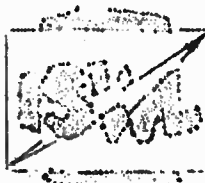


OFFICIAL REPORTS

..... OF THE



Q R P : : : : : :

RESEARCH GROUP

ISSUE FOR  
MAY 1950

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6, Abbot's Tilt, Hersham  
Walton-on-Thames, Surrey

Dedicated to the  
advancement  
of Low Power radio

QRP

I have great pleasure this month in introducing our first two W members -- John W Cosgrove of Indianapolis (W9), and Walter Crouse of Beckley, West Virginia (W4). Every Research Group member this side of the Atlantic will, I am sure, join me in giving them a most hearty welcome, and will share my sense of satisfaction that our joint efforts are to be repaid so soon by this chance of extending the hand of friendship to our neighbours in the USA. This we can say in its most genuine sense, for the friendship of Amateur Radio is a bond which even in these days remains free of any ulterior motives, and enables us to be really interested in each other's pursuit of our mutual hobby without the disruptive influence of religion, politics or finance which so often turn a prospective friendship into cold mistrust and disapproval. We are all looking forward to hearing from you often, John and Walter, and we shall always be most interested in any radio Gen you can give us. On our side, OMs, we hope that our rather specialized section of the hobby and this little mag which we have built up around it will continue to hold your interest.

EDITORIAL.



Vol 9. "Q R P" May 1950.



## R. S. G. B. EXHIBITION.

Having just received a copy of "Ham Ration", the Ipswich RSGB Group's very 70 journal, I would like to endorse a suggestion contained therein regarding the RSGB Exhibition. To quote:-- "Much interest was shown in a few exhibits of constructional work at this year's exhibition (1949 -- Ed.), The writer wonders whether this could be extended another year, so that we could have more stands devoted to the handiwork of members, thereby making it even more 'The Radio Amateurs Exhibition'?".

May I second that suggestion strongly! Most amateur interest has vanished from Radiolympia, so let it be made doubly sure that the RSGB Exhibition remains fully amateur. I believe that, notwithstanding the intense interest in trade stands, an extended show of amateur constructional work would prove to be the masterpiece of any future exhibition.

## PRACTICAL AERIALS. (6): Why "Half-wave"?

Previous notes in this series have mentioned various factors of a theoretical nature which I had intended to steer around skilfully, thereby maintaining a strictly practical outlook. Strangely enough this series has come in for more comment than any other "QRP" feature, which goes to prove the amount of interest which is at last being lavished on aerial systems. And rightly so. But to really get to grips with an aerial it is essential to understand enough of the theory to reconcile the practice. So my skilful steering has got jammed right on the bend.

First, this business of the "half-wave" aerial.

The electrical energy dissipated by a transmitter travels at a SPEED of 300,000,000 meters per second (near enough). It is, of course, alternating in nature and, if we know either of the values of frequency (f) or wavelength ( $\lambda$ ), we can easily convert these values as necessary by the formula:

$$\lambda = \frac{300,000,000}{f} \qquad f = \frac{300,000,000}{\lambda}$$

but here f is in CYCLES per second and we normally deal in Mc/s. This can be obtained by deviding the above by 100,000, giving us:

$$\lambda = \frac{300}{f} \qquad f = \frac{300}{\lambda}$$

the values of f and  $\lambda$  being in Mc/s and meters respectively.

Now the transmitted oscillatory wave which strikes the receiving aerial, sets up in the aerial a very minute current which also oscillates in exact time with the wave. But every oscillation of this tiny current gets bounced back by the end of the aerial. This is called "end-effect". In Fig 1 below, we have a  $\frac{1}{2}$ -wave element, one half cycle (or wave) of the current being shown above the line, while the second half wave below the line is itself cut in half by the length of the aerial. The effect here is to bounce the current back in opposition to the induced current, the overall result being a drop in efficiency. Fig 2 shows a full-wave element. The thrōw back still occurs, but it does so at the very instant when the current is changing anyway, so that the result is to assist rather than to retard the overall effect. That is OK providing it is possible to erect such a full-wave rig, but the length may be too great for practical purposes. For example, a 14 Mc/s full-wave will be

$$300 / 14 = 21.43 \text{ metres long}$$

and one metre = 39.37 inches, so that 21.43 X 39.37 = 345.7"  
= 70.3 ft long.

We could achieve the same electrical effect by making our aerial equal in length to a half alternation, as in Fig 3, and this would give our 14 Mc/s antenna a length of  $70.3 / 2 = 35.15$  ft.

