steel box which thoroughly shields it from interference or from interfering with the main amplifier and receiver.

The low-frequency filtering is accomplished by means of the resistance-capacity trap circuit R5, C2 and C3. This provides for a rather sharp cut-off and allows only those notes below (about) 75 cycles to play any prominent part in the reproduced music. While the response tapers off above this point, the strength of the signals is not great enough to interfere to any considerable extent with the voice. Further filtering action is had by resonating the output transformer with C6 to approximately 30 cycles. This increases the efficiency in these regions by several decibels.

By means of the D.P.S.T. switch, Sw. 2, mounted on the front panel, we are able to cut out these filtering sections and convert the L.F. booster into a very efficient little amplifier with a response as shown in Fig. 1 (Part I). Considering the simplicity of the circuit, the overall frequency characteristics are excellent, holding up very well at both ends, and actually surpassing many circuits having much more pretentious claims. When used with a crystal pickup and the speaker for which it is designed, the unit has surprisingly good tone as judged by conventional standards.

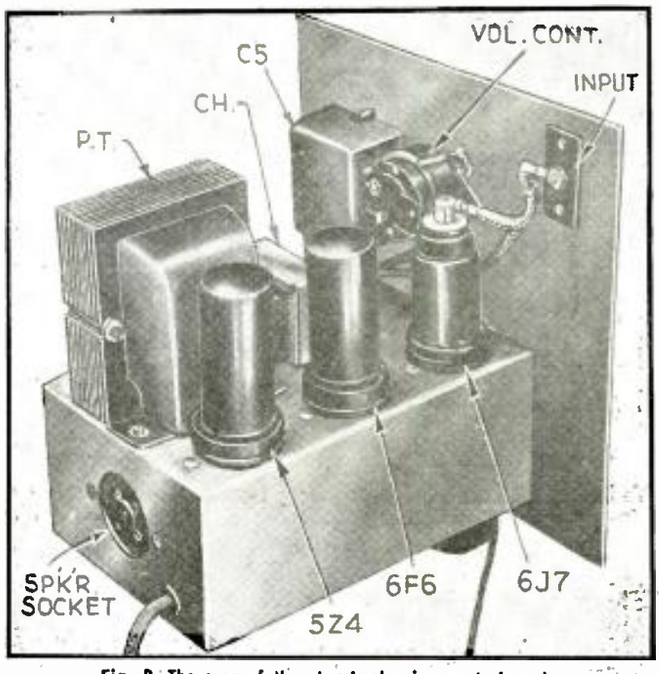

Fig. B. The rear of the chassis showing parts layout.

CONSTRUCTION

Because of the simplicity of the circuit, wiring difficulties are reduced to a negligible value. As may be seen from Fig. B, the actual component layout is such that associated parts are in every case close to one another, in this way eliminating long leads, cross-overs and considerable work. Rugged construction insures the unit against deterioration from the constant heavy vibration to which it is often subjected when placed near the speaker.

The chassis and cabinet are available with all socket and mounting holes ready punched so that the actual labor of assembly is largely eliminated. While the layout shown is not empirical, the constructor is advised to follow it as closely as possible in order that no unexpected symptoms will show up.

INPUT CONNECTIONS

The proper point in the amplifier to attach the L.F. booster is best determined by experiment. In the majority of the newer radio sets, the writer has had greatest success in tapping on to the plate prong of an output tube. Usually the hum level is low enough to permit this, and enough gain is had overall to permit the L.F. unit to be partially attenuated in output. In some cases, the L.F. response of the radio receiver, which includes the detector, is so low that the L. F. booster, despite its high gain, is unable to bring it up to a high enough level unless operating from the output stage. In other instances the second, or even the first audio stage will furnish the best L. F. signal, both from the standpoint

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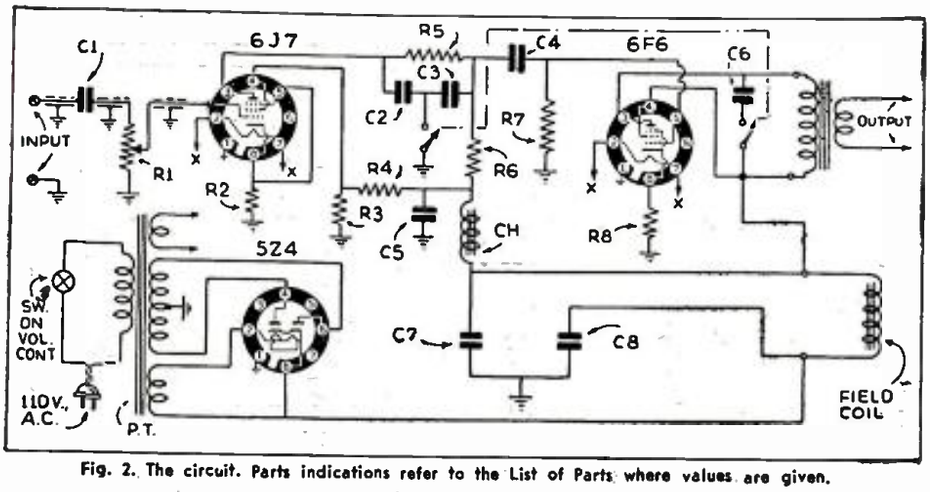


Fig. 2. The circuit. Parts indications refer to the List of Parts where values are given.

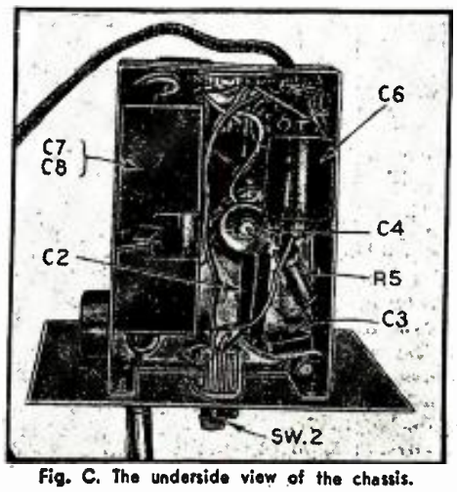


Fig. C. The underside view of the chassis.

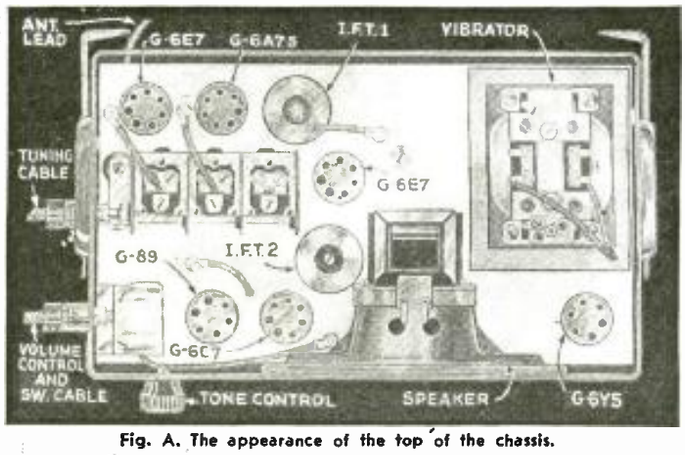


Fig. A. The appearance of the top of the chassis.

PUTTING NEW TRICKS INTO OLD SETS

Details for modernizing the popular Majestic "66" to rival the latest auto-radio sets.

R. L. DOUGHERTY PART I

"IN THE SPRING, the young man's fancy—" where the radio man is concerned should read, "In the spring the radio man's income lightly turns to memories,"—unless he has learned from experience, and embraced refrigeration, sound or automotive radio as a spring and summer tonic and "builder-upper."

The writer has been directly connected with the automotive radio end of the game for the past several years, almost to the total exclusion of home radio, and while there are periods of slackness in the *car-radio* field, they are not nearly as sharply defined or prolonged as the summer slump in the *home-radio* field. There is a definite reason for this—the car-radio set is used almost daily, summer and winter, and consequently it goes out of order almost the same as does an integral part of the car itself, and hence money is spent almost as surely for repair of the car-radio set as for any regular mechanical repair to the motor, etc.

As a matter of fact there are in all the larger cities, places which specialize in car-radio installation and service, and show profits summer *and* winter. The installation field, in particular, is not nearly as crowded as is the home-service field, due mainly to 2 big factors: first, for successful operation of a regular installation shop, sufficient space must be made available to accommodate the cars that require radio service; second, the average radio man, knowing little or nothing about the successful installation of an auto-radio set, feels that he has insufficient knowledge of the subject. A more than "kidding" acquaintance with ignition systems must be on tap for the simple reason that it is sometimes necessary to make more or less of a change in the wiring or placing of integral parts of the ignition systems of a car in order to successfully eliminate that last little tick of "motor noise."

The successful and established radio man, however, can establish himself as an integral part of the auto-radio business, in a way that does not take into consideration either of the factors mentioned above in connection with installation. By that I mean *servicing* and *improving* sets that are already successfully installed in cars.

Along these lines, consider one of the most popular car-radio sets of its day, the Majestic 66. Plenty of these sets were sold, and although they are now considered obsolete quite a number of them are still in daily service. As a matter of actual record there are less of these sets in the hands of "second hand" dealers than of any other automobile-radio set on the market. Why? Because these 66s are still being transferred by their original owners from one car to another. *They are good sets,* well built (mechanically strong), and are easily removed and installed. But—how they can be improved, using present-day circuit changes, is "money in the bank." As a matter of fact if one of these sets is given the "works" as described in the following paragraphs, the results will be such that the set will not have to bow to even the late 1936 sets with metal tubes and separate speakers! This is not just hearsay, as the writer has fixed up literally hundreds of this popular receiver and, believe it or not, each one has resulted in new customers and more than well-pleased old ones. There is no reason why other Service Men cannot do the same!

"BEFORE" AND "AFTER" CIRCUITS

Let us take a look at the Majestic "66." Figure 1 illustrates the original circuit. It is largely conventional—a superheterodyne using an intermediate frequency of 175 kc. It is very selective and because of the low I.F. it is free from images, tweets and blurps. Also it incorporates a 3-gang condenser, which contributes to the sharpness of tuning. The circuit sequence is: 1 stage of tuned R.F.; composite modulator-oscillator, using the 6A7 tube; 1 stage of high-gain *(but not too sharply tuned)* I.F.; this is followed by a diode detector, A.V.C. and 1st A.F., combined in one tube; and, a fairly decent pentode output. The A.V.C. action is effective on the first 3 tubes. The vibrator and rectifier, which in this case is of the mercury-vapor type, a system used only by makers of Majestic sets, is one having very bad features.

The tubes used make the Service Man gasp the first time he sees one of them—look at the line-up and find out what they really are. First (see Fig. 1) comes the R.F., a G-6E7S, which is actually a

(Continued on page 317)

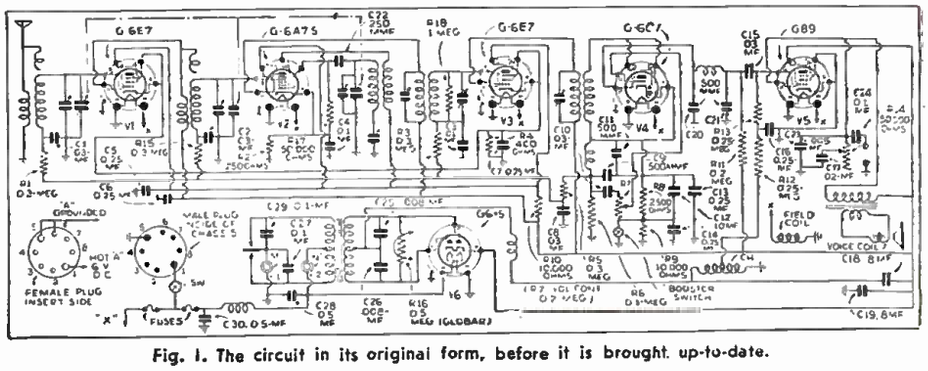


Fig. 1. The circuit in its original form, before it is brought up-to-date.

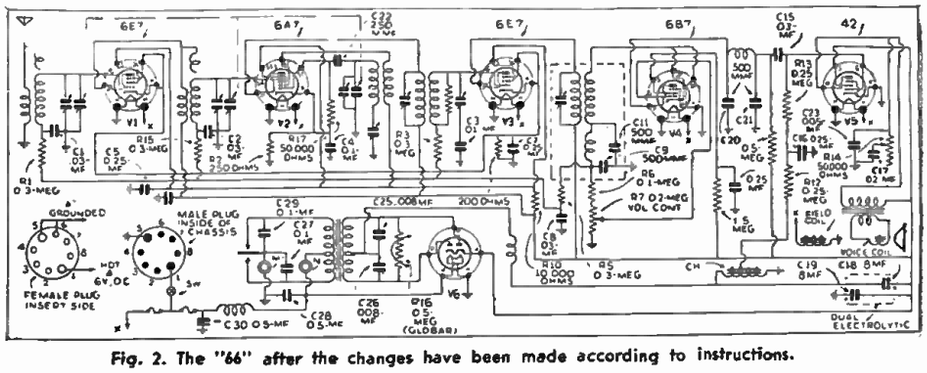


Fig. 2. The "66" after the changes have been made according to instructions.

