



**NORTHWEST
VINTAGE RADJO
SOCIETY**

VOL. 7
No. 10

OCT.
1981

CALL LETTER

THIS ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH SET 15c

**DOT 'N' DASH TELEGRAPH SET
COMPLETE WITH MORSE CODE**

Learn how to become an
**EXPERT TELEGRAPH
OPERATOR**

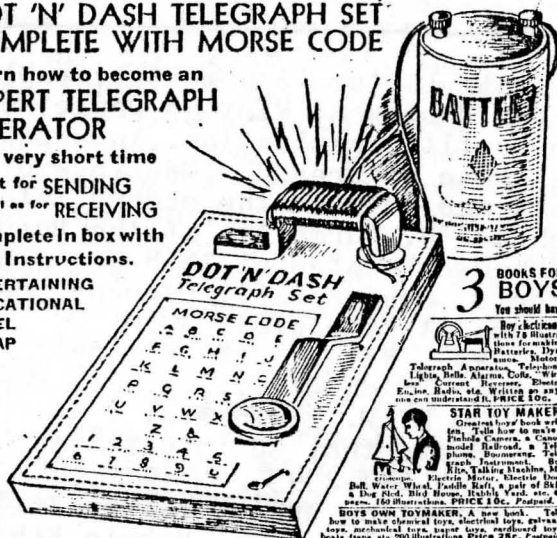
In a very short time

Use it for **SENDING**

As well as for **RECEIVING**

Complete in box with
Full Instructions.

**ENTERTAINING
EDUCATIONAL
NOVEL
CHEAP**



**3 BOOKS FOR
BOYS**

You should have

Boy's Machine with 78 illustrations for making patterns, typewriting, printing, etc.

Telegraph Apparatus, Telegraphy, Light, Bell, Alarm, Code, Morse, and Current. Receiver, and Engine, Radio, etc. With 200 illustrations. Price 10c.

START-TOY MAKER

Creating boys' book with 150 illustrations. Tells how to make a Pinball Game, a Coin-operated Railroad, a Telephone, a Telephone, a Talking Machine, etc. etc. etc. With 150 illustrations. Price 10c.

BOYS OWN TOYMAKER. A new book. Tells how to make chemical toys, electrical toys, garden toys, mechanical toys, paper toys, cardboard toys, boats, etc. etc. 200 illustrations. Price 25c. Postpaid.

BOYS! Here you are boys. A private **ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH SET** of your own for **FIFTEEN CENTS**. You can have lots of fun sending messages to your friends. Better still, get **TWO SETS**—one for receiving and the other for sending. Hook them up for two way messages (sending and receiving) as shown in the printed directions. It is no trouble at all to operate with the simple instructions that accompany each set. It operates on any standard dry battery which you can obtain at any hardware, electrical or department store throughout the country. With this outfit you can learn to transmit and receive messages in the **MORSE INTERNATIONAL CODE**, and in a very short time you may become quite an expert operator. It is mounted on a wooden base measuring 4 x 3 inches, first class construction throughout. It comes complete with key sounder, magnet, miniature Western Union telegraph blanks, and packed in a neat box with full printed instructions—everything but the battery, for **ONLY 15 Cents** postpaid.

No. 4919 **ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH SET**. Price: Postpaid.....15c

JOHNSON SMITH & CO., 6615 JEFFERSON AVE., DETROIT, MICH.
Canadian customers please address: Johnson Smith & Co., Windsor, Ont., Canada

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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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** ** * * * * *

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

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Portland, Oregon 97202

LETTERS

Following is an interesting note from our Salem correspondent, Joe Tompkins:

Dear Jim:

Evelyn and I have been on a trip over in Canada, and believe I never saw a radio and very few antique shops to go into. In Montana that people have told me so often is a hot bed for radios, I trod the streets, met one collector who has some radios - not many - a modest collection of about 20 or so, he said. In fact, I never went to his house; just a phone call was all I had time for.

Here just a few blocks away I got 14 real good 199 tubes for three bucks each. I will sell them at the next swap meet, together with a dozen 201-A tubes. I expect to take only good stuff to the swap meet as I did before - something that can be useful to others.

I found a nice Zenith console here in town, too. I agree that there is more junk consoles around nowadays; a good one is hard to find. Many not worth coming home with at any price. A lady had one advertised today - it was a Victor, the price you can't believe: \$350! I offered five of mine for that amount, delivered.