Now we can simplify all this calculation by reducing it to one formula which will give us the answer in feet direct from any frequency range. Going back to the first formula we have:-

$\lambda = \frac{300}{f}$  metres  $= \frac{300 \times 39.37}{f}$  inches  $= \frac{300 \times 39.37}{12 \times f}$  feet. But these are for full wavelengths, so, if we call the HALF-WAVE length L, we have:-

$$L = \frac{300 \times 39.37}{2 \times 12 \times f} \text{ feet} = \frac{492}{f} \text{ feet.}$$

But the end effect which we have already mentioned reflects on on the final length of the aerial due to insulation losses and to capacity set up by the nearby supports etc. This results in the "actual" length being about 5% less than the "electrical" length. This necessitates our formula being altered so that, finally:-

$$L = \frac{492 \times 0.95}{f} \text{ feet} = \frac{468}{f} \text{ feet.}$$

This is correct for any half wave aerial for any frequency, but it does not hold good for long wire aerials where there may be several harmonics active.

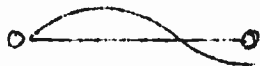


Fig 1..

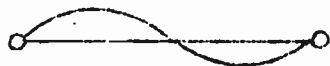


Fig 2.

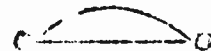


Fig 3.

A MAINS O-V-1 BY RON FINCH, G3EJW.

This is an efficient O-V-1 for QRP work, using an 6E50 detector, RC coupled to a KT33C, and has been thoroughly air-tested. I call it the "Dx Two" since it has certainly earned the title. Having tuned on 14 Mc/s when conditions were poor, this little set brought in VQ4ERR at S 5-6 on the speaker as well as TI20A.

Being a mains receiver I have had an eye to safety in the following places:

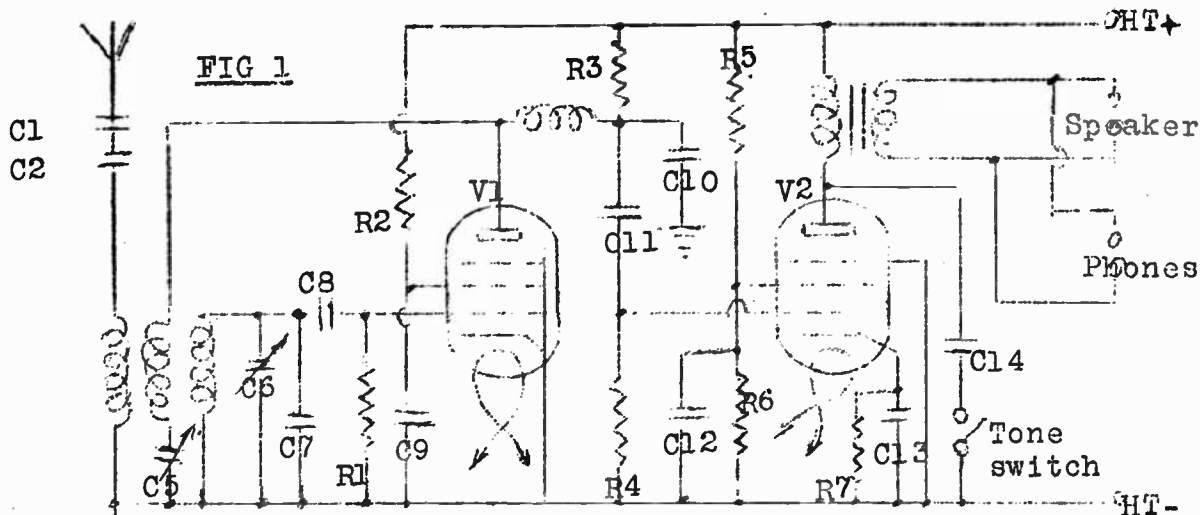
- (a). Aerial capacities in series (One capacitor breaking down does not destroy the isolation from potential).
- (b). Series chassis-earth decouplers (For the same reason as above).
- (c). Phones taken off secondary of speaker transformer isolates wearer from direct potential.

For the BC listener, speaker reception at good S values is available from Australia, New York, Brazzaville and many others.

Selectivity is superb and the signal to noise level high. (Here I would make an addition to the attached diagram -- that is, bandspread may be further improved by connecting a 10pF mica capacitor in series with the 25pF bandspread variable capacitor).

The "switchable" capacitor, C14, is included should readers require real quality listening on BC stations. This capacitor is made switchable since any tone device somewhat affects the overall gain of the receiver.

With a simple O-V-1 (6J5 plus 25L6) using approximately the same circuit, TV sound was received at S 7-8 and the receiver was tuneable to about 3½ metres. A far off harmonic of the Third Programme was received, and as this was deffinitely a tuneable carrier it was not break-through. There is every probability that the same results can be achieved with this Rx.



