



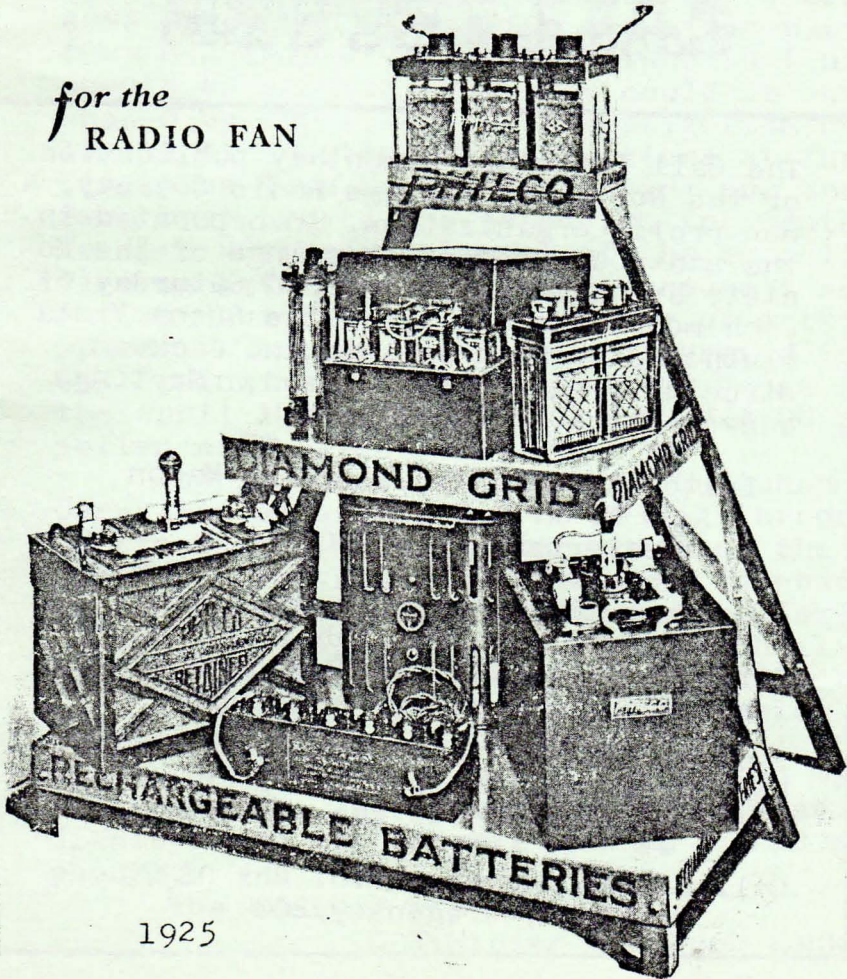
NORTHWEST
VINTAGE RADIO
SOCIETY

VOL. 8
No. 4

APRIL
1982

CALL LETTER

for the
RADIO FAN



1925

Contents

MINUTES.....	3
ATMOSPHERICA.....	4
DISPLAY NEWS.....	5
BITS AND PIECES.....	6
SERVICE HINTS.....	8
WIRELESS QUOTE OF THE MONTH.....	9
OLD TIME RADIO.....	11
Q'L'E!.....	13
CARTOON CLIPPINGS.....	14
YESTERDAY.....	15
SWAP SHOP.....	16

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.....Jim Mason
 90 N. W. 150th Ave.
 Beaverton, OR 97006
 Ph: 644-2343

Contributing Writer....Tom James
 Power Supply.....Bobbie Kibler
 Our People.....Hugh Ranken
 Advertising Mgr.....Art Redman

** ** * ** ** *

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

Minutes of March 13, 1982 Meeting

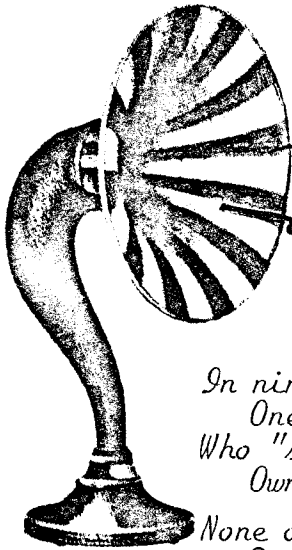
The regular meeting of NWVRS was called to order by Bill DeVey. The minutes of the last meeting and the Treasurer's report were given and approved. The report of Good and Welfare informed us that Hugh Ranken was in the hospital and Bob Bissel's wife is recovering from an ankle injury.

