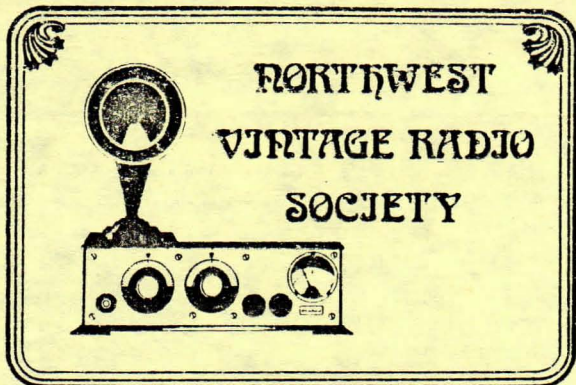


VOL. 7
NO. 1



JAN.
1981

CALL LETTER

Gernsback Electronic Publications 1908-1958

- Modern Electrics*—1908-1912
Electrical Experimenter (Science & Invention)
—1913-1929
Radio News—1919-
Practical Electrics—1921-1924
Radio News Amateurs' Handibook — 1923-
1929
The Experimenter—1924-1926
Radio Review—1925-1927
Radio Internacional (in Spanish)—1926-1927
Radio Questions and Answers—1926-1929
Radio Program Weekly—1927
Radio Listener's Call Book—1927-1928
Television—1927-1928
Radio Dealer's Personal Edition Radio News
—1928
Radio-Craft (now Radio-Electronics)—1929-
Television News—1931-1932
Short Wave Craft—1930-1936
**Short Wave and Television*—1937-1938
**Radio and Television*—1938-1941

*The name SHORT WAVE CRAFT was changed to SHORT WAVE AND TELEVISION in 1937, and to RADIO AND TELEVISION in 1938.

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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.

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Portland, Oregon, 97202

POWER SUPPLY

The ladies of the Power Supply and the Buena Vista Club met over at North's Chuck Wagon in Milwaukie on December 16 for our annual Christmas party. Dorothy James brought a lovely candy wreath she had made to be given to the convalescent home across from the club house. Gifts were exchanged; and one of our members, who had just returned from a two and a half week guided tour of several European countries and the Holy Land, showed pictures taken during her trip. A good time was had by all.

The following is a good high protein dish using left-over ham.

Ham Rice Bake

- ½ lb. cooked ham, cubed
 - 1 3 ounce can chopped mushrooms, drained
 - ¼ Cup chopped onion
 - 5 Tbs. butter or margarine
 - 2/3 Cup long-grain rice, cooked (2 cups)
 - 3 Tbs. all-purpose flour
 - 1 Tbs. snipped parsley
 - 2 Cups milk
 - 3 Beaten eggs
 - 1 Tbs. prepared mustard
- Cashew Topping

Cook ham, mushrooms and onion in 2 Tbs. butter for 4 to 5 min. Stir in cooked rice and parsley. Make a white sauce with remaining butter, flour, milk, salt and pepper. Blend half hot mixture into eggs, and then stir back into white sauce; cook 1 minute more. Blend in mustard. Add mustard sauce to ham mixture. Pour into 10x6x1½ inch baking dish. Sprinkle with topping. Bake in 350° oven 35 to 40 min. Serves 6 to 8. Cashew Topping: Combine ½ cup soft bread crumbs, ½ cup chopped cashews, and 1 Tbs. melted butter.



ATMOSPHERICA

By J

Paradosophy

Filters get old and leaky, son,
They are like a worn out cask,
They drizzle all the juice away--
And don't perform their task.

If the plates should come together;
If opposite plates should touch,
Their function as a tuning gang
Is most certainly not much!

If you strain the by-pass kind, with
Too much electro-motive force,
It will bust them rascals open---
They are then no good, of course.

Then again, if your couplers leak
And positive goes your grid,
The tube will behave iffily
And your hi-fi take a skid!

You can't get on without them, son,
If you'd make those radios run;
They didn't in nineteen-twenty two--
Not even in eighty-one!

** ** * * *
* * * * *

Mamma Goose # 7

Jack and Jill went up the hill
To string the aerial straighter.
Jack fell down upon the ground
And broke his insulator!