ELECTRONIC MUSIC FUNDAMENTALS

In answer to the many requests received regarding electronic music patents, the author has made a resumé of the subject.

EDWARD KASSEL

PART VI

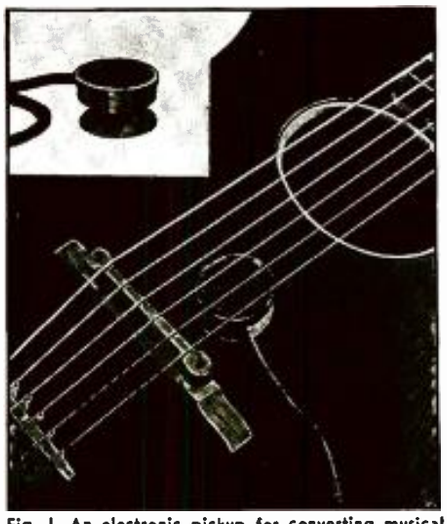


Fig. 1. An electronic pickup for converting musical instruments into electronic instruments. The "contact-type" microphone attaches to the instrument by means of a rubber suction cup (see inset).

NUMEROUS letters have been received from our readers, including experimenters, and musical instrument builders, regarding the 5 preceding articles titled, "Electronic Music Fundamentals." The most important questions brought up are those concerning dates of development in order to avoid the possibility of infringement, and also have the full benefit of results of run-out patents. We have had queries on various features used in electronic music, which can be found in text books, or in old publications on the subject, which features, of course, are not patentable.

CLASSIFICATION OF ELECTRONIC MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

The several types of electronic musical instruments can be classified as follows:—

a. **Electronic musical instrument.** A device which has a unit for generating electro-magnetically, photoelectrically, or electrostatically, by means of vacuum tubes, etc., pulsating electric currents of different frequencies; and musical pitches (of instrument) that exist only when instrument is in operation. (Does not have tuned strings, reeds, forks, etc.) In this category are included the instruments of Cahill, several Eremeeff types of instruments, Hammond, Martenot, etc.

b. **Semi-electronic musical instrument.** A device which has an electromechanical unit and amplification medium for picking up electromechanical vibrations caused by the action of a keyboard—for example, an electric piano with standard key actions, a set of strings tuned to different pitches, and electromagnetic or electrostatic multi-amplification system. This type includes several models of electric pianos made by a German telephone and telegraph company, and by Meissner, Baldwin, etc., and reed organs, as the Orgatron.

c. **Electrically amplified musical instrument.** A device which is really a conventional musical instrument, such as the piano, organ, double bass, guitar, etc., which has been conveniently amplified with the aid of a microphone, electromagnetic or piezoelectric pick-up, etc., and this type includes the Vox-Humano and Gulbransen organs, Eremeeff double basses, and a number of electric guitars at present on the market.

REFERENCES ON ELECTRONIC MUSIC

In order to be well-posted with developments in electronic music, the designer and experimenter must have fundamental information as to the patent situation, well-known methods of practice, designs, and necessary data, etc., as follow (in numerical order):

1. The simple method of generation of electrical tones by the commutator is well-known and can be applied to the construction of electronic musical instruments without fear of infringing on some patents. It has been used in telegraphy and telephony, and if there are any patents pertaining to the application of the commutator for the production of musical tones electrically, they are old and run out, for example, the Cahill patent of 1897, No. 580,035.

2. The adaptation of the phonic wheel or tone wheel for the generation of the electrical tone goes back to the invention of the magneto. This method has already been used in telegraphy and telephony, and was first described in the Berliner patent of 1882, No. 258,356.

3. The photoelectric principle for the generation of electrical musical tones originates from experiments with the selenium cell—applications for the production of tones with the aid of light. See the Mercadier patent of 1890, No. 420,884.

4. The generation of tones with the aid of the film *(non-periodic* wave pattern) dates as far back as 1880, in the Fritz patent, No. 1,203,190. Film with *periodic* wave pattern, multi-track, as used for musical instruments, was first made by Eremeeff, patent, Nos. 1,990,024 and 2,030,248.

5. The production of tones with vacuum tubes was accomplished by de Forest in 1915.

6. The origination of tone with the stylus dates as far back as the invention of the acoustical phonograph by Koenig in 1859, and recently made possible electrically, with the adaptation of the electrical pickup and amplifiers.

7. The production of different qualities of tone by synthesizing the fundamental with partials and harmonics dates back to Helmholtz:—see the book, "Sensation of Tone." For the origination of qualities of tone by combining the fundamental with sub-partials and sub-harmonics, see Eremeeff patents Nos. 1,924,713 and 2,031,764.

8. Many laboratory experiments are being made with electro-tone production, and a number of instruments are being made for producing musical tones, but

(Continued on page 316)

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
C	16.35	32.70	65.40	130 81	261.62	523.26	1046.52	2093.04
C#	17.32	34.64	69.29	138.59	277.18	554.36	1108.72	2217.44
D	18.35	36.70	73.41	146.83	293.67	587.34	1174 68	2349.36
D#	19 44	38.89	77.78	155.56	311.13	622.26	1244.52	2489.04
E	20 60	41.20	82 41	164.82	329.63	659.26	1318.52	2637.02
F	21.82	43.65	87 30	174.61	349.23	698.46	1396 92	2793.82
F#	23 12	46.24	92.49	184.99	369.99	739 98	1479.96	2959.95
G	24.49	48.99	97.99	195.99	391.99	783.98	1567.96	3135.96
G#	25.95	51.91	103.82	207 65	415.31	830.62	1661.24	3322.48
A	27.50	55 00	110.00	220.00	440.00	880.00	1760.00	3520.00
A#	29.13	58.27	116 54	233.08	466.17	932.34	1864.68	3729.36
B	30.86	61 73	123.47	246.94	493.88	987.76	1975.52	3951 04

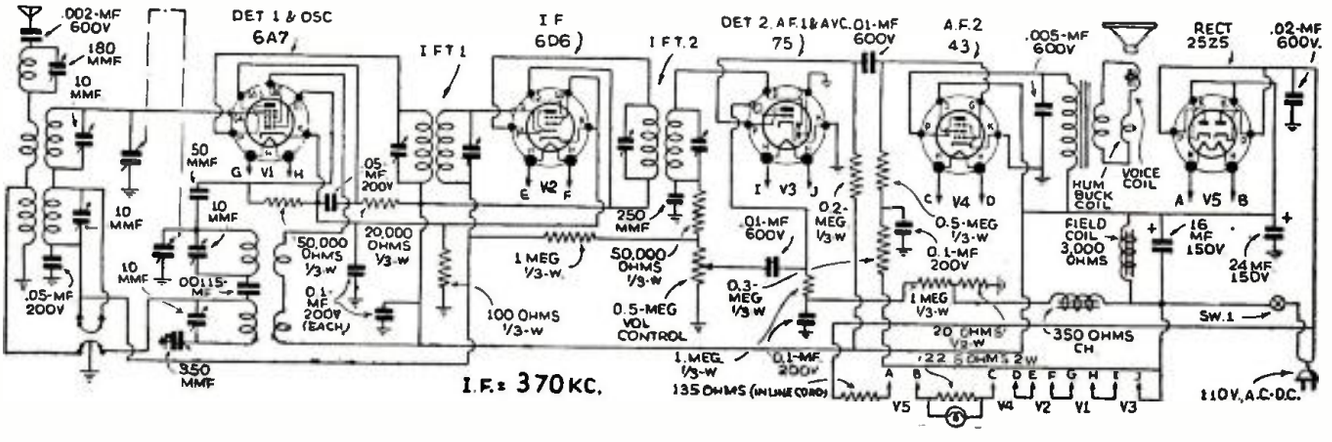
Fig. 16. Complying with requests—a correct table of musical frequencies, pitch A=440.

181 Radio Service Data Sheet

DETROLA MODEL 105C 5-TUBE DUAL-BAND A.C.-D.C. SUPERHETERODYNE

(Features: new design; ranges, 70 to 200 meters, and 200 to 550 meters; antenna wavetrap; hum bucking coil.)

The high-voltage D.C. in this receiver is 120 V. from "B+" to "B—," and 105 V. from "B+" to chassis, the difference of 15 V. being the drop in the filter choke that is applied to the C.-G. of V4. These voltage values hold true with a line voltage of 115 V. Alignment procedure is as follows: align the 1st and 2nd I.F. transformers to 370 kc., with the output from the signal generator connected between the grid cap of V1 and the chassis. Then connect generator to antenna and adjust wavetrap, located on right-front of chassis, to point of minimum receiver output with 370-kc. input. Open receiver gang condenser to minimum capacity and adjust the receiver to 1,650 kc. with the rear trimmer on the gang condenser. Tune in 1,400-kc. signal and adjust front trimmer on gang condensers to maximum. Tune in 600-kc. signal and while rocking condenser slightly back and forth, adjust padder located on top of chassis between variable condenser and speaker, to best response. Repeat alignment at 1,650 and 1,400 kc. Use a 250-mmf. condenser as a dummy antenna. For alignment of the short-wave band use a 400-ohm resistor as a dummy antenna. Adjust antenna trimmer on band switch, on underside of chassis, for a peak at 4 mcs. No other adjustment is necessary on this band. An average antenna length is about 50 ft., but may be longer when the receiver is located at a distance from any powerful stations, and should be made shorter to gain higher selectivity when the receiver is near such stations. Under no conditions should a ground connection be made. When the receiver is to be used on a D.C. line it is necessary to have the plug properly polarized. If the receiver does not operate after the plug has been in the socket for about 2 mins., remove plug and reverse it to change polarity. Occasionally, on A.C. lines, a loud hum will be heard as stations are tuned in. Reverse the power plug, and if this does not stop the noise, it may often be stopped by grounding other sets or appliances in the house. Don't ground set.



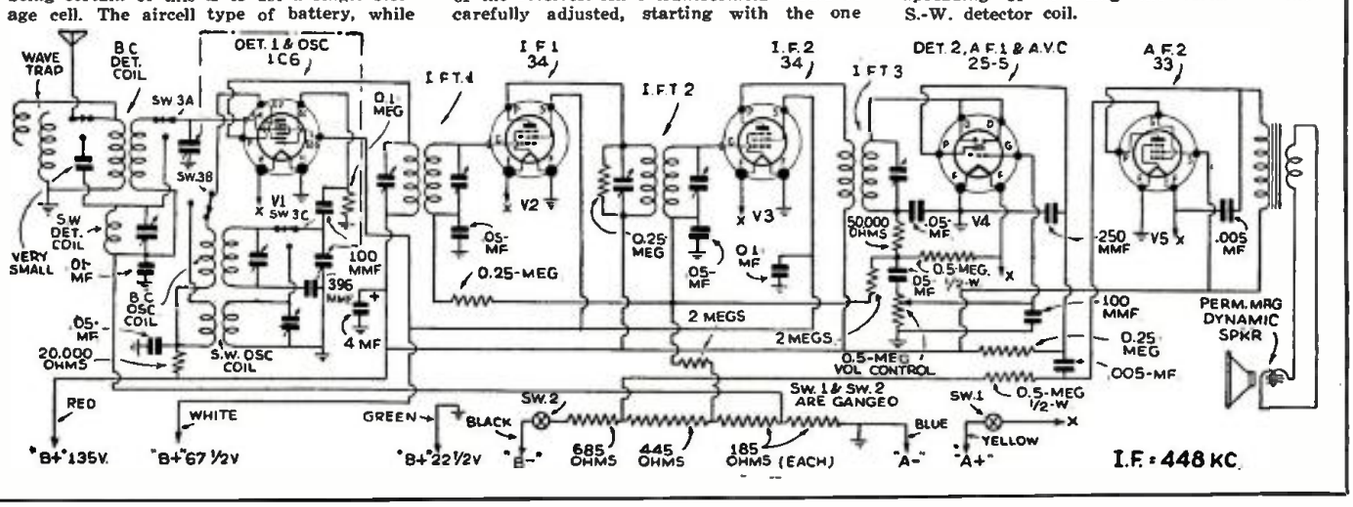
INTERNATIONAL MODEL 500 5-TUBE DUAL-RANGE BATTERY SUPERHET.