Old business: Dick Karman informed us that OMSI has accepted the Display Committee's proposal for the summer show. Joe Tompkins reported that the club display during the Salem Flea Market resulted in several inquiries, but no requests for membership applications. Tom has received very few parts for the club radio project so far. There was some discussion regarding accepting parts from non-members. It was decided that none should be donated, but they could be purchased by the club. The investigation by Bob Teague of locating an empty store at the Clackamas Town Center for having our Spring Swap Meet proved too expensive for rental. We were advised that most of the established flea markets generally have permanent sellers and we would have little chance of getting spaces. A motion was made and carried to have our Spring Swap Meet at the club house after the April 10th meeting. A fee of \$ 3.00 per seller will be collected.

Joe introduced Mr. & Mrs. Callahan of Corvallis as guests and Dan Wills introduced Martin Bankus as a visitor. Both of the men are long-time radio enthusiasts. Ed read a letter from L.S. Byrd of Ft. Worth, Texas. He sent two pictures of a receiver built from plans found in RADIO WORLD about 1927. The cabinet is made from plate glass, which is quite a feat. He has asked our help in finding the wiring diagram and two of the missing transformers. There was no new business. On display were 14 portable radios and 18 ear-phones.

The meeting was adjourned.

C.R.Kibler for Hugh Ranken



ATMOSPHERICA

By J

The Faux Pas

In nineteen twenty four, I was
One of three rash young yokels
Who "serviced" all the radios
Owned by the other locals.

None of us had a document
Proclaiming our expertise,
But trial and error served us well;
We had no intent to "fleece".

We built some sets from time to time,
It was the Fun thing to do;
Much to the amazement of all
The good people that we knew.

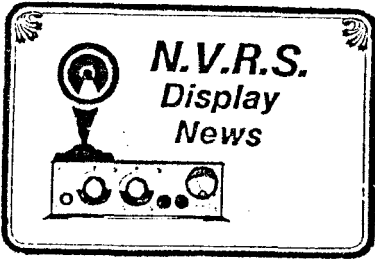
My ego did inflate a bit,
(And you know that egos can!)
When folks began to refer to
That Hot Shot radio man!

Egos can be deflated too,
Like that springtime down at school,
When I blew-out the gym P.A.;
Thus the campus "April Fool"!

** ** *

Lucy Wyre: "Darling, I just read of a man out west
who traded his wife for a radio-- You
wouldn't exchange ME for a radio would
you?"

Barney Schmell: "I suppose not, but I'd hate to
have anyone tempt me with ^{any} of them J.V.s!



DK

We've been PUSHED BACK ! OMSI has asked us to change our display dates. At this time the tentative dates will be from August first through September twenty-fifth. ?

In our last episode (no, that's not right), In our last meeting with the display staff at OMSI I learned that the "whole summer" display had gotten the Ax due to scheduling problems within the OMSI organization. It was suggested that we display for the tourist season which is mainly during the month of August. Through ongoing negotiations I established a two month display which would include the "tourist season" and continue on into the opening of the school year.

OMSI
AUGUST 1st to
SEPTEMBER 25th

Additionally, because the display time will be shorter, the display will be smaller so that there will be less preparation (and less work). In size, it will be very nearly equal to the G-P display, but will be placed in locked cabinets as was the request of the membership. There will be quite a lot more to be discussed at another time, but this will at least keep you current.

Meanwhile, (back at the ranch), I won't be able to attend the April meeting due to family commitments, so if I can be of service or if you need further information, please call me at home (288-1285). See you next month!