A Note of Interest to "Console Buffs"

An article in the Dec. 1980 "Old Timer's Bulletin (Antique Wireless Assoc) reports that of early AC console sets, those that have cabinets in the highboy style with legs, the higher the better, are much sought after. Those with two doors are especially prized as examples of beautiful cabinetry. It might be wise to keep this in mind when considering which sets to dispose of. A local dealer has been purchasing many sets of this type, avoiding those that sit on the floor.

Shades of Early Days:

A clipping from the Hillsboro Argus newspaper, submitted by Craig Hoaglin, reports that objections to permitting Radio Station KUIK to erect transmission towers in or near the city claimed that radio towers can sterilize cows nearby and interfere with T V reception. Fears of harmful effects of radio transmitters were quite prevalent in the days of early radio, particularly where high power stations, such as WLW Cincinnati, 500KW, were involved. Evidently, such fears still exist.

Local History

An interesting historical note appeared in the February 1912 issue of "Modern Electrics", reporting the organization of the Oregon State Wireless Association in Portland, Ore. Officers as follows: Charles Austin, president, Joyce Kelly, recording secretary, Edward Murray, sergeant-at-arms, Clarence Bischoff, Treasurer and corresponding secretary. The stated purpose of the club was to prevent interference and to help each other in any way possible. I am wondering if anyone has any information on this club - such as how long it was in existence, how many members, etc.

M

5

CLUB DOIN'S

Election of officers was held at the December meeting. Officers for 1981 are: Don Iverson, president; Bill De Vey, vice-president; Ed Charman, treasurer; Chuck Kibler, recording secretary, and Tom James, corresponding secretary.

The Christmas party provided by the ladies of the Power Supply featured a delicious buffet, free coffee and several door prizes to holders of winning tickets. Gifts were exchanged between members; unfortunately, there were too few designated for the ladies.

Treasurer Ed Charman reports that the club ended the year in the black. Much of the credit goes to Doug Eggert for printing the Call Letter at minimum cost.

For "Show and Tell", Don Iverson brought a very unusual one-tube set using a crystal detector and variometer tuning manufactured by Home Radio Corp. Jim Mason displayed his World War I era Duck loose coupler.

Joe Tompkins passed out flyers announcing the annual Vintage Radio and Phonograph Salem Flea Market Sunday, February 8. Joe plans to display a few sets to advertise the club.

The problem of water availability at the club house will be handled as follows: in the event of freezing weather a key to the area under the house will be furnished so that the water can be turned on. It will be our responsibility to shut off the water, drain and add antifreeze to the fixtures.

For the January meeting, bring out your variometer collection, and see how many different kinds we can come up with.

WIRELESS QUOTE OF THE MONTH

The triumph of the Triode

"It will have been observed that practically all the various developments of radio in recent years utilize, in one way or another, the same apparatus---the indispensable triode. Take away that instrument, and little would be left of modern radio.

When history is viewed in perspective, it is convenient to characterize successive ages in terms of some outstanding invention, which had determinate influence on the progress of civilization. Thus we have the stone age, the age of bronze, and the age of iron in remote antiquity; the age of gunpowder, the printing press, and the mariner's compass, ushering in the modern era; and in more recent times, the age of steam and the age of electric dynamo and telegraph and telephone.

Most of these great epochal discoveries, it be observed, have had to do with one aspect or another of the great problem of intercommunication, physical or ideational between man and man and between nation and nation.

Bearing this in mind, it seems not unlikely that the historian of the future may with justice refer to the time in which we are now living as the age of the triode".

#####

From "Radio History of the Ether": ,Funk and Wagnalls co., New York, 1923. The above quote was the conclusion by Henry Smith Williams of the electronic age resulting from Lee DeForest and Edwin Armstrong's work

Contributed by Art Redman

Radio Rejuvenation

ROBERT HORWOOD

"You can't go out. It's too cold; you'll catch your death."

Adam Vine wearily laid aside the long coat he had been about to put on. He looked at Myra with disgruntled defeat. Adam loved his daughter, but sometimes he thought that she was altogether too careful about his health.

