

VOL. 6
NO. 4

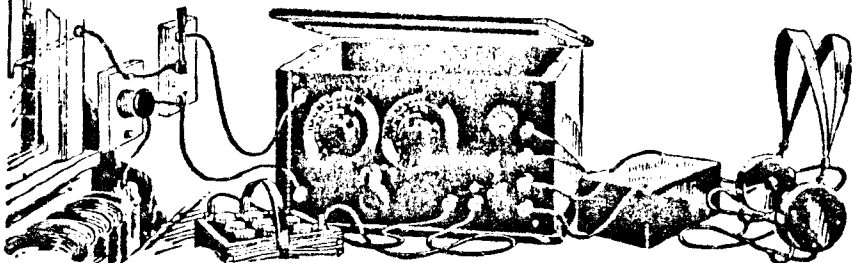


APRIL
1980

CALL LETTERS

Old radios and
related gear
for sale and on display
at the
Spring Swap Meet

April 5





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CALL LETTER

The Call Letter is a monthly publication of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society, a non-profit organization, incorporated in the state of Oregon. Meetings of the Society are held on the second Saturday of each month, normally, at the Buena Vista clubhouse located at 16th and Jackson Streets, Oregon City, Oregon. Meetings convene at 10 o'clock A.M.

Editor-in-chief.....Bill De Vey
 16969 S.W. Tracy Ave.
 Lake Grove, Or., 97034
 Ph: 635-6746

Contributing Writer.....Tom James
 Power Supply.....Bobbie Kibler
 Our People.....Hugh Rankin
 Advertising Mgr.....Bob Hay

Feature articles are contributed by members under various by-lines. Please send all contributions to the editor.

Call Letter Address: P.O. Box 02379,
 Portland, Oregon, 97202

POWER SUPPLY

On March 18, members of the Buena Vista Club, including the ladies of the Power Supply, and their guests toured the Hickory Farm's store out at Mall 205. It was both an informative and "tasty" outing. We learned about different cheeses and how they should be stored and served. Discounts were given on most items that we bought. When the tour ended, a drawing was held and prizes awarded. This trip will give us several thousand points for the CCA campaign.

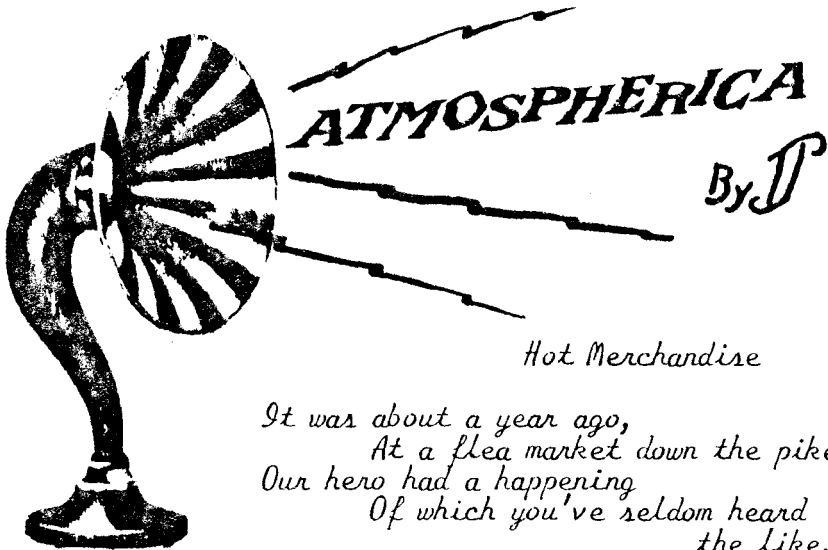
Now that California strawberries are beginning to appear in the markets, here is a recipe from Aunt Sammy's Radio Recipes using this short-seasoned fruit.