Bits and Pieces

One, two, three and your out at the old ball game --- around 1920 people were starting to talk about this new miracle, referred to at the time as "wireless". A pioneer broadcast station of the era was KDKA in Pittsburgh, owned by Westinghouse. Harold Arlin, a sports enthusiast, whose regular job was that of plant foreman for Westinghouse, became interested in "wireless" and began announcing during his off hours. On August 5, 1921 he went to Forbes Field in Pittsburgh, where Philadelphia and Pittsburgh were to play, set up his equipment behind home plate and announced the first baseball game. As time went on and his listening audience increased, he did football games and tennis matches as well as an occasional studio broadcast. Eventually, however, full time professionals like Graham McNamee and Ted Husing entered the picture and Arlin gave up his "hobby" announcing.

Now, here is the rest of the story --- forty-five years have passed, it is August 5, 1966 and Harold Arlin has been brought out of retirement in Mansfield, Ohio to appear once again at Forbes Field to receive the tribute of the fans as the man who first introduced baseball to radio.

* * *

"THE NEW 201-A"

Appearing in the Sunday Oregonian for March 18, 1923 was this ad from Weed's Radio Shop: "Do you want less charging of batteries, louder signals, greater distance? Use the new 201-A tube, reduced from \$9.00 to \$6.50". (Do any of you remember Weed's? They were at 316 Oak Street -- the old street numbering system. I don't recall them, although they did a lot of advertising). On

April 1, 1923 the Oregonian carried an ad for Weed's that went something like this: "Kansas City on a loop with DeForest Reflex --- three stages of radio, detector and two stages of audio. Only three tubes, no high antenna or ground required ... just right for your camping trip." (A DeForest type D-10 reflex four tube portable is pictured on page 84 of Vintage Radio. I presume the set Weed's was advertising would have been quite similar).

Also, in March of 1923 Chown Hardware was advertising "Complete parts for a crystal set \$2.50, including instruction book, galena crystal detectors, 200 feet of enamel wire and 100 feet of copper antenna wire". At the same time they offered a complete peanut tube set, all wired and ready for use and including antenna, tube, batteries and phones for \$39.75."

I recall that my folks bought their first radio from Chown's about 1921. This was a complete package that included a double slide tuning coil, galena crystal detector, all necessary antenna and ground wire, insulators and an excellent set of Holtzer-Cabot phones. The cost of all this was about \$20.00. The thrill of a lifetime when we first tuned in on one of the early broadcasts. (In those early years Chown was on 4th Street between Alder and Morrison, the same space later occupied by Sieberling-Lucas Music Company and then by Star Furniture Co.

From the Oregonian of March 22, 1923. KGW listeners were invited to enter a radio letter contest on "what radio means to me". The contest was in three classes for grammar, grades, high school and adult. Prizes ranged from variometers, loudspeakers, head sets and tubes. Send entries to Radio Contest Editor, the Oregonian.

Hugh Ranken

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

Crosley 127. Sudden drop in volume accompanied by failure of the tuning meter. Partial short in the I. F. transformers.—Radio Retailing

Crosley 148. If set cuts out or works poorly on low line voltage replace 2.5 volt pilot with a 6-volt bulb. The pilot is wired across the 6.3 volt tube circuit and sometimes reduces heater voltage to below normal.—Radio Retailing

Crosley 148. Periodic drop in volume, distortion. See if the twin cub condenser in resistance-coupling network between detector and A. F. is reversed. The .03 should be the coupling condenser between 57 plate and 42 input grid. One terminal of the .001 should be grounded and the other connected to the detector plate. Some condensers have wrong markings and the .001 is incorrectly connected between ground and A. F. tube grid.—Radio Retailing

Crosley Model 425. An unusual case was encountered recently in servicing one of these receivers. Reception was intermittent. Moving the last R. F. tube would bring it back. Investigation showed that the plate voltage on all R. F. tubes would drop when the tube was moved. The trouble was soon traced to internal shorting in the untuned R. F. transformer, one leg of which was soldered to the plate prong of the last R. F. tube.—Wallace A. Depp, Arrowsmith, Ill.