Old. People were always hinting that he was old. They had put him on the shelf, and expected him to dry there until he had blown away. Adam rebelled. He was not old. He would go out. Hanged if he was going to spend another evening over some book that hurt his eyes, and after hours of futile brooding wander off to bed.

Adam strode to the door with a renewed vigor. A man is no older than he feels, they say. Once more he caught up his coat. As he bent forward to throw it across his shoulders, a sudden twinges assailed him. Rheumatism had brought defeat. Disconsolate, Adam dragged the bones of a very old musician back into the living room, and stiffly folded himself into his chair. Despair rose in him, and filled the shell that time had left of his body.

That is the before. As with the patent medicines he had taken in such quantities, there was also an after! Like most venerable old gentleman Adam Vine numerous grandchildren, and Harry, his favorite among these, paid him a visit.

With this little boy, not so little as he seemed to Adam, up there in his turret of years, came a liberation. With him Harry brought many strange things; wires, spools, boxes, and stranger things that Adam had never seen before. Hardly had he arrived before Harry began to tinker with these. Replying to his grandfather's questions, Harry answered in the patronizing tone of all children unable to understand the stupidity of their elders, that it was a Radio.

A Radio? What was that? Well, you turned this, and this, and the first thing you knew you heard music, from somewhere miles away. Music from out of the air, came through this little box. Radio! One day there came music that Adam Vine had once played, when he was "young" Adam Vine, the first American master of the violin. Adam was thrilled. Someone, miles away in the past was playing for him.

Adam now had a new interest. The horizons, which had closed around him with the passing of the years, drew back, frightened at the youth that they saw in the eyes of Adam. There was no more fear of the long nights of winter. No more silent evenings, when Adam would sit brooding of the music he had once played before his wrist had stiffened, and then had heard so eagerly. Now Adam sits before a square black box, and with his old eyes burning and a flush rebuking the yellow mask age had drawn across his face, he turned the little dials, while the old melodies float out into the room, and he is once more on the concert platform, master of the faces below him. The wrist that is too withered to master the bow, can still turn the knob, and start the dreams that carry Adam down the long aisles into his youth.

Adam is happy!

RADIO SPECIALS

Lester 3000-ohm Phones
(guaranteed)\$4.00
Phone Condensers, all sizes.. 10c
23-Plate Va Condensers..... 1.00
43-Plate Va Condensers..... 2.00
Neutrodine parts (3)..... 6.00
Tubes, Det., \$4.00; Amp..... 5.00
TUBES REPAIRED, ALL TYPES

TIME PAYMENTS

\$12.50 cash, \$5 month, delivers
you a Tube Set complete, \$45.00.

Range 500 Miles

Listen in Any Evening

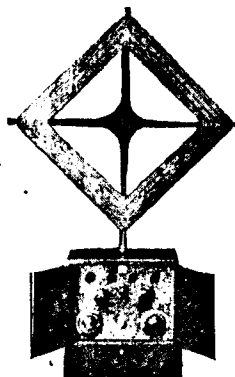
Free Program

LESTER RADIO SHOPPE

140 SOUTH SPRING

METRO. 4832

FITZGERALD'S
for the
Advancement of Music.



The DeForest Reflex Model D-10

This perfected Reflex circuit with four tubes is the most advanced instrument of its type ever offered to the public. In the Type D-10 all the advantages of the celebrated Reflex circuit are obtained, in addition to absolute portability made possible by the dry batteries which are enclosed in the cabinet. The D-10 may be obtained at these agents:

Nelson Music Company, Fullerton.

J. C. Horton Furniture Co., Santa Ana.

Gillette Furniture Co., Whittier.

Hancock Music Co., Pass-Schmidt's Music Store, Anaheim.

A. H. Springer, Sherman.
Keystone Hall of Music,

Riverside.

Claude Chess, Monrovia.

Thearle Music Co., San Diego.

Southern California Music Co., Los Angeles.

Southern California Music Co., San Diego.

Searles Music Co., Los Angeles.

Heath Electric Shop, Los Angeles.

The Fitzgerald Music Company is the Factory Agent for the De Forest Radio Telegraph and Telephone Co.