(Features: ranges, 18 to 55 meters, and 180 to 555 meters; magnetodynamic speaker; modern design; all batteries contained in cabinet.)

The tube voltages from socket prongs to ground are shown in the following table:

Tube	Plate	S.-G.	C.-G.	Filament
V1	110	45	—2.8	2
V2	110	45	—5.6	2
V3	110	45	—5.6	2
V4	35	—	0	2
V5	105	112	—12	2

The minus side of the filament is grounded. For the "A" battery supply of this receiver it is essential that the voltage be kept as near as possible to 2 V. The easiest way of being certain of this is to use a single storage cell. The aircell type of battery, while it cannot be recharged, is also very satisfactory. If a storage cell is used, *it should never be recharged while it is connected to the receiver.* If dry cells are used, a series resistor should be used to cut the supply from 3 V. down to the needed 2 V. The battery connections are color coded as follows: red, "B+" 135 V.; white, "B+" 67½ V.; green, "B+" 22½ V.; black, "B—"; yellow, "A+"; blue, "A—". Alignment of the I.F. circuits is accomplished by connecting the output of the test oscillator directly to the antenna, and at the same time shorting the oscillator section of the tuning condenser gang of the receiver. All 3 transformers should be carefully adjusted, starting with the one next to V1. Then turn receiver dial to 1,400 kc. and feed a very weak 1,400-kc. signal to the set, and adjust the oscillator trimmer, which is located on the end of the 3-gang trimmer nearest the chassis. As there is no series padder, resonance at low frequency is had by bending the plates of the tuning condenser. This should be done at 1,000 and 600 kc. Set the test oscillator to 15.5 mcs. and adjust the trimmer at the other end of the gang, with the receiver tuning dial set at 15.5 mc. Next turn to 12 mc. and adjust the S.-W. detector trimmer. Alignment at 6 mc. on this band is accomplished by spreading or crowding the turns on the S.-W. detector coil.



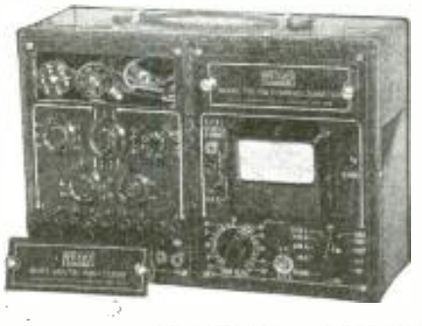
TWO PRECISION TESTERS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE

Each Ranger-Examiner Combination puts together in one case two (2) units of test equipment every serviceman needs in his everyday work. The savings effected in design and in using this exclusive Ranger-Examiner grouping permits offering these combinations of two Precision Testers at prices you would normally expect to pay for one.

Each item is precision built throughout by the oldest company in the service equipment field. Their past contacts with the trade as well as with every advancement in the field of radio make them fully acquainted with the needs of the service profession. From the standpoint of sheer merit Ranger-Examiner testers are becoming popular favorites.

RANGER EXAMINER

COMBINATION FREE POINT TESTER AND VOLT-OHM-MILLIAMMETER MODEL 640-740



Model 640 Free Point Tester has five (5) sockets. Panel includes automatic switch type and single action jacks.
Model 740 VOLT OHM MILLIAMMETER Unit has a Triplett Precision Instrument scale reading 10-50-250-500-1000 A.C. and D.C. volts at 1000 ohms per volt. 1-10-50-250 M.A.; low ohms 0-300; high ohms to 250,000 at 1.5 volts. Rheostat adjustment.
Model 640-740 is contained in the standard size metal carrying case above described.
Dealer Price ... $27.00

ADDITIONAL COMBINATIONS

Using the same standard size metal carrying case the following additional combinations may be had; the testers in all cases being identical with foregoing descriptions and complete with necessary accessories.

Model 540-740 Signal Generator and Multimeter — Dealer Price $36.00
Model 440-740 Tube Tester and Multimeter — Dealer Price $37.50

DIRECT READING SIGNAL GENERATOR MODEL 557

Model 557 has the same features as described for Signal Generator Model 540 except that it is installed in a black leatherette carrying case and is an integral part of the case. The five individually calibrated coils are nested on the side as shown, handy for instant use. The attractive panel is silver and black.
Dealer Price $18.00

Model 554-A is the same as Model 557 but not direct reading. Calibrated graphs included for accuracies under 1% on any band.
Dealer Price $14.40

COMBINATION TUBE TESTER AND SIGNAL GENERATOR 440-540

COMPLETE DEALER PRICE $33.60

Model 440-540 has the two separate testers installed in a sturdy metal carrying case for shop or field use.
Model 440 Tube Tester checks all type tubes. Condition of tubes is read directly on GOOD-BAD instrument scale while load values are applied. Circuit designed to indicate inter element shorts and leakages. Illuminated dial A.C. instrument for line volts adjustment, also shows when tester is connected to power supply.
Model 540 Signal Generator uses plug-in type coils. Five frequency bands cover 110 to 20,000 K.C. All readings are direct and fundamentals. Each coil is individually calibrated by peaking with Trimmer condensers. Accuracy, within one percent (1%) from 110-3000 K.C.—2% for higher readings. Completely shielded. Attenuation and stability are outstanding features. Complete with coils, two type 30 tubes, batteries and necessary accessories.
Model 440-540 consists of these two instruments installed in a sturdy metal case with built-in compartment having snap on cover for accessories, finished in electro black baked enamel, panels in silver and black. Every essential feature is incorporated in these outstanding instruments. No extravagance. No added unnecessary cost. To see one—to use one—means you will be glad to own this outstanding tester.

D.C. POCKET VOLT-OHM-MILLIAMMETER MODEL 735

Contained in sturdy black molded case with silver and black panel, rounded corners. Ranges are 15-150-750 volts; 1.5-15-150 M.A.; ½-1,000 low ohms; 0-100,000 high ohms at 1.5 volts. Provision for external batteries to be used for higher resistance measurements.

Has Triplett D'Arsonval precision instrument accurate to 2%. Selector switch for all ranges. Provides for all D.C. measurement requirements of the serviceman.

Size is 3 1/16" x 5-⅞" x 2¼" deep—is easily carried in the pocket, and handy for the laboratory. Complete with battery, test leads and alligator clips.
Dealer Price $10.80

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Without obligation please send me more information on .....Ranger-Examiner Combination .....

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Address .....

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

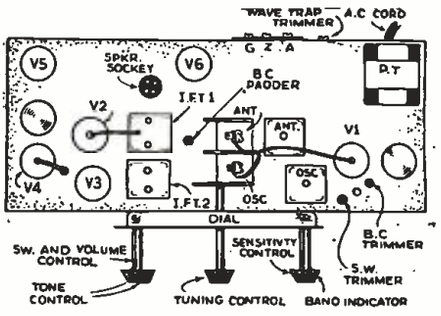
ZENITH 6-TUBE ALL-WAVE SUPERHET. CHASSIS No. 5634

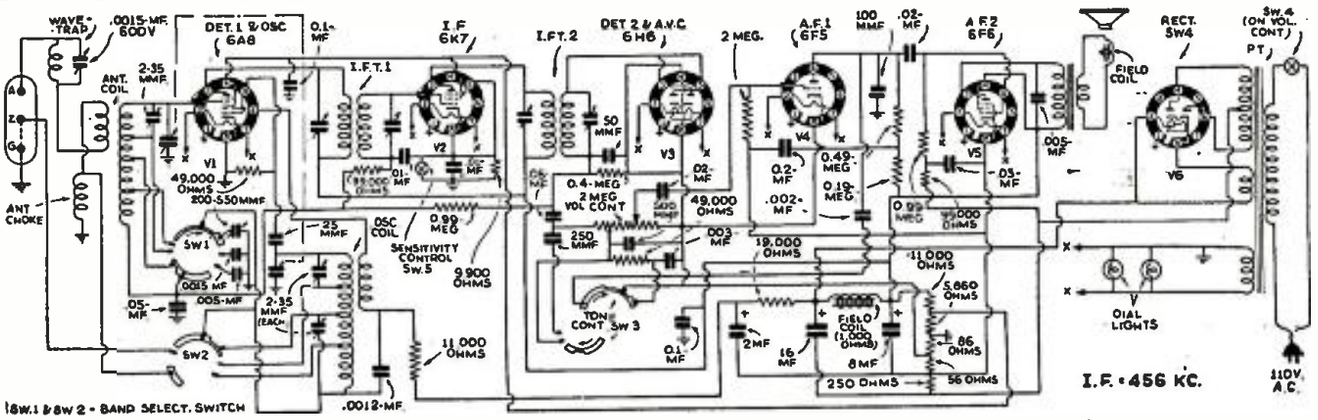
(Features: antenna wavetrap; uses either metal or metal-glass tubes; bass compensation. Set models 6-S-128, 6-S-137, 6-S-147, 6-S-152, 6-S-157.)

This chassis is used in receivers Nos. 6-S-128, 6-S-137, 6-S-147, 6-S-152, and 6-S-157. The operating voltages are as follows:

Tube	Plate	S.-G.	C.-G.	Cathode
V1*	280	80	0	0
V2	280	80	0	7
V3	—2	—	—	—2
V4	75	—	—2	—2
V5	260	280	—2	—2
V6	A.C.	—	—	320

*The anode grid of V1 is 175 V. All measurements are made with a 1,000 ohms-per-volt meter, from socket to ground, and with the antenna and ground disconnected. The line voltage for above readings is 112 V. Power consumption of the receiver is 75 W.; the power output is 4 W. The I.F. stage is aligned by connecting the leads from the signal generator to ground and the control-grid cap of V1. Set test oscillator at 456 kc. and adjust all 4 trimmers for highest output. Then change leads to antennna and ground of receiver and adjust the wavetrap for *minimum* output reading. Set generator at 6 mc. and adjust oscillator trimmer on gang condenser for correct dial reading on band B. Set generator to 1,400 kc. and adjust osc. trimmer of band A for dial setting, also adjusting antenna trimmer for best output. Set generator to 18 mc. and align receiver dial at this position for highest output. Set generator to 600 kc. and rock receiver dial on band A to best output. Readjust trimmers at 1,400 kc.





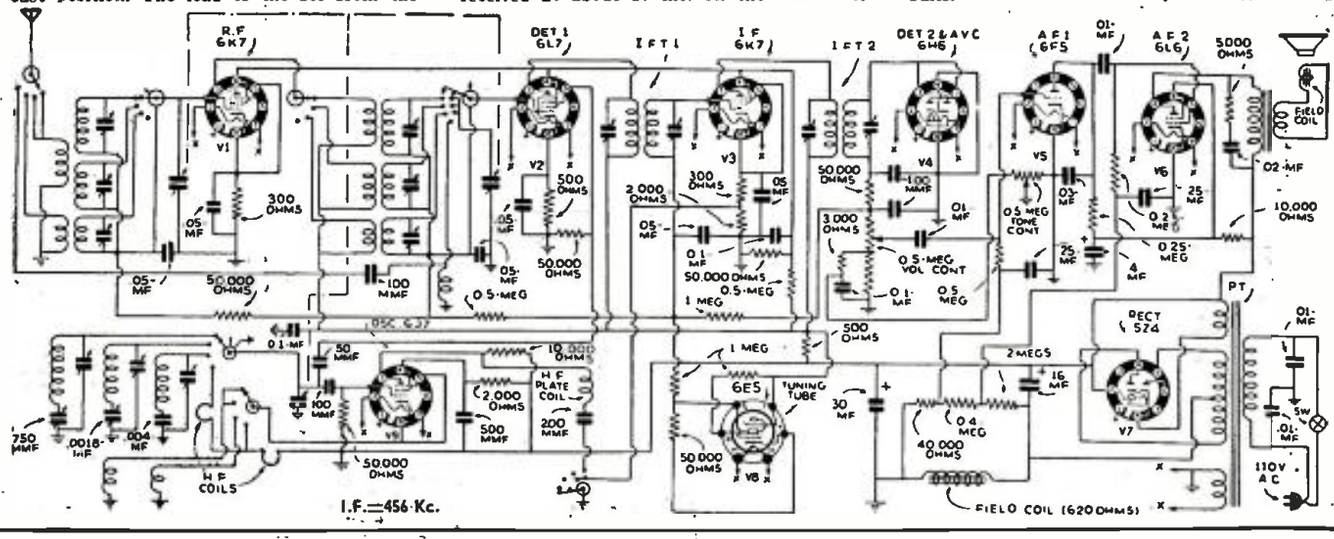
FAIRBANKS-MORSE 9-TUBE ALL-WAVE MODEL 91 SUPERHET. CHASSIS

(Features: beam output tube; tuning ray tube; separate h.-f. osc.; range, 540 kc. to 65 mc. Sets models 91T4, 91C4 and 91C5.)