Crosley 425. These models are equipped with a range switch or sensitivity control which often becomes noisy after several months of service. The remedy for this trouble is to solder a flexible wire from the wiper on the switch to the ground. This eliminates the wipe contact and no more trouble will be had. It is a positive fact that wiper contacts give the service man more trouble than he ever thinks.—Herbert Firmstone, Honesdale, Wayne Co., Pa.

Crosley 425. The speakers of this model will often rattle and sound as if the voice coil was not centered properly. Examination will show that it is O. K. but the rattle still persists. The remedy for this is to remove the cone from the speaker and paint the joints (inside and out) where the voice coil is fastened to the cone, with Sticks All, a glue which can be gotten at any Grant store. This same glue is used in the building of model airplanes and sold under various other trade names. At the same time notice if the windings for the voice coil are loose, if they are, paint the whole voice with a thin coat of glue also. This glue can be used to repair a break in the cone, such as might come from sticking a screw driver through it, which can happen, and often does.—Herbert Firmstone, Honesdale, Wayne Co., Pa.

Crosley 601. Filament rheostat shaft shorts to metal panel, heating wire and destroying fibre insulation without damaging wire itself. Equip shaft with insulating bushing, fill in between wire turns where charred with heat resisting cement and pulverized asbestos, smearing mixture on wire to hold it firmly. When dry, scrape mixture from contact surface with knife.—Radio Retailing

Crosley 706-60. Excessive hum despite O. K. circuit check. Replace 27 detector with a 56 and connect 1/10 mfd., 200 volt condenser from chassis to detector heater at fourth terminal from front of chassis on brass strip connecting pack with chassis.—Radio Retailing

Wireless Quote Of The Month

Dr. L.W. Austin, president of the international Union of Scientific Radio Telegraphy, and physicist of the Bureau of Standards told Radio News that the biggest problems facing radio in 1926 were:

"The broad problem in broadcasting is, of course, to bring to the listener the best quality of program, together with the best quality of reproduction. The interests of the DX listener may perhaps be left out on account from a purely broadcasting standpoint; as, apart from the wonder of listening to stations 2000 or more miles away, which soon becomes commonplace, his real interests lie in experimenting with his circuits, and he comes, in reality, into the amateur class."

"Coming now to the class who are really interested in the programs, we must divide them into those who are near a good local broadcasting station, which can be heard without much disturbance from static or the noises which are unavoidable even in the best receiving sets, and the more distant listeners, who can, under favorable circumstances, hear talk and dance music without much disturbance. For these distant listeners, the highest aesthetic enjoyment of fine music is generally made impossible by static and other noises over which we at present have little or no control."

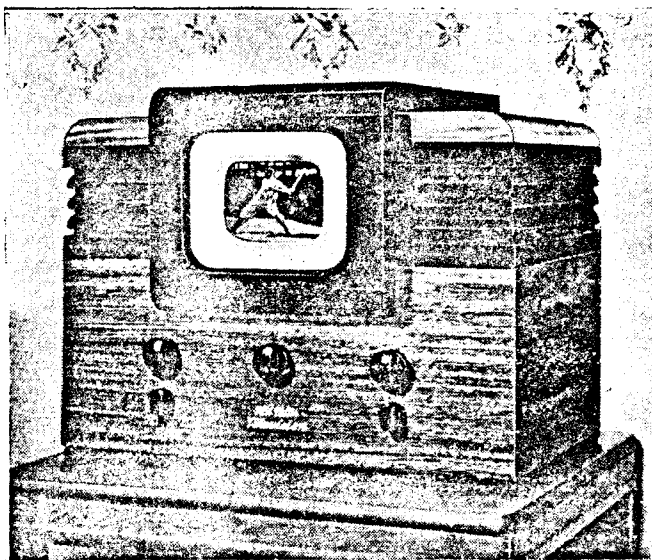
"I believe, however, that more than half of the broadcast listeners of the country belong in the first of these classes; and it seems to me that the greatest effort must be made for the improvement of musical programs, especially in the smaller cities, and in the reproduction. That reproduction is very far from perfect must be evident to anyone who listens to a high-grade piano recital, even with the best apparatus of the present day. Some of this

imperfection certainly lies in the transmitting system; but the more important faults are undoubtedly to be traced to the audio-frequency circuits of the receivers and to the loud speakers. In many cases, the most expensive apparatus seems to be no better than the more moderately priced. This improvement of quality seems to me, therefore, the most important problem of broadcasting."