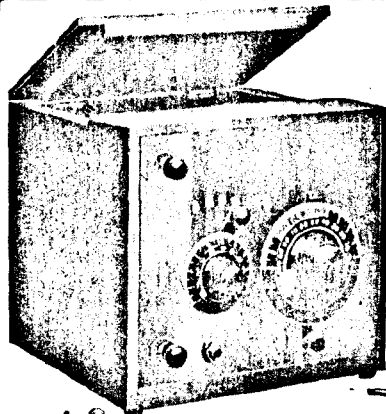
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Nothing Extra
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**The Compact Radio Set
With the Long
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What the Ultra-Airline Will Do for You

brings to you all the advantages of a high grade you usually pay for a crystal detector receiving set. People from all over the country have been wonderful value this is, and have ordered at this Airline is built of the highest grade materials for long distance reception. Records of 200 to 300 miles during the winter months. It brings to your ears the day's last minute reports on the current news, music from the best orchestras, speeches and entertainment of the highest quality. All these advantages are yours

at this extremely low price. It keeps you in touch with the world, makes your evenings at home more pleasant, and is a constant source of entertainment and pleasure. Where else can you find such a large return in clean, healthy fun for such a small amount? Remember that the outfit is absolutely complete. There is nothing extra to buy. When you receive your set you can receive music and entertainment within a few hours from the time you unwrap the package. Only a little work is necessary to install the set. After that the set will deliver entertainment to you as long as you care to listen. Almost too good to believe, isn't it?

Why We Can Offer Such Low Prices

The Ultra-Airline is designed and built exclusively for us. Our production of this set is tremendous, and for that reason we are able to make a very low price for the complete outfit. Large volume of sales and small profits is the secret. Remember, too, that you save by ordering from Ward's, for we sell direct. There is only one small profit. In direct comparison with similar sets, the Ultra-Airline is the lowest priced complete vacuum tube set on the market. Do not confuse it with some of the sets that are advertised at low prices. Many of these sets were hastily designed and built during the first broadcasting craze and are now out of date. You can have a new, up-to-the-minute radio set built on the latest principles. Every feature of the Ultra-Airline

shows quality. Nothing that will add to its usefulness has been omitted. The workmanship is of the best and the finished product is a credit to any home. You will be proud to have the Ultra-Airline for your radio set. Your friends will be as enthusiastic as you are when they hear the broadcasting stations come in clearly and loudly. Every evening the radio set will be the center of the family interest. A new and constant interest is aroused that brings the family to a better realization of the pleasures of life. Every evening will be filled with clean, wholesome fun, concerts from the big cities, music by famous orchestras, speeches by well known men; all these and many other things, are yours with the Ultra-Airline.

What the Outfit Consists Of

The complete Ultra-Airline Set consists of the tuner and detector described on opposite page; complete antenna equipment consisting of 150 feet of bare copper antenna wire, 25 feet insulated wire for connecting to ground, 2 porcelain insulators, 4 porcelain knobs with screws, a porcelain tube for bringing antenna wire into the house, a floating arrester for protecting the instruments during storms, single pole double throw switch, necessary connecting wire and a ground clamp. The vacuum tube included is a Cunningham C-210 or Radio Corporation UV-109. The head-set is our Airline Special described on Page 22. Moulded

bakelite construction. Resistance, 2000 ohms per set. The batteries furnished are two dry batteries especially adapted to fit into the cabinet, and a 22½-Volt "B" battery which is also contained inside the set.

503 W 636—Complete outfit. \$27.50
Postage, 44¢ extra
503 W 618—Tuner-Detector only. No tubes, batteries or other equipment included. \$14.75
Postage, 16¢ extra

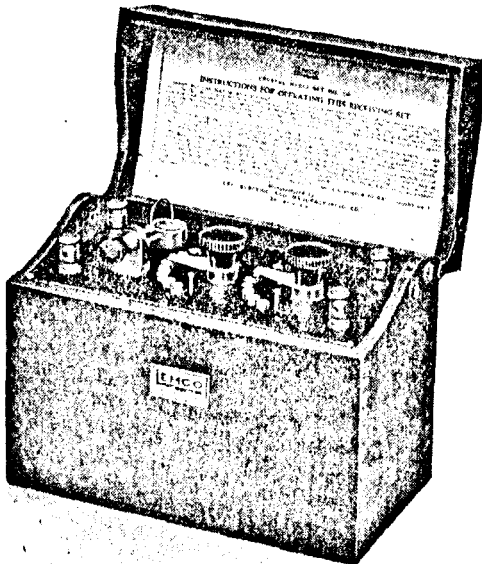
Extra Headsets may be used on the Ultra-Airline. See Page 22

Montgomery Ward & Co.

