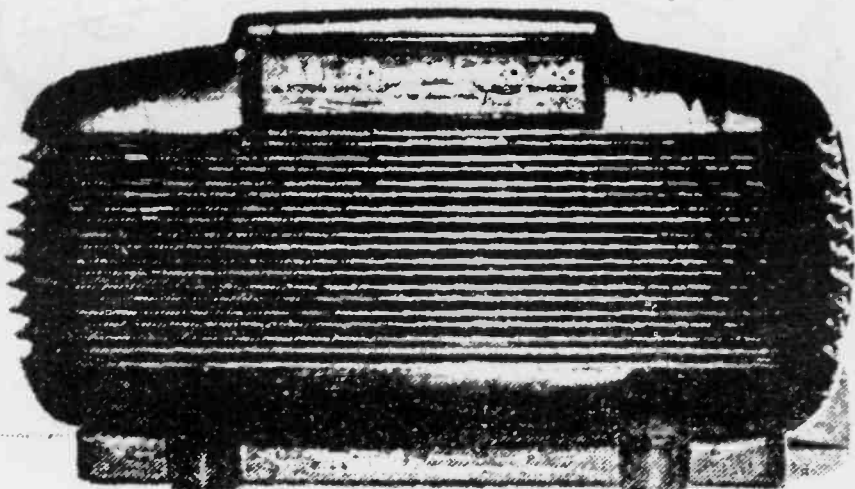
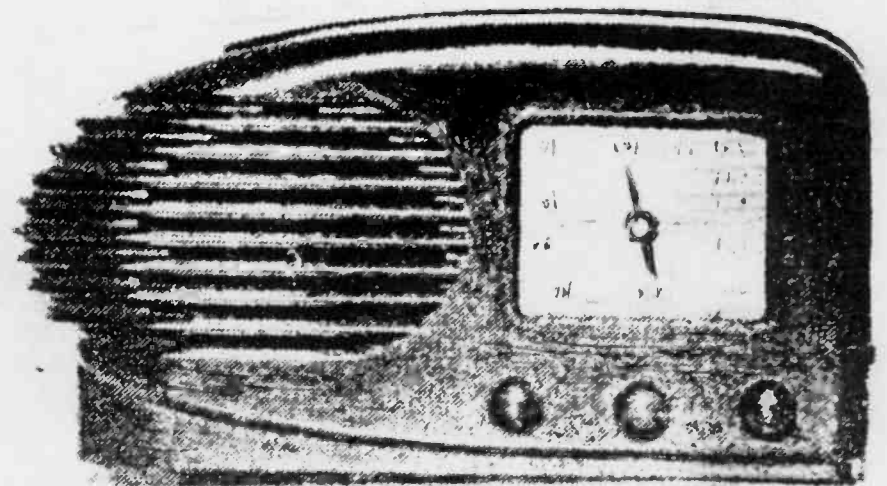


THE HORN SPEAKER

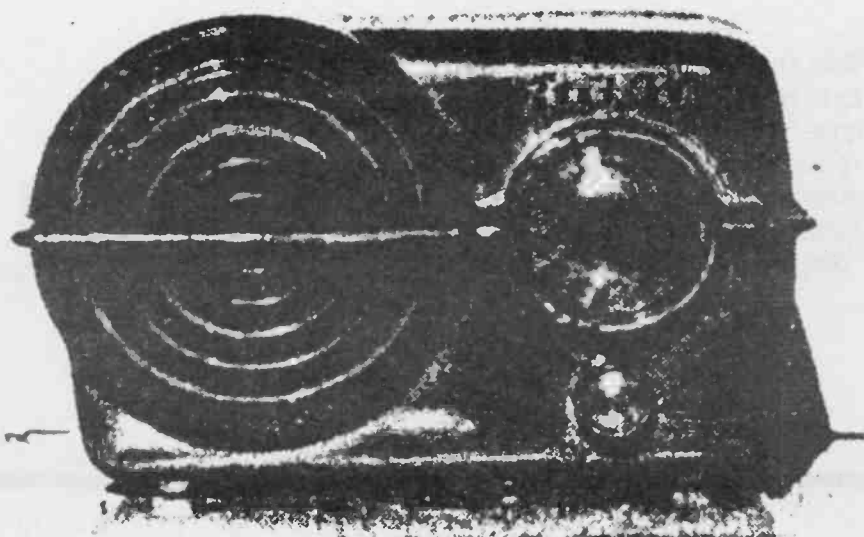
Plastics



About the last of the Majestics in the late 40's, this wrap around is molded bakelite. Other companies made similar sets.



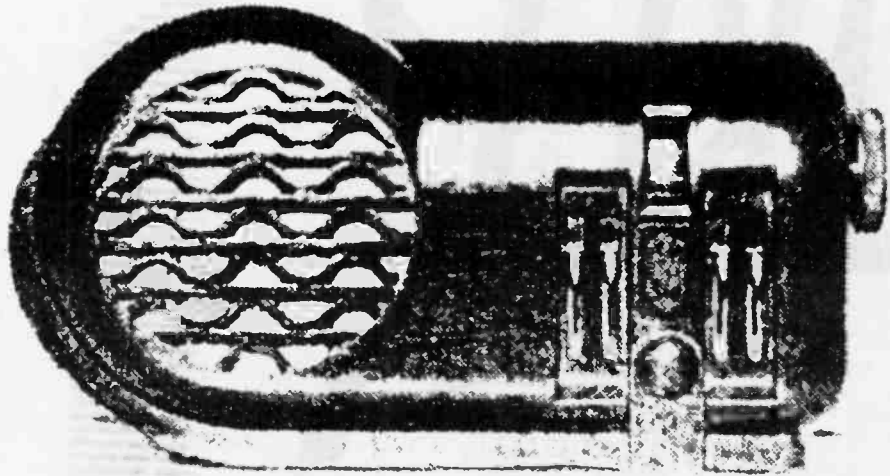
A streamliner that many art deco fans like. It is a Troubador— a somewhat rare name.



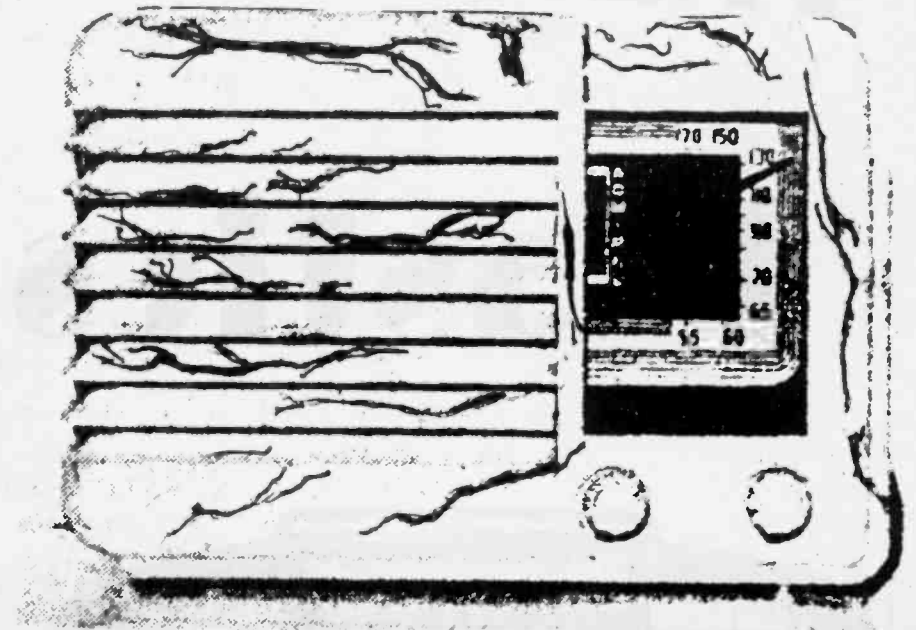
Here is the 1950 little "bull's-eye" Crosley. It has a sprayed paint finish on bakelite.