I hope the last meeting got some radios lined up for display. You really miss the club when you are not there. We are gradually getting back to normal lives again.

Sincerely,

Joey



ATMOSPHERICA

By J

De Lemmon

Crackle, crackle, noisy static ;
On this set, it's automatic !
Every night from far or near,
Nothing comes in crystal clear !

Shall I smash this ancient Kolster---
Take old Bess from out it's holster,
Take a pot-shot at it's "wizzery",
And end forever all it's misery ?

Better still I think I've got
A much more humanistic plot :
Since I can't be quite that rough,
I'll give it to some antique buff !

He might fix it up, and then
I might want it back again ;
He might give it that old-time Zing---
Hell, I'm gonna keep the thing !

** ** *

Mamma Goose # 14

Simple Simon found a Philco
At a stall down at the fair-
Said Simple Simon to the pitchman,
"Please let me test your ware".
Said the pitch to Simple Simon,
"Have ya got the cash to take 'er?"
Said Simple Simon to the man,
"Go fly a kite, you faker!"

** ** *

"You can't make a Zenith Stratosphere out of
a Roberts Reflex"

-old proverb.

D I S P L A Y N E W S

#

Dick Karman has been too busy setting up the Club display at the Georgia Pacific Museum to prepare a report for this issue.

The display opens 10:00 a.m. October 10, and will run for three months. Hours are 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, later by special arrangement. The Museum is located in the Concourse or basement level of the Georgia Pacific Building, 900 S. W. Fifth ave., Portland.

We urge all members to visit the show and spread the word among friends and family.

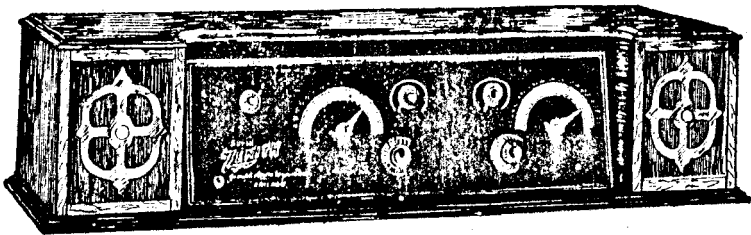
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Zenith

They Cost More—But They Do More

IT TUNES THROUGH EVERYTHING—



**SUPER ZENITH
MODEL VII**

Above 6-Tube Model \$230.00, Less Accessories—Sold on Easy Terms

OUR PEOPLE

The big news for October ... the fall Swap Meet will be held at the Clubhouse on October 10, after the regular meeting. Bring out your spare parts, tubes, literature, or what have you ... now is your chance to make some worthwhile swaps.

Judging of radios in the "home built" contest has been set ahead and will follow the November meeting. Some members have indicated they are working on sets, so you have over a month of additional time in which to perfect them. Those who would like to participate but haven't got around to the actual work, there is still time to build an entry for the contest.

* * *

October 1940 brought a strong promotion by Radio Today Magazine to advertise four special programs which they called "Radio Magic" and "Twenty Years of Radio Progress". These were to be aired on consecutive Monday evenings during November over the NBC Blue Network. Here are some of the topics that were covered:

November 4th - "Radio's Millions".
Somebody buys a receiving set every 2 seconds - a radio tube every quarter second. Fifty million sets in use - home radios and car radios.

November 11th (Armistice Day)
"Twenty Years of Radio Magic".
Milestones of discovery and invention that led to the beginnings of broadcasting--- steps along radio's pathway 1920-1940 --- A broadcast from an airplane over New York City.

November 18th "From Crystel set to Superhet".

The story of home receivers - better reception, improvements in tubes and speakers, how to get the most out of your radio receiver.

November 25th "Radio's Effects on Home Life".

What it does for us from dawn to bedtime -- creating new awareness throughout the nation.

These programs were broadcast simultaneously by short wave and FM from the Empire State Tower and each following Sunday morning by short wave over WBNI to South America and Europe.

* * *

About this same time America's patriotic fervors were running high and Emerson produced a set they called the "Patriot" in color combinations of red, white and blue. It was 11½ inches wide, with built-in antenna, dynamic speaker and retailed for \$15.00. A recommended dealer display was a big "Uncle Sam Hat" with sets in the three color combinations arranged on the brim.