LEMCO EQUIPMENT

No. 340 A CRYSTAL RECEIVING SET

\$6.00



This highly efficient receiver will receive speech and music from broadcasting stations within a radius of fifty miles and radio telegraph signals several hundred miles.

The receiving circuit comprises of a tuner of the conductive-coupled double-tuned type. Taps are taken off the tuner in such a manner as to allow a gradual and even variation of wave lengths from 180 to 900 meters.

The neatness of this receiver enclosed in a birch mahogany cabinet added to its efficiency and simplicity makes this set appeal to those who would enjoy radio music without great expense or detailed experience.

No. 340 B CRYSTAL RECEIVING SET

With VARIOMETER TUNER, \$6.00

LEE ELECTRIC & MFG. CO.

220 Eighth Street

San Francisco

LETTERS

Our Salem correspondent, Joe Tompkins, seems to have found a "Mother Lode" of early AC consoles. Better hang on to them, Joe! (See Editor's note)

Dear Jim:

Here are a couple of items to go in your inaugural issue:

Found this month: an elegant Stromberg Carlson radio, Duncan Phyfe cabinet, stands about three feet high, oval top that has a drop front where the radio is. The advertising slogan which they used a lot said "There is Nothing finer than a Stromberg Carlson" certainly holds true here. It is a ten-tube super het., and runs all right. Now, maybe I can get this one upstairs, as it matches the wife's furniture motif.

My second find is a Sparton console, mid-thirties - to go with the one I found last month. 17 tubes and two decks, in real good shape. It was great until I looked under the chassis: someone had needed a higher value resistor, so bundled six together and placed them in the circuit - thought he had 150 ohms, instead of which was only 25 ohms. With this corrected, it runs great.

Joe

Ole! by T.J.

Another year has rolled around and pickins, though not spectacular were not too bad. Cheapies and freebies were not so much in evidence as formerly, but here too, not too shabby. For December, we list these below:

*Joe Tompkins, Salem--A nice Stromberg-Carlson console, and a Sparton console; nice wood and condition on both.

*Andy Bell, Portland-- Resistor decade box by Leeds-Northrup. Says he has some good sniffs for later.

*Ed Charman, Milwaukie, our Treas. got a Philco # 90 console (spindle legged var.) and an excellent AK-20, plus a Kolster-K20 w/sprk/tubes.

*Bob Hay, Portland-- Found a Peter Pan (Jackson-Bell var.) these are a bit scarce in these parts.

*Dick Howard, Portland--a 1921 Comml. and Amateur Licenses Rider's manual on servicing battery radios, other paper memorabilia of an Amateur radio nature, PLUS an autographed copy of Gernsbach's Radio Encyclopedia. Nice!

*Art Redman, Portland-- Crosley, Mod. 50 wood portable, an Airex horn, World crystal set and a Jefferson tube rejuvenator. Maybe I can get him to re-juve a couple for me.

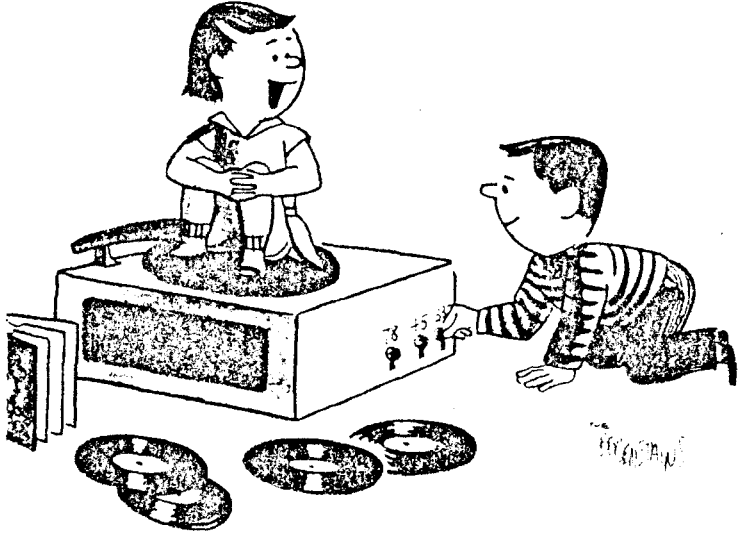
*Lou Stober, Tigard, Or. ---Has a Haynes Reflex with three 99s to show the less fortunate. I don't know how these guys get on Santa's list, gift list, that is!