From: Radio News magazine for March, 1926
Pages 1254-1255.

contributed by Art Redman.

###



RCA Victor Model TT-5 Television Attachment, a sensational instrument that provides television *sight*—while the *sound* is heard through radio loudspeaker. It is attached to radio by simply plugging it into television jack, an important part of RCA Victor models for the past two years. (Same jack as used for Victrola Attachment.) This television attachment reproduces a picture $3\frac{3}{4}$ " by $4\frac{1}{2}$ " in size. Other important features include direct viewing of picture, 16 tubes plus kinescope, and 5 television channels. Backed by \$2,000,000 field test.

Trademarks "RCA Victor," "Victrola," "Victor," Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. by
RCA Manufacturing Company, Inc.

1939

Old Time Radio

WOMAN IN A MAN'S WORLD

"I did make some comments - strictly ad-lib, that sort of disturbed Dean Carpenter, I think," said Lucy. "I don't think I was always diplomatic. I don't know why. Some people would stay at home to see what I would say".

During her year on the air, Lucy's distinctive voice in a world of male announcers, gained a listening audience. Fan mail began to pour in to KFAE in Carpenter Hall. "We hear your station very often and always sure that it is KFAE when we hear the lady announcer. We enjoy listening in on your program," said a postcard mailed March 11, 1924 from Long Beach, Calif.

D. P. McCallum and B. F. Cope, both of Vancouver, B. C., wrote in saying: "Like the lady announcer's voice and the type of program." Other Canadian listeners wrote in from Ardath, Sask., Moose Jaw, Sask., Fernie, B. C., and Lethbridge, Alberta. J. T. McCullough of London, Ontario, reported Lucy's program was received "fairly clearly and with fair volume". She was even picked up by Mrs. Mollie Patterson, who lived on a river dredge on the channels of the rivers that flow into Willapa Bay in southwestern Washington. "I am quite an old lady, but sure love to sit and listen in on all the good times you young folks are having, and have many a good laugh while all the rest on the dredge are asleep I heard every word you said.

Mrs. Wilson related: "I enjoyed all of it, but nothing in particular stuck out about broadcasting. If any problems came up, it didn't bother me too much. The hours went fast on the air. Anytime you are doing something you like, time speeds.

After leaving WSU, Lucy did approach a Spokane radio station for work. "The man said he had to do it all himself...that he didn't have the finances to hire help. He urged me to come back; I never did", she said.

(concluded)

Some Current Antique Radio Prices

The Rarities magazine of March-April, 1982 had an article, "Old Radio's and Tv's". Featured was the collection of Meredith Young of Hot Springs, Arkansas. Some of the prices mentioned for antique radio collectables were:

Atwater Kent Model 40, Philco Model 514, and Crosley Model 608, \$50 each without speaker. \$75 with speaker.

Complete Wireless Transmitting- Receiving set circa 1912, \$700 to \$1000.

Atwater Kent 10-B Breadboard without tubes, \$450. With speaker an extra \$125.

1951 Collins Transceiver KWS*1 (The first single side band transmitter made for amateur use) Today's price \$700.

1940's Tv sets, \$100-\$200.

1920's crystal sets around \$50.

A single WD-11 tube, \$50.

The first issue of QST magazine in the year 1915, rummored price \$3000.

Issues of Qst from the 1920's are said to bring \$75 to \$100.

The first edition of the catalog from The Electric Importing Company, around \$150.

Contributed by Art Redman

There is a Radiola Model 26 for sale locally-asking price \$500!

(Ed.)

Olé! by T.J.

Must be Spring housecleaning time, just read what a few of the members came up with!