* * *

Where today can you get a free electric shaver for a new or extended magazine subscription? That was the offer by Radio Craft in 1941. Cost ... \$2.00 for 12 issues ... the shaver "absolutely free".

by HUGH RANKEN

S E R V I C E H I N T S

Philco 41DC. Pronounced nasal quality and choppy reception. Replace 500,000-ohm first audio stage grid coupling resistor with 100,000-ohms and insert a 3,000 current-limiting resistor in series with the primary winding of the push-pull input transformer.—Radio Retailing

Philco Model 41-42. Intermittent reception can sometimes be traced to a defective .05 mfd. condenser connected from the ground binding post to the chassis. In these models if hum is present it can be greatly reduced by connecting a 2 mfd. condenser from the screen grid of the detector tube to the chassis.—D Piacentini, 403 W. 18th St., New York City

Philco 70. It is generally claimed that cutting off of reception in Philco receivers is due to defective coupling condensers that couple the audio stages. I had to repair a Philco 70 receiver which was troubled by fading, and the first thing that I did, after the tubes had been tested, was to remove the coupling condenser and substitute a new one. But that did not do any good, and after careful testing the trouble was located, and was due to a defective condenser in the cathode circuit of the oscillator tube. This condenser is a double .09 mfd. and in the diagram it is numbered as No. 12. It can be replaced with a .1 mfd.—Frank Photiades, Highland Park, Mich.

Philco Model 76. Set dead. Check speaker socket, making sure the socket makes good connection with the prongs on the plug. The pin hooked to the field often causes trouble.—J.E. Noskey, 8299 Misner Ave., Detroit, Mich.

Philco Model 81. In a receiver of this type there was a strange case of microphonics. All usual causes were checked. Finally it was traced to the Long and Short Wave switch. This switch has two end bearings, of which the front bearing is grounded while the rear one is not. At times the shaft would vibrate, making and breaking contact with the rear bearing.—John Shiliano, 2914 Mullen St., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Philco 90. Oscillation between 1,100 and 1,500 kc. when trimmers are adjusted to resonance. Shunt an 0.1 mfd. 200, volt condenser across first R. F. (24) and oscillator (27) 5,000-ohm cathode resistor.—Radio Retailing

Philco 90-X. "Cutting off" of reception is due either to use of poor tube as oscillator or to cathode resistor. Change the resistor from 15,000 to 10,000 ohms.—Radio Retailing

Philco AVG. "Cutting off" of reception is caused by the bakelite condenser that is used as a coupling condenser between the 2nd detector and audio. The number is 3903-M or 3903-R.—W. Hartmen, Chicago, Ill.

Philco 90. Intermittent noise and crackling when the set is jarred may sometimes be traced to poor electrical contact between R. F. tube shields and chassis. Bonding these with short lengths of wire remedies the trouble.—Radio Retailing

Wireless Quote of the Month

When asked by the editors of Radio News 'What is the biggest problem facing radio in 1926?' Powell Crosley of the Crosely Radio corporation replied that:

"Broadcasting is the foundation upon which the radio industry is based. Without it, the manufacture of sets for popular consumption would never have been started. Without it, the set industry could not exist today."

"More specifically, broadcasting is one big problem, composed of three smaller ones and a host of three smaller ones and a host of little problems of minor importance. The three principal problems are: First, the elimination of static and fading; second, the elimination of interference, as now caused by the great number and proximity of broadcast stations; and third, improvement of the quality of programs. The last of these introduces another question- that of the compensation of the broadcasting artists."

"Probably the first two of these problems will take care of themselves. As broadcasting becomes more costly, there will be fewer and fewer stations, and interference will be reduced; and as more and more powerful stations are built, reception difficulties (due to static, fading, and the like) will be largely eliminated. The third problem is, however, worthy of serious study."

"Improvement of programs necessitates obtaining better and better artists, and this makes ever more vital the question of where the funds shall come from to compensate this talent. Not many of us are prepared to make definite statements of our opinions as to how this problem should be solved. Different plans have been tried in different localities, with more or less success. In some countries, broadcasting is subsidized by the governments; in

Wireless Quote of the Month page 2.

in others, it is supported by taxation of the people; in our own United States, it has been, in the main, provided by radio manufacturers, schools, churches, etc., with the assistance of national advertisers. At the present time, it is difficult to choose the proper solution, but it is certain that broadcasters are going to find a solution necessary within a very short time."

Source: Radio News, March, 1926 page 1360.