*Don Iverson, Portland-- got two nice Breting communication receivers, one a twelve tuber, the other a nine, at a Salvation Army Thrift store. In addition he found two Magnavox 201-A tubes in original wood boxes! Along with a few 4v-199s in orig. Cunningham boxes. Oh, well?

*Jim Mason, Beaverton-- Came thru the holiday with a new Silvertone model 91, a seven tube job with one Sears Roebuck tube of uncertain qualifications. Also no circuit seems to be available in Rider's. Seven tube Neutrodyne 201A type battery sets aren't too common!

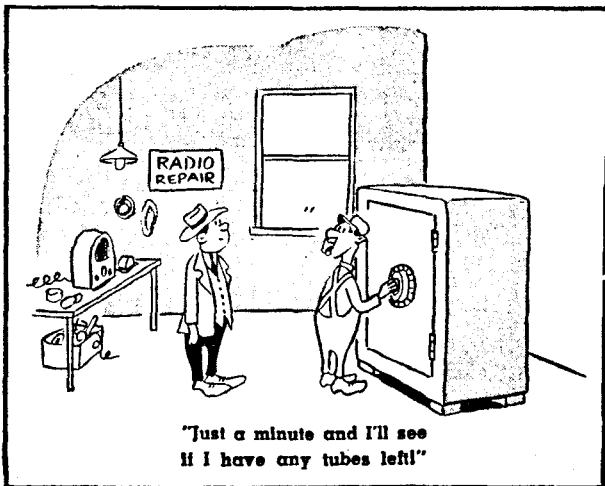
*Speaking of Neutrodynes, Your Ole' editor found a nice Thompson 6 tube set right down in Oregon City a few blocks from our Buena Vista Clubhouse, how's that?

CARTOON CLIPPINGS



"I prefer the 45 and 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ RPM — 78's a little scary."

— ThisWeek '54 —



"Just a minute and I'll see
if I have any tubes left!"

Radio News '44

I Q Primer...

by THE PROF.

This month I'm throwing in a duke's mixture for the true or false feature and the coverage will be in the vintage and near vintage eras.

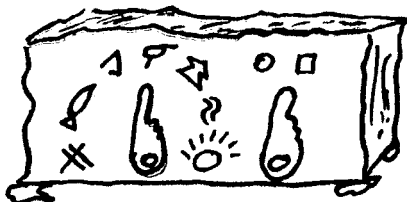
1. "I Surrender Dear" by Louis Armstrong, was a hit on Okeh records in 1931.
2. U.S. Radio and Television Corp. built both the Apex and Gloritone radios.
3. Variable-mu pentode tubes made the automatic volume control circuit very practicable.
4. A smear of tallow on the cord of the tuning dials will prevent slippage of the capstan.
5. Condensers are devices to condense alternating current into direct current.
6. Since a dyne is the unit of energy, then it follows that a Neutrodyne is a set with zero energy.

** ** * * * ** ** **

The answer to last month's word-charade was Zenith. In the future I will try to make them a bit more difficult, that is; if I am to continue the column.

** ** * * * ** ** **

I have a little set, I don't know it's name. I havn't got the model number, but I love it just the same. I found it in a limestone cave covered up with bones, the hieroglyphics on the dial had pre-historic tones. I think it is a crystal set made by some ancient jerk, but modern frequencies are such that the darn thing doesn't work!



tj/1/82

SWAP SHOP

No Entries this Month

A stylized, handwritten signature or mark consisting of several overlapping, curved lines that form a shape resembling a large 'Z' or a calligraphic flourish.