Voltages for this receiver are as follows:

Tube	Plate	S.-G.	C.-G.	Cathode
V1	250	130	0	3.6
V2	250	130	0	5.5
V3	250	130	0	8.5
V4	—0.35	—	—	0
V5	120	—	0.2	0
V6	275	265	—0.1	0
V7	—90	—	—	310
V8	6.5	—	—0.1	0
V9	175	300	—2.2	0

These voltages are measured from the tube socket prongs to ground. Alignment should be made with the volume control of the receiver on full, and any attenuation made with the gain control of the test oscillator. Align the I.F. stage at 456 kc. and the tuning condenser set at full mesh, band switch on broadcast position. The lead to the set from the test oscillator is connected to the cap of V2 through a 0.1-mf. condenser. Adjust all trimmers to the highest possible output. Turn the receiver dial to 1,500 kc. and connect the test oscillator to the receiver antenna lead through a 200 mmf. condenser. Adjust the B.C. oscillator trimmer for highest output, then adjust the detector and R.F. trimmers likewise. Tune to 600 kc. and adjust the B.C. band series padder to highest output, while rocking the tuning condenser to the best position. The next band is adjusted the same way at 5.4 mc. and 1.8 mc. The dummy antenna for this band is a 400-ohm carbon resistor in series with the antenna leads. The short-wave band is adjusted at 18 mc. and 6 mc. The same 400-ohm series resistor is again used. The image signal should be received at about 17 mc. on the dial. If it is not, the receiver must be readjusted so that the image comes in at this point, when the correct signal comes in at 18 kc. No adjustment is required on the ultra-short wave band. If signals are not received on this band, the oscillator tube, V9, as well as the switch contacts, the fixed padding condenser and the coils should be checked. It should be noted that the oscillator tickler coils in this receiver are in the oscillator cathode circuit. The coils for the ultra-high frequency band consist of 3 pieces of bus bar, and care should be taken not to disturb these pieces. The automatic bass compensation circuit acts to increase the low-frequency response of the A.F. system at low volume levels. A special antenna system is provided by the makers for this receiver to insure best possible results.



THE RADIO MONTH IN REVIEW

(*Continued from page* 265)

short time ago, plans were completed for air traffic control in an effort to avoid plane accidents. This traffic control will determine the altitudes at which planes traveling on the national airways, will fly.

Construction was started on the new 640 ft. mast for station WJZ which will improve the service area of this popular broadcaster.

It was announced by Dr. Donald Menzel of Harvard Observatory that the observations of the recent total eclipse in central Asia showed that disruption of short-wave communication was due to a movement of the electrified layers above the earth and that these layers probably consist of extremely intense radiations in the far-ultra-violet part of the solar spectrum.

RCA announced that a convenient time payment plan had been worked out for the purchase of their test equipment.

And it was rumored that the efficiency experts introduced into the NBC by its new president, Lohr, have been thrown high and dry by one of the creative program writers who has been listing on his daily report this item: "2:06 P.M. —Thinking."

TEST LAW TO REDUCE MAN-MADE STATIC

An ordinance designed to test the plan of the National Committee for the Control of Radio Interference, mentioned in the Editorial of *Radio-Craft*, October 1936 issue, was passed by the council of East Rockaway, L. I., New York, last month.

While intended to remove the interference from the electric railways in the vicinity, this ordinance has a nation-wide effect in testing the authority of communities to enforce such laws!

DR. WESTON DIES

Dr. Edward Weston, 86-year-old scientist, inventor and former president of the Weston Electrical Instrument Co. died last month at his home in Montclair, N. J. following a cerebral hemorrhage.

During his career, Dr. Weston held patents on more than 200 electrical devices, including those which made the electric dynamo practical and which was, perhaps, his greatest contribution to science.

Born in Shropshire, England, Dr. Weston was started in a career of medicine by his parents, but after serving an interneship near London, he decided to substitute the electrical science for medicine. Shortly after, he came to America, after which started his brilliant career as chemist and electrical research worker.

The late Dr. Edward Weston.

TECHNICIANS' DATA SERVICE

JOSEPH CALCATERRA DIRECTOR

A special arrangement between RADIO-CRAFT magazine and the publishers of this literature, which permits bulk mailings to interested RADIO-CRAFT readers, eliminates the trouble and expense of writing to each individual organization represented in this department.

2. HAMMARLUND 1936 CATALOG. Contains 12 pages of specifications, illustrations and prices on the new line of Hammarlund variable, midget, band-spread and adjustable condensers; trimming and padding condensers; R.F. and I.F. transformers, coils and coil forms; sockets, shields, chokes and miscellaneous parts of ultra-short-wave, short-wave and broadcast operation.

4. THE "COMET PRO" SHORT-WAVE SUPERHETERODYNES. Describes the outstanding features of the standard and crystal-type Hammarlund "Comet Pro" short-wave superheterodynes designed to meet the exacting demands of professional operators and advanced amateurs for a 15 to 250 meter code and phone receiver, but which can be adapted by anyone for laboratory, newspaper, police, airport and steamship use.

5. ELECTRAD 1936 VOLUME CONTROL AND RESISTOR CATALOG. Contains 12 pages of data on Electrad standard and replacement volume controls. Truvolt adjustable resistors, vitreous wire-wound fixed and adjustable resistors and voltage dividers, precision wire-wound non inductive resistors, center-tapped filament resistors, high-quality attenuators, power (50- and 150-watt) rheostats and other Electrad resistor specialties.

57. RIBBON MICROPHONES AND HOW TO USE THEM. Describes the principles and operating characteristics of the Amperite velocity microphones. Also gives a diagram of an excellent humless A.C. and battery-operated preamplifier.

59. THE EVOLUTION OF TUBE TESTING. This interesting booklet, published by the Supreme Instruments Corp., traces the development of tube testing equipment and gives a complete technical description, with wiring diagram and discussion of the technical points involved in the design and use of the Model 89 Supreme Radio Tester for testing all tubes, and also paper and electrolytic capacitors.

65. NEW 1936 LINE OF SUPREME TESTING INSTRUMENTS. This 16-page catalog gives complete information on the entire Supreme line of testing instruments, including the Model 385 Automatic Tube Tester and Analyzer, the Model 339 DeLuxe and Standard Analyzers, and other standard Tube Testers, Set and P.A. Analyzers and Signal Generators. Complete details of the Supreme Easy Payment Plan for purchasing testing equipment on the installment plan are given.

67. PRACTICAL MECHANICS OF RADIO SERVICE. Information, including cost, features and outline of lessons of the Frank L. Sprayberry course in Radio Servicing, and list of Sprayberry Data Sheets for modernizing old radio equipment.

69. YOUR FUTURE IN RADIO. With the development of Radio into many specialized fields, it has become increasingly important for anyone considering radio as a lifework, to investigate the opportunities offered in the various fields for a man of his particular qualifications. These opportunities are described in an interesting 32-page book, "Your Future in Radio" published by the Sprayberry Academy of Radio. It also gives complete information on the new Sprayberry Course in Radio Service Engineering which includes all standard equipment and supplies for the practical work required in mastering the course and going into business.

73. HOW TO ELIMINATE RADIO INTERFERENCE. A handy folder which gives very complete information on how to determine and locate the sources of radio noise by means of the Sprague Interference Analyzer. A description of the analyzer and method of using it is included, together with data on how to eliminate interference of various kinds once the source is located.

74. SPRAGUE 1936 ELECTROLYTIC AND PAPER CONDENSER CATALOG. Gives specifications, with list and net prices on a complete line of wet and dry electrolytic, and paper condensers made by the Sprague Products Co. for radio Service Men, set builders, experimenters and engineers. Information on the Sprague Capacity Indicator, for making capacity tests on condensers and in servicing receivers, is included.

75. SPRAGUE TEL-U-HOW CONDENSER GUIDE. A valuable chart, compiled by the Sprague Products Co. which tells the proper types, capacity values and voltages of condensers required in the various circuits of radio receivers and amplifiers, and how to locate radio troubles due to defective condensers. Includes data on condenser calculations.

76. FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT CONDENSERS. A folder, prepared by the Sprague Products Co., which explains the importance of various characteristics of condensers, such as power-factor, leakage, capacity and voltage in determining the efficiency or suitability of a given condenser to provide maximum filtering and safety in operation.

Radio-Craft Technicians' Data Service
99 Hudson Street,
New York City, N. Y. RC-1136

Please send to me, without charge or obligation, the catalog, booklets, etc. the numbers of which I have circled below.

2 4 5 57 59 62 65 67
69 73 74 75 76

My radio connection is checked below:

( ) Service Man operating own business.
( ) Service Man for manufacturer.
( ) Service Man for jobber.
( ) Service Man for dealer.
( ) Service Man for servicing company.
( ) Dealer.
( ) Jobber.
( ) Experimenter.
( ) Professional Set Builder.
( ) Amateur Set Builder.
( ) Short Wave Work.
( ) Licensed Amateur.
( ) Station Operator.
( ) Radio Engineer.
( ) Laboratory Technician.
( ) Public Address Worker.
( ) Manufacturer's Executive.
( ) Student.
( ) .....

I am a:
( ) Subscriber ( ) Newsstand reader
I buy approximately.....of radio material a month. (Please answer without exaggeration or not at all.)

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... State.....
(Please print name and address)

Avoid delay. The catalogs and booklets listed are now in stock and will be sent promptly as long as the supply lasts. Please use this coupon in ordering. The use of a letter causes delay.

INTERNATIONAL RADIO REVIEW

(Continued from page 273)

the tube noise to a minimum as well as increasing the input impedance of the tube tremendously compared to tubes used for amplifying and detecting purposes.

The tube is a tetrode, having a control-grid and a screen-grid, and is connected in the space-charge manner, that is, with the control-grid and screen-grid "reversed" (as regards the voltage gradient).

Two circuits for using the electronometer tube, V1, for minute current measurements are shown in Figs. 3 A and B. The appearance of the tube can be seen in Fig. B.

AN UNUSUAL PORTABLE RADIO CASE

THE FRENCH radio magazine *Toute La Radio* (Paris) recently showed the portable radio set which is reproduced in Fig. C

In this set, the speaker is mounted in the side of the case, with a hinged door opening out, thus producing a sort of "horn" to assist in projecting the sound.

NEWEST TUBES

(Continued from page 271)

base. Although it has the same amplification factor as the types 6C5 and 6C5G, the mutual conductance has been substantially increased with corresponding reduction in the plate impedance. Also, the output capacity is approximately 1/3 that of the 6C5 so that the 6J5G is especially applicable to ultra-high frequency work. With the above exceptions, this tube parallels the characteristics of the 76, 37 and 6C5 tubes.

6J5G Characteristics

Heater Voltage A.C. or D.C.	6.3	V.
Heater Current	0.3	A.
Direct Interelectrode Capacities		
Grid-to-Plate	3.4	mmf.
Input	3.8	mmf.
Output	3.3	mmf.
Class A Amplifier		
Heater Voltage	6.3	V.
Plate Voltage	250	V.
Control-Grid Voltage	—8	V.
Plate Current	9.0	ma.
Plate Resistance	7,700	ohms (app.)
Mutual Conductance	2,600	mmhos (app.)
Amplification Factor	20	

6K5G High-Mu Triode. The characteristics of this new Sylvania tube are similar to the 6Q7G, with the exception that the mutual conductance has been increased, with a corresponding reduction in the plate impedance.

The amplification factor of 70 is somewhat lower than that of the 6F5 or the triode section of the type 75 but this lower value allows higher signal voltages to be handled before the grid reaches the sector of grid current. The value of control-grid bias is, therefore, less critical than the other tubes mentioned.

The 6K5G operated with a supply voltage of 250 and a plate load resistance of 0.1-meg. to 0.25-meg. should have a control-grid bias of 2.5 V. When operated with 100 V. on the plate and a load of 50,000 to 0.1-meg. the grid bias should be about 1.4 V.

6K5G Characteristics

Heater Voltage A.C. or D.C.	6.3	V.
Heater Current	0.3	A.
Direct Interelectrode Capacities		
Grid-to-Plate	2.0	mmf.
Input	2.4	mmf.
Output	3.6	mmf.

Class A Amplifier

Heater Voltage	6.3	6.3	V.
Plate Voltage	100	250	V.
Control-Grid Voltage*	—1.5	—3	V.
Plate Current*	0.35	1.1	ma.
Plate Resistance	78,000	50,000	ohms (app.)
Mutual Conductance	900	1,400	mmhos (app.)
Amplification Factor	70	70	

*These are rating values only and not operating points with coupling resistor.

6L6G Beam Power Tube. The beam power tube which was described in the July 1936 issue of *Radio-Craft* has been duplicated in a glass-envelope tube by Raytheon. The glass equivalent has the same rated characteristics as its metal cousin, and is equipped with the octal-style socket.