###

Contributed by Art Redman



JA MAC PRODUCTS

Speaker Re-Coning
All Makes

8600 N.E. Sandy Blvd
Portland, Oregon 97220
252-2929

The advertisement features a central white text box with a black border, set against a dark, textured background. The background is decorated with several black and white illustrations of various types of speakers and horns, including a large horn at the top center, a smaller horn to its right, and several circular speakers of different sizes around the perimeter of the central box.

Old Time Radio

The Pacific Coast is "On the Air!"

by Wilbur Hall

Thirty years a Californian, I can remember three "crazes" that have swept the state and with it Oregon, Washington, and the contiguous mountain states, like measles in a boarding school.

Twenty years ago we went mad over Belgian hares. We paid as high as \$2,500 for a buck, and some of the gold cups presented to "best young does" and "best Imp. sires" were big enough to float a yacht in. Today the Belgian hare is worth just what he'll bring for frying, and no more.

Ten years ago (or such a matter) we went dippy over roller skating. It was being done and the liniment market was extremely bullish, while fortunes were made by the manufacturers of ball bearings, electric pianos, and court plaster. Today roller skating is practised exclusively on the front sidewalk, and the only doctor's bills are paid by stout gentlemen who can't get out of the way quickly enough!

The third period or era of the Far West may come to be called the "loose-coupler-detector-and-one-stage-of-amplification age". Instead of their symptoms, elderly women on our boats and trains and in our sewing societies discuss the number of stages of amplification necessary for DX reception. Women's clubs have abandoned the question of whether or not Bacon wrote Shakespeare, and are forming cliques over the dispute: "who should be eliminated from the short wave-lengths?" Business men ruin their digestions at noon, not with politics or financial news, but with deep discussions involving the Heising constant current system of modulating the oscillator tube output. As for the boys (and a good many of the girls) their cry is: "Hey, Skin-nay; c'mon over! I'm getting the band concert at Catalina!"

(continued on P. 12)

Despite the fact that in the neighborhood of San Francisco there are located two or three of the earliest and most important radio telephony laboratories of the country, and the further fact that it was from here that several of the most vital improvements in the new service originally came, especially during the war, the average man on the street had never more than vaguely heard of radio until two months ago. Amateur operators, mostly boys, had been dabbling with wave-lengths and detectors and all the other mysterious factors and agencies; perhaps a hundred men were working at it--experimenting, testing, inventing, installing, improving, and looking forward to the big rush that was to come. But the layman gave it the same attention as he did the newspaper stories that the Akooned of Swat was to take unto himself another wife.

All of a sudden it hit us!

The first most of us saw of it, beyond random and rather dull newspaper and magazine accounts of developments, was in first-page, first-column headlines from New York, not over two months ago, proclaiming that the East had gone mad over radio. Within twelve hours the interest swept the Coast.

We found out at once that the new marvel had established itself among us like the flu--quietly and insidiously. We found out that hundreds of our youths had been "on the air" for some time. We found out that engineers were ready to install any kind of plant we wanted, either for receiving or broadcasting.

But what amazed and perplexed us, and still does, was that if we wanted anything in the radio line except copper wire and roofs to string our antenna on, we would have to go down on a waiting list as long as that of the Bohemian Club, and that we would be lucky to get service inside of three months.

(to be continued)

From "RADIO BROADCAST", June, 1922

Ole!

by

T.J.

Ole' came to life for a few members this month for a welcome change from the summer doldrums, to wit:

For Jerry Talbot: Rola #80, 1929 cons.; Philco #70, 1931 Cath.; G.E. # F-63, 1937 table setslope sided, with all wave.; Airline #62-329, 1938 large table type; Emerson #C-5211, 1939 mini. table set; Zenith #7S529, a 1941 3 band table set; Admiral # 5H1, a '47 portable; G.E. #115W, a 1948 table mod.; Admiral #5H1, 1949 port.; Bendix # 753W, a blond oak clock radio from 1953; Rola spkr. cab.; Philco metal drum spkr. cab.; A blond and portable, crank type phonograph; Majestic 12" J.V. from 1950. All these for around two "C" notes, which, he says, proves that there are still quite a few sets "out there" for not too much dinero. "This is what I tell my wife in reply to her insistence that we are broke and have no more radio room." (This last is his own quote, on which I will not comment, Ole' ed.) In addition to the above, Jerry got an American Bosch #460, 1934 all-wave tombstone; G.E. H-73, 1939 large table w/ push buttons; Oops that's all! Except an Allied Radio Co. battery that a lady donated to him, when he discovered same in an old Trans-oceanic he was checking out.