Strawberry Ice-Box Cake

1 Tbs. gelatin	1 Tbs. lemon juice
¼ cup cold water	1 cup cream,
½ cup boiling water	whipped
1¼ cups sugar	¼ tsp. salt
1 quart strawberries, crushed	Sponge cake

Soak the gelatin in the cold water for 5 minutes. Add the boiling water and the sugar and stir until the gelatin and sugar are dissolved. Mash the berries, add the lemon juice, and combine with the gelatin mixture and chill. When partially set, fold in the whipped cream to which the salt has been added. Chill again, then spread between layers of sponge cake and keep in a refrigerator several hours or overnight before serving.

By the way, plan to stay for lunch when you attend the swap-meet. We're having some delicious and different items on the menu.



Hot Merchandise

*It was about a year ago,
At a flea market down the pike
Our hero had a happening
Of which you've seldom heard
the like.*

*He was in his easy chair
Behind a multitude of stuff ;
A radio was playing sweetly
To our smiling antique Buff .*

*When a "mark" stepped up and asked
About the radio on the right.
"Does it work?" "Of course it does,
Watch how the tubes will light!"*

*Then all Hell broke loose,
Two caps went up like rockets;
Smoke poured out the speaker grill,
And the cord burnt to the sockets!*

*The "mark" took off a-grinnin'--
And is probably laughing yet,
At the strange Vesuvian antics
Of this lovely antique set!*

*"I guess I'll have to cut the price",
Said our hero, tears a-glisten,
"My dang fool console let me down---
I'm putting "as-is" on this un!"*

4 *Barney Schmell crossed a Magnavox with a Sleeper and
got a loud Sonora !*

LETTERS

.....since fuel is getting so costly and free hearted travel is a problem I find that I will have to search diligently for a means to carry on the lively art of radio collecting.

I may have one answer to the problem with a scheme recently tried, with some success. I have enlisted the aid of the radio and t.v. repair shops to refer the unwanted old tube radio jobs to me; i.e. those jobs they refuse on grounds of no parts, tubes, circuit diagrams, etc., etc. Most have been very co-operative and willing to get these oldsters off of their back and get to the more lucrative stuff, at the same time to retain the good will of the customer for sales and service of t.v. and transistor gear. I don't propose to repair these but to make them an offer which is pleasing to both parties.

I will have a few items for sale at the swap meet on the 5th of April at the club house, among them will be an A.K. model 33 in good shape and works. Trade or cash. A box of tubes, good variety, bring your tester. A.K. model 32, looks ok and plays but tuning band is out. Several speakers that work, checked them out this week.

I'm looking for a table (Crosley set(?) model.

So Long,
Joey

(above is excerpt of a letter to Tom James from Joey Tompkins, other items included in the letter were Joe's Ole' items. t/j)

** **

Jim Mason has just returned from Hawaii and reports that the only radio he saw, of consequence, was a Golden Leutz that Joe Tompkins saw several months back. It was lying on the beach, having been cast there by the surf, full of dead gimme-gimme fish. Jim passed that one up. He said a white enameled par nearby resembled a mars cap.

See Apr. 79 Call Letter Page 11 9.

OUR PEOPLE

By HUGH RANKEN

April showers bring May flowers, or so says the old adage. April also brings us our club's semi-annual Swap Meet, this year a week earlier than usual to avoid conflicting with the date of the Antique Auto Swap Meet. Our swap meet will take place at the club house on April 5th after the business meeting. For those wishing to participate, a donation of \$2.00 for table space will be appreciated. We urge all who have spare parts, extra tubes, old radio magazines or related literature (even some nice cathedrals or rare consoles) to bring them out.

Some of our members are old car hobbyists so advancing our date a week makes for the best of both worlds -- you can take part in ours and the following week participate in theirs. Years past, when I have attended the Auto Swap they have had a pretty fair miscellaneous flea market of non-auto related items so, who knows, there may be some old radio gear waiting for some one to take home. The Ladies of the Power Supply have graciously agreed to provide a hearty lunch for our meet.