Don Iverson: DeForest Audion type "J"; 2 brass based WD -11A; Sodian D-21; 15 01-A2; Dodge code instruction machine; Brochure on 1925 batt. set; Ware Neutrodyne type "W", in near mint cond. w/tubes and 6 spares; Wm. Duck 1920 catalogue; 3 1920 Amateur radio mags.

Tom Hoskins: A.K. 545 tombstone; Hallicrafters Model S-38-B, mint w/tubes, instructions etc.; Cavalcade mod. 56 wood table set; Western Elect horn sprkr., fair; Set of Industrial Training Inst. complete radio course.

Bob Hay: Freed Eisemann NR-6, w/matching sprkr., all in orig. boxes w/3 extra boxed tubes! A.K. 20-C good cond. w/tubes.

Ed Charman: A Synchron^{omic} 5 Two dial tuned R.F. w/ all tubes, set has enclosed sprkr. and batt. compartment in console.; Stromberg Carlson Neut. batt. set w/tubes; Radiola 25 w/99A and 20 complete with orig. stand.

Jerry Talbott: '39 Philco Console #39-116, remot cont.; '39 Air Chief canvas covered portable; Silvertone 9 tube all wave #7039; '43 Lumitone radio Table Lamps; '46 Woolaroc radio made by Phillips Petroleum co., that's a gas!

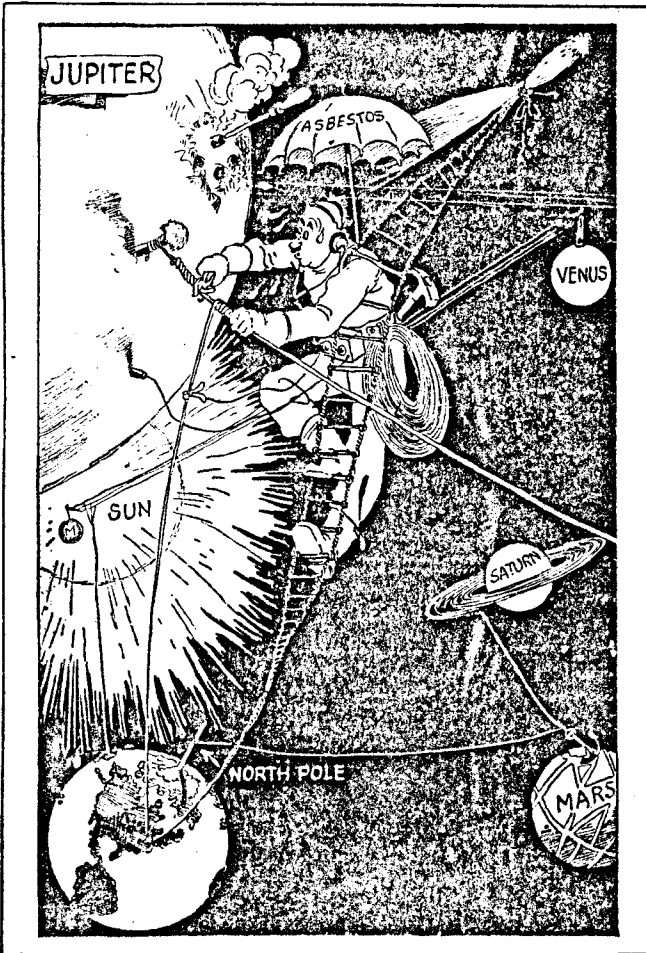
Dick Howard: Has a rather unique report that he and his family were listening to KYXG, a local radio station that has an old time radio program each nite. He further states that the program in this particular hour was "Charlie McCarthy" and that the receiver was a Charlie McCarthy radio, said they felt pretty Snerd about the whole thing.