Dual-Triode 6N7 and 6N7G Class-B Power Amplifier. This tube is the octal equivalent of the 6A6—a glass B twin-triode output tube. The characteristics of the 6A6 have been published before, so they will not be repeated here.

The tube can be used for class A operation by connecting the elements of the two triodes in parallel. In this way, it can be used as a driver for a class B stage using a second 6N7 tube.

REMOVAL NOTICE

Increased sales of over 800 per cent for the current year over previous years has made it necessary for the Cornell-Dubilier Corp. to move the entire plant from its former location in New York to larger quarters in South Plainfield, N. J.

The large increase in sales within the past few years first made it necessary to add several additional buildings to the plant—but the company has now outgrown these facilities thus necessitating the move to New Jersey.

Do you still need one or more of the GERNSBACK RADIO SERVICE MANUALS to complete your files? If so, turn to page 260 of this issue for details.

RADIO AND PUBLIC ADDRESS AT THE BERLIN OLYMPICS

(Continued from page 268)

layed broadcasts to America via phonograph records to compensate for the time difference and diurnal conditions. Also available were 20 transmitting cars with complete recording outfits, several portable short-wave microphones, and a radio-equipped boat for special short-wave reports of aquatic events. Coordinating the services of more than 100 microphone outlets and the several hundred loudspeakers, was a master switchboard. Although not quite as successful as anticipated, television transmission and reception of some of the events lent novelty to the Olympics.

Referring to the photographic illustrations, the views are described in detail as follows: (1) This master switchboard controlled over 100 microphone outlets of the huge public arena P.A. system, also the hundreds of loudspeakers, the more that 35 foreign broadcast channels, the German broadcast channels, and the spot phonograph recordings. (2) To overcome echo effects the sound system described in principle in the July, 1936, issue of *Radio-Craft*, page 9, was utilized. Improved "double umbrella" reproducers mounted on poles were used in profusion. Each of these Telefunken "umbrella" reproducers comprised 2 separate "umbrellas," as shown, with 5 loudspeaker units in each. As shown at upper-right in illustration No. 2, wings and deflectors separate each of the 5 units and properly direct the sound waves; as the insert at lower-left shows, each of the 5 units is weather-proofed and sound-baffled by means of bags. (3) The knapsack portable microphone here shown was used for directing the installation of the P.A. system, etc., and for spot broadcasts to nearby pick-up points. (4) The extensive short-wave antenna array installed at Zeesen especially for the Olympic Games that permitted the astonishing accomplishment of 100 simultaneous polylingual broadcasts is shown. (5) A Zworykin iconoscope tube was built into this television image pick-up camera, used at the Games. (6) A newly-designed German crystal microphone was used in the motor launch short-wave transmitter that followed the crews entered in the Olympic regatta. The microphone with its preamplifier is here shown wrapped in sponge rubber. This concludes the detailed descriptions of the views.

The Assembly Ground was provided with microphone facilities for 10 "radio reporters"—plus facilities for 5 reporters on each platform of both the 100-ft. Outlook Towers at one end of the grounds. Similar facilities were provided for 20 eyewitness reports at the Swimming Stadium; 16 at Deutschland Hall, in close proximity to two Boxing Rings; 15 more at the Hockey Stadium; 8 at the Grunau Rowing Fixtures; 6 at each of the Football and Handball Courts at Berlin Sports Grounds—3 spot phonograph recording units were provided at the Marksmanship Competition, due to the difficulty of providing fixed connections, and a similar arrangement was followed at the Doberitz Military Exercise Ground; facilities were provided for 3 radio reporters at the Art Exhibition on the Kaiserdam; 10 for the Fuhrer and Reich Chancellor receptions; and 10 each at the Pergamen Museum, at Berlin University for the opening session of the International Olympia Committee, at Tempelhof Aerodrome for the fancy flying championships, at the Berliner Lustgarten torchlight relay race, for the yacht races in the Bay of Kiel, at the Baseball Field, the German Sports Forum House, at the Dietrich-Eckhardt Open Air Theatre where choric games and musical items were held; and 10 at the Cycling Track.

In this manner broadcasting facilities were made available to the hundreds of eyewitness reporters of more than 35 countries, outside of Germany.

Even the Berlin Railroad Station was equipped with directional and non-directional loudspeakers for regulating traffic and to keep visitors posted concerning the progress of the various contests.

THE BUSINESS OF "RADIO PLASTICS"

(Continued from page 276)

when the first commercially-manufactured receiving sets for the home made their debut.

Many of these sets were of the type where the component parts were assembled on a board. Practically all of these sets used the new insulation, in either its molded or laminated form. At the same time amateurs were taxing the capacity of the industry for headphones, tube sockets, coil forms and numerous other parts made of these insulation materials for their own "hook ups." Molded dials 3 ins. in dia. were selling for over a dollar apiece!

With the demand far exceeding the supply, radio started to grow up. About 1924, sets in wooden cabinets appeared on the market, adding handsomely finished front panels of laminated insulation to the already established uses of the material. Headsets gave way to horns, some of which were molded. A host of new uses developed for these two insulating materials—static eliminators, lightning arresters and inside aerial frames.

Almost overnight radio became an industry of national importance. In 1924, 1,105 exceedingly small-powered stations crowded the narrow American broadcast band of 200 to 550 meters. In 2 years this "howling, whistling era" gave way to organized broadcasting. The number of stations was reduced to 533 in the broadcast band—and many began to operate on higher power. To match this progress the manufacturer of the receiving set brought forth electrically-operated receivers. The "furniture period" followed almost immediately, with consoles, highboys and lowboys concealing all operating parts except the dials and knobs. With these successive steps of refinement in receiving mechanism and radio cabinet design, new uses for molded and laminated insulating materials were developed. Laminated translucent materials for illuminated dials, base plates for the new metal tubes, tuning knobs of colored materials to match wood cabinets, and all molded cabinets for the smaller-sized sets are typical of improvements within the past 2 years.

Short-wave broadcasting has opened up to radio enthusiasts new and exciting territories for exploration, and radically new types of molded insulating materials have been and are being developed to meet these new problems in transmission and reception, and the future requirements of television and facsimile broadcasting. Among these materials is a special "low loss" molding material which provides the important property of low power factor at radio and audio frequencies (at A.F. it is 1.6 per cent, at R.F. it is 0.75– per cent; the dielectric constant is 5.2).

One of the most interesting recent developments in this ever-growing industry of communication is a new bullet-shaped microphone (described in this issue of *Radio-Craft—Editor).*

Some very good-looking sets housed in all-bakelite molded cabinets have recently been introduced. (See heading illustration.)

These insulating materials are employed in radio set construction in so many different materials—molded, laminated, cast resinoid, and even resins used in quick-drying varnishes, as well as the baking type enamels and varnishes for electrical insulation purposes.

Our Information Bureau will gladly supply manufacturers' names and addresses of any items mentioned in Radio-Craft. Please enclose stamped return envelope.

THE BUSINESS OF "RADIO PLASTICS"

(Continued from page 276)

in use, the "phenol-formaldehyde" or "phenolic resins" are most commonly used for radio cabinets and parts. As the name implies, *phenol* and *formaldehyde* are the chief raw materials. The resin is produced by a chemical reaction between these two compounds in the presence of a "catalyst." The process is carried out in a reaction kettle to which heat is applied in order to start the reaction. Before the reaction is completed, a heavy fluid is drawn off which hardens as it cools. The material thus obtained is the resin used for molding. It is actually the product of an incomplete chemical reaction. This reaction is subsequently completed by the molding process, which produces the hard, infusible material we see in tube bases and other molded parts.

However before the resin may be molded, it must be mixed with a filler—generally wood flour, although other materials such as asbestos and canvas scraps are used for special purposes. The mixing operation is accomplished by breaking up the hardened resin and working it into the filler on warm mixing rolls. After it has been thoroughly mixed and cooled the batch is ground to a powder ready for molding. The various mottles and colors are obtained by adding suitable pigments and dyes, or combinations of them, to the mixture.

The molding process begins with loading the resin compound into heated molds. The general practice is to pre-form the resin compound in large presses to form "pills," or tablets. These pills, which are carefully made to an exact size and weight, are placed in the cavities of the molding presses. When the presses are loaded, the molds are closed as far as the pills in the cavities will permit, and then the heat is applied. When sufficient heat has been absorbed, the resin becomes plastic at a molding temperature of about 350°F. The pressure which is applied at the start of the process must be increased as the material becomes plastic and with the increase in pressure the mold finally closes. The resin is held under heat and pressure until it has had time to "cure" or set. This curing is the completion of the chemical reaction which began when the phenol and formaldehyde combined to form the resin. When the compound is cured, it is hard and infusible and may be ejected from the press without cooling.

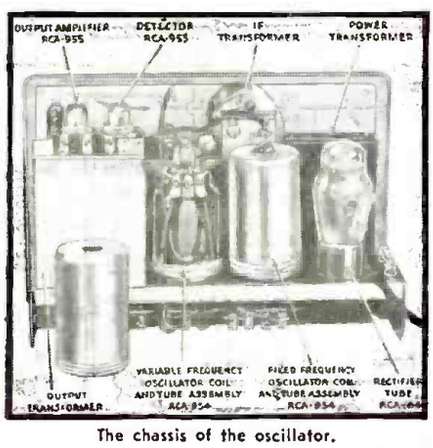
AN "ACORN"-TUBE BEAT-FREQUENCY OSCILLATOR

(Continued from page 278)

combined and fed into a self-biased type 955 detector which extracts the audio or difference frequency and rejects any R.F. present. The output from the detector is fed into the output amplifier which is a type 955 fixed-bias amplifier having the output control in the grid circuit and a statically shielded output transformer in the plate circuit. This transformer is designed to operate into center-tapped loads of 250, 500 and 5,000 ohms impedance.

The circuit design of this instrument is such that a high degree of stability together with low distortion is obtained.

This article has been prepared from data supplied by courtesy of RCA Manufacturing Co.



The chassis of the oscillator.

A SPECIAL A.F. AMPLIFIER FOR THE DX-ER

(Continued from page 277)

standard. The success of the system depends entirely upon the selection of constants for the 2 channels.

Automatic tone control results from biasing the "treble detector" by returning its diode-load resistor to a point more negative than the cathode (ground). Treble response increases with the increase of signal strength so that not only better tone is had from the stronger stations, but the rasping and shrill distortion accompanying fading in a receiver using A.V.C. is almost completely eliminated! A less important but noticeable effect is heard when tuning in a station. *The signal is heard in subdued bass as the dial pointer nears the desired setting, and treble is heard loudest when resonance is reached—which is the exact opposite of the usual noisy tuning.*

Two aids to better tone are a part of the tuner circuit. One is a Hi-Fidelity snap switch, which broadens the selectivity of the first I.F. transformer when conditions make its use possible; the other is a 3-position, 2-section, Sensitivity or Clarifier switch. Its purpose is to prevent traces of distortion due to tube paralysis, or incorrect bias under various reception conditions, and to keep the receiver above noise level as much as possible. Position No. 1 is for use when a consistently powerful local overloads the set.

Position No. 2 is for general use. It connects the aerial to the primary of the first tuning coil and switches another bias resistor into the V2 and V3 circuits. This resistor is a 5,000-ohm rheostat on the chassis rear which is set for the prevailing noise level.

Position No. 3 gives the extreme sensitivity possible by lowering the bias voltages to a minimum.

Experiments are going forward to determine the constants for the circuit shown at Fig. 3B, wherein the high and low channels terminate out-of-phase and are mixed inductively in push-pull by a center-tapped A.F. choke, which feeds 2 resistance-capacity coupled push-pull stages.