It was agreed at the March meeting to have our club picnic in August at the Trolley Car Park near Forest Grove. As I understand it, our regular meeting will be held in conjunction. The old trolleys are almost a thing of the past and a nostalgic reminder of the "good old days". Mark Moore is to make the necessary arrangements.

Our guest speaker for March presented a most informative talk and demonstration on cabinet refinishing. We can always use new ideas to aid in restoring and upgrading the old sets.

For the March meeting Joe Tompkins displayed a Freshman Masterpiece in extra fine condition. Joe also showed a home brew battery TRF breadboard which he says he put together from "odds and ends" in his shop. Says when he hooked it up it worked right away --- good for him. This will, henceforth, be known as the Tompkins Breadboard. Let's fantasize a bit and look ahead to the year 2040. Two collectors discuss their finds; one says "I picked up this breadboard at a garage sale a few weeks back. It's called a Tompkins Breadboard --- never heard of it and I can't find any literature on it, but it works swell and I only paid \$1,295.00 for it". (Inflation is still with us -- now an annual rate of 87%, but this is an election year and all candidates if elected, are promising to have this reduced to a "liveable" 40% within six months). So much for the year 2040 and all this foolishness.

Are you looking for cables for your battery sets? Bob Campbell has been in contact with a supplier in Pennsylvania and judging from the sample they are well made. His name is Paul W. Little, Harnesses Unlimited, P.O. Box 435, Wayne, Pa., 19087. Bob Campbell could furnish more information on price, minimum quantities, shipping charges, etc.

We note the passing on February 21 of Chester Lauck (Lum Edwards), the last of the great radio team of Lum and Abner. With Morris Goff as Abner Peabody, they brought radio listeners their trials and tribulations as proprietors of the Jot Em Down Store for almost 25 years. Like Amos 'n Andy, theirs was a 15 minute show, five nights a week.

ARBORPHONE



Announces

**A NEW AND IMPROVED
MODEL**

Featuring
**Two Dial Control—
Rare Cabinet Beauty.**

Price
\$ **60**⁰⁰

**Add \$5.00 in Rocky Mt.
and Pacific Coast States**

Amazing value features the new ARBORPHONE 5-Tube Receiver. In appearance and in performance the ARBORPHONE matches, yes excels, point by point, sets listing for more than twice its price.

Your first impression—usually the best—is rare beauty of cabinet design and finish. The expensive rounded front is exclusive with ARBORPHONE.

The new model boasts many refinements of the same proved ARBORPHONE circuit now being used by thousands of satisfied owners.

Simplified tuning made possible by special dual condensers and a separate radio frequency control brings improved reception on low wave lengths and greater volume on long wave length stations.

DEALERS

A tremendous market awaits ARBORPHONE Franchised Dealers. Our discounts are as liberal as our exclusive merchandising plan is helpful. Wire or write for this plan of ARBORPHONE distribution. It assures volume business to ARBORPHONE dealers.

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Dept. C, 321 S. Main St.
Ann Arbor, Mich.

Nat'l Factory Representatives
SANFORD BROS.

30 W. Walton Place
Chicago, Ill.

"All You Can Ask of a RADIO"

Radiotorial Comment

By the Editor

FROM out of the West, where originated the midget set and many other new things in radio, comes a catchy slang word for a small, compact radio which is designed to give fairly good reproduction of local programs. This word is pronounced as though it were spelled "jalopee." The name, like a mule, has little pride of ancestry or hope of posterity. Yet it seems to apply, just as the set that it designates seems to fill the demand for a cheaper if not a better instrument. Thousands have already been sold in California and millions will be sold throughout the nation, especially as the larger manufacturers sense the demand.

The poor man buys it because he can afford it. The rich man buys it as a second set in the home. Hotels and hospitals use them instead of a centralized radio installation. It has been hailed as the beginning of a new era in the merchandising of radio.

It at least means the opening of a new market which the higher-priced sets cannot enter. It means a radio in every home and an increased demand for vacuum tubes. It means more over-the-counter sales and less home demonstrations. It means more rapid turnover of stock. And, with sufficient volume, it means profit for the dealer.