C3  
C4

C1, C2: 100 pF  
 C3, C4: 0.1 mfd.  
 C5: 200 pF  
 C6: 200 pF  
 C7: 25 pF  
 C8: 100 pF  
 C9: 4 mfd (Electro)  
 C10, C14: 0.01 mfd  
 C11: 0.1 mfd  
 C12: 4 mfd (Electro)  
 C13: 50 mfd ( Do. )

R1:  $\frac{1}{4}$  meg  
 R2: 100 K  
 R3: 10 K  
 R4: 1 meg  
 R5: 20 K  
 R6: 20 K  
 R7: 200 K

V1: EF50  
 V2: KT33C

**NOTE:** The KT33C has a split heater and if connected in a series combination it runs at 26v at 0.3 amps. If parallel connected it takes 13v at 0.6 amps.

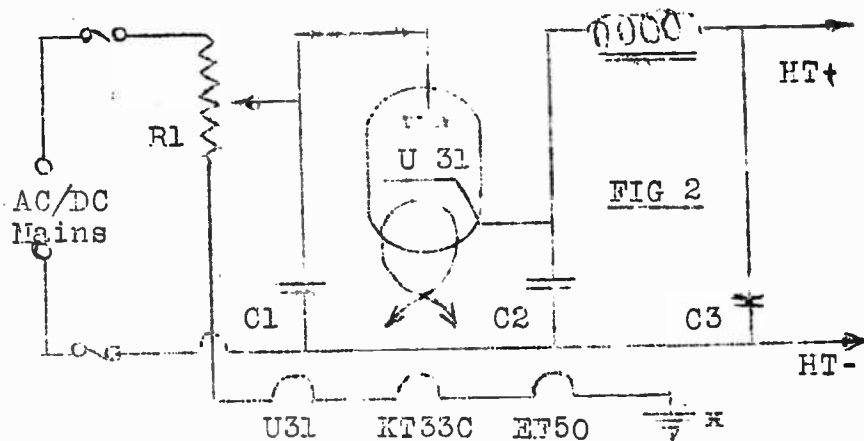


FIG 2

R1: 750 ohms dropper,

C1: 0.1 mfd,

C2: 16 mfd (electro)

C3: 8 mfd (electro)

Note the series connections of heaters and the ORDER in which they run. Note also that the point \* is a connection to chassis, not direct to earth.

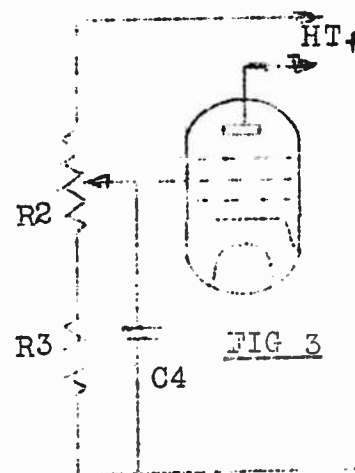


FIG 3

R2: 50 K.

R3: 500 ohms approx (to prevent complete damping of SG to E,

C4: 4 mfd (Electro).

Referring to Fig 2 which shows the AC / DC power supply used for the "Dx Two", the actual "dropper" value required if the mains are 250 volts would be calculated thus:

KT33C heater = 26 volts

EF50 " = 6.3 volts

Total to be fed to the heaters = 32.3 volts

and the heater current is .3 amps, Now  $\frac{250 - 32.3}{.3} = 218.7$  and  $218.7 / .3 = 729$  ohms.



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If a medium wave coil be wound this set gives a tone (with the C14 in circuit) and gain comparable to a four valve commercial set.

The heart of any efficient QRP Rx is the tuning and really good SM dials are recommended both for bandspread and reaction. Furthermore, the aerial coil itself definitely affects the gain to a very considerable extent and it is suggested that a little trial and error be used to achieve optimum results.

My test meter having broken down prevents me from accurately assessing the output of the Rx, but I would say it gives about 2 to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  watts undistorted.

Fig 3 shows the modification necessary should a volume control be desired for the KT33C.

### ACTIVITY.

L. Thorpe (2893), Richmond, Yorks, has been trying to find a really good mains 0-V-1 and has built and scrapped six circuits in the process. He has finally hit upon a cross between the "QRP" rig of Oct 1949 and the Radio Amateur Handbook's "Kit Bag Rx". This has given him good results using an EF50 and a 6J5. He still has some improvements to make but has sent along a very promising list of prefixes heard so far, using 180v HT.