LIST OF PARTS

Tuner

One Continental Carbon resistor, 400 ohms, ½-W., R1;
Two Continental Carbon resistors, 800 ohms, ½-W., R2, R3;
One Cont. Carbon resistor, 1,000 ohms, R4;
One Cont. Carbon resistor, 600 ohms, R6;
Two Cont. Carbon resistors, 50,000 ohms, R7, R18;
Two Cont. Carbon resistors, 0.1-meg., R11, R12;
One Continental Carbon resistor, 30,000 ohms, ½-W., R8;
One Continental Carbon resistor, 30,000 ohms, 4 W., R9;
One Continental Carbon resistor, 75,000 ohms, 1 W., R10;
Five Continental Carbon resistors, 1 meg., ½-W., R13, R14, R15, R16, R17;
Two Continental Carbon resistors, 8,000 ohms, ½-W., R19, R20;
One Electrad rheostat, 5,000 ohms, VR1;
Two turns of wire around aerial lead, C1;
Four Continental Carbon tubular condensers, 0.1-mf., 200 V., C2, C3, C4, C5;
Four Continental Carbon tubular condensers, 0.25-mf., 200 V., C6, C7, C8, C9;
Two Solar mica condensers, 100 mmf., C10, C16;
Two Solar condensers, 0.1-mf., 400 V., C11, C14;
Two Solar condensers, 0.05-mf., 400 V., C12, C13;
One Solar condenser, 0.25-mf., 400 V., C15;
One Solar mica condenser, 0.001-mf., C17;
Two Solar condensers, 0.05-mf., 200 V., C18, C19;
One tuning condenser 3-gang, 365 mmf.;
*One Antenna coil;
*One R.F. coil;
*One Oscillator coil, 175 kc.;
*One variable coupling I.F. transformer. This may be an iron-core transformer with switch-type band expansion, 175 kc.;
One straight I.F. transformer, 175 kc.;
One diode I.F. transformer, 175 kc.;
*One single-gang, 1-circuit, 1- to 6-point switch (sensitivity switch);
Three 6-prong sockets;
One 7-prong socket;
One 5-prong socket;
Five tube shields;
Three Hygrade Sylvania type 6D6 tubes;
One Hygrade Sylvania type 6A7 tube;
One Hygrade Sylvania type 76 tube;

A. F. Amplifier

Five Continental Carbon resistors, 0.1-meg., ½-W., R1, R2, R4, R18, R3;
One Cont. Carbon resistor, 0.5-meg., ½-W.. R5;
Six Continental Carbon resistors, 0.5-meg., ½-W., R6, R7, R8, R9, R16, R19;
Two Continental Carbon resistors, 50,000 ohms, ½-W., R11, R17;
Three Continental Carbon resistors, 75,000 ohms, ½-W., R2, R10, R12;
Two Continental Carbon resistors, 7,500 ohms, ½-W., R13, R14;
One Cont. Carbon resistor, 3,000 ohms, R15;
Two Electrad potentiometers, 1 meg., VR1, VR2;
One Electrad potentiometer, 0.5-meg., VR3;
One Electrad poten. with switch, 0.25-meg., VR4;
Two Solar mica condensers, 100 mmf., C1, C2;
One Solar mica condenser, 0.001-mf., C3;
Five Continental Carbon condensers, 0.1-mf., 400 V., C4, C5, C6, C21, C22;
One Cont. Carbon condenser, 0.02-mf., 400 V., C7;
Two Solar mica condensers, 0.002-mf., C8, C9;
One Solar mica condenser, 50 mmf., C10;
One Cornell-Dubilier electrolytic condenser, 50 mf., 50 V., C11;
One Cornell-Dubilier condenser, 1 to 25 mf. (low enough capacity to avoid motorboating), 50 V., C12;
One Cont. Carbon condenser, 0.5-mf., 400 V., C13;
Two Cornell-Dubilier electrolytic condenser, 2 mf., 450 V., C14, C15;
One Cont. Carbon condenser, 0.25-mf., 400 V., C16;
Two Cornell-Dubilier electrolytic condensers, 8 mf., 600 V., C17, C18;
One Cornell-Dubilier electrolytic condenser, 16 mf., 450 V., C19;
One Continental Carbon condenser, 0.05-mf., 400 V., C20;
One power transformer supplying 750 V. C.-T., 120 ma., 5 V. at 3 A., and 6.3 V. at 6 A.;
One filter choke, 30 hy., 120 ma.;
One 12-in. speaker, 2,500-ohm field;
Two Burstein-Applebee tube shields to fit tubes;
Four Burstein-Applebee 6-prong sockets;
One Burstein-Applebee large 7-prong socket;
One Burstein-Applebee 4-prong socket;
One Burstein-Applebee 5-prong socket;
Two Hygrade Sylvania type 75 tubes;
One Hygrade Sylvania type 6A6 tube;
One Hygrade Sylvania type 76 tube;
Two Hygrade Sylvania type 6B5 tubes;
One Hygrade Sylvania type 5Z2 tube.

**Names of manufacturers will be sent upon receipt of a stamped and self-addressed envelope.*

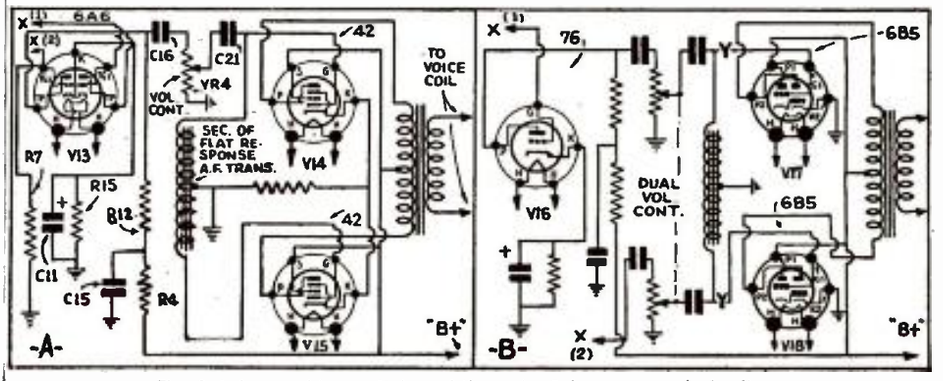


Fig. 3 A is an add-on unit for existing sets—B is a proposed circuit.

AWARDS IN THE $1,800 OFFICIAL RADIO SERVICE HANDIBOOK CONTEST

FOLLOWING are the names and addresses, and the letters, of the first two winners in the Official Radio Service Handibook Prize Contest sponsored jointly by Gernsback Publications, Inc., publishers of the Official Radio Service Handibook, and a number of the most important radio manufacturers.

First Prize. William Levi Zanes, P.O. Box 34, Deepwater, N. J. Award: United Sound Engineering Co. model CR5 frequency-modulated oscillator.

Second Prize. Edward M. Wiler, 410 Main St., Cedar Falls, Iowa. Award: Clough-Brengle Co. model CRA oscilloscope.

Additional data concerning the remaining winners and their awards will be announced in forthcoming issues of *Radio Craft*.

1st PRIZE LETTER

Gentlemen:

Too few Service Men understand or know the real essentials of successful servicing. In my opinion, an analysis of these essentials when summed up is tantamount to the old adage that "no workman is better than his tools." I've seen radio mechanics struggle earnestly and tediously with defective radio sets, simply because their test equipment wasn't quite up to the occasion of indicating the source of trouble. Most real Service Men will look with contempt on any of their brethren in this profession who employ low-resistance, insensitive voltmeters for making tests and measurements, or who attempt to align a multi-band superheterodyne receiver by ear and without the use of an all-wave signal generator.

It must be admitted that some Service Men operate under the aforementioned handicaps not because they are unaware of the deficiencies of their equipment, but for reasons of economy or insufficient finances. This, however, in my mind, is not sufficient excuse to warrant this practice. Where is economy effected when a job takes two to three times longer because of poor tools? And, how can a man expect his finances to improve when he wastes time on jobs which could be better utilized for drumming up new business? Then, of course, take into consideration the fact that a much better and more thorough repair job is possible with good equipment than with cheap or obsolete instruments. This factor in itself should be sufficient reason to warrant the replacement of old or inefficient test instruments by new units, since better repair jobs will always serve to bring new business through recommendations.

My particular pet peeve is the Service Man who is always building (and futilly using) short-cut trouble shooting gadgets that never amount to a row of pins. Perhaps I'm an "old conservative," but I've seen many Service Men wasting time (and money) on neon-tube capacity indicators that indicate roughly, very roughly, the relative capacity of a condenser. Or, a cathode-ray tube (or "eye") visual checker that supposedly will indicate the source of intermittent trouble, but usually is so critical that just touching the chassis will make the "eye" wink, probably in amusement. Me?—I use a brand new, complete analyzer that checks tubes, measures capacity accurately on a calibrated *meter*, measures all voltages (A.C. or D.C.) on a large, fan-type 2,000-ohms-per-volt (0.5-ma.) meter and does everything but shout out exactly what ails the set. And, aren't the customers impressed when I open the cover and proceed to make an analysis or some test on the receiver!

WILLIAM LEVI ZANES,
Deepwater, N. J.

2nd PRIZE LETTER

Gentlemen:

Many times in working with radio or public address equipment the Service Man with a limited stock of volume controls is often "up against it" when he needs a volume control of special value and with a special resistance taper. A little computation with the formula for resistances in parallel, gives us a series of curves. By choosing the correct values of both potentiometer and fixed resistance one may secure nearly any type of curve desired.

In the first series of curves to be considered, the fixed resistance was placed across the entire potentiometer as shown in Fig. 1A. In this as in the other series of curves a 10,000-ohm, straight-line potentiometer was used in the calculations. The curves in Fig. 1A were figured for 1,000-, 10,000- and 100,000-ohm shunt resistances. In Fig. 1B the shunt instead of being across the whole potentiometer is across the load side only. Figure 1C shows the curves which result from placing a fixed resistor from slider to both ends. In Figs. 1B and 1C, X and X_1, are both 1,000-ohm resistors. If the Service Man is as handy with his mathematics as he should be, it will be no trick at all to amplify this idea so that he may obtain nearly any taper he desires for any circuit.

EDWARD M. WEILER,
410 Main St.,
Cedar Falls, Iowa.

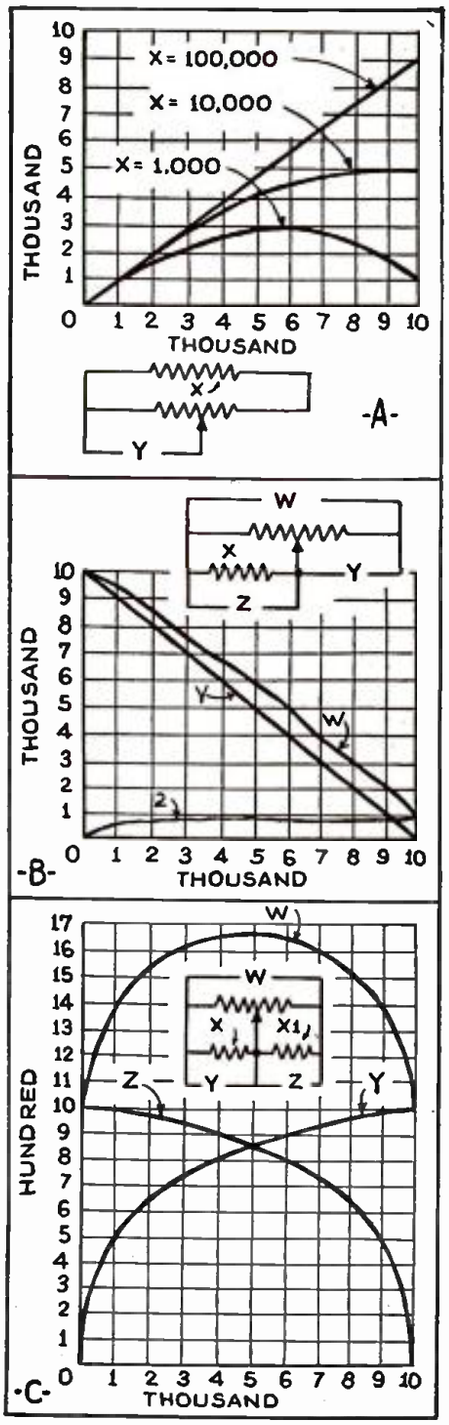


Fig. 1. Various curves described by Mr. Weiler. By choosing the correct value of resistance in shunt to the section of the potentiometer that is being varied, the curvature may be varied to meet emergency needs.

HOW TO MAKE AN OSCILLOSCOPE

(Continued from page 279)

is the type with which we have the most trouble. Amplitude distortion arises whenever a vacuum tube is operated beyond its linear characteristics, as for instance, when overloaded. Harmonic frequencies appear in the output which were not present in the input. In addition to the tubes, a further possible cause of amplitude distortion may arise from impedance mismatching or saturation of transformer cores and windings. A double check of this type of distortion is easily made with the oscilloscope and A.F. oscillator.

Phase distortion in audio amplifiers need not concern Service Men as a problem. A definition, however, might be of interest. When the phase relation existing *between* various frequencies at the input, changes for any reason by the time the frequencies reach the output, a change in the original waveform will result. The ordinary tone control as an example, is a producer of phase distortion when it mutes the high notes. A test for phase distortion requires an A.F. oscillator which contains in its output, harmonics which are sufficiently strong to appear in the waveform. See Fig. 10C. This complex signal fed to the amplifier should be viewed on the oscilloscope both at the input and output. Any change in the waveform will show that there is phase distortion in some degree. Both frequency and amplitude distortion must be at minimum or else they may be causing changes in waveform at the same time.

Hum ripple voltage may be studied and traced to its source by using the oscilloscope as shown in Fig. 10D.