SOME of those who attended this year's two radio trade shows, the one at Atlantic City and the other at San Francisco, were almost unanimous in saying that the Eastern show was a flop and the Western show a wow. While there were at least five times the number of dealers in attendance at Atlantic City as at San Francisco, they seemed to attend

the Eastern show for pleasure and the Western show for business. The marvelous attractions at Atlantic City provided too many distractions from business.

The compact arrangements at San Francisco enabled a dealer to compare and decide what lines he wanted to sell. Furthermore, notwithstanding the disparity in numerical registration at the two shows, the actual attendance at convention sessions was greater at San Francisco than at Atlantic City.

Both shows were marred by the absence of quite a number of leading manufacturers from the exhibit picture. Their new models were not ready. This raises the question as to whether it would not be better to hold the trade shows later in the season when models and prices are more definitely known by more manufacturers. Perhaps the exhibit picture would then be more complete; but perhaps not.

Some manufacturers and jobbers question the wisdom of these comparative exhibits, preferring to invite selected dealers to individual showings at various centers throughout the country. But in such cases the dealer loses the advantage of judging for himself as to the comparative merits of various makes. Furthermore, he misses the larger contacts that are possible in the unconventionality of a big convention.

Another problem that is aggravated by the June show is the lack of salable merchandise during the summer months. What with the clean-up of old models and lack of delivery on the new models, the strictly radio dealer has little to sell. This year, where obtainable, the new midget sets have been a godsend in tiding over the slack period. But most dealers have had to depend upon some non-radio device to fill in the valley in the sales curve.

While no definite answer has here been given to these several minor questions which help to make up the big question as to what is the matter with the present plan of holding the trade shows in June, there is every expectation that the RMA leaders will succeed in finding a satisfactory answer. The trade show and accompanying convention still fills a need that no other agency has yet supplied in the radio industry.

RADIO FOR AUGUST, 1930

33

This beautiful example of advertising and the above editorial are from the Citizens Radio Call Book of September 1926 contributed by Craig Hoaglin.

Bits and Pieces

Our special guest at the March meeting was an accomplished furniture refinisher, Orville Schoen. Orville provided a demonstration of his refinishing techniques on a cabinet donated by Craig Hoaglin. Many of us stood around and inhaled the fumes of his various mixtures while asking questions about techniques and materials. The steps that Orville recommends in a typical refinishing job are:

STRIP, STAIN, APPLY SANDING SEALER, SAND,
APPLY SPRAY LACQUER, ANTIQUE OIL FINISH.

The stripping can be done with almost any of the well known brands as determined by your preference. They are all very similar except for consistency. A couple of brands that were mentioned were Jasco and Zip Strip. This is applied with a cheap (disposable) one or two inch brush, allowed to stand a couple of minutes, and then wiped off with #2 (coarse) steel wool.

After the old finish is removed a stain of your choosing is applied. Orville used a dark Minwax wiping stain. Wiping stains are generally applied with a brush or rag and then wiped off. I have also had good luck with gelled stains applied with a rag (Wood Kote brand).

The next step is application of a sanding sealer. The purpose of this step is to achieve a very smooth surface by filling the pores of the wood and sanding with number 220 sandpaper after a 20 or 30 minute drying period. Orville pointed out that you should look for a sealer with as high a solid (resin) content as possible (15 to 25 per cent).

The final finish recommended by Orville is the application of 5 or 6 coats of heavy bodied (high solid content) spray lacquer. This will result in a very high gloss finish. If you prefer a flatter look it is recommended that you apply a coat of Minwax Antique Oil Finish with 4 - 0 (very fine) steel wool.

Orville also suggested that an oil finish can be applied after the sanding sealer in place of a lacquer finish, if this is your preference.

B. D.

** ** *

Bob Campbell says that he would like to finalize another order for club jackets at the April meeting, so if you are interested bring \$12.00 and place your order.

** ** *

A \$2.00 donation is requested of all those wishing to sell items at the April Swap Meet.