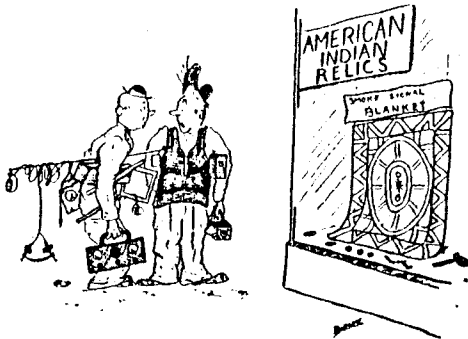
Dick Howard; Besides recycling with-in club "family" an Arborphone, A.K. 10, A.K. horn, he came up with a nice Western Electric Pentagon shaped loop antenna, (about 3 feet tall he says.) A Western Electric 2 tube amplifier w/ 205-D tubes; National SW-3 regen. recvr.; 1931 Citizens Radio Call Book.

John McConnell picked up a Crosley #03CA- chassis 95, a ten tube job.

So much for Ole', not too shabby for these days. In addition to the above, quite a few members checked out leads that were quite unrealistically over priced from NWRS point of view. Then, now and again someone has a real antique "1920s" radio for sale with loctal tubes!

Good hunting, tj/10/81

CARTOON CLIPPINGS



I Q Primer...

by THE PROF.

Can you connect the firms listed below with the major radio product that they produced during Radio's Golden age? Place a number in the square corresponding to the product of the mfg. Don't peek in the old magazines.

1. C. Brandes, Inc. -----	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Transformers
2. Connish Wire Co. -----	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Condensers
3. Ferranti, Inc. -----	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Vol. Controls
4. Polymet Mfg. Co. -----	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Insulators
5. Trimm Radio Mfg., Inc. -	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Condensers
6. Central radio Labs. ----	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Dry Cell Batteries
7. Electrad Inc. -----	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Resistors
8. National Carbon Co. ----	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Hook-up wire, Ant.
9. Dubilier Corp. -----	<input type="checkbox"/>	9. Spkrs., Headphones
10. Corning Glass Works ---	<input type="checkbox"/>	10. Spkrs., Headphones
		11. Trimmers
		12. Carbon Resistors
		13. Unicorn coils
		14. Potmetal products

* * * * *

The answers to last months Trimmer are as follows:

1. Volume will be up.
2. Volume will decrease
3. Resistor in neg. B-return supplies bias voltage.
4. Leaky coupling condenser will cause a + bias Volt.
5. A microphonic tube responds to physical vibration.

* * * * *

Try This'n 'thout your teeth--

Phil Pfeiffer filched a fine forty four Philco,
 A fine forty four Philco Phil Pfeiffer filched.
 If Phil Pfeiffer filched a fine forty four Philco,
 Find the fine forty four Philco Phil Pfeiffer filched.

tj/10/81

WANTED Drum dial & calibrations for Radiola 17-19,60, etc. Jerry Kubik. Ph. 364-9659

WANTED 4-prong surface-mounted tube socket to restore early 1-tube set. Ed Charman, Ph. 243-4409 (work), 654-7387 (home).

WANTED American Bosch emblem. Jerry Talbott. Ph. 649-6717.

FOR SALE A.K. 89 chassis, for parts, no speaker, tubes, \$10 fob residence 5024 SE Clay, Portland, Ph. 235-0981.

FOR SALE Heathkit VTVM \$10. Jerry Kubik. Ph. 364-9659.

FOR SALE At Swap Meet Oct. 10:
 '29 Rola Model 80 (works) \$65.
 '29 Philco 511 (needs transformer) \$10.
 '31 Philco 70 cathedral \$65.
 '32 Remler 10 tombstone \$25.
 '39 GE H-73 (needs transformer) \$20.
 '40 Delco R-1128 (needs filters) \$15.
 '30's Zenith in home-made cabinet, works \$25.
 '48 Philco 48-200, works \$15.
 Slope front cabinet \$10.
 Sams Photofact Vol. (1-10) \$5.
 Riders Vol. 14 \$5.
 3 mini radios. \$5.
 Cloth-covered line cord 15¢/ft.

Jerry Talbott, Ph. 649-6717

SWAP SHOP