Checking selectivity, peak frequency and gain of I.F. transformers should be of interest to set builders. A setup for this purpose which was used by the author is shown in Fig. 10E.

Referring back to audio amplifier overload, a setup shown in Fig. 10F is used and the following points must be observed: (1) both amplifiers in the oscilloscope should be ON or both should be OFF; (2) one amplifier alone should not be used; (3) no sweep voltage or synchronizing voltage is required for this test; (4) the gain of both amplifiers should be equal (if used) or else the diagonal line which appears on the screen will tilt.

In conclusion, the author suggests that the Service Men who have built the oscilloscope keep a record of the connections and a tracing of unusual images in a notebook set aside for that purpose, so that in time, they will have an operating manual of great utility, at their disposal.

(Let us know how you "make out" with this unit.—*Editor*)

USING HEADPHONES IN SERVICE WORK

(Continued from page 280)

of trouble is in the power supply filter. By placing a high-impedance headset directly across the voltage-dropping or bleeder resistor of the power section, the presence of any undesirable alternating component can be immediately detected. (It should be noted in this connection that with a high-impedance, magnetic-type receiver this is not particularly injurious to the higher-grade headsets if done for a short time, but due to the sharp crash of sound on making the circuit, *it is advisable to place in series with the receiver a resistor having a value of about 0.1-meg.*)

Locating distortion. In the isolation of the source of distortion, the trouble can be located frequently by placing a headset in the circuit at various points. Up to the present time, there has been no method devised that is more conclusive for checking distortion than the "listening test." In practically all radio sets, loudspeakers, and for that matter all communication devices, the final analysis is made by aural means.

In general, it can be said that headphones provide at low cost a very effective tool in the analysis of trouble in servicing radio sets. Methods which are easily performed coupled with a definite testing routine will provide the wide-awake Service Man with a larger percentage of the service work because of his more apparent mastery of the subject at hand.

This article has been prepared from data supplied by courtesy of Trimm Radio Mfg. Co.

The OFFICIAL RADIO SERVICE HANDIBOOK is NOW READY. Please turn to page 261 of this issue and get full details of radio's greatest book on servicing.

BUILD THIS BEGINNER'S 2-TUBE A.C.-D.C. RECEIVER

(Continued from page 284)

tubes. One of these functions as a half-wave rectifier tube, the grid and plate terminals being connected together for this purpose. This tube changes the house current into a form which is suitable for use in the receiver. The other tube operates as a highly efficient and sensitive regenerative detector and under fair conditions is capable of picking up even the faintest of signals.

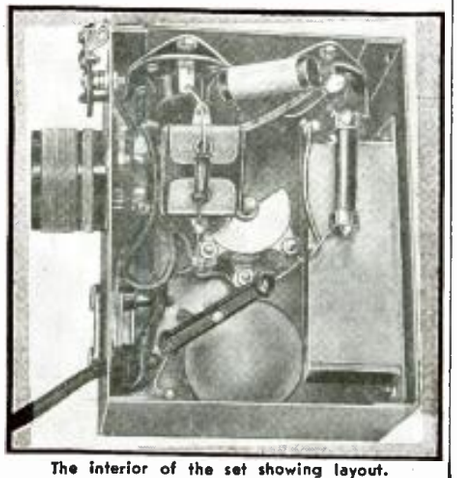
The aerial may be any length of wire from 30 to 100 ft. and erected as free from obstructions as possible. No ground connections are required as the house current system is itself grounded.

LIST OF PARTS

One Hammarlund 85 mmf. antenna series condenser, C1;
One Hammarlund 140 mmf. variable cond., C2;
One Solar 250 mmf. grid condenser, C3;
One Solar 250 mmf. bypass condenser, C4;
One Solar filter condenser, dual section type, C5;
One Continental Carbon 2 meg. resistor, R1;
One Cont. Carbon 50,000 ohm resistor, R2;
*One 0.1-meg. regen. control, R3;
One Eilen special line cord, R4;
One Eilen black bakelite dial;
One Eilen set of 4-prong S.W. coils;
One Eilen special cabinet, drilled and finished in black crackle;
Two Arcturus type 37 or 76 tubes.

*Names and addresses of manufacturers will be furnished upon request.

This article has been prepared from data supplied by courtesy of Eilen Radio Labs.



The interior of the set showing layout.

PROS AND CONS OF MICROPHONE TYPES

(Continued from page 287)

is employed. This has the added advantage of producing a far better frequency response than the diaphragm type.

Advantages: The crystal microphone is rugged, suitable for both indoor and outdoor work.

Limitations: Low output and high impedance.

Condenser Microphone. The condenser microphone operates upon the principle of changing capacity between 2 electrodes. A stretched metallic diaphragm is insulated and separated by a very small distance from a flat electrode. In this case the sound pressure waves, striking the diaphragm, cause it to move, thereby changing the capacity.

Advantages: Frequency response is considerably improved over the carbon microphone and also has a low inherent noise level.

Limitations: Low output which requires polarized potential for its operation and it is difficult to keep in operating condition due to the extremely small clearance between the diaphragm and the back plate. It is not used very extensively.

Dynamic Microphone. The dynamic type of microphone is a completely self-contained unit that does not require field excitation.

Advantages: The dynamic microphone has a low impedance and its noise level is low.

Limitations: It is heavy and must be handled with extreme care.

Our Information Bureau will gladly supply manufacturers' names and addresses of any items mentioned in Radio-Craft. Please enclose stamped return envelope.

INTRODUCING—A NEW TYPE "AUDIO" A.V.C. BEAM AMPLIFIER

(Continued from page 288)

amplifiers is difficult to describe in words. Perhaps the best way to express the general idea is to paraphrase the comment of a notable singer who had not yet become familiar with microphone technique, to wit:

"The mental ease of the performer is the most desirable feature that can be put into a P.A. system. The modern sound system is really a kind of servant and perhaps there is no better way to sum up what I expect from a sound system than to consider what I expect from a servant. I expect a servant to be dependable, efficient: ready to serve me constantly, willingly, pleasantly—and without 'back talk'."

IMPORTANCE OF THE "—OLOGIES"

One need not delve into text books on these ponderous subjects to study their inter-relation with P.A. systems. A casual observation and study of many P.A. installations will disclose the following undesirable physiological, psychological and neurological reactions which take place in 99 out of 100 unrehearsed P.A. applications.

1. The orator has no way of telling how his voice is coming over the system or whether he is standing too close or too far from the microphone.
2. When the volume of reproduced sound is too loud it becomes annoying and distracts the audience.
3. When the volume of reproduced sound is too low, those of the audience who cannot hear, become talkative.
4. A talkative audience upsets most orators.
5. Enthusiastic orators turn from side to side,

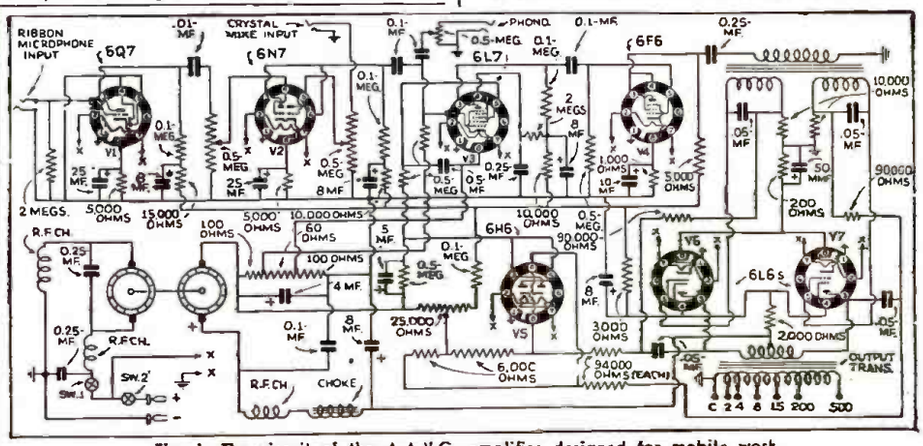


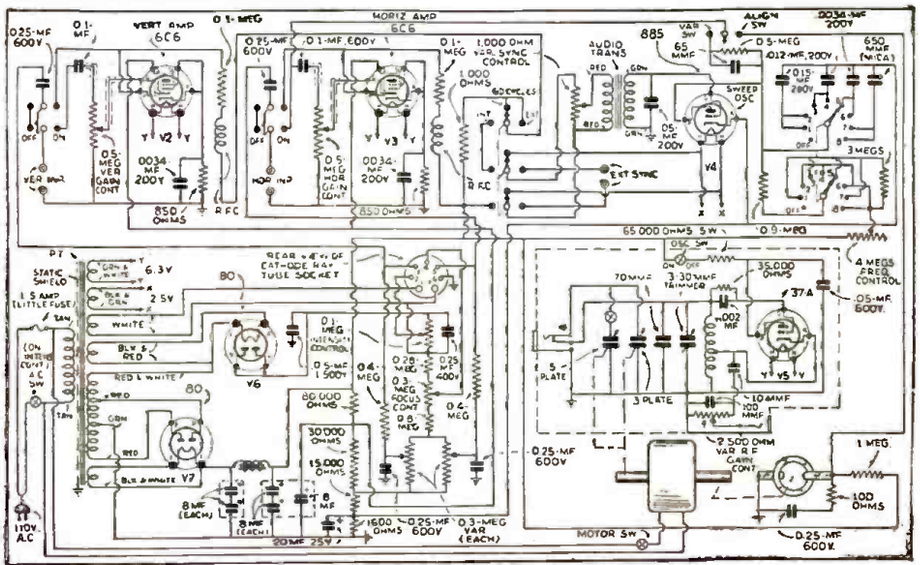
Fig. 1. The circuit of the A.A.V.C. amplifier designed for mobile work.

A COMPLETE OSCILLOSCOPE "SERVICER"

(Continued from page 288)

An analysis of the above characteristics will show the radio man that this instrument combines all the flexibility of separate units.

Our Information Bureau will gladly supply manufacturers' names and addresses of any items mentioned in Radio-Craft.



The schematic circuit of the oscilloscope unit, including all values.

thus causing rapid and wide fluctuations in volume so that the conditions listed under Nos. 2 and 3 set in before the operator can manually monitor the program.

6. Virile orators (particularly, the "electioneering" type!) stress important points by raising their voices to "yelling" levels. This inevitably overloads the amplifier, blasts the loudspeakers, and paradoxically enough, becomes unintelligible to the audience.

All of these conditions tend to hinder instead of help users of P.A. equipment—and accounts in a large degree for the reluctance of many potential users to purchase or rent P.A. systems.

When one stops to consider how an *Audio* Automatic Volume Control (or "Automatic Constant Output") or "A.A.V.C." system would keep the volume at some pre-determined pleasant level regardless of how far from, or close to, the microphone the orator stood, or how loud, or low, he spoke, one can hardly believe that this valuable adjunct has been omitted from nearly all commercial amplifiers available today.

The all-purpose mobile amplifier (Fig. A) which was specifically developed for electioneering purposes incorporates a practical A.A.V.C. circuit as diagrammed in Fig. 1.

THE "A.A.V.C." CIRCUIT

The A.A.V.C. circuit functions as follows. A capacity, C1 and C2 and a resistance, bleeder system R1, R2, R3, R4, is inserted across the output circuit of the 6L6 beam-power output tubes and tapped at the electrically balanced points X and Y, to bring off a suitable A.C. voltage, so that when full power output is attained, the peak voltage applied across the cathodes of the A.A.V.C. type 6H6 tube is sufficiently high to cause a rectified voltage of some pre-determined magnitude to appear across load resistor R6 in the plate circuit. This voltage is negative in respect to ground and is then fed through the time-delay resistor-condenser combination, R7-C3, into the sharp cut-off grid, G3, of the 6L7. The no-signal bias of this grid is such that the G1-plate transconductance of the 6L7 is high (over 1,000 micromhos). When the output level of the 6L6 power output stage reaches 32 W. the rectified voltage fed to G3 decreases the transconductance and the gain, of the 6L7. An auxiliary control (A.A.V.C.) biases the cathode of the 6H6 positively or negatively with respect to ground so that rectification takes place at any desired output level (from 1 to 50 W. peak).

In order not to upset speech inflections and intonations, the time constant of the G3 control-grid voltage circuit is adjusted to respond only to those voltage variations which persist for 0.25-sec. or more. A more rapid fluctuation of volume adjustments would destroy desirable characteristics of the individual's speech.

THE VOLUME EXPANDER CIRCUIT

Naturally, A.A.V.C. is entirely undesirable for the reproduction of *recorded music*. For this reason, a changeover switch is provided for volume expansion, so that phono. records may be reproduced with exaggerated volume accentuations to compensate for the compression which takes place during the recording process. This expansion switch obviates the necessity of using an additional 6L7 for volume expansion, as the same tube can be used for A.A.V.C. and A.V.E. (Automatic Volume Expansion).