SWAP SHOP

WANTED: Parts or chassis for Crosley Model 4-29; Bob Campbell, 2175 S.E. Pine, Hillsboro, Or., Ph: 648-7331

** ** *

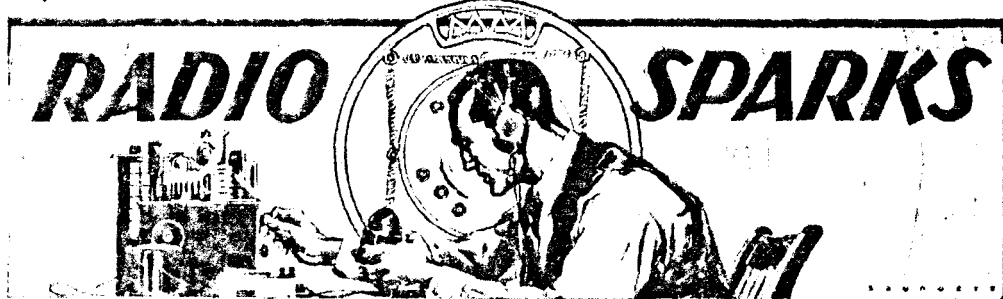
WANTED: VTVM or VOM 20,000 ohms/volt min. Good condition; Robert Teague, 7522 S.E. Roots Rd, Milwaukie, Or. Ph: 653-0077

** ** *

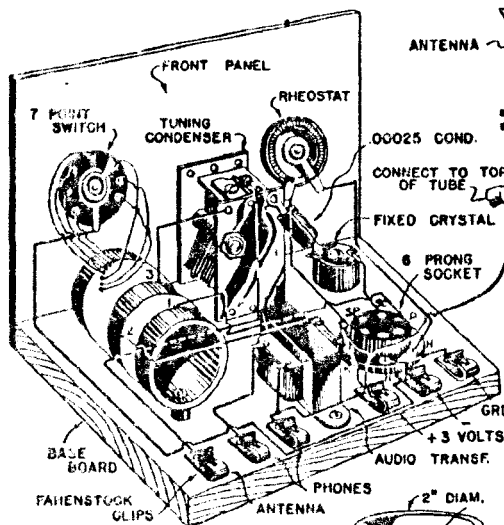
FOR SALE: Riders repair manuals, Vols. 8 thru 15 in good shape, \$40.00 or trade for vintage literature; Bill De Vey, Ph: 635-6746.

RADIO

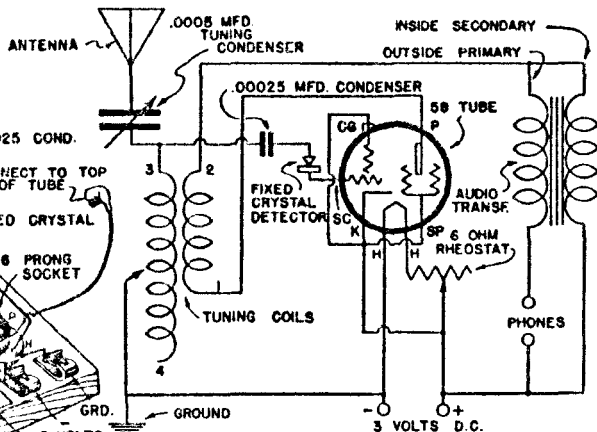
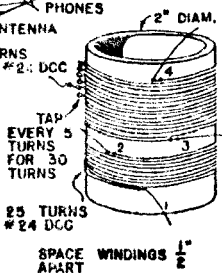
SPARKS



All Wave Tube-Crystal Radio Set Needs No "B" Batteries



For easy tuning of tube crystal radio, make or buy 7-point rotary switch and connect to coil taps. Front panel may be either metal or bakelite. Use any good audio transformer with 3 to 1 ratio. Connect outside of primary winding to inside of secondary (outer) winding. Most .0005 mfd. tuning condensers have around 23 plates.



