

VOL. 8  
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# CALL LETTER



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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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Call Letter address; P.O. Box 02379  
Portland, Oregon 97202

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 13, 1982

The regular monthly meeting of NWVRS was held at the Buena Vista Club House on November 13, 1982 with President Bill De Vey presiding. The minutes of the meeting of October 9 were read and approved and the Treasurer's Report was read and accepted.

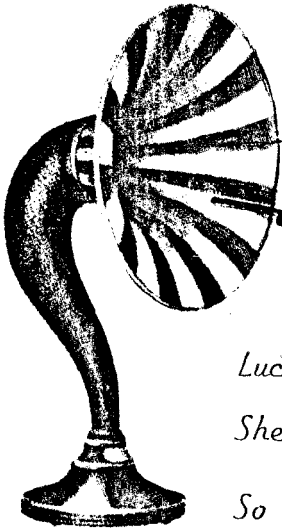
GOOD AND WELFARE: There was nothing to report in this area.

OLD BUSINESS: Tom James reported that wiring had been completed on the Club radio project and the set is working. Dick Karman stated he had secured a supply of Koa wood for the cabinet and will report on its progress at the December meeting. Tom James is interested in volunteers to finish the cabinet when it is ready. Don Iverson volunteered to furnish a battery cable for the project and is working on a horn speaker for it.

Selection of a name for the club radio was discussed. Jim Mason suggested the membership submit name proposals to the Power Supply who, in turn, would select four finalists to be voted on by the membership. This plan was agreeable to all members present.

NEW BUSINESS: Jerry Talbot initiated discussion on holding a swap meet at Memorial Coliseum in conjunction with a Don Wirfs flea market sale, providing Wirfs would do a special promotion on radios for that particular sale. Jerry suggested this be apart from our regular April and October swap meets. He feels it would be beneficial in securing new members. The matter was tabled for further discussion at a later date.

Tom James moved, Jim Mason seconded, that we have a Christmas Party in conjunction with our meeting of December 11. Everyone is asked to bring a wrapped gift for the grab bag .... something within a limit of \$3.00. Ladies



# ATMOSPHERICA

By J

*Barney's Choice----*

*Lucy Wyre was sure determined  
To get "that stone" from Barney.  
She said she knew good and well  
All that sweet talk was 'nt blarney.*

*So she hinted early that  
Of all presents she could get,  
The best was a sparkly crystal  
Resting in a box of jet.*

*Barney was a simple farmer--  
No genius, Barney Schmell;  
Quitting school at an early age,  
Zactly when, I cannot tell.*

*But Barney was not a do-do,  
And that's a winning bet!  
So Lucy awoke on Christmas morn  
With a Philmore Crystal Set!*

*\*\* \*\* \**

*Mamma Goose # 21*

*Little Jack Warner  
Sat down in the corner,  
With his Christmas Crosley "Puppy".  
He tuned in a station,  
Went wild with elation,  
And shrieked an ear-splitting Whee!*

*\*\* \*\* \**

*Greetings and best wishes everyone,  
And the nicest of holiday seasons yet!*

*Tom and Dorothy James*

SAMPLE BALLOT FOR 1983 ELECTIONS

PRESIDENT

JERRY TALBOTT

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

VICE PRESIDENT

DAVE BROWN

ART REDMAN

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\_\_\_\_\_

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TREASURER

BOB CAMPBELL

ED CHARMAN

\_\_\_\_\_

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RECORDING SECRETARY

BILL DE VEY

HUGH RANKEN

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\_\_\_\_\_

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

DON IVERSON

DICK KARMAN

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Bits and Pieces

The November meeting brought forth good attendance and a fine display of radio memorabilia which was "Show 'n Tell" for the day. Don Iverson, winner of "Ladies Choice", had a nice display of banks, a music box, a radio game and even an old fashion padlock with "RADIO" across the face. Other displays included, coaster sets, ash trays, a pen and pencil set, several Avon cathedral bottles and the Atwater Kent "Bread pan" ... just what the name implies ... a home built with some AK parts mounted on an inverted bread pan.

\* \* \* \*

"A radio tube without a filament". This was the introduction to an article sent by Joe Tompkins. Joe says he found the clipping in an old catalog. Nowhere is a date given so it is impossible to pinpoint the time, however, I'm guessing about the early '30's. These filamentless tubes, it is claimed, will never burn out and will outlast the sets in which they are used. Dr. August Hund, a research engineer, who developed this new concept, states that no "A" battery, or filament current is necessary; only a "B" battery or equivalent power source is required. Over a period of 18 months Dr. Hund and associates made and tested over 900 of these tubes. The tubes vary in size and shape and are described as simple in construction and inexpensive to make. The smallest is about two inches long and about the thickness of a pencil. A wire electrode is sealed in each end of the glass tube and the ends almost meet at the center. Neon, hydrogen, helium, nitrogen and other gases are induced into the tube, depending on the type of operation desired. According to Dr. Hund certain gases are more satisfactory for detection, while others were best suited for amplification.

The largest of these experimental tubes was about the size of a tennis ball. The tubes seem to perform on any wave length, working as well on short wave as on broadcast channels. In operation they burn with a purple glow. (From the description it appears these tubes would be wired directly into the circuit, thus eliminating tube sockets.) Dr. Hund claims these tubes are easy to manufacture and dust free precautions of cleanliness are not required as is the case in making conventional tubes. Using a one tube circuit sufficient volume was produced to run a loud speaker ... with a five tube configuration volume was intensified many times. Dr. Hund claims that for an average size room ample volume could be obtained with a one tube set. Do any of you tube collectors have this tube? Was it only an experimental brain storm or like many other inventions, a good idea that was knocked down before it could get off the ground?

\* \* \* \*

On Sunday, November 7, friends and sponsors met at Norse Hall to celebrate with Bob Anderson his completion of forty continuous years as host and producer of "The Scandinavian Hour". This program, a pleasant hour long show, is heard each Sunday morning at 9:00 A.M. over KKEY, presenting traditional music and news of the Scandinavian community. Anderson says he took over the show in 1942 at which time it had been on the air for 17 years, making a total of 57 years of continuous broadcasting. Is this the country's oldest continuous show? Could well be ... 57 years is a long time.

Hugh Ranken

## A Radio Bonfire

Where are all the vintage radios? Radio News magazine for March, 1930 reported the fate of one thousand old radio sets in a news item from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania entitled 'A Radio Bonfire'.

Witnessed by city officials, a squadron of police and members of the fire department, the biggest burning of obsolete radios in the history of the industry was held near City Hall, in Philadelphia, under the auspices of Philco's local dealers recently.

One thousand radio receivers, adjudged obsolete, went up in flames, after scores of other sets had been saved for the hospitals and the poor of the city. J.C. Marden arranged the big bonfire, with the idea of boosting business in new sets. Also, he said, sale of more sets would be keeping with the Hoover prosperity plea.

A representative of the Mayor's office presided at the bonfire, which attracted thousands of spectators during the afternoon of the spectacle, held four blocks from the Municipal Building.

As ninety per cent of a radio receiving set is metal, a large quantity of parts which remained after the fire was sold for junk and the money realized in this manner was turned over to the Philadelphia Christmas Seal Relief Fund.

Contributed by Art Redman

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A REMINDER-- It is annual dues time again. Dues the same as previously - \$12.50 for regular members, and \$10.00 for associate members



# POWER SUPPLY

The Power Supply is planning some festive doings for the December 11th meeting!

There will be snacks and special baked goodies, as well as coffee, tea and punch. If any of the ladies wish to contribute a food item, you are most welcome to do so.

There will also be door prizes, items that can be enjoyed by you and your family.

Election of officers and the Christmas Party make this a meeting you won't want to miss. Remember your gift for the grab bag.

# # # # # # #

## MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING CONTINUED

will furnish gifts suitable for ladies ..... men gifts suitable for men. The Power Supply will provide special refreshments and door prizes. The motion carried.

Dick Karman offered a resolution of thanks to all officers, members and the Power Supply who have made the past year successful for NWVRS.

Don Iverson was winner of "Ladies Choice" award for his display of radio memorabilia.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 A.M.

Hugh Ranken,  
Secretary

Bob Campbell will have equipment for testing WD-11 and 199 tubes at the December meeting. Members needing these tubes tested are urged to bring them at that time.

# Cascade Surplus Electronics



Phone  
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Store Hours: Friday and Saturday 10:00 A.M. To 6:00 P.M.  
Sunday Noon To 4:00 P.M.

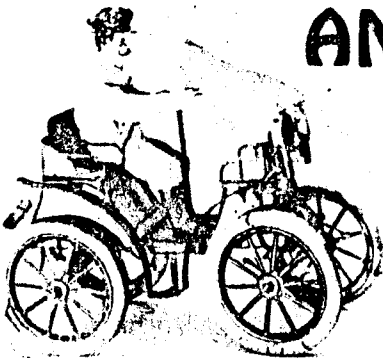
**8221 North Denver Avenue  
PORTLAND, ORE. 97217**

**GARY W. STELLER, OWNER**



W

# MIKE'S GOLD ANVIL ANTIQUES

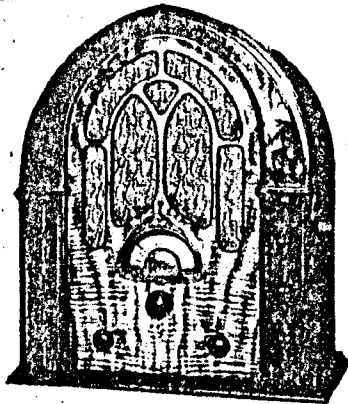


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Mon.-Sat. 11-5

# Old Time Radio

MODERN SET USED BY KFJR (concl.)

The KFJR transmitter, using the newest type of Western Electric company microphones and speech amplification system, is able to faithfully transmit tone frequencies from the lowest notes of the bass viol to the highest harmonic notes of the violin. In the older types of transmitters this has never been possible, and the bass viol has, in the past, been left out of many radio orchestras as being a useless instrument. Stated in lay terms, there is probably as much difference between the ultra-modern KFJR and older stations, as there is between the new phonographs and their predecessors.

It is largely due to the engineering genius of men in the laboratories of the Western Electric company that radio has reached its present day perfection. There is no question but that this company, which is controlled by American Telephone & Telegraph company, has done more for the great radio listening public than all other institutions combined. They own and control practically all patents on transmitting circuits and modulation systems.

The owners of Radio KFJR have a personal license from the American Telephone & Telegraph company granting them the right not only to all existing patents under their control, but also to participate in any and all patents to be developed in the future. This fact, coupled with the progressive policy of KFJR means that its transmitter will always be kept up to date; and will be a credit to Portland radio broadcasting.

From the Radio Section of the  
PORTLAND TELEGRAM January 30, 1926.

# Ole!

by

T.J.

We have a nice bunch of goodies this trip, seems the entries for the column are either feast or famine.

Joe Warburton (Texas): A Songbird that won't sing, is the way Joe puts it. Evidently a home-brew from a kit, poorly wired but a good collection of old parts. It's a three dial, 5 tube TRF, with toroid coils by The Radio Constructor, Kelford Rheostats, Songbird SLF tuning condensers, Songbird Deluxe Audios (NG) Genuine Bakelite sockets, other descrip. in Joe's letter a bit lengthy for here. Joe says "Mint" with an obvious "tongue-in-cheek". Great find!

Jerry Talbott: Philco # 20 Cathedral; Western Air Patrol # 377, mid '30s; Arvin # 524, '42; Vintage test equip.

Bob Teague: Remler Cameo, wood tombstone, Bob says it's his "Ripley" cause it was a "freebie", tax free too!

Ed Charman: Freshman Masterpiece with tubes and Gothic style Brandes speaker, mint condition. These are scarce any more.

Dick Karman: I J J wire recorder, made in Germany.

Jim Mason: A Pseudo Atwater Kent, home brew, a-la-Popular Mechanics Magazine design with bread-pan base and 12A7, 77, 78 tube complement; Precision Tube checker; several power transformers; misc. parts; Federal AC/DC radio, OK.

Don Iverson: Simplex mod. R; Magnavox speaker base, balanced armature type; Majestic Super B, "B" eliminator; Michigan 2 tube receiver; Vol. 1 and vol. 5 Rider's; Western Air Patrol # 32; Sonora RDU209-229; Crosley # 5 M 3; Beaver Baby Grand Crystal; Philmore Crystal set and box: Airline 62-177

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Happy hunting everyone, and watch out for those mean \$350 Reaganola Cathedrals!

# CARTOON CLIPPINGS

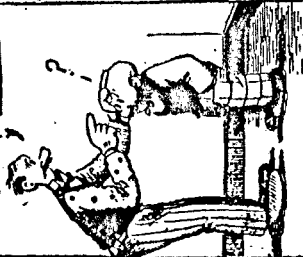
Radio News for October, 1922

## Radio Humor

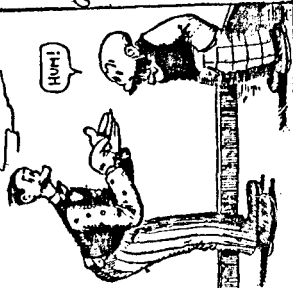
MUTT AND JEFF—And as a Radio Salesman, Jeff Is the Robin's Raincoat . . . By BUD FISHER

Copyright, 1922, by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, U. S. A. Price, 10 Cents.

YOU'RE A PINK RADIO SALESMAN. YOU WALK UP TO A GUY AND ASK HIM IF HE WANTS TO BUY A RADIO AND IF HE SAYS NO! YOU WALK OFF.



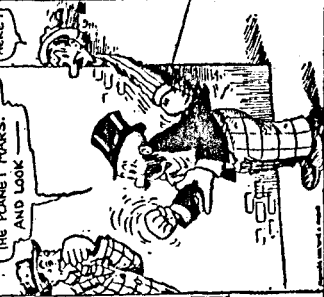
MOST PEOPLE KNOW NOTHING ABOUT THE RADIO!—TALK FAST! TELL THEM OF THE GREAT MYSTERY OF THE AIR, OF THE GREAT POSSIBILITIES OF THE FUTURE, OF THE SECRET OF THE AIR WAVE.



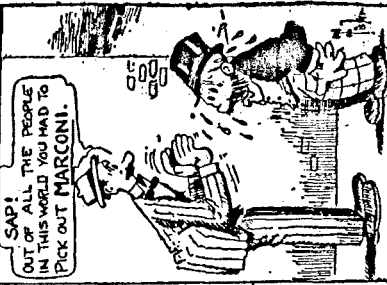
BUT USREN STRANGER! YOU DON'T KNOW THE WONDERFUL WORKINGS OF THIS GREAT INVENTION OF MERE PHAL OF THE AIR, OF THE UNTOLD POSSIBILITIES OF SUBDUER OF NATURE! WHY, HUH!



IN A FEW MOMENTS, WE MAY BE SHAKING HANDS VERBALLY SPEAKING, WITH THE PLANET MARS. AND LOOK —



SAP! OUT OF ALL THE PEOPLE IN THIS WORLD YOU HAD TO PICK OUT MARCONI.



From the N. Y. World

# Yesterday

September, 1925

The vast silence of the arctic nites, one of the most depressing mental obstacles to be overcome by the adventurers who penetrate the Polar regions, have a voice at last, thanks to radio.

Donald MacMillan, Arctic explorer, who recently returned to the U.S. from one of his many trips in quest of the Pole and scientific knowledge, states that of all his equipment, the radio brought the greatest comfort and satisfaction.

"Every nite on our return to camp", says MacMillan, "the first thing we did after feeding the inner man was to tune in for what was coming through the air from our home country so far away. We were entertained with songs, with music, with speeches, and cheered by the voices of our friends and members of our families. That was the greatest blessing of all. The radio annihilated distance. Never again need those who brave the perils of the Polar regions fight to overcome lonesomeness."

The radio is also rendering useful service to navigators of ocean liners and other ships that sweep through the northern seas, the shortest route from England to the U.S. The past summer was the worst in twenty years in the history of Arctic navigation due to the unusually heavy ice floes and destructive gales.

This was the report of Capt. J. E. Bernier, of the Canadian Govt. ship Arctic, who for 21 years has been making annual cruises to the far north posts of the Royal Canadian M. P. to provision the posts and make exchange of officers.

The unusual amount of ice in the Arctic seas and the bad weather did not prevent this ship from equalling this year the "farthest north" reception record, which it established last year when it reached Cape Sabine, Ellsmere island north of Etah, the farthest point reached by the MacMillan expedition, and while there received messages from K D K A. This year the ship received time signals messages from both K D K A and K F K X at Hastings, Nebraska.

( from The Radioscope Magazine )

# SWAP SHOP

FOR SALE Over 30 old radios, chasses, speakers, 1952 Zenith TV, tape recorder, tube checkers. Call Loren Van Buskirk, 760-1315 after 7:00 p.m.

FOR SALE Mdl. 20 Majestic - extra nice cabinet - \$50. Doug Warren, 639-2583.

WANTED Zenith (no other brands) chair-side multi-band radio, vintage late 30's - early 40's. Price negotiable. Call collect (503) 625-5565 10AM-5PM M-F; or write Ned Sands, P. O. Box 165, Sherwood, OR 97140

WANTED Juke boxes, slot & pinball machines. Buy - sell - repair. Mark, 640-2362.

WANTED Philco cathedral cabinet model 20, need desperately. Joey Tompkins, 362-8071, Salem.

WANTED Power (on-off) knob for Halli-crafter S-40. Dick Karman, 288-1285.



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All Makes

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Portland, Oregon 97220  
252-2929

The advertisement is framed by a border of various speaker components, including tweeters, horns, and drivers, arranged in a grid-like pattern around the central text.