Ray Griggs (3387), Margate, sadly notifies us that he will be QRT for sometime owing to pressure of work, but he says the rig is in good shape, so it will not take him long to get the phones on again when the opportunity is there. Besides a log (which was unusually short for the same reason) he has sent in a list of calls heard during the ISWL contest on March 18th. This he did not submit to HQ as his team mates, Alan Noble and Terry Hoffman (Hullo there, Alan!) were both unable to compete.

Peter Short (3468), BAOR 15, has recently met another ISWL member in Sundern and they have already got three others interested and are now considering the formation of a local group. Good luck with that, Peter, and don't forget to contact HQ -- they will give you all the help you need. Incidentally, Peter is beginning to compile a chart to show the best listening times for various zones and he aims to follow that up with a frequency meter since he feels that any log would be more interesting if it showed a reliable frequency check. Those are both excellent ideas, Peter, and we shall be looking forward to further details.

Bob Brooker (3457), Herne Hill, is very pleased with the certificate which he has just received for his win in the January Q, R P Handicap Contest. Glad you liked it, OM -- you certainly deserved it! In his letter Bob asks if anyone can advise him of the best times etc to attack his outstanding zones -- 17, 18, 19 23 and 26. He says the Russians seem completely blacked out and wonders if it can be due to shielding from the Iron Curtain.

Bob Murray (3038), St Andrews, has completed his O-V-1 using a KF35 and a KL35 and has heard quite a bit of Dx on it. He has also erected a Zepp on the lines described in our January issue. He sends us news of George Parrott whom he saw recently in high spirits and full of ideas for improving his Rx. Thanks for all the gen, Bob, it looks fb and will find it's place in these pages shortly.

Ron TURNER (2985), Brierly Hill, has kept his word and sent us an excellent account of his new wavemeter which will appear next month. Thank you, Ron.

M. W. Rignall (3172), March, has built, and reports favourably upon, the 145 Mc/s Rotary Beam designed by our President, Bill Overland, G2ATV, and described in the Oct SWN. He has also deleted the 6SG7 RF stage from his 1-V-1, converting it to a .6

watt rig using two 6F56 valves, and says it is giving excellent results. He is planning to build a power pack in the space vacated by the RF stage.

"Q R P" C - Z PANEL.

	3.5 Mc/s	7 Mc/s	14 Mc/s	28 Mc/s	Total C	Total Z
D.G.Gordon (2508) Bournemouth	12	7	42	72	97	31
R.Brooker (3457) Herne Hill					94	31
P. Short (3468) BAOR 15	6	3	60(6)	-	62(6)	18(2)
E.Herriidge (3373) Balham	12	35	29	12	50	16
Ian Glen (3036) Coldingham	-	-	11	-	11	

The response to this panel has not been as extensive as I had hoped, but the entries which have come in certainly show plenty of promise, and it looks as if we shall be seeing a tight struggle for "double top" (C and Z). I think D.G.G. deserves much credit for his 72C on Ten, and I would like to say a word of encouragement to Ian for his very sporting entry since he is a comparative newcomer to the game. A lot may happen between now and Dec, Ian, so keep at it. I hope that the support for this Panel is going to increase as I think that the friendly rivalry which it will rouse

should do quite a lot towards increasing enthusiasm generally.

Just a reminder on how it works:- The columns headed in Mc/s are Countries Heard on those bands (and incidentally can you fill in the gaps here in your entry, Bob, for next month?). The "C" column is TOTAL countries heard on all bands -- not just the sum of the previous columns since there will be duplications in these of the same countries heard on different bands. The "Z" column is the total zones heard on all bands. A new entry this month is the figures in brackets which indicate the countries and zones which have been VERIFIED BY QSLs. (What zones are you claiming, Ian?).

#### LOW - LOSS VALVE BASES, by F.A.Herridge.

This re-basing operation can be used with any valves employed in RF and detector stages. The materials used can be obtained from any Denco stockists.

To remove the original base from the valve, gently work it back and forth until it frees itself from the glass envelope. Then unsolder the wires running into the pins. These pins are soldered only at the extreme tips and a quick shake when the solder is molten will remove it all leaving the wires free. Before removing the old base very carefully note the relative positions of the various leads. The pins, which are to be used for the new base, can be removed undamaged by crushing the base in a vice. The securing flanges should be straightened.