Circuit diagram of tube-crystal set. CG is top cap on tube.

coil place coil No. 2 with 25 turns of the same wire. For short wave reception use 20 turns on coil No. 2.

In tuning, adjust the filament rheostat to place 2 volts or less on the tube. Set the tuning coil on the tap which gives the least number of turns, and slowly turn the tuning condenser. With sensitive headphones the volume will be especially good. A slight tapping of the crystal may be necessary at times to reset it.

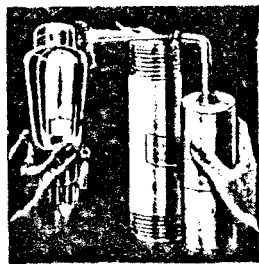
THOUGH purely an experimental set using extremely low power, this combination crystal and tube receiver will work very nicely with only two flashlight cells. It is ideal for camping trips, for lake cottages and for mounting on bicycles or in cars.

The tube is a type -58 using a six-prong socket. The fixed type crystal detector can be purchased from radio supply houses for about fifty cents.

The tuning coil is wound on a 2" or 2½" diameter form. Place about 60 turns of No. 24 double cotton covered wire, wound close on the coil, tapping off every five turns for 30 turns. One-half inch from this

Heat Glass to Pep Up Radio Tubes

THE new radio tubes with oxide coated filaments can be rejuvenated by slowly heating the glass with a blow torch or alcohol lamp until all of the silvery deposit inside the glass has disappeared. Test for shorts after cooling.



Avoid heating glass excessively when rejuvenating oxide-coated filament tubes by external heat.

Ole!

by

T.J.

New stuff trickles thru from time to time--no great items, but a few pretty good ones none-the-less Such as:

Bob Campbell's new factory built National Browning-Drake with a National Velvet "B" eliminator, both nice collectables he has been eyeing for some time.

Ed Charman found a Detrola, # 4-9 Cathedral and a Majestic table model # 371 (circa '33). Good additions to Ed's stuff.

Bob Hay has added another Radiola III to his roomful of relic radios. (probably has a trade in mind?)

Lou Stober added an Edison disc phonograph to his collection, primarily to have entertainment during power outages.

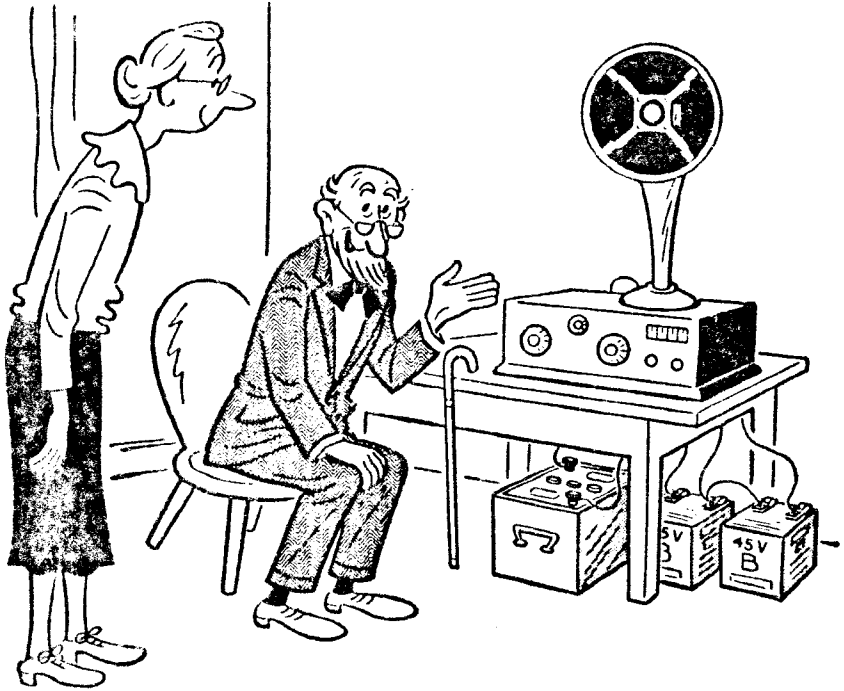
Your Ole' editor came up with three nice freebies this month, each with only minor filter trouble and a few carbon resistors which climbed hundred percent over tolerance. There was a PR-15 Pierson-DeLare communication receiver in excellent condition (covers from 550 Kh to 40Mh. in five bands). A rather unusual table model, wood cabinet Philco #39/25, fine condition except push buttons were plastic and have disintegrated. And last a Midwest 816 chassis, spkr., and antenna; this set has broadcast, 3 short wave bands, and a good FM band marked in channels instead of freq. (88-108). This Midwest has excellent audio quality.