** ** *

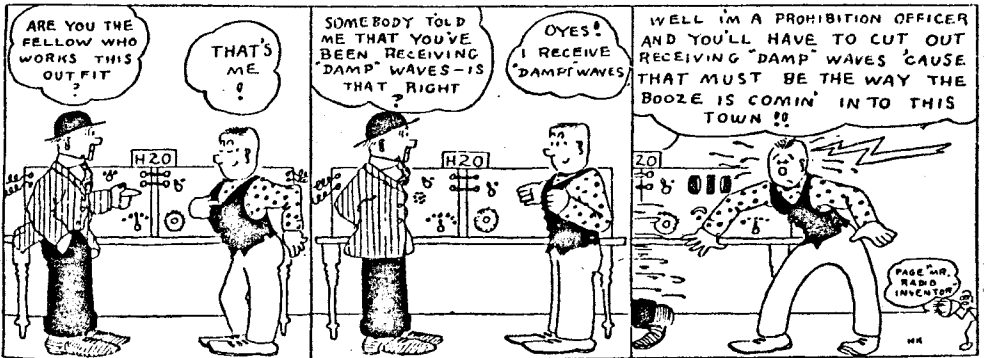
This should be a fairly good time of year to spear some of those long stored jewels we all aspire to find. Come on you associate members. there must be some good stuff out there too.

Good hunting! tj/3/82

CARTOON CLIPPINGS



When Mr. Pecksniff Got the "Radio Bug" He Fell Hard. He Decided To Put Up a "Man's Size" Aerial and Is Still Up Around Jupiter Installin'. He Never Will Hear Nothin'.



One More Argument for C. W.

Yesterday

London/ Apr. / 1949

One of London's banks has found a unique use for J.V. During the wartime bombing raids, the ledgers were removed from the large cities and sent to remote areas for safer keeping. Since the war, some of the banks continue to keep their books some distance from main buildings. Until now a bank manager wishing to check an account had to call the repository, or have necessary documents sent by mail to him. Now this resourceful bank turned to television to resolve the problem of costly delay. J.V. transmitters were installed at each of the repositories, and all the bank official has to do is call the repository and have the attendant there show the necessary document to the camera and voila, the receiver at the bank has the information. A special transmission system is used assure the necessary secrecy.

** ** *

How do you like that! My bank just installed a simple computer system to do the same thing thirty three years later. Many different systems have been tried over the years, fac-simile probably was the most used until the era of computers tied to remote lines, microwave systems, even satellite systems. This is only a small direction that electronic science has evolved since the Great War # 2. Witness the radio telescopes, space exploration with it's radio control and communication to vast areas of space, various forms of radar. New adaptations to old concepts occur all the time, but it all began with Marconi (and others) seeking a means of saving lives at sea.

** ** *

Another strange quirk of science that occurred during the Golden years of radio, was the fact that DeForests work with oscillators, triode of course, was in the search for musical instrument source. My wife, Dorothy, has a modern version of what he had in mind some 50 odd years ago. Just threw that in--- tj.

SWAP SHOP

- FOR SALE Loctal A. C. tubes to get your set going. Not all types available. Tom James, Ph. 235-0581.
- FOR SALE Misc. items for display: store gondola (130" x 60" x 24") with drawers - \$25. Cart 24" x 24" w/shelf, casters - \$25. New TV cart, walnut w/casters & shelf, sturdy - \$30. Jerry Talbott, Ph. 649-7617.
- FOR SALE Old Majestic car radio dial - fits on steering column - \$15. Joe Tompkins, Ph. 362-8071.
- TRADE Old tubes, parts, A. C. or battery sets for old gambling equipment, unusual knives, or any odd-ball things. Don Iverson, Ph. 286-1144.
- WANTED Knobs for Pilot radio tuner or 3" Pilot TV. Dan Wills, Ph. 777-5048.
- WANTED Kellogg tuning knob and rheostat knob for D-10. Big dial Zenith cabinet - type with heart-shaped dial opening with knob at top. Joe Tompkins, Ph. 362-8071.

IMPORTANT REMINDER - SPRING
SWAP MEET AT BUENA VISTA CLUBHOUSE
IMMEDIATELY AFTER APRIL 10 MEETING.
BRING ALL YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS TO
SELL & FOLDING GREEN TO BUY SOMEONE
ELSE'S UNWANTED ITEMS.