A separate 6H6 rectifier and 6C5 voltage amplifier are required however, so as to alter the bias of the G3 grid of the 6L7 to produce a *low* G1-plate transconductance with no-signal, and a *high* G1-plate transconductance with applied signal.

THE POWER SUPPLY

As the mobile amplifier was designed for automotive use, it has been equipped with a special dynamotor-type power supply capable of producing 450 V. at 200 ma. which is more than adequate for the plate and grid voltage requirements of the amplifier. For 110 V. A.C. operation, a suitable power supply may be substituted for the dynamotor. For universal operation from 110 V. A.C. and 6 V. D.C. a "chopper"-type power supply may be employed as described in the September issue of *Radio-Craft*, page 141.

The author will be pleased to answer all questions relative to this new type of amplifier. Address all correspondence care of *Radio-Craft*.

This article has been prepared from data supplied by courtesy of Amplifier Co. of America.

HOW TO IMPROVE "TALKIES" FIDELITY

(Continued from page 286)

the input of V1. The use of parallel plate feed has become quite general on extended-frequency systems and may become even more so in the future except for one thing. High-grade transformers used in this type of work have cores which are made of the best grades of steel. This results in unusually good frequency characteristics and a high overload point. Due to the high saturation point, it is not necessary, under normal conditions, to employ parallel plate feed. Transformers of this type are practically unaffected by mechanical shock and heavy direct current though the windings will not permanently magnetize their cores. This means that these transformers will retain their characteristics for years of use. These are important factors which should be considered in choosing types of coupling for high-quality A.F. transmission and amplifier systems such as these which the service engineer will encounter.

POWER AMPLIFIERS

The point has been reached where the sole factor governing the frequency response of matching and amplification equipment is the fidelity of the transformers used. The object of this development was the production of ideal amplifiers through the use of extended-frequency transformers. Several companies have done exceptional work in this field and the author has often been privileged to consult their engineers on these problems. The S.O.S. corp., whose article on wide-fidelity lenses appeared in an earlier issue, has been of assistance in supplying data on the optical system.

The requirements of a good power amplifier are:

(1) Uniform frequency response over the entire audio range.
(2) Negligible waveform distortion.
(3) The elimination of hum and extraneous noise.
(4) High efficiency.
(5) Well shielded.
(6) Positive reliability.
(7) Flexibility.

It is at once obvious that the clue to all of this lies in using correct transformers. There are only a few difficulties to be confronted in replacing transformers: proper position for minimum outside noise pick-up; physical fitting of the transformer in place; selection of the proper impedance-matching transformer; and a little care in placing of leads to the transformer.

Figure 4A is a circuit improved by the author. Audio transformers were replaced with other types for the same purpose. In resistance-capacity coupling we recommend a 0.1-mf. coupling condenser and for grid and plate resistors you should consult the manufacturer's data on the tube.

Figure 4B is an extended-frequency amplifier of a type that is gaining much favor. To use fixed-bias, R10 is shorted out and the center-tap of the 2A3 filament is returned to ground. Filament winding AA is used only for the type 82 rectifier filament. With self bias, maximum undistorted output is 10 watts. With fixed bias, this may be increased to 15 watts. Note that a separate power supply is used when self-bias is not used.

System A (Fig. 4C) uses this modified amplifier on wide-range installations and the original amplifier is known all over the world for its reliability. Modification included the use of type 264A tubes in place of 239A, since the former type has a greater amplification factor. The transformers were replaced with ones having wider frequency range.

Figure 4D shows a high-fidelity power amplifier used by system B. The types 56 and 45 tubes are part of the voltage amplifier—the 50s being in the power stage.

In the runs back stage, 15-ohm lines are very common in talkie systems. 500-ohm lines, due to some loss, have been frowned on, since a separate winding is required for the monitor, and they are not often met with on the commercial systems, A and B.

Part III of this series will cover the important subjects of loudspeaker installations and the control of acoustics in theatres and auditoriums.

THE BEGINNER IN PUBLIC ADDRESS

(Continued from page 287)

method is the most simple of those commonly used and offers a very convenient means of sound distribution when portability and simplicity of installation are of major importance. Generally 1 or 2 loudspeakers are utilized, and so placed as to give best coverage and the least amount of feedback. If the area to be covered is relatively large, then the speaker units must be operated at *high volume level* in order to force the sound to the most distant parts. The result is that the sound will be uncomfortably loud to those nearest the speakers and possibly inaudible to those farthest away. Due to the high level of the sound, feedback is usually quite bad but can generally be reduced to the required minimum by placing the reproducers in proper positions at a distance of about 50 ft. from the microphone.

Baffle Requirements. The most suitable baffles for speakers of this type are those of the sound-projecting type having enclosed speaker housings so that the sound is projected only from the front and in a direction away from the microphone. *Parabolic deflector horns as well as directional and flare-type baffles are ideal for such installations.*

Sound Distribution by Many Loudspeakers. In all types of sound installations, equipoise of sound (not loudness), should be the goal. An ideal sound installation is one whereby each and every one in the audience can hear distinctly and yet be unaware of the fact they are listening to amplified sound. This requires a number of loudspeakers properly placed in the area to be covered. In this manner each speaker unit will serve only a portion of the total area and may, therefore, be operated at comparatively *low volume level*. In addition to better coverage, this method does not detract the listeners' attention from the program. The low volume at which the speakers operate is in most cases insufficient to cause feedback under normal conditions, even with a sensitive microphone in the same room. The number of speakers required for an installation of this type depends on the acoustics of the room, and its dimensions and seating capacity. Rooms having bare walls, with little or nothing to absorb or cushion the sound waves when they strike a reflecting surface, are likely to require more reproducers, for satisfactory performance, than a room which has been acoustically treated. A treated room may be considered as one whose walls have been partially or totally covered with drapes, curtains or other anti-echo materials so as to reduce echo (reverberation) to the desired minimum. The value of a sound system is no longer judged by its ability to "burst ear drums" as in the earlier days, but by its ability to give complete coverage at comfortable volume to all. Use plenty loudspeakers—you can not have too many.

This article has been prepared from data supplied by courtesy of Burnstein-Applebee Co.

STREAMLINED MIKE IS ALSO A LOUDSPEAKER!

(Continued from page 272)

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Perhaps the most outstanding characteristic of this transducer is its efficiency. Operating as a microphone, it develops approximately 45 per cent electrical energy against sound input, as compared with 1 to 10 per cent for other types of microphones. Approximately the same efficiency percentage of sound output with electrical input, when used as a loudspeaker, is secured.

This microphone may be operated in any position or angle. The directivity of the unit is indicated in the graph. Fig. 1A. The streamline housing reduces feedback tendencies almost to the vanishing point, and when used outdoors the same design characteristic eliminates the need for wind screens.

As shown in Table I the sensitivity of the new microphone is extremely high, so that for distances up to 500 ft. it is possible to hold a 2-way conversation without recourse to amplification! This idea is illustrated in Fig. E.

TABLE I
Output Level In Decibels
0 db. = 12½ milliwatts for sound pressure of 10 bars

Condenser	—70 to —75
Crystal	—65 to —75
Velocity	—60 to —70
Dynamic	—50 to —65
Carbon	—35 to —40
The new "Bullet"	—35 to —40

The new transducer's characteristics as a microphone recommend the instrument for use in public address work, sound reenforcement, recording systems, amateur radio communication, inter-office phones and experimental work.

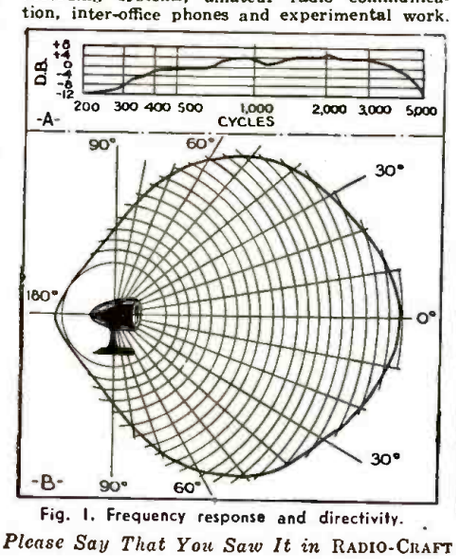


Fig. 1. Frequency response and directivity.

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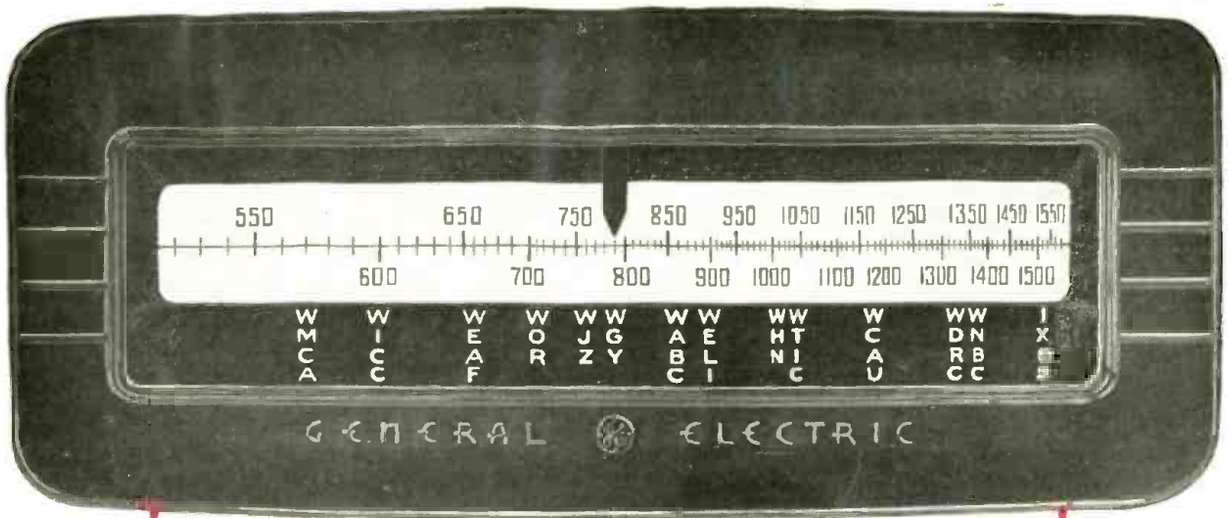


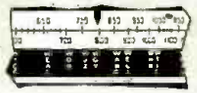
ONLY GENERAL ELECTRIC *Focused Tone Radio* DIAL has these 5 Sensational FEATURES

These new and amazing features are but a few of the sensational radio improvements incorporated in the new 1937 General Electric Focused Tone Radio models. See —and hear—the new G-E Radio. The G-E radio dealer nearest you will gladly give you a demonstration.

FOR METAL TUBE RENEWALS, SPECIFY G-E METAL TUBES.

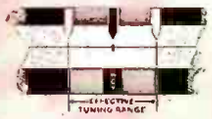
G-E COLORAMA TUNING

The dial flashes *automatically* from red to green to guide you in the selection of stations. The red signal warns you reception is distorted or no station is tuned in. When the dial shows bright green, the signal is strong, and free from noise — every note is true and clear.



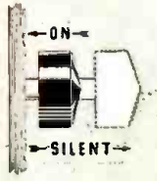
G-E LOCAL STATION PERSONALIZER

The call letters of local stations flash on when you tune in. On the higher-priced models they are illuminated in green, individually. A "custom-made" scale is provided for each locality, listing the most popular stations in that area.



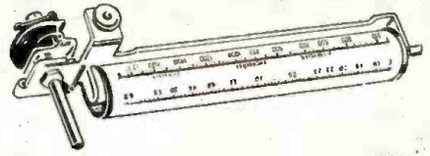
G-E AUTOMATIC FREQUENCY CONTROL

As the dial pointer is moved into the approximate region of the station's resonance point on the dial scale, the receiver's tuned circuit *automatically* and *instantly* snaps into its perfect Focused Tone position. It's a dial you simply can't tune wrong.



G-E SILENT TUNING

Absolutely silences the speaker as you tune across the dial, passing over strong stations to the one you are interested in at the moment. When the station desired is reached, simply push in the control knob and the program is heard at its maximum clarity.



G-E SLIDING-RULE TUNING SCALE

It is as easy to read as a ruler. All kilocycle positions are shown on a straight line — like the markings of a "slide-rule." On the majority of models, only one scale is visible at a time; when changing to another band, a new scale is turned into position by the band-change switch. An automatic vernier reduction drive permits either rapid tuning or slow-speed tuning, without manual shifting of the tuning knob.

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