Frank Plaisted picked up a Hallicrafters SX-17 in Seattle in mint condition. This is a 9 tube model put out in 1938. Not bad for substantially under \$100.00!

Joe Tompkins snagged a Marwol Battery set with a couple good tubes. A large Zenith console, with the big round dial, in excellent shape---a paltry \$20.00. Also an Air-line spindle legged console in fine condition (needed one tube according to Joe) for a little more.

I know some of you guys are finding items from time to time, and I have to pry the info out of you! Why don't some of you associates drop us a line? The Ole' address is Tom James, 5024 S.E. Clay St. Portland, Or. 97215

CARTOON CLIPPINGS



"Yes-sir-eee! The set sounds better than ever since we changed over to Hi-Fi!"



"I'm sure Mr. Crosby would be flattered at the resemblance. Now will you please get started on tomorrow's sermon?"

I Q Primer...

by THE PROF.

Here's a few True or false items for your amusement, or amezement, or enlightenment as the case may be:

1. Early superheterodynes had an intermediate frequency of from 60 to 80 cycles.
2. When broadcast station W L W in Cincinnati put 500 KW on the air experimentally, the farmers in the area were told by agitators that their hay stacks would catch on fire from the radio waves.
3. A "Wheatstone Bridge" is used to span a narrow band of frequencies.
4. "My Time Is Your Time" was the theme song of Al Johnson.
5. "Binocular" and "Doughnut" coils were used to confine usable magnetic energy to the area of the coil.
6. Shields are used on most later date radio coils primarily to keep dust and corrosion out.

** ** * * * ** **

The circuit in last months Call Letter was a figment of your editors imagination and no more. It was a long and difficult road for Bell labs and others to come up with the prototype of the modern transistor. It was an effort to get a system of guided missiles in production that triggered the concentrated engineering of non-linear diodes and eventually transistors to replace the thermionic tubes of De Forest's era and later.

Anyhow the aim of the NWRPS is restoration and preservation of the age of the thermionic radio tubes. Maybe at a later date, early transistor stuff will be in big demand as collectors items. See you next month with something else to tickle your scientific conscience.

tj/80

SWAP SHOP

COMPILED BY
BILL DEVEY

WANTED: Instruction book for large Model
20 Atwater Kent;
Andy Bell, 4534 N.E. 25th,
Portland, Or., Ph: 282-6110

** ** *

WANTED: Cathedral case for Philco Model
80 or 90;
Joe Tompkins, 3796 Hulsey S.E.,
Salem, Or., 97302
Ph: 503-362-8071

** ** *

WANTED: Old crystal sets, early tubes &
wireless gear, coils for SW-3,
base for A.K. Horn, base for Mag-
navox Horn, 1915-'23 QSTs (have
late 20s for trade)
Dick Howard

** ** *

FOR SALE: Large Model 20 A.K., \$100 with
tubes; Dick Howard, K7DVK
9999 S.E. Frenchacres Dr.,
Portland, Or., Ph: 775-6697

** ** *

WANTED: Top cover for Radiola 33 Model
AR-784; Cabinet for Zenith Model
5-R236; Info on Motorola Lazy Boy
Remote Control;
D.L. Meyer, 6137 N. Omaha Ave.,
Portland, Or., Ph: 289-4537