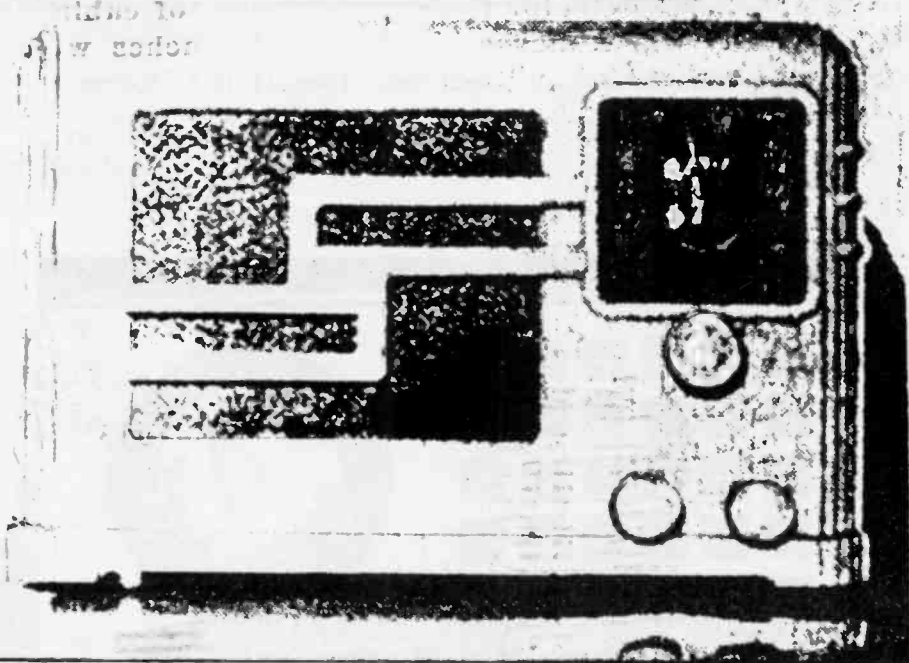
In the late 40s Emerson made this set in a green cast with yellow swirls. The white part is cellulose acetate or "beetle."



A 1939 molded brown bakelite radio. Others of this version were "beetle" painted white.

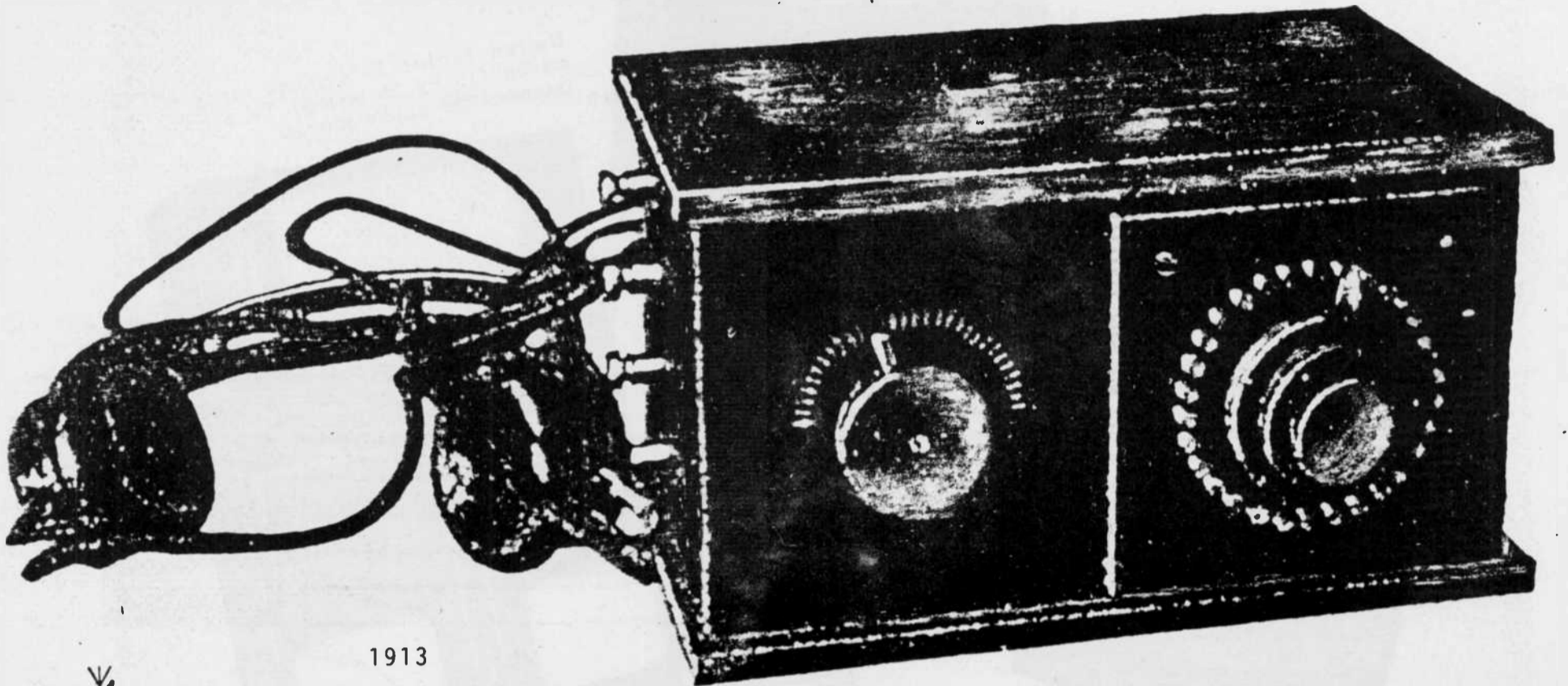


A white marbledized "beetle" 1939 Admiral radio with orange, green and red veins streaking through the plastic.

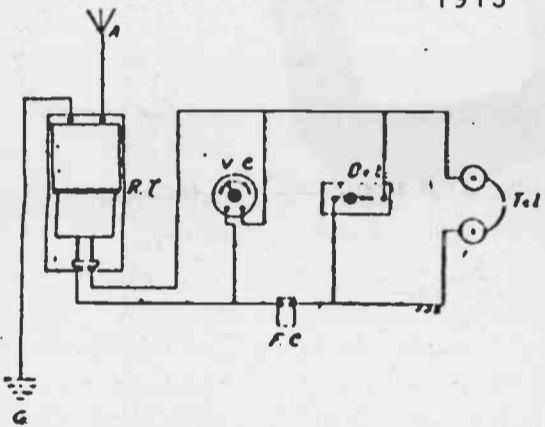


When the set is turned on the word FADA is back lighted and really shows up. This Fada cabinet is made of urea-formaldehyde plastic and the rear of the cabinet is finished by the cabinet material. It can set in the middle of a room and have a 360 degree finished appearance. Some of these sets are molded in red "beetle" with the same finished rear.