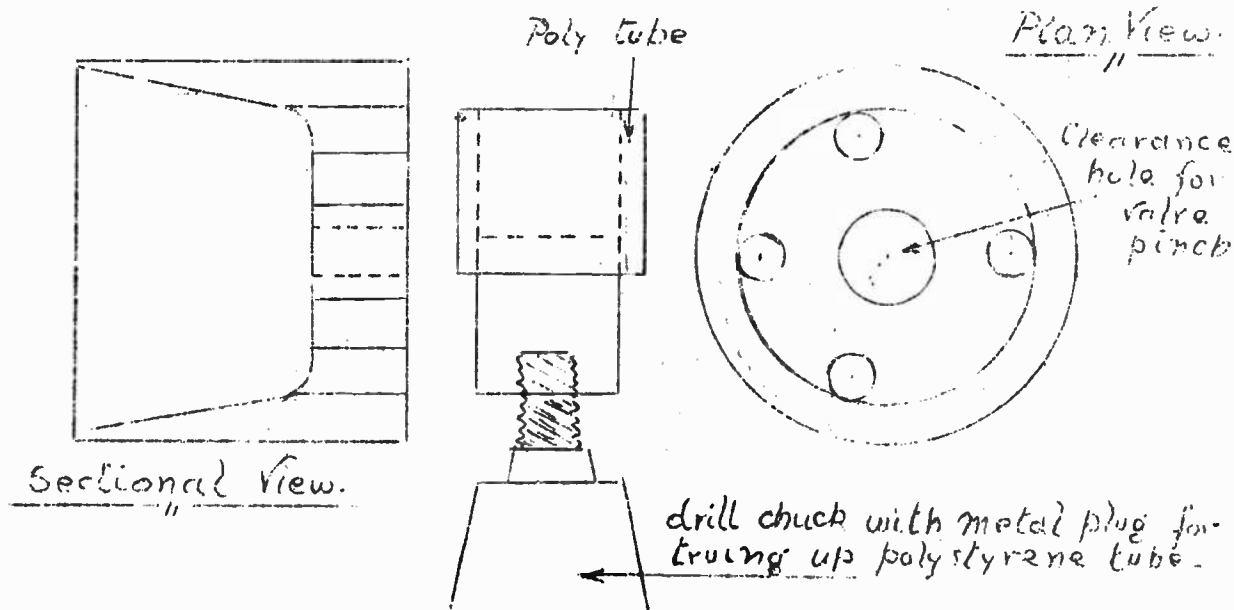
To make up the new base, a small piece of polystyrene sheet and a short length of polystyrene tube of the same diameter as the original base are required. Square off both ends of the tube to the requisite length. This may be done on a lathe, by the use of a file and square, or by making up a metal plug to fit tightly into the tube and by rotating the whole with a drill brace held in a vice

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The inside of the tube should be tapered as shown in the sketch, to clear the envelope of the valve. A disc cut from the polystyrene sheet is made a push fit inside the untapered end of the tube and secured with polystyrene solution. When set the positions for the pins can be marked out and drilled. The pins are cemented inside and outside the base with solution.

The wires are now passed down the pins and soldered with a HOT iron, being careful not to melt the polystyrene with undue heat. Finally the base is cemented to the glass envelope with the solution and left aside to set hard.

To get the best ounce out of a QRP rig this modification is well worth while in assuring the absolute minimum of loss at RF and increased ease of reaction.



T X TOPICS.

Peter Gollidge (G3EDW), Rayleigh, Essex, has lately been experimenting with Clapp oscillators and his present rig is a 6SH7 Clapp and a 6AG7 PA running from an AC power pack which has four switched HT voltages. There are also variable resistors in the screens of both valves for fine control of input. For fone he modulates with a xtal mike, 6SH7, 6J5 and 6V6. Aerials in use are a 260ft end feed, a 7Mc/s dipole and a 14Mc/s dipole. On 3.5 Mc/s he has worked the following with an input of 1 watt since Sept '48; G, GC, GI, GM, GW, DL2, ON, OZ, OK, PAØ, HB9 and LA.

Jack Cowles (G2AJU), Ipswich, has always been QRP on the TX side and, despite the availability of mains, uses a simple Hartley osc/PA with triode strapped VT51s built around the tuning units 5B, 6B and 8B for 160, 80, and 40 meters respectively with an input of 1 to 3 watts $\frac{1}{2}$ . On the subject of 2 volt valves, AJU writes:-  
 "....I often used to run a 6L6-807 combination as low as one watt, but then one day it dawned on me that for such an "input" (HT) I was wasting an awful amount of heater current. 6L6 = 5 $\frac{1}{2}$  watts plus a heater, with 807 taking even more gave a total input (with HT) of over 14 watts all told! The present rig with two valves each taking .2 amps at 2 volts consumes .4 watts plus 180 volts HT at 12 mA. Total = 2.16 watts = grand total of 2.56 watts. A different picture indeed! And the Tx goes places just the same, although when I first changed to 2v battery valves I didn't expect them to work so well." Jack has proved the efficiency of 2 volt valves by having worked 13 countries and 55 counties on top-band alone. He needs only Westmoreland now for Worked All English Counties.