BLITZEN RECEIVING SET



1913

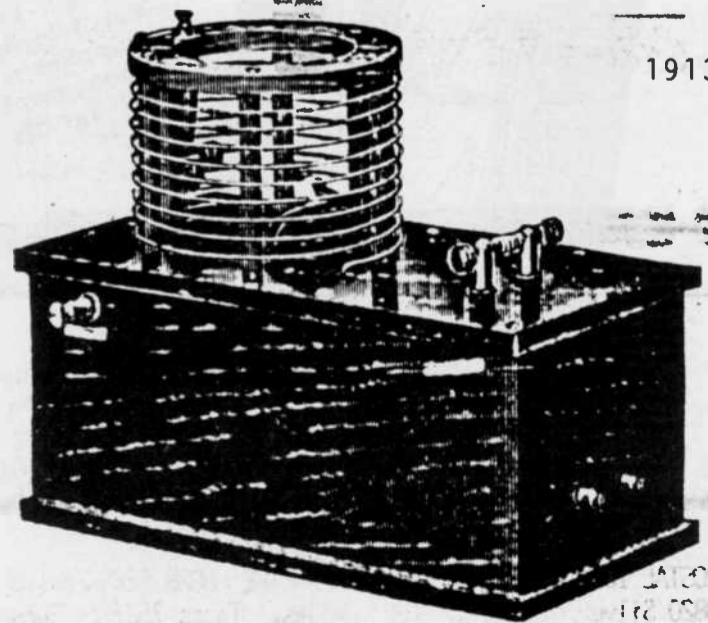


The instruments are mounted in a beautiful mahogany cabinet. In attractive appearance and workmanship it is, as will be observed by a glance at the cut, excelled by none on the market. It will be found to measure up to a standard yet unapproached in a receiving set at such a reasonable price. The set includes No. 60X68 Blitzen receiving transformer, No. 60X55 tubular fixed condenser, No. 30X50 Blitzen rotary variable condenser, No. 60X54 Ferron detector, and either our No. 30X20 Murdock, \$7.50, 2000-ohm head set, or Holtzer-Cabot 2000-ohm head set. Binding posts at the side of cabinet are provided for antenna, ground, and telephone connections. The detector is mounted inside of cabinet.

The size of cabinet is 9 inches long, 5 inches high, and 5 1/4 inches wide. Shipping weight, 11 pounds.

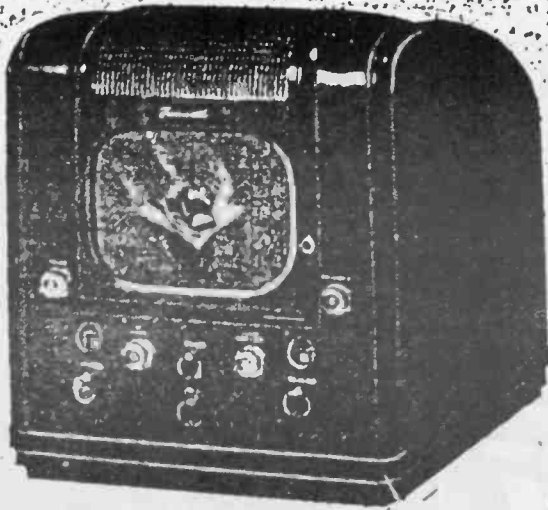
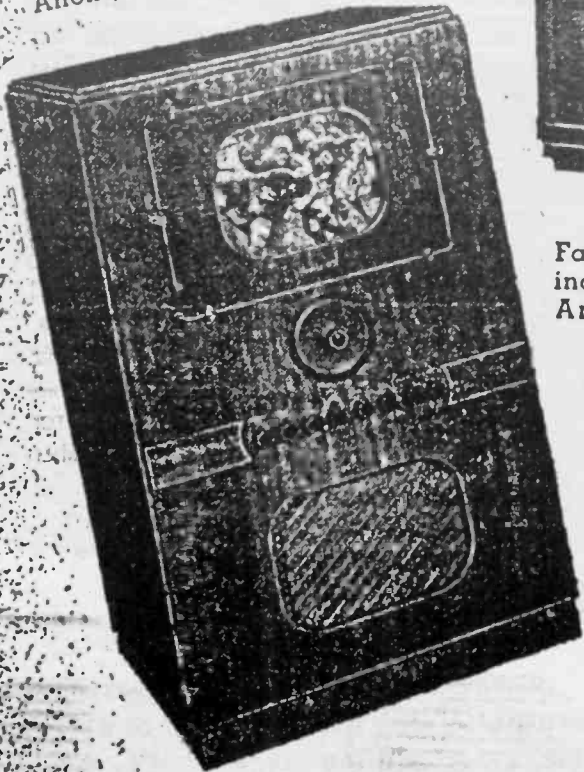
PEERLESS TRANSMITTING SET

The "Peerless" Transmitter is constructed in a compact unit, beautifully finished with all woodwork carefully stained and polished, and the brass work gold lacquered. A "Gnome" transformer is provided with this set and is mounted in a case with a glass plate oscillation condenser. The spark gap is of special design made purposely for this set and is very substantially and carefully built. The helix is also of special design. The coil is of heavy spring brass.



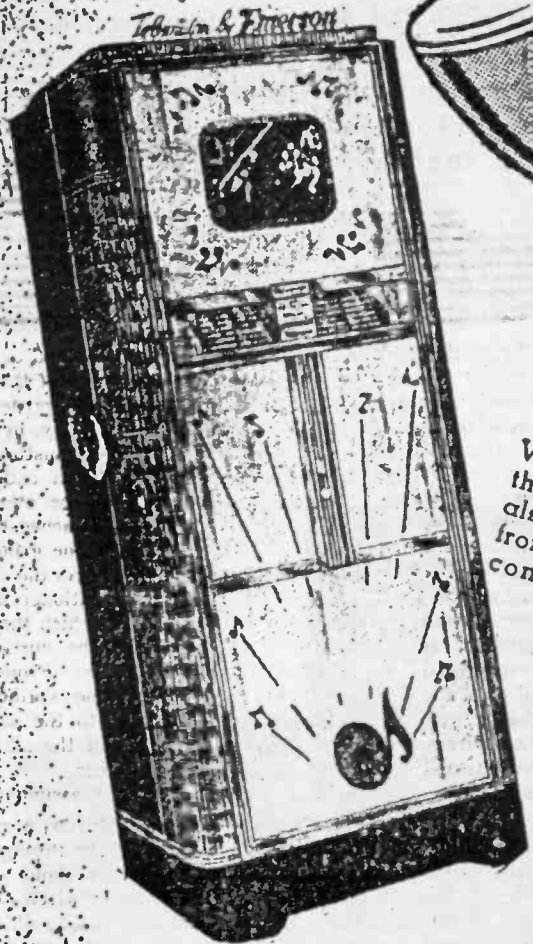
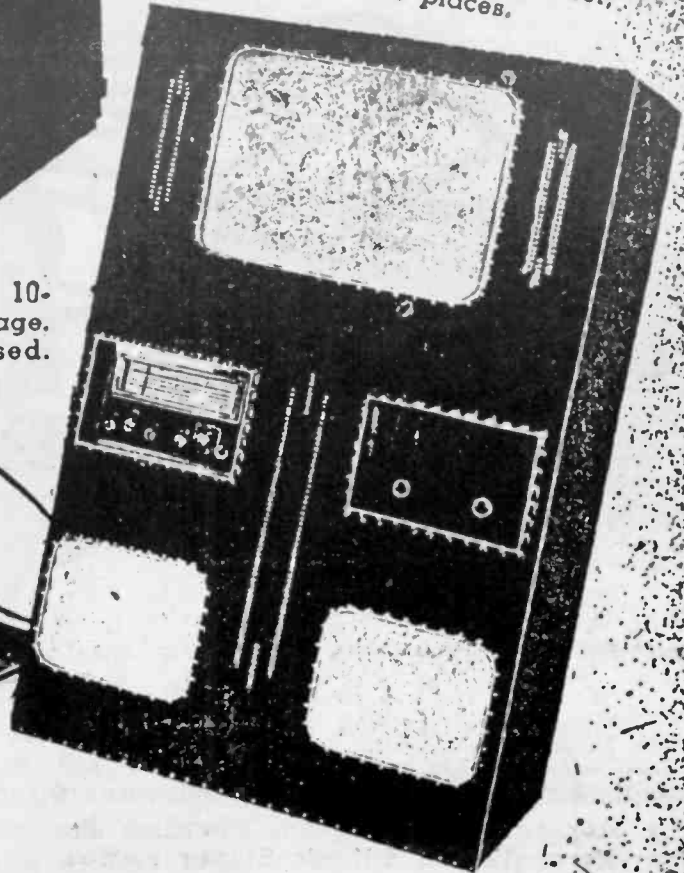
1913

Remington 12-inch tube television receiver, covers all FM channels. Another model has 15-inch tube.

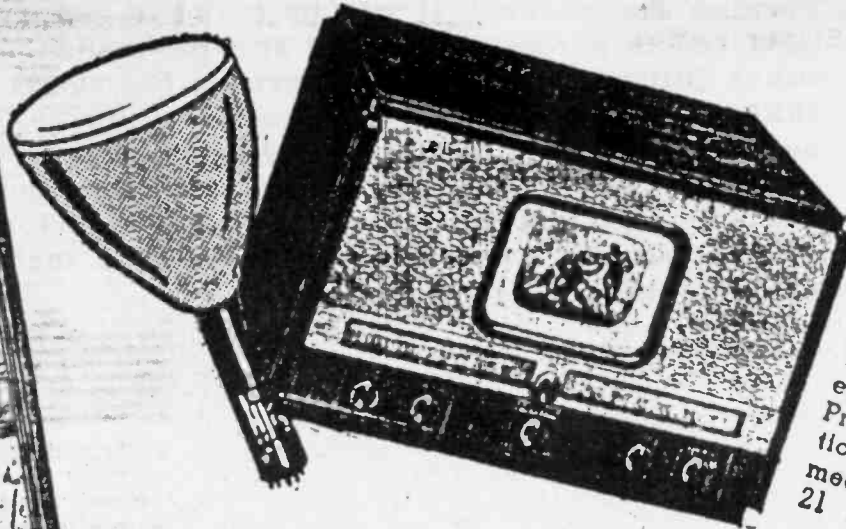


United States Television large screen (19 by 25 inches) TV set, intended for public places.

Farnsworth table model has 10-inch tube, 52-square-inch image. An AM adapter can be used.

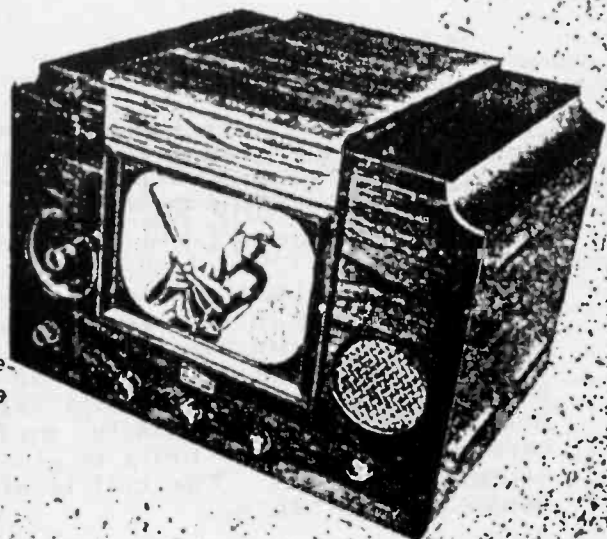


Videograph-Emerson coin-in-the-slot television receiver - also supplies music and song from phonograph records. Table control is also available.



Belmont table set with 7-inch picture tube. Covers all 13 TV channels and employs 21 tubes. Provides FM reception. The cabinet measures 14 1/2 by 21 by 16 inches.

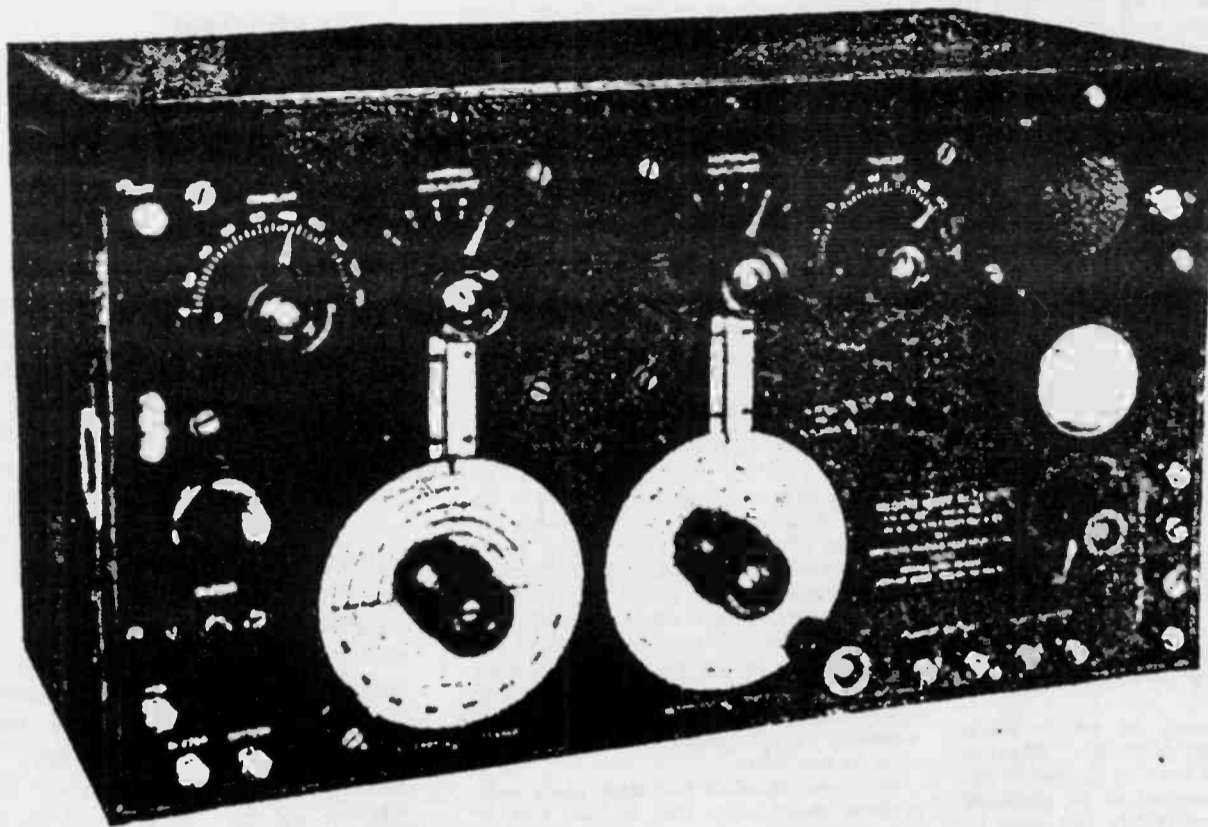
Transvision 12-inch tube television "Kit" set. Picture size 75 sq. in. Factory-tuned R.F. unit. All TV channels covered. 22 tubes. Home assembly.



IP-501

This is the 1922 Radio Corporation of America radio receiver IP-501, manufactured by Wireless Speciality. These sets were produced with the highest degree of quality for the time. They did not last long as the last word in quality of design but they still command a high degree of perfection in finished craftsmanship.

Collectors seeking one of these classic IP-501 receivers, can with diligence, buy one at a club auction. The IP-501 sold for \$550.00 new and now generally sells for \$600.00 to collectors—when possible.



McMurdo Silver

Early biography of the "youth" behind the Silver-Marshall and McMurdo Silver radios

By A. Henry

HAVE you ever sat in one of the sky-scraping stadiums which now dot the land and watched a famous football team in action—and then, later in the game, had an opportunity to stand close by the side-lines and see that team rush past you, literally shaking the ground as it bucked the line of its adversaries with speed "faster than the eye can follow?" That is, perhaps, a feeble suggestion of the impression one gets from meeting the newest and youngest among those radio manufacturers who hold the coveted "RCA license." He is one of the most remarkable figures in an industry distinguished for the number of young men who have attained high places.

Yet, lest the impression be conveyed that McMurdo Silver is a superman sent to earth with some peculiar sort of silver spoon in his mouth which causes difficulties to vanish before his inspired onslaught, it had best be explained that such by no means appears to be the case. Those familiar with Silver's short but adventurous business life know that, if he is a whole football team in himself, his life has been no continual succession of marches down the field to repeated touchdowns. On the contrary, there have been times when the ball was in the enemy's hands, with the line gritting its teeth to withstand the opponents' determined rushes. But, after all, the important thing about a football game is the final score. And there is no better way of stating his score than to say that in 1924 Silver went into the radio parts business with a determination to attain leadership in that business within five years; and that the thing was done in four years instead of five—for 1928 saw Silver-Marshall at the top of the heap!

And—if further evidence is needed—1929 finds this same 26-year old executive the recipient of a manufacturer's license from the Radio Corporation of America, General Electric Company, Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company, and American

Telephone & Telegraph Company, to manufacture radio receivers under the famous "pooled patents" which opened the door to large-scale radio production in the market of the middle twenties. When it is remembered that these licenses have consistently been issued only to large and long-established radio manufacturing corporations—and that a minimum payment of \$100,000-per year is required of each licensee as compensation for the use of these combined patents of the largest electrical research laboratories in America—it becomes clear that those in the high councils of electrical big business are much of the deliberate opinion that McMurdo Silver is a "good bet."

And the story of this man who is still a mere boy, is doubly interesting; for it can easily be the story of any "amateur" young man of today, if only he is willing to follow in Silver's footsteps, and work and study to fit himself—not to seize, but to do as Silver did—to make, his own opportunities.

McMurdo Silver was born on the 15th of March, 1903, in Geneva, New York—almost a St. Patrick's baby. His father was professor of ancient history at Hobart College. Both of his parents were of American stock for several centuries back, with Scotch, English and French blood behind their American ancestry. The boy's early youth was uneventful except, as this narrative may fall in the class of "success stories," it must be stated that young Silver did not run true to "success" form. He was not a leader among the boys of the town, he did not play the most devilish of practical jokes, and he was not at the head of his class—actually, he was far from the top, most of the time. Nor was he a book-worm—in fact, up to the age of nine, nothing unusual seems to have been apparent in the boy except a rather noticeable seriousness.

AS THE TWIG IS BENT

At the age of nine, "wireless" came into Silver's life. How it came, and how he as-

A young constructor, a few years back, busy with a set which its contemporaries can readily date. He has since grown up with the industry—in fact, from a business standpoint, much faster.

simulated it, forms an amusing anecdote. Some older members of his family, seeking to instill educational thoughts in the child's mind, one day read to him two accounts from a monthly magazine. One was of "wireless," which had come into the limelight of public attention through the sinking of the *Republic* and, just then, of the *Titanic*. At the same time an account was also read of the Mexican Rurales, a troop of mounted police recruited from criminals by the simple and masterly expedient of catching one, putting a rope around his neck, placing him upon a horse all ready to be gently stroked with a whip, and asking the individual so situated if he wished to become a *Rurale*, or if he preferred to dismount from his steed posthaste and remain in the unenviable position of hanging by his neck to an obliging tree limb, separated from it by several feet of rope, and from the ground by several feet more. The answer, unless choked off by the culprit's emotion, or the executioner's desire for the unusual negative reply by way of a bit of extra excitement, was invariably "yes."

Strange as it may seem, these two bits of instruction stuck firmly in the young man's mind. The next day the cook, called to the back yard of the family residence by unceremonious yells, beheld a strange sight. Sitting astride a saw-horse was a young Mexican boy hurriedly conscripted for the part of the convict. His hands were tightly tied, and a very heavy rope, almost thicker than his pudgy arms, connected his unwilling neck with the limb of a small tree directly above him. He was calling loudly upon all the saints known to him in a somewhat unintelligible imitation of Spanish. Next to him stood one of the "Silver Gang," asking loudly



and repeatedly whether he "joined or died." The executioner, in anticipation of the reply, held the nozzle of a length of garden hose in his hand. Some distance away, in a confiscated wash-boiler, stood the instigator of this new game, holding the other end of the hose in one hand, while in the other was another piece of hose which reached back to the gibbet and terminated in the grimy grip of the assistant executioner. As the victim's pleas were uttered, the executioner shouted them into one hose, through which they were presumably transmitted to the ship at sea, represented by the wash-boiler. From there, through the other hose, the verdict was shouted in a high falsetto to the assistant executioner, who in turn put the all-important question to the prisoner.

In this way wisdom was assimilated by the analytical mind of McMurdo; communication with ships could only be through rubber hose, since one couldn't shout several thousand miles. And to use "wireless telegraphy" one had to have a reason; which was opportunely provided by the recalcitrant son of a Mexican villager, who might even yet be reclaimed to the cause of the law by strong-rope methods and the marvels of radio.

THE TREE'S INCLINED

Having had the error of his ways physically impressed on him in no uncertain manner, the inquiring streak of Silver's mind came to the surface. He set out to find

out about "wireless," and the reason for his chastisement. This he did for several years with no overpowering success. To earn money to buy the parts with which to experiment, he obtained a job that every older boy in town had had before him, and given up after a few days—or few weeks—for the job required a degree of regularity abhorrent to a small boy's soul. It was the newspaper route in the village. Every day, including Sunday, the boy had to get the New York City papers from the noon train, make up his route, and deliver papers from one end of town to the other, rain or shine. Fortunately, Silver's school hours permitted this and somehow he held the job not for a month, but for years. And so the paper route that had once been a source of emergency revenue to small boys of the town, ceased to be a source of annoyance to the methodical villagers who wanted their papers promptly on the dot, and seldom had got them. But let us not give young Silver credit for too much perseverance. Two factors held him on the job, rain or shine, winter or summer. The first was a parent anxious for his daily paper to arrive promptly and regularly, and the second was a similar determination on the part of the no-longer hazarded proprietor of the route, which manifested itself in a much more substantial manner than parental orders.

All the money gained does not seem to have given him a "wireless" that was ever the talk of the town, but the foundation was being laid; he was reading and studying "wireless" to a point where his school studies suffered badly. Early in 1916 Professor Silver died, and the young man moved to New York City with his mother. By this time he had managed to squeeze out of grammar school, from which he never did graduate, and into high school; and for three successive years he was the discouragement of his instructors, all of whom finally gave him up as hopeless, and firmly threw him out of school!

So on a memorable Armistice Day of November 11, 1918, while Wall Street was covered from top and bottom with paper and ticker tape, and the world was terribly jubilant at the prospect of peace after the long repression of the war years, young Silver started to work in earnest to help support his family. And had Professor Silver been alive, it is doubtful if he would have been greatly grieved at the failure of his son to acquire an academic education; for the liberal-minded father had always felt from his years of experience that for a young man so uninterested in a college training as not to desire it, or to be unable, through lack of interest, to assimilate it, its loss was no real loss.

But this time the secret of Silver's success could be seen, but by most parents it would not have been recognized. He was a failure at school; yet at the age of thirteen, in 1916, he had written, and had succeeded in having published in a sporting magazine of the day, an article of several thousand words on a subject in which he was deeply interested—early American firearms. This was during wartime, and as "wireless" had been prohibited to amateurs, Silver had thrown his whole interest into studying his other hobby, antique guns. His interest was so great, and he had spent his waking hours in such deep study and determined efforts to satisfy his curiosity at public libraries, museums, and in gun stores, that he possessed at the age of thirteen a more complete knowledge of early American arms than many a veteran collector or dealer. And this knowledge had enabled him to earn many hundreds of dollars in the years of 1916, 1917 and 1918 in buying, selling and trading old arms; for in this field his commercial talent first showed itself.

Interested as he was in firearms, he could not enlist, for he was but fifteen years old when the war ended. The ban was lifted from radio shortly after Armistice Day, and Silver began to experiment again, with the new vacuum tubes that had been developed during the war. Not content to work as a Wall Street messenger during the day and play with wireless at night as most boys

would have been, he added the commercial element of building, buying and selling the crude "wireless" parts and sets of the day in addition to his trading in old arms. Silver was ambitious, and spent in study his every waking hour outside of a job that he seldom left before seven or eight o'clock in the evening.

WORKING INTO RADIO

The story is told that he gave himself five years to become a partner in the old, established brokerage house for which he worked and, upon finding himself advanced only to the position of quotation-board boy after a year and a half, forsook Wall Street. At this point his life work was determined upon. Up to then "wireless" and antique arms had had his almost equal interest. The offer of a position as laboratory assistant in the tube laboratories of the Westinghouse Lamp Company at Bloomfield, New Jersey, decided his fate and radio definitely claimed him early in 1920. The work of developing the tubes that preceded the present Radiotrons so intrigued Silver that he decided to become an engineer—this lad who had failed at every scholastic study. How did the boy who had been disappointed because he could not rise to the top over night in Wall Street go about it?

His interest aroused, he set to work, blindly at first, then pointedly. First he asked—"Why can't I have an engineer's job now?" And when laughed at he persisted until he found out concretely just what he would have to do to become an engineer. Having then little money for education, he decided to take night courses in engineering at Cooper Union. But he was unable to pass the entrance examinations; for his only education was what he had absorbed from his parents and dug out of his hobbies for himself. Unable to take up an engineering course at once, he set out to lay the groundwork that would enable him to enter Cooper Union later. Starting in another night school to prepare, he soon passed his examinations at the head of one class, second in another. Such was the strength of his interest when once aroused. In the meantime, having learned all he could at the Westinghouse Laboratories without knowledge of his own, he went to work for a radio and electrical jobber in New York to broaden his experience. Not greatly interested in his work, he made no startling success, though promoted twice in eighteen months, once to head of his department, the second time to a higher department.

The spring of 1922 saw the radio broadcasting boom well under way, and the formation of the Griffin Radio Service—to become in a few months the Haynes-Griffin Radio Service, well known to all old-timers—and when the new store was opened Silver was on hand as first employe. The summer of 1922 brought the partnership of A. J. Haynes and John Griffin as the Haynes-Griffin Radio Service, and in the fall came the Haynes D.X. Tuner, one of the first kit-sets ever developed, and the work of A. J. Haynes.

Superheterodynes were almost unknown to the average listener of that day, but Silver's mind, always ranging ahead, realized the possibility of the superheterodyne circuit for broadcast reception. He "sold" both Haynes and Griffin of the idea; the result, in 1923, was the Haynes Superheterodyne, practically every experimental model of which was built and most of the actual testing work done by Silver. After this, he spent a month at Plattsburg training camp, "resting." Intensely interested in his job, Silver worked day and night. But he did not work blindly. He absorbed ideas like a sponge, always prying into things, asking "why?" And as soon as he was told, ex-

perimenting to see if he had assimilated the idea well enough so he could do the thing himself—always, always trying until he could. He soaked up merchandising, advertising, selling and engineering ideas with equal rapidity as a result of his intense interest and curiosity, and continuously stirred these ideas about in his mind until he produced a newer one from them.

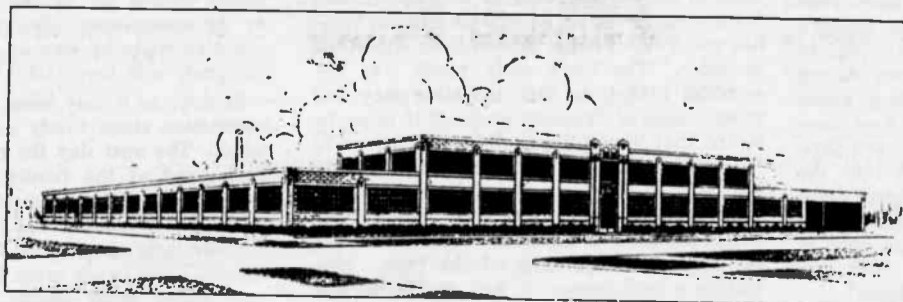
GOING WEST

During this period a number of influential New York business men, caught by the radio craze and sensing Silver's ability, offered to finance him in a business venture of his own, but he would not leave Haynes-Griffin to start out on someone else's capital. In 1926 the unexpected death of a step-grandfather (Frederic Courtland Pensfeld, ambassador to Austria from the United States, just before the war years) and an equally unexpected bequest, gave Silver his chance. Sensing Chicago as the coming radio center of the country, Silver said goodbye to Haynes and Griffin, went to Chicago, and organized, with his distant cousin, John R. Marshall, the firm of Silver-Marshall, Inc. Silver gave the new firm five years to become a leader in the radio parts business—we shall see if his determination was to be as ill-fated as the earlier one, to jump from messenger boy to partner in the brokerage house in five years.

Silver and Marshall laid their plans well. In those chaotic days they realized that, if they were going to manufacture parts and kits, they must have a retail store to service them and help users, and they would also have to act as jobbers. So they opened a store on Wabash Avenue in Chicago and took the second story of the garage pictured. This was the first S-M "factory," of some 1,000 square feet, and in it Silver worked night and day to achieve his goal. The spring of 1923 saw Marshall retiring from an active interest in the young concern and Silver carrying on alone. As the manufacturing business developed, the need for a wholesale business diminished, and it was abandoned. Soon it was possible to abandon the retail store also, and 1927 saw these two stepping-stones cast away, and Silver's whole attention devoted to manufacturing. The unexpected business slump of the fall and winter of 1926 hit Silver-Marshall hard, as it did other manufacturers. But the young concern pulled through a period of acute financial stringency, and by the fall of 1927 was well out of the woods, and with a not-to-be-forgotten lesson behind it.

In just four years after the opening of the S-M store, Silver had achieved the goal he had given himself five years to attain—Silver-Marshall had become one of the largest manufacturers of radio kits and parts distributed through jobbers and dealers in America. In 1928 the firm's position was further strengthened, and leadership in the parts business was lifted well beyond the reach of competition—in a market in which the gross sales had fallen almost forty per cent. a year for every year that Silver had been in it for himself. And—his goal attained... a new one which had always been in his mind's eye was quickly set.

Radio News for June, 1929



Five years later: the most modern factory architecture characterizes the extensive plant which Silver-Marshall will occupy in their fifth year.

Restoring Antique Radios

by Durell M. Roth

This is the first in a series of articles offered as a comprehensive guide to restoring antique radio equipment using techniques that I developed at Antique Audio (see "On the Air", THE HORN SPEAKER, February 1988). In this series I will discuss the tools and test equipment necessary to restore vintage equipment, briefly review the operation of an oscilloscope, and provide a step by step guide for restoring your antique radio. In these articles I will use a generic AC powered superheterodyne radio having a power transformer. The techniques used to service this type of set can be applied to any receiver.

TOOLS AND TEST EQUIPMENT

Table I is a basic list of the tools and test equipment needed to restore your set and can be added to and modified as desired. All of the tools and the VOM are available at local Radio Shack stores or other electronic supply stores. I don't think bargain table varieties are a bargain.

Table I lists a signal generator and an oscilloscope among the test equipment needed for repair. In general, this equipment is used for final repair and alignment; therefore, your radio can be made completely operational before it is needed. It may be possible to restore your set without an oscilloscope, but the signal generator is needed for proper alignment. If you don't have a scope and/or generator I recommend that arrangements be made to borrow them from a friend or try to rent them from a local radio and TV repair company.

THE SERVICE BENCH — If you have been servicing equipment for a long time you probably have a service area set up in your garage or a spare room. Unless you intend to

SASE means
self addressed
stamped
envelope.

TABLE I

- TOOLS**
- Set of assorted flat blade screwdrivers
 - 1ea 12"x1/4"
 - 1ea 6"x1/4"
 - 1ea 6"x1/8"
 - 1ea 4"x3/16"
 - Set of assorted phillips screwdrivers
 - 1ea 6"x1/4"
 - 1ea 6"x1/8"
 - Set of plastic tuning tools
 - One pair long needle-nose pliers 4-6 inch length
 - One pair diagonal cutters 4-6 inch length
 - One pair slip joint pliers 6 inch
 - One 25-watt soldering iron with sponge for cleaning
 - One pound 60/40 solder #18 AWG or equivalent
 - One solder removing tool— spring operated vacuum type
 - TV tuner cleaner
 - One wire stripper
- THE FOLLOWING TOOLS ARE OPTIONAL BUT VERY HELPFUL**
- Set of nut drivers— allen hex set
 - Assortment of thin wrenches— box and open end
 - Test leads with alligator clips on both ends
 - Two heat sink forceps
 - One adjustable wrench— 6 inch
 - Nut driver set
 - Light weight lubricant grease
 - Light weight oil (try to obtain oil in a pen oiler or equivalent)
- EQUIPMENT**
- One VOM or VTVM— similar to Radio Shack model 22-201 or better
 - One signal generator— must cover 400KHz to 12MHz minimum— should have internal modulation capability
 - One oscilloscope— almost any scope from vintage type to state of the art will be perfectly satisfactory for use in radio restoration
- service a lot of sets over a long period of time, it is not necessary and in some cases not possible to set to set up a permanent service bench. In most cases, a card table set up in a convenient spot will well for a short term restoration project. Another very good service system can be using a large roll around for a television and use tables usually on the lower shelf so and the set usually stored on the multi-back
- out of sight and into a closet*

spare room without disturbing the electrical setup.

LIGHTING THE SERVICE BENCH —
A very bright light that can be moved to illuminate all parts of the project is extremely important. A light on the end of a flexible arm similar to those used on some drafting tables is an ideal choice. The lamp assembly can usually be mounted to a back corner of the service table and adjusted to illuminate any part of the project. I suggest the use of an incandescent rather than a florescent light because the incandescent is usually brighter.

THE OSCILLOSCOPE — The oscilloscope is an instrument that is not frequently found in the equipment collections of amateur repair shops. Because of its expense and the apparent complexity of the instrument, many collectors have attempted to repair projects without a scope and have had varying degrees of success. Actually the oscilloscope is a simple instrument to operate and is the most flexible of all test equipment normally used in service. The scope can be substituted for a VOM when measuring voltages and used to observe signals in the RF, IF and audio stages of a receiver.

Next month I'll briefly review the operation of an oscilloscope and discuss what the "picture" on the CRT actually means. Then I will begin a step by step procedure to guide you through the restoration of your antique radio.

REPEATED

PROBABLE ADDRESS CHANGE

By next month THE HORN SPEAKER should have an address change and a telephone number change. However, mail to the old address will be forwarded to the new address and a new telephone number should be reported by calling the present telephone number.

flea market

ADVERTISE IN THE HORN SPEAKER
Box 53012, Dallas, TX 75253 (lower price per square inch— compare)

- AD SPACE:**
- Full page \$75.00
 - Half page \$37.50
 - Quarter page \$16.25
 - Business size card ads \$1.00
 - price per square \$0.60

CLASSIFIED ADS .. 15 cents a word. (first 20 words free)
PHOTO ADS \$5.00 extra.

SALE

SPARK TRANSMITTER - "ONE KW" from early parts, Thordarson Type R spark transformer, old flat ribbon oscillation transformer, beautiful composite rotary gap with old motor. Used for lectures and display. Phone for description. \$500 firm; DeForest loop antenna, nice \$60; Very accurate replica Clapp Eastham navy type loose coupler \$90. All plus UPS. Paul Crum, W9LC, 6272 Cicero Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60646 - (312) 282-3033.

ANTIQUE BEEHIVE WHITE INSULATORS - \$1.00 EACH — HEAVY DUTY T.V. REPLACEMENT TRANSFORMERS, NEW BOXED AT \$20.00 EACH. — 50 YEAR COLLECTION OF VACUUM TUBES LOW LOW PRICES. INQUIRE M. LEVY, 101 EAST DRIFTWOOD #44, FBG, TX 78624 TEL (512) 997-2534.

ELECTRON TUBES: Receiving, transmitting, microwave.. all type available. Large stock. Next day delivery, most cases. Daily Electronics, P. O. Box 5029, Compton, CA 90224 (213) 774-1255.

TUBES AND POWER REPLACEMENT TRANSFORMERS... LOW LOW... PRICES: MINATURES AT \$1.00.... OCTALS AND LOCTALS AT \$2.00.... INQUIRE ON OTHERS..... M. LEVY, 101 EAST DRIFTWOOD # 44, FREDERICKSBURG TX 78624. TEL. (512) 997-2534.

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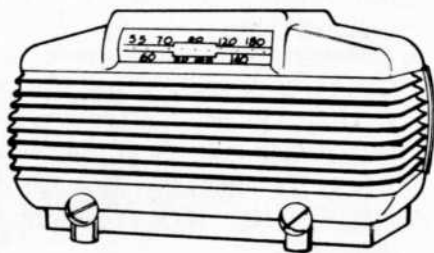
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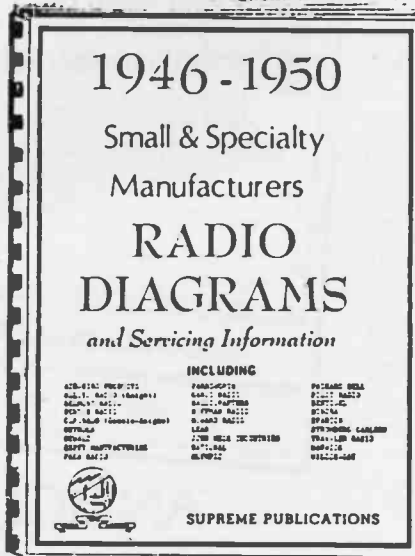
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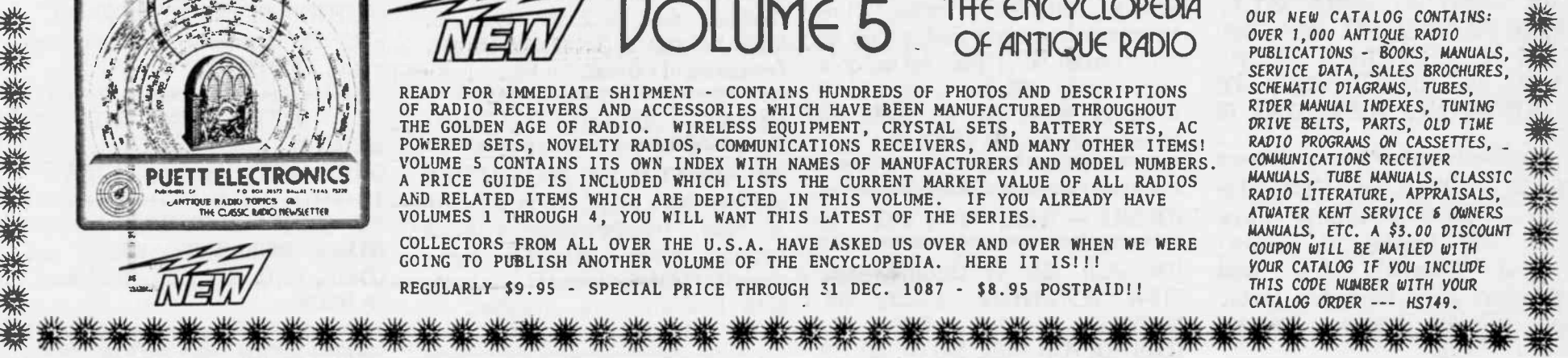
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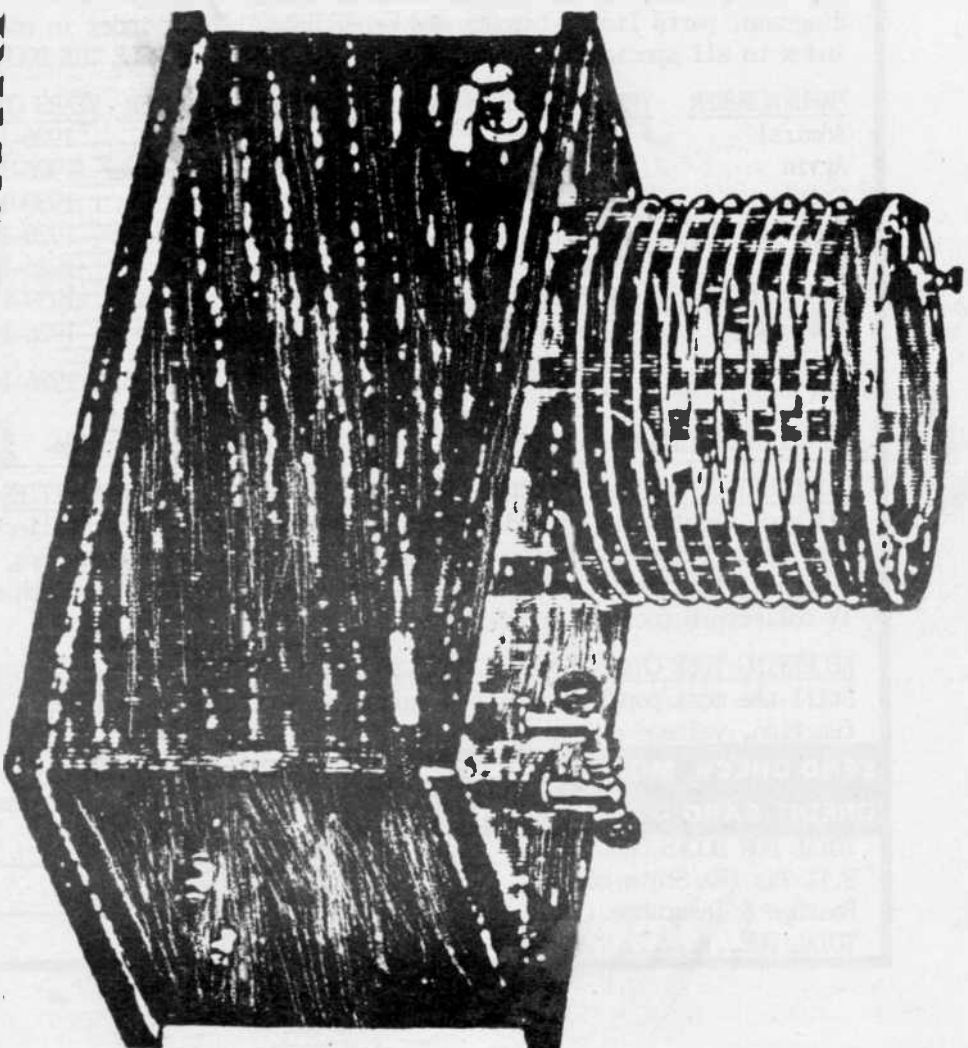
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