It is hoped that we shall be able to publish full descriptions of both these stations within the next few months.

BACK NUMBERS OF "Q R P".

Continued demand has made it necessary to run off a re-print of past issues of "Q R P". The time factor involved whilst still maintaining current editorial and printing work is exceedingly critical and can only be achieved over an extended period. At present a restricted number of Issues 1 and 2 are available (at 6d each) and orders should be placed promptly as no further reprints of these issues can now be entertained. Reprints of Issues 3 onwards will become available as time permits, and all orders now on hand will be executed directly the issues required are completed.

D X HEARD.

S. BEHARRELL (321) York, 1-V-2 (1.2 watts), 14 Mc/s phone:-  
 16.3.50 (2210/2224): CG3IP, 2FP, QV; VELAI, 3KH; W8KUW; ZB1BA  
 18.3.50 (2150/2249): PY2AK, CK, 4CL; YV5AY; TA3CV; MD2AC; FA9WU  
 3V8AP.  
 20.3.50 (2220/2238): CX2CL; CN8ET; KP4AZ; ZC6DO.  
 25.3.50 (0730/2252) P VK5RI, 4WG, 2US; WØSVY, 8BH; EA2AC; TI2OA;  
 PY5DH.  
 26.3.50 (1945/2230): AK2HS; EA4AC; W8BZC; MD7WE.  
 28.3.50 (2242/2300): VP6SD; CO7AA; LU5AD.  
 30.3.50 (2155/2245): PY1FT, IK; ZB1AJK; CX3CL.  
 2.4.50 (0718/2008): VK4KS; VQ4RF; SVØWL. VELFG. W31CW/M (800  
 miles E of the Azores, flying at 8000 ft.)  
 5.4.50 (2225/2240): PY5PH; LU4BC, 1AA; MB2FJ.  
 6.4.50 (1920/2300): VS7SV; PY7VA; LU5DJY, 6AJ; TA3GVU.

- 7.4.50 (0820/2251): ZL4AW; VK2QR; YS1SS; YN4CB.  
 9.4.50 (0833/2332): KP4FN, CK; PY4VX; VK3MM; VE2HM; VP7NU, 9MM;  
 W8BM; HCLFG.  
 11.4.50 (2225/2328): C08MP; ZC6DH; LULAAP; 2BL; 5HAF, 7HJ; HK4AB;  
 TI2IA, OE, RC; VP3MCB.  
 12.4.50 (2213/2256): KP4AZ; PY2BM, CK; LAQM; HK1HK.  
 13.4.50 (2229/2314): YV5AY; HPLFG; C08GH; IT1Z/MM (passing through  
 Straits of Gib).  
 15.450 (2210/2231): VELNB, AH; VP6IS; PY6CO, 4PI; OX3BD.  
PETER SHORT (3468), BAOR 15, 0-V-1 (.13 watts), 14 Mc/s fone:  
 2.3.50 (1713/1719): OH2VH, VI, 5NW.  
 3.3.50 (2015/2030): SV0AJ; VS7SV.  
 5.3.50 (1810/1812): OH6OH; OY2RD.  
 6.3.50 (1815/ - ): FA8JO.  
 10.3.50 (1926/1937): OH6OH; ZL3FL, AM.  
 14.3.50 (2050/2135): KP4AZ; OH6OH, NR; W4DCR, 3IMV; IS1RPA.  
 15.3.50 (1912/2050): OH6NZ, NI; W4DCQ; FA3FB; VK3HW, MM.  
 16.3.50 (0530/ - ): SV0AG.  
 (1919/2127): VK2AGU; OY3RD; PY7CJ; ZC6JM; SV0WL; TA3AFS;  
 OH8OC (10miles inside Artic Circle).  
 17.3.50 (1700/1933): EK1SA; TA3GVU; SV0AJ; ZC6UNJ; 3V8AT; FA3AC.  
 20.3.50 (1730/1936): FA8JO; UALBE; ZS6UT; FA8CF.  
 21.3.50 (0505/0516): MD2AC; 4X4AD; YO7WL; ZL1LA.  
 (1931/2056): ZL3FL; YO7WL; EK1FC; SV0WL; FA3FB; 3V8AT.  
 24.3.50 (1607/2007): SV0WB; MD2AC; ZC6DO; PILLC (R6); OQ5CF.  
 27.3.50 (1825/2044): VQ4BL; CN8FO; VK3XW; FA3WX.  
 28.3.50 (1733/1823): UP2KBC; OH2TW; ZBLAJZ; VU2DH; ZS6OY; VS7SV  
 3V8AP; PILLC (R8).  
 29.3.50 (1820/2004): UALKAE; SVSUN; PILLC (R9). (Yes, this last  
 one is MM, Peter -- Dutch meteorological  
 survey).



RAY GRIGGS (3387) Margate, O-V-1 (.5 watts), 14 Mc/s:-

- 14.3.50 (2100/ - ) : SVØWL.  
 15.3.50 (2000/2030) : VK2AG, 3HW, LA, IM, 4WT.  
 16.3.50 (6630/ - ) : 3V8BB; VK3HW  
 (2230/ - ) : ZC1CA.  
 17.3.50 ( - - ) : SP5SG; FM50Y.

IAN GIBB (3036) Coldingham, O-V-1 (.4watts), 14 Mc/s:-

- 15.3.50 (1918/ - ) : P11RC.  
 20.3.50 (2255/ - ) : WA3DS  
 23.3.50 (2215/2250) : W4MTH; 4PZC, 2KG.  
 25.3.50 (1745/1800) : DL7DA, SM4KP.  
 26.3.50 (2130/2200) : VILZS; W4DSY, 3NA, 1CBV.  
 29.3.50 (2205/ - ) : CN8WL.  
 31.3.50 (1940/1950) : PY6CO; CT1AK.  
 10.4.50 (1915/ - ) : OH2BU.

RON TURNER (2985) Brierly Hill, 1-V-1 (?watts), 14 Mc/s:-

- 2.4.50 (1250/1856) : PY6CO; AK2CO; SV3TF; VS7SV; VELMQ  
 6.4.50 (0645/0648) : ZL2JB; FA9WC, 8CF.  
 7.4.50 (1940/2200) : FA9WV; PY1SQ, 4XI, VX, 1AFI, RC; YS1LS;  
 VP4FN, 3MCB; VE2XO, 1ZS.  
 12.4.50 (0645/0651) : VK3JD, HW, AWH.

RON TURNER, 28 Mc/s:-

- 9.4.50 (1825/1830) : HZ1AB; ZBLAK; W8SC7; XELPY; PY5AQ, 6CN.

R. J. BROOKER (3457) Herne Hill, SH 4 (1.2 watts), 14 Mc/s:-

- 23.3.50 (1910/1940) : WA3KC; AR8BC; VS7SV.  
 25.3.50 (1955/2245) : PY5DH; TI2OA; VE3RM; VK2KS; VO6AW; W2RJV;  
 YV5AB; ZC6DO.  
 26.3.50 (1900/ - ) : P11LC; VS6BS  
 27.3.50 (0745/ - ) : MD2AM.  
 28.3.50 (0745/ - ) : VK3HW, JD.  
 29.3.50 (0750/ - ) : WCLDI; VK3HV.  
 31.3.50 (1700/ - ) : JAGBL; LU5HI.

- 1.4.50 (0815/0825): PY7WO; UQ2AB; ZL4FO.  
 1680/1700: EA8CO; W6LDZ.  
 2.4.50 (0825/ - ): UB5KAG (CW)  
 5.4.50 (0800/ - ): W5QS; VK3AVN.  
 12.4.50 (1630/ - ): OX3BD.  
 13.4.50 (0630/0650): WØGUV; XE1AC; YN4CB.  
 14.4.50 (0545/0800): HC1FG; YU3FLA (CW); 3V8BB.  
 16.4.50 (0543/0722): HC2KQ; KH6GS; LU5CZ, 6AJ; PZ1Z; TI2RC;  
 UQ2AB; VK3ADW; W7ESK, FLD; YS1ES; 3V8BB.  
 (2100/2115): EA8AW; ZB2A.  
 17.4.50 (0500/0655): AR8AB; W5AHA; XE1CQ; YKLAC; YN4CB.  
 18.4.50 (0600/ - ): KH6BA; W6VFR.  
R. J. BROOKER, O-V-1 (.33 watts), 28 Mc/s: }  
 1.4.50 (1335/ - ): ST2AM  
 16.4.50 (1235/1500): CX4AB; HC1KW; KP4BY; MT2BFC; ZB1AK; ZS1T.

D X WORKED.

The following are a selection of recent QSOs by G3EDW,  
 Rayleigh, Essex:-

BAND. (Mc/s)	PHONE /CW	QSO INPUT WITH:	QTH	APPROX DX.	REPORT ON EDW.
1.7	CW	0.5 G3AEO	Andover, Hants	100 miles.	459
"	"	" G2BRR	London, E. 18	25 "	559
"	"	1.0 GI5SJ	Belfast	340 "	43/49
"	"	2.0 PAØLU	The Hague.	180 "	559.
"	"	1.0 "	" "	" "	5/3.4/29
"	"	2.0 G3PU	Weymouth, Dorset.	150 "	569
"	"	" GM3ATV	Banff	450 "	449
"	"	" CM3FM	Edinburgh.	340 "	340
"	"	" GW8WJ	Prestatyn.	200 "	559

130.

"	Fone.	1.0	G3TCT	Faversham, Kent.	23 miles.	R4	S4
"	"	"	G3AB	Nr. Clacton	25 "	5	5
"	"	2.0	G3DSW	Romford	20 "	5	6
"	"	"	G3TRN	?		5	7
"	"	"	G3BGU	Sevenoaks, Kent	30 "	5	4/5
3.5	CW	1.0	DL1RK	Nr. Hanover	420	2	420
7	"	2.0	DL1PL	Bremen	390	"	479

Given sufficient support we feel that this feature could be one of considerable interest to both Tx and SWL readers. Like all similar features it depends entirely upon that support for it's success, so send in your reports regularly, OMs, to reach me not later than the 17th of each month.

#### NOTES ON CONDX. by Bob Brooker

This month 10 metres has suffered a partial eclipse. On some afternoons it has been possible to hear a few weak Ws, and the South Americans have been skightly more prominent. On the whole the band was very disappointing indeed, which is in accordance with what many people prophesied. In passing I must say how much I regret not having taken an interest in amateur radio during the winter of 1948/49, the stories I hear about the way 10 metres behaved then makes my mouth water.

Twenty metres is turning out to be the Dx band, which does not surprise anyone. The best Dx seems to be heard just before dawn which is rather a disadvantage since few of us are available at that early hour! In my own case the advent of BST brought about a change on that Sunday morning and I was rewarded with three new countries (PZ, KH6 and YS). As a matter of interest, listening at the same times on the previous morning produced very worthy of note, except YU3FLA (also a new country for me!).

I S W L SUPPLIES.

I have to apologise for an unfortunate error which crept into the list of ISWL supplies which appeared in the Feb issue. I am not in the happy position of being able to say it was a "printer's error", but I fancy you will let me off lightly when I tell you that, in these days of rapidly rising prices, this correction means a reduction in the annual subs for SWN and RC. The rates for both these mags (through "Q R P" only) are 1/1 per copy or 13/- per annum (NOT 14/6 as previously stated). The corrected price list is as follows:-

SHORT WAVE NEWS and RADIO CONSTRUCTOR.....1/1, or 13/- by sub.  
 OP-AID....1/4. REPORT PADS....2/6 (50 sheets)  
 ISWL PRINTED NOTE HEADING, 8" x 5"....3/4 (100 sheets).  
 AMATEUR STATION RECORD CARDS....3/6 (per 100).

Those members who have already paid in their subs at 14/6 will be receiving a refund of 1/6 in the near future.

ALL THE ABOVE PRICES ARE, OF COURSE, EXCLUSIVE TO READERS OF "Q R P"

GEAR CHANGE.

EXCHANGE: Miniature button base pentodes, one each of 1L4 and 3Q4, in exchange for a moving coil mA meter, any range up to 10 mA. H.W. Rignall, 5 Cromwell Rd., March, Cambs.

FREE: One Reflex Klystron Oscillator. Also one PX25 output triode (Both used but OK). J. Whitehead, 5 Abbot's Tilt, Hersham, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.

QRP TX LIMITS.

The question has been raised by several members of what is the top limit of input for a QRP transmitter.

Long before my time G2SO, Mal Geddes (who, until recently, ran the QRP Club Notes for Short Wave News), settled this question to everybody's satisfaction, and I propose that, subject to general approval, we continue his ruling which was :-

FIVE WATTS MAX INPUT TO THE LAST VALVE AND NO PRECEDING VALVE TO TAKE MORE.

WANTED -- YOUR COMMENTS.

What is the first subject you turn to when you receive your "Q R P"? Is there any feature you feel is a waste of time? Have you any particular interest that we have not covered so far?

Let me have your comments on these points (and anything else relative to the production of "Q R P") in your letters this month, OMs. I am always eager to improve both the quality of presentation and the interest of the matter in our own QRP mag, and you can help a lot by constructive criticism.

.....  
 Will you please try and get ALL your logs in the post not later than the 10th of May, please, OMs? This is important as I propose to introduce an improved Dx Heard feature next month and it may involve some